

of a district called Chavakachcheri, in North Ceylon, which contains 100 square miles and a population of 40,000 people, among whom we are the only resident missionaries. We have about 20 native helpers as catechists, preachers, and Bible-women. There are 38 teachers and 1137 children in village schools. Jaffna College, 18 miles distant, has an able staff of professors and teachers, and is now in a very flourishing condition, having between 300 and 400 students in the high school, and 143 in the college proper. This college is now affiliated with the Calcutta University up to B.A., and at the last examination, of the 28 presented for the entrance examination, 26 passed. Rev. T. B. Scott, M.D., and Mrs. Scott, M.D., who came out with us to take charge of the general medical mission for men at Manippay are now hard at work. They have on Tuesdays and Fridays as many as 125 present at the dispensary."

—Upon whom, and upon what, can the *Boston Watchman* have its eye when it says: "The increase of the Christian population of British India, during the twenty years from 1872 to 1891, exceeded 66 per cent and 45 per cent for all India. But it is a singular circumstance that the native Christians have not received any substantial measure of local self-government from the European or American religious bodies to which they belong. The British Government has moved in advance of the Christian churches in granting a degree of political enfranchisement and a measure of local self-government to the Indian people as a whole."

China.—The case of women is sufficiently forlorn in the Celestial Empire at the best, but notwithstanding is better there than in most Oriental lands; and even in Christendom there is no phrase to match the elegant Chinese expression for daughter, which signifies "thousands of gold."

—It is strange that here, as in Japan and some other countries, men are

found more ready than women to turn away from false gods, but it is much more out of all analogy that so many aged persons embrace the Gospel. The China Inland Mission finds that "a large proportion of the converts are over 60, not a few are over 70, and a good many are past 80."

—Rev. John Ross, the veteran missionary of Manchuria, has reached this conviction: "China will never be won to the Gospel by our appeals to the secular power to intervene in every little trouble we may experience. This appeal to 'Cæsar' or the 'British gun-boat' simply deepens in the mind of patriotic Chinese the belief that the missionary is a political agent—a belief that hinders Christianity more than every other cause combined."

—The Chinese land-telegraph system has been joined to the Russian system, and messages can now be sent to any part of the world from any station in China, at the rate of \$2 per word, the cost of transmission across the ocean being added. The only Chinese province which cannot be reached by telegraph is Hunan, which still remains opposed to all foreign innovations.

—At a recent conference at Hung-t'ung, where 66 were baptized, as another part of the service offerings were presented, partly in money and partly in kind, and they amounted altogether to the value of about \$151. The money contributions were \$1,970 cash; besides which pastor Hsi contributed 35 taels of silver, elder Shih gave 5500 cash worth of wheat, and pastor Hsi 1100 cash worth of wheat. As compared with the value of money in China, these gifts were equivalent to at least the contribution of £150 in England—that is, of \$750 in America.

—The Presbyterian Church, South, has 50 missionaries in the land of Sinim, a threefold increase in five years.

—In Shanghai, a city of 400,000, not less than 1000 Chinese are found in the churches of the 12 missions, "but a far larger number, converted here, have