

society's agencies in Persia and Brazil. Numerous letters from foreign lands were laid before the board, containing in some cases the summary reports of the distribution of the Scriptures during 1887. Dr. Gulick reported the distribution of 252,915 copies in China and Siam. The Levant agency reported a circulation of 51,000, the Japan agency 72,926, and the La Plata agency 17,314, while the distribution in Russia and Siberia was 39,771 copies. Cash receipts in March were \$69,181.00. The total cash receipts in the year ending March 31 were \$613,873.33. The whole number of volumes issued during the year, *not including those in foreign lands*, was 1,032,072.

—**Home Missions.** The Presbyterian Board, for the year just closed, report \$783,527.30, and \$130,000 more than any previous year.

—**The American Home Missionary Society** is in an equally prosperous condition. The close of the society's sixty-second year brought special occasion for thanksgiving to God. The 31st of March found every note at the banks paid, and not a dollar due to any missionary who had reported labor. The debt at one time within the year was over \$75,000. Besides paying this the society was able to replace \$30,000 of the \$50,000 borrowed from the Swett Exigency Fund.

—**The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions** of New York report for the year just closed, \$62,244.35, an advance of more than \$11,000 over the previous year. The receipts have largely gone into the treasury of the Board of Foreign Missions.

—**The receipts of the Woman's Board** of the Southwest, which are divided between Home and Foreign Missions, amounted in the year just closed to \$15,226.11, an advance of \$2,700 over last year.

—**The first National Conference** of the various woman's missionary organizations of the Society of Friends in the United States was held at Indianapolis during the first part of April. This is an important movement among the Friends, designed to stimulate every department of missionary work among the young and the old.

—**Miss Alice Mitchell**, daughter of Secretary Mitchell of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, is under appointment to the Woman's Pavilion of the board's hospital in Peking, China. She began her medical studies with her grandfather, Dr. Post of New York, living in his

family. She also pursued the full three years' course in the Woman's Medical College of New York, and was then invited to the position of *intern* in the Presbyterian Hospital of Chicago, where she served two years. She has also enjoyed valuable advantages in the medical schools and hospitals of Zurich and Vienna.

—**Student Volunteers.** There has been a great increase of missionary spirit among the students of Union Seminary, Va., largely ascribed to the recent visit of Dr. Houston. Seven of the young men have decided to go as missionaries, and others are considering the subject. An effort is being made to raise enough money to support a minister in the foreign field. The faculty have given \$100, the students of Hampden Sidney College \$100, and the young men of the seminary are to give the rest.

—**The United Presbyterian Seminary** at Allegheny has resolved to send out a missionary to India in October next; the choice has fallen on the Rev. J. H. Martin, just graduated. His salary (\$1,200) has been pledged for ten years by the seminary and contiguous colleges of the denomination.

—**Xenia Theological Seminary** has also started a similar movement, and the students and faculty have pledged \$330 annually for ten years toward the support of a missionary. They hope to get the balance needed from certain colleges in the connection.

Wales.—The Nonconforming churches are multiplying rapidly in Wales. They numbered 110 in 1716; in 1775 they had increased to 471; forty-one years later to 993, and in the next 45 years to 2,927. In 1887 they had grown to nearly 4,500. All these churches depend for their support upon the voluntary contributions of the people. This shows not only a marvelous development, but a hold upon the heart and conscience that no State religion can evoke.

Zulus.—Dr. Elmslie, an American missionary, who has been stationed for some time among the Zulus west of Lake Nyassa, has sent home the first book printed in Nbungoni language. The book was issued from the press of a neighboring mission station called Blantyre. It contains the Decalogue, passages from the Psalms, Proverbs and the Gospels with fourteen hymns. Much is expected from the book, as the Nbungoni language is intelligible to a large number of the tribes.