

HOW FOREIGN MISSIONS GROW.

China.—First missionary, Robert Morrison, in 1807. Not one native Christian in all China. In 1843 less than ten. In 1857, 500. In 1893, 50,000. So rapidly does the work go on that residents of China now estimate 70,000 communicants and a Christian population of 200,000 souls. The Spirit of the Living God is stirring the Chinese Empire as never before.

Japan.—In 1620 Christians were massacred, Christianity exterminated, and the edict published that God would be beheaded if He came to Japan. This edict was not abolished until 1872.

First missionaries went to Japan in 1859. In 1872 there were only 10 baptized Christians. There are now about 400 churches with about 50,000 members. In Tokyo alone there were, two years ago, 92 churches with 6,000 members.

India.—William Carey, the first missionary, landed in India in 1793. Population 250,000,000, with not one known native Christian. Now a Christian population of 2,290,000, of which 593,000 are communicants in Protestant churches, and 250,000 children are taught in Sabbath-schools, in 25 different languages.

Burma.—First missionary, Dr. Judson, landed in 1813. Seventeen months in prison. Two months with five pairs of fetters on at the same time. Eighty years ago not a native Christian in all Burma. Now over 600 churches with 40,000 communicants and twice as many more adherents. Among the Karens one-third of the people are said to be Christians.

Judson died at sea, April 12th, 1850. His grave is in the Bay of Bengal, latitude 13° north, longitude 93° east.

Korea.—A great cry, "Come over and help us," comes to our ears from the last of the hermit nations. Ten years ago the first convert was baptized. The Bible is being rapidly circulated, and ambassadors come to our missionaries from towns and cities near and remote, asking for some one to return with them to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop, the traveller, writes of the work in Korea, saying, it "is the most impressive mission-work I have seen in any part of the world. It shows that the Spirit of God still moves on the earth."

Africa.—Where Moffat pioneered, Livingstone explored, carrying the Gospel into the depths, until he gave the Dark Continent to Europe. In token of the service Livingstone

rendered Christian civilization, the most powerful nation of the globe, in her proudest mausoleum, laid down the dust of the humble missionary of the cross with kings and the great ones of the earth.

The Moravians established the first permanent mission in 1792. There are now in Africa more than 1,200 missionaries, 7,000 churches, over 203,000 communicants; more than 20,000 were added last year.

Stanley writes: "When I was at Lake Victoria, eighteen years ago, there was not a missionary there. Now there are 40,000 Christians and 200 churches. The natives are enthusiastic converts, and would spend their last penny to acquire a Bible."

In South America, Mexico, Asia Minor, Persia, Siam, Laos, Egypt and the islands of the sea, the half cannot be told of the planting, the growth and the progress of the Kingdom of Christ. —"Assembly Herald."

FACTS ABOUT SOUTH AMERICA.

South America was discovered by Cabral, who reached the mouth of the Amazon in 1500.

It is a country 4,550 miles long and 3,200 miles wide, with 13,000 coast lines.

This continent is made up of fourteen countries, and has the finest river system in the world.

It has 37,000,000 of people.

The language of the people is largely Spanish.

The religion of South America is Roman Catholic, in one of its most corrupt forms.

South America as a whole is yet scarcely touched by Protestant missions, even though it has about 400 Protestant missionaries.

The opportunity for missions in South America has been greatly furthered by recent development in commercial relations.

Ecuador, formerly closed to missionary effort, admitted the first Protestant missionaries in 1896.—Sel.

The "Licensed Victuallers' Advocate" makes the following confession:—"Of 12,000 saloon-keepers of New York City, whose 'good, moral character' entitled them to license, 8,000 have served terms in prison."

Two English merchantmen recently stopping in San Diego harbor were visited systematically by the local Endeavorers, with the result that before the ships left port an officer on each, and 19 men on one, and 12 on the other, had confessed Christ. A prayer circle was formed on each ship."