

Other Missions.

Missions of the English Presbyterian Church in China.

The Report laid before the Synod stated that in addition to the twelve European missionaries in the Chinese field, there are of native evangelists seventeen at Amoy, fourteen at Swatow, and seven at Formosa. The work is making gratifying progress. The Rev. Mr. Douglas, who is stationed at Amoy, says:—"I returned to Amoy on Wednesday (the 30th November,) having walked on the 29th from Kwankio to Chiojio, the port of Tungan. Only at one village did I meet with anything like rudeness. It is a large and powerful village, about twelve miles from Tung, and is famous throughout the whole country for its literati. Being the first village we came to after crossing a high and rugged mountain, we sat down under a shady tree, and soon seventy or eighty people gathered round. I began to speak to them, and the speaking grew into preaching. They listened for about half-an-hour with the most perfect good feeling, applauding the doctrine, and eagerly asking for tracts. But, meantime, news of what was going on reached two of these literary gentry, probably some of the leading men in the village. They did not condescend to argue, but simply said, 'We don't want to hear you;' and when I said, 'Well, though you may not wish to hear, these people wish to listen,' they immediately set to scold the people, and gradually the audience melted away. How striking an illustration on a small scale of the great questions now discussed in the council of statesmen—the people willing or even eager for intercourse; the mandarins and expectant mandarins (literati) full of hatred, and doing all they can to prejudice the minds of the people against us. With the exception of this one incident, I met with the most perfect civility both in the villages and towns, as well as in the city of Chiuchew, where I spent six days." Referring to the hopes for the future, Mr. Swanson, also stationed at Amoy, says:—"Interesting as these hopes are, we have to rejoice in more immediate triumphs of the Gospel. The number of baptisms in this district during the year has been sixty-six, and the total amount of Church members is eight times as great as in 1860. Persons prejudiced against missionary work are suspicious that new members are often too hastily admitted, from an unworthy desire on the part of missionaries to make their statistics imposing. Such a course is impossible with missionaries like ours, and would be suicidal in any case. Readers of their letters

must have perceived that they exercise the utmost care in examining candidates, and caution in admitting them; and the rarity of cases in which Church privileges are suspended shows that their prayerful anxiety in this matter is owned of God." A graceful tribute of praise is paid to "Pastor Lo," one of the native pastors connected with the American Presbyterians, who died in April last. A theological hall has been formed at Amoy, and opened. In the Swatow district, during the last ten years, the report stated that by the close of 1868 there had been received into the Church 155 adults, and 38 children; during 1869, 43 adults and 4 children; and at the beginning of 1870 the Church consisted of 176 adults. During the past year 127 baptisms took place, 114 of which were adults. Thus there is at present a membership, not including children, baptised of more than 300 souls. The report states that the hospital continues to be a blessing to the place, and a valuable adjunct to the mission. It shows the natives one of the beneficent practical aspects of Christianity, and "thousands while in the hospital have long been under the continuous teaching of the truth. About a fourth of the members added to the Church since the medical mission has been in operation have been received in connection with the hospital." This is the testimony of Dr. Gauld, one of the medical missionaries. In March last year the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper were administered in the city of Chauyang, on the southern shore of the Bay of Swatow, where there had been violent opposition to the first preaching of the Word. Between three and four hundred persons were present, who listened in a quiet, respectful manner, seven of "the ten members in that large heathen city joining in the commemorating of their Lord's death." On one Sabbath in April last seventeen adults were baptised at Ung Kung, the most northern Swatow station, the largest number received on any one day, since the mission was begun. In Formosa the work during the year is described as having been "most wonderful." Seventy-two persons have been added to the Church in the four first-formed stations, and the whole membership of the district is now 244, while upwards of 530 persons regularly attend public worship. Gratifying accounts are given of the annual meetings of the Formosa congregations. At Imaou, for example, it is said that four of the converts, after detailing the circumstances of their conversion, determined to pay the extra salary of one of the helpers, and to keep a fund for the relief of the sick. Dr. Maxwell's hospital work goes on prosperously, and encouraging accounts are given of the success that has attended the mission