

and who has been in the field since early in 1878, was offered by the last General Assembly the position of permanent Secretary of the Foreign Missions Committee, Western Section. Dr. Morton, in view of the demands of his present field, has made up his mind to decline the offer, and to remain preaching and teaching the East Indians of Trinidad. His decision, while disappointing to the Committee of Foreign Missions will be extremely gratifying to the members, the friends and supporters of the mission in Trinidad.

*Turkey.*—The burning of the college building of Central Turkey College, at Aintab, on December 26th, is a severe blow to the mission work in that locality. Strenuous efforts were made to stay the progress of the flames; but the building, with the exception of the west wing, was destroyed. In the face of many adverse circumstances the professors and other Christians on the spot have promised financial aid, and contributions from all fields are earnestly asked to help the cause of rebuilding. This is the second disaster which this mission has sustained—the burning of the woman's college a year ago hindering the work for a time. Dr. Fuller, the president of the college, writes very hopefully of the outlook, and a new and more commodious building ought soon to replace the one in ruins.

*Smyrna.*—An idea of the manner in which missionary work is done now in regions in which St. Paul once wrought may be gotten from the following paragraph from a letter in the *Independent*: "A missionary from Smyrna writes of his winter tour through a field of some 40,000 square miles in extent. He went eastward from Smyrna, stopping at hopeful places a day or two, or prolonging his stay for two or three weeks where there was special interest; visiting men in their shops, receiving calls from inquirers, preaching every night, traveling by day under circumstances that recall Paul's description of his adventures in the same regions; and all this is in the bitter winter weather, because it is the season when men can be found at home. This sort of work has the most immediate results. The man who preaches to a stated congregation, or teaches, or writes books, is sowing seed for others to reap. But the man who tours much in his district returns with joy, bearing his sheaves with him."

—Rev. W. H. Roberts, D. D., American Statistical Secretary of the Presbyterian Alliance, says that the Presbyto-

rian and Reformed denominations throughout the world have 20,265,500 adherents.

—An English missionary was recently heard to remark: "If there was more abiding in Christ there would be less abiding in Britain." The same may be said of America.

—The *Presbyterian Record*, of Canada, says: "The problem of Christian union seems likely to find its solution in the foreign field. Christians at home do not realize the wickedness of sectarianism, nor feel the need of united forces and united action as do those who are called to apologize for the divided Church in the face of perishing heathen."

—The impression left by the great assemblage at Cleveland of 500 students pledged to the foreign missionary service was that the possibilities of this remarkable uprising are not yet fairly estimated. So stirring were the scenes in this convention, in which 100 missionaries participated, that two local pastors are reported to have decided to go to the foreign field. The meetings were admirably conducted, and it is hinted that the regular yearly anniversaries of denominational societies would be made more effective if some of the methods used at Cleveland were adopted. One specially successful feature was the opportunity given to ask questions of the speakers, fifteen or twenty minutes being reserved at the close of each address for this purpose.

—The *Missionary Herald* tells of a Scotchwoman whose practice it was to give a penny a day for missions, to whom a visitor gave a sixpence to procure some meat, on learning that she had not lately enjoyed that luxury. She thought to herself: "I have long done very well on my porridge, so I will give the sixpence also to God." This fact came to the knowledge of a missionary secretary, who narrated it at a missionary breakfast. The host and his guests were profoundly impressed by it, the host himself saying that he had never denied himself a chop for the cause of God. He therefore instantly subscribed \$2500 additional, and others of the party followed his example, till the sum of \$11,000 was raised before they separated.

—The Young Men's Christian Association of Chicago is to erect a magnificent building at a cost of \$1,400,000. The building will have fourteen stories, three of which will be devoted entirely to the work of the association.