

all. Their agents went about to conquer the prejudice and to overcome the stolid indifference, and they did it at a prodigious outlay. They took into every house a lamp, all trimmed and filled with oil, and gave it to the people, and immediately the market was made."

—An interesting illustration of the indebtedness of science to Christianity is given in a little book descriptive of "Work for the Blind in China." From this it appears that a system of raised characters representing the Chinese language has recently been perfected, a language which has no alphabet proper, but 4000 symbols representing syllables, and which takes a lifetime to learn. The system employed is by an ingenious reduction of the sounds—as distinct from the syllables—to 408. The inventor is a self-taught genius, Rev. W. H. Murray, son of a Scotch mechanic, who was prevented from following his father's trade by an accident in which he lost an arm. Becoming an agent of the Bible society, he was sent to carry on its work in China. Here the miserable condition of the blind, of whom there is an unusual number in the empire, attracted his attention, and led him to devote himself to the discovery of a method by which they might be enabled to read.

WOMAN'S WORK.

—The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, Canada, has 501 auxiliaries with 11,557 members, and 221 circles and bands with 6590 members. The income last year was \$35,790. The number of missionaries is 26, of whom 16 are in Japan, and 8 in British Columbia at work for the Indians and Chinese, with 2 in China.

—*Helping Hand* for May has an impressive page, which gives in parallel columns first the "shade" and then the "light" of the current missionary situation. The first item in each column will serve as a specimen :

"The burning of Tremont Temple

was no ordinary calamity to us as Baptists, for it was, as has been said, 'the home of Baptist traditions and treasures,' as well as a centre of our missionary operations, home and foreign. Every day brings some fresh experience of loss and hindrance consequent upon it to the workers of the Woman's Society of the East."

"We can never recall this calamity without thankfulness that no lives were imperilled, that it has called forth such kind expressions of sympathy, that strength equal to the day has been given to those whose work was so seriously interrupted. The experience has taught us new confidence in God as a very present help in trouble."

—The women of the Lutheran Church, General Synod, have four representatives in the foreign field, all at Guntur, India, and one of them is a physician. They publish mission studies for each month, and the General Literature Committee keeps on hand a varied supply of tracts, photographs, etc., to diffuse information and excite interest.

—The women of the Scottish Free Church publish the *Helpmeet* and the *Children's Record*.

—The English Baptists have their Ladies' Association for the support of zenana work and Bible women in India and China, and a monthly paper, the *Zenana Missionary Herald*.

—The London Society sends out 60 women, 31 to India, 20 to China, 5 to Madagascar, and 4 to the South Seas. Mrs. Robert Whyte edits the *Quarterly News of Woman's Work*, and the *Juvenile* also is published, a neat monthly full of good things. The April number contains an amusing illustrated poem entitled "The Lament of a Missionary Box," which had seen better days, but is now empty and forgotten, an excellent piece for recitation.

—In the *Home Missionary* for April Ellen W. Curtis tells of what she calls "a novel climb in Michigan," but which is equally good for any State, or terri-