

# FOREIGN MISSION JOURNAL.

Published Monthly by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

"ALL POWER IS GIVEN UNTO ME IN HEAVEN AND IN EARTH. GO YE, THEREFORE, AND TEACH ALL NATIONS."

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All communications in reference to the business of this Board should be addressed to H. A. TUPPER, Corresponding Secretary, Richmond, Va.

Be certain to read Miss Lottie Moon's letter, entitled "Our China Mission." Meditate upon the facts stated, and as you meditate, consider the obligation that rests upon the Baptists of the South, and upon you as one of them, to give Christ to China, or rather to take China for Christ.

What a magnificent jewel she will be in his crown. Let us help to purchase it for that crown.

### RETURN OF REV. W. W. HARVEY.

In a letter in the last number of the *Journal*, brother David expressed the fear that brother Harvey would have to leave Africa before he could recover his health.

The fear has proved well founded, and brother H. and wife arrived in Richmond on the 28th ult., on their way to their home, in Indiana. He was greatly benefited by the sea voyage, and hopes soon to be able to return.

During his first year's stay in Africa, brother Harvey was so free from fever that he wrote back expressing the hope that he would escape entirely—at least for one year. He did escape for 365 days, but on the 366th after his arrival he was attacked for the first time. A recent trip to the Canaries restored Mrs. Harvey's health, but failed to restore his, and his physician ordered him away for a time.

### DEATH OF W. J. DAVID, JR.

We feel assured that the announcement of the death of brother David's little son will elicit in behalf of the father the deep sympathy of all our readers. The child had been left in this country with its grandmother, while the father returned to Africa to carry on his work. It is sad enough to lose the little ones when we are near by to minister to their wants and soothe their pains; how much sadder when an ocean rolls between us and them. May the Lord bless our dear brother in his sad affliction and comfort his heart as no one else can. Our missionaries sacrifice so much, we so little.

### TROUBLES IN CHINA.

From several sections of China are coming reports of violence on the part of the natives towards missionaries. In Sechuen province, and in Northern Cochin China, the Catholic missions have suffered. There have also been disturbances in Chung King, a station occupied by Methodist missionaries. This place is 1,600 miles in the interior. Various causes are assigned for these troubles. The Catholics charge the Methodists with indiscretions, while these latter in turn say that the Catholics have insulted the Chinese by persisting in building a Cathedral of yellow material, a color sacred to the Emperor. Others say that these troubles are the outgrowth of feelings aroused by the outrages inflicted on the Chinese on the western coast of our own land. Can we be surprised, if this be true, that the Chinese should retaliate upon foreigners the insults and indignities heaped upon their people in this country? It is hard that the innocent should suffer for the guilty, but we cannot blame the Chinese. As one of the missionaries says: "There is a price to be paid for everything, and we may have to foot some of the bills that are being run up in our western Territories."

It is sincerely to be hoped that our missions will not be involved in these troubles. Let us pray God to protect his servants and turn all these evils to the advancement of his work and the glory of his name.

### SIGNS OF INCREASE OF INTEREST IN FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The *Foreign Missionary* raises the question as to whether or not interest in the work of Foreign Missions is on the decrease, as some have alleged, and argues that there are rather indubitable signs of increase. Among these it specifies several:

1. "No great convocation in the interest of Christ's kingdom is now held without large reference to Foreign Missions." The Presbyterian Alliance at Edinburgh, in 1876, gave little attention to the subject. At Belfast, in 1884, it was the great interest of the occasion.

2. A few years ago Mr. Moody's work was confined to interest in, and work for people of Christian lands. Now Foreign Missions are coming to the front.

3. Until recently the Y. M. C. A. work was wholly confined to efforts for young men in our cities and towns. Now it is suggested that this lay talent be not confined to home work and Foreign Missions are attracting the attention of the leaders of the Association. Each local association is being urged to put the best missionary literature on its shelves.

These movements are among men, and do not touch the grand work being done by women. Might we not add that the constantly enlarging work of the various mission Boards, demanding as they do, and receiving greatly enlarged contributions, bear testimony in the same direction?

There seems at present a probability that the Waldensian and Free churches of Italy will effect an organic union. The only obstacle seems to be that the Waldensians cling to their name, and are unwilling to give it up. If this be the only difficulty, surely it can be overcome. Terms of union have been prepared by commissions of both bodies, which have all been accepted but the one referring to the name. Why so many Pedo-Baptist sects anyhow?

The Northern Presbyterian Board reports a falling off in the receipts from May to August of this year of \$13,965, as compared with the corresponding period last year. A considerable debt embarrasses their work.

### A STRONG APPEAL.

We would call the attention of the brethren to the latter part of brother Eager's letter. The Board was compelled this year to cut down appropriations, and this cutting down has caught brother Eager unprepared, and has involved him, as treasurer of the mission, in a debt, not large in itself, but worrying. How sad it is that to the burdens already resting on a devoted and hard working missionary, there should be added that of a troublesome debt. Cannot the churches so aid the Board by increased contributions that it may be enabled to restore its appropriations to their former size—none too large as they were?

The Board can only pay out what it receives. It receives only what the churches give.

### FROM HIM AND FOR HIM.

All that is most worthy of being kept we have received from Him—as all that is most worth knowing we have learned from Him. What treasures and truths He has freely given and taught us in His cross and by His Gospel? From Him we have learned those marvelous things connected with our salvation, and from Him we have learned the transcendent meaning of the ministry of reconciliation.

But, dear reader, for what purpose were these blessed truths taught you, for what purpose have you learned them? For self? Alas! how many professed Christians must answer yes—for self! But is this the use He designed for these things? Does He not tell you that "all things are for Him?" If so, then what? Let me answer you personally. You face this simple fact, that all you have received and learned from Him is misused unless used for Him. What a test this fact is! A simple direct question will frame and set this fact in a clear light before you. Are you using for Him what you have received and learned from Him? Are you? Be as honest with yourself now as He will be with you some day.

You have learned from Him that a world is in sin, and is perishing without a knowledge of His salvation, and this salvation you have received from Him. You have learned this from Him? Yes. What use are you making of this knowledge for Him? Reader answer me—answer your own soul—answer Him. Does the knowledge of this tremendous truth of a world lost in sin make you pray for this perishing world? If so, pray how? Rarely, formally, indifferently, faithlessly? Does it make you pray for your missionaries? How? As you do for the Jews, the heathen, or others in whom you have little or no personal interest? Does it make you give to the treasury of our Foreign Mission Board? Does it? How? Irregularly, thoughtlessly, scrimpingly. Does this great truth learned from Him make you give for Him as you ought? Be careful. He still "sits over against the treasury, and beholds how" you "cast your money into the treasury."

Yes, dear reader, He knows. He knows how much you have had and are having from Him, and he knows what use you are making of all this for Him. And there is another one who knows this also—that other one is yourself. Yes, you know, and I know how we are using for Him what we have from Him.

FRANK M. ELLIS.

October 25th, 1886.

Missions to Romanists rest on the same ideas as missions to Nestorians, Armenians and other nominally Christian people, amongst whom the gospel way of salvation by faith in Christ is overlaid and neutralized by tradition, and by unscriptural belief and practice.—*Monthly Record*.

### BOOK NOTICES.

CHRYSIE. By Mattie Dyer Britts. 12mo., 287 pp. Price, \$1.25. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society.

BIBLE INSPIRATION: PLENARY AND VERBAL. By W. W. Gardner, D. D., author of "Church Communion," "Missiles of Truth," etc. 12mo., 92 pp. Price, 10 cts. American Baptist Publication Society.

NOTES OF SERMONS. By J. M. Pendleton, D. D. 12mo., 227 pp. Price, \$1.25. American Baptist Publication Society.

This volume contains outlines of seventy-five sermons, and affords a good view of the manner in which the author has been accustomed to analyze his subjects. The selection covers a variety of topics—some of the Notes are more full, some merely outlines of his plan. They will be useful to such young preachers as may know how to use them aright. If they are merely used as out-lines to be filled out, their utility will be, to say the least, exceedingly doubtful. But if they are studied as examples of the mode of analyzing and presenting Scriptural themes—examples to aid in the development and presentation of themes of their own selection—then their usefulness cannot for a moment be doubted.

Presbyterian missionaries have met with much favor in Persia, and their mission there is flourishing. The same God who answered Nehemiah's prayer is helping his people there now. The following extract from a missionary's letter will indicate the progress in religious liberty:

"Most marked advance has been made toward the attainment of religious liberty for non-Mohammedan sects. Emphatic edicts of the Shah have thrown over Christians, Jews and others the shield of the law in changing their religious faith, even though they become Protestants. A recent firman reads: 'Hereafter eternally no hindrance shall be placed in the way of those Jews and Armenians who wish to enter another faith. They shall not incur opposition or molestation from any one.' Compulsory conversions to Islam are declared illegal; the pervert is no longer allowed by law to confiscate his Christian relatives' property, and the testimony of a Christian is to be received in civil courts. The Christian no longer needs, when he goes abroad, to cover his new coat with an old one, lest it be violently seized by a Mussulman.

"The prejudice of the Mohammedans against Christians has greatly lessened. The Christian, Nestorian or Armenian may now walk abroad on a rainy day without fear of being beaten for contaminating the passers-by. The idea that contact with his person, partaking of his food and entering his house pollutes, is fast becoming obsolete. Most Mohammedans will now shake hands with a Christian, invite him to their houses, drink his tea and smoke his pipe. On journeys one is rarely relegated to the stable, as heretofore, and can generally procure lodging in good houses."

Rev. E. O. Stevens, of the Burman Mission, of the Missionary Union, says that the Buddhist priests the retainers of the princes, the Burman soldiers and the hangers-on of royalty, are discontented with British rule. The industrial class, however, have long desired good government, and are pleased with the change. "These Burman carpenters, shop-keepers, and porters looked on in astonishment when they saw the conquering army march through the streets of Mandalay without committing any depredations whatever upon the peaceably disposed."

The King of Siam has presented to the veteran missionary, Dr. Dean, a gold medal, struck in commemoration of the grand festival lately held in Siam, "Upon the auspicious occasion in which his Majesty's prosperous and peaceful reign has been equal to that of his royal Sire's." This is given as "the special mark of his royal high favor and regard," and shows that even heathen rulers are beginning to regard Christian missions and missionaries with favor.

FOREIGN MISSION JOURNAL.

RICHMOND, VA., NOVEMBER, 1886.

OUR MISSIONARIES.

**SOUTHERN CHINA.**  
**CANTON and Vicinity.**—R. H. Graves, Mrs. Graves, Miss Lula Whilden, K. Z. Simmons, Mrs. Simmons, Miss Sallie Stein, Miss Emma Young, and twenty-five native assistants and Bible women.  
**MACAO.**—F. C. Hlckson and Mrs. Hlckson.

**CENTRAL CHINA.**  
**SHANGHAI.**—M. T. Yates, Mrs. Yates, D. W. Her-ring, Mrs. Herrin; assistant pastor, Wong Ping San; chapel-keeper—a licentiate—Wong Yung Sau; sexton, P'ay Sian Su.  
**Kwun San.**—See T'ay San, pastor.  
**Soochow.**—Tsu-nye-Shang, a licentiate, and chapel-keeper.  
**Chinkiang.**—William J. Hunnex, Mrs. Hunnex, R. F. Bryan, Mrs. Bryan.

**NORTHERN CHINA.**—P. O. CHEFOO.  
**TUNG CHOW Mission.**—T. P. Crawford, Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. S. J. Holmes, Miss Lottie Moon, N. W. Halcomb and O. W. Pruitt.  
**Wang Hien Mission.**—J. M. Joiner, Mrs. Joiner, E. E. Davault and Mrs. Davault.

**AFRICA.**  
**LAGOS.**—W. J. David, Mrs. David, P. A. Eubank, Mrs. Eubank, with four native assistants and teachers.  
**Abokoola.** (P. O. Lagos.)—W. W. Harvey, Mrs. Harvey, C. E. Smith, and one assistant.  
**Ogbomohaw.**—L. O. Murray, native evangelist.  
**Gaun.**—S. L. Milton, native evangelist.  
**Kauser Farm.**—Albert Ell, native evangelist.

**ITALY.**  
**ROME.**—George B. Taylor, 27 Via del Teatro Valle, J. H. Eager and Mrs. Eager, 62 via Giulio Romano, and Signor Torre.  
**Torre Felice.**—Signor Paschetto.  
**Fierole.**—Signor Ferraris.  
**Milan.**—Nicholas Papengouth.  
**Venice.**—Signor Bellondi.  
**Bologna.**—Signor Colombo.  
**Modena.**—Signor Martinelli.  
**Cagliari.**—Signor Fasulo.  
**Bari and Barietta.**—Signor Volpi.  
**Napoli.**—Signor Basile.  
**Isana of Sardinia.**—Signor Cossu.

**BRAZIL.**  
**RIO DE JANEIRO and Santa Barbara.**—W. B. Bagby, Mrs. Bagby, E. A. Puttuff, Mrs. Puttuff, Senhor Mesquita, E. H. Soper, Miss M. M. Everett.  
**BAHIA and MACAO.**—Z. O. Taylor and Mrs. Taylor, C. D. Daniel and Mrs. Daniel.—Native preacher—Senhor Teixeira.

**MEXICO.**  
**SALTILLO.**—W. D. Powell, Mrs. Powell, H. P. McCormick, Miss Addie Barton, Miss M. O. Tupper, Mrs. M. E. Graves and three teachers.  
**Palos and Parras.**—D. A. Wilson, Mrs. Wilson, F. M. Myers, Miss Annie J. Maberry and Senor Gonzalez.  
**Monclova District.**—Senor Rodriguez.

**NOTE.**—Letters addressed to our missionaries in China should be endorsed via San Francisco. Those to Africa via England.  
 The postage to each of our missions is five cents.

OUR CHINA MISSION.

TUNG CHOW, Aug. 11, 1886.

"This, of course, is the great mission of our Board." So reads the report presented to the Convention at Montgomery last May. At the convention held three years previously in Waco, our brother Powell pleaded eloquently for Mexico, basing his plea on the fact that there were eleven million souls in that land to whom the gospel should be given. A missionary to China, sitting in the audience, turned and whispered to a lady, "In my province alone we have twenty-nine million."

China has eighteen provinces, some of them much more thickly populated than the one just referred to; in addition to China proper, there are the outlying countries of Mongolia and Manchuria, ruled also by the Emperor of China. In Korea, now open to western nations, and opened by the advice of China, Chinese influence has for centuries reigned, and is still predominant over every other. Siam sends tribute to China; Tibet likewise owns her sway. Burmah, until the British lion, in righteous wrath, made her his prey, did homage to the "Dragon Throne." In Anam, also, until the recent war with France, China exercised the right of suzerainty.

The population of China proper, as reported from state papers in 1858, was put at over four hundred million. Mongolia and Manchuria are credited with an additional five million, Tibet with six million, and Korea with eight million. We may say roughly that politically China's influence includes four hundred and twenty-five million people. In Siam, with its ten million, Anam, with its twelve million, Burmah, with its five million, China's moral influence is still powerful, although her political influence may have waned.

The enormous resources of China are but little understood in the West. She has entered, with slow and hesitating steps, upon the path of western civilization. Her arsenals are busy manufacturing shot, shell and powder. Her navy is being steadily organized. Every year or two new and powerful vessels built in Europe are being added. Three vessels, built for China under the superintendence of officials in the German Admiralty, are announced as now about completed. It is stated that a Chinese squadron will soon visit European ports. The Chinese army is being drilled by German army officers, while an Englishman holds high command in the Chinese navy.

Immense sums are being expended for Krupp and Armstrong guns. Gen. Gordon, who knew well China's military strength, stated that it would take forty thousand Frenchmen to march on Peking with any hope of success.

All the world knows that France came out of the late war with enormous loss of prestige. Perhaps it is not so well known that China made an immense moral advance during that war in that she strictly followed the rules of international law in her dealing with foreigners of all nations then within her borders. Twenty years ago a war with any western power would have put in jeopardy the lives of all foreigners in China. The people classed all alike as "outside barbarians." Now not only are officials well posted as to foreign nations and western politics, but the common people have learned to distinguish between the various nationalities. Telegraph lines are being pushed into the interior and between the principal cities of the empire. Railroads will come in time. China, when she shall have well armed herself to resist western aggression, will enter vigorously upon the work of internal improvement. Her coal mines are beginning to be worked under Government auspices; the same is true of her gold mines.

At a recent celebration of the Emperor's birthday, held in Shanghai, one speaker, Mr. Wong, "in most fluent English," remarked: "Fifty years ago China was almost a hermit nation, but she had trade forced upon her, and her ports were opened by strength of arms. The way may have been harsh, but she now sees the advantage of it, and she is glad that she has encouraged the interchange of trade." \* \* \* In the fifty years that have passed, China has advanced wonderfully, though not so fast as Japan. That country has gone too fast, and saddled herself with a debt too heavy to bear. China is advancing slowly but surely. \* \* \* I am in favor of admitting foreigners to all parts of China, and ask that my countrymen be admitted to other countries. We are all human and should all have human rights. We were called to America to work as laborers to develop the great resources of that magnificent country, but the Government allowed us to be murdered and outraged by aliens like ourselves. True, Americans did not do it, but they are and must be blamed for it, and I hope some day to see our fleet so powerful that we can point our guns at San Francisco and demand of them the rights they have wrested from us. The day will come when we can demand this and enforce our demands by the strength of arms. \* \* \* We are arming ourselves, and we shall soon be in a position to take our proper place among nations. \* \* \* We have millions of men and vast resources."

The civilization of China is little understood in the West. With an Imperial Government above, there is very remarkable local freedom. In general, law and order reign, though in some regions robbery and murder are frequent; not more so, perhaps, than in Chicago and San Francisco. Family life is the basis of everything. Marriage is respected and property descends securely from father to son. In no country is learning more highly honored. America might take a lesson from China in Competitive Civil Service Examinations. Various forms of religion, some of them richly endowed in lands and buildings, sway the minds if not the hearts and consciences of the people.

Win China to Christ and the most powerful stronghold of Satan on earth will have fallen. Contrast it with Africa. Outside of the Mohammedan kingdoms, which are powerful and aggressive, Africa is split up into numberless petty kingdoms and tribes, uncivilized, non-homogeneous, brutal in manners and corrupt in morals. In Oceania we have the same prospect, a low civilization and no political or moral force. In Turkish lands the "sick man," to adopt the language of European politics, has long been "on his last legs." Persia is not a strong kingdom. Close to China, plucky little Japan is going on with immense strides in the adoption of western civilization. Her latest prime minister is a man of advanced ideas, a man upon whose personal attention the claims of the Christian religion were urged by Emperor William and Prince Bismarck. They also said to him that what Japan needed was the gospel.

This hasty survey of other lands is meant to show that China is the grand field to which the attention of the Christian world should be directed. Putting the population of the world roughly at one billion and two hundred and fifty million, we find that China influences, politically or otherwise, more than one-third of the population of the earth. Win China to Christ and the prophetic voices heard in sublime vision on Patmos may be quoted, in ringing tones of triumph, as fulfilled: "The kingdom of the world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ."

L. MOON.

FROM BROTHER EAGER.

CATIGLIANA, TUSCANY, Sept. 20, 1886.

My Dear Brother:

I have just returned from a visit to several of our stations. In Carpi I found the brethren generally well, and encouraged in their work. I preached to a very attentive congregation, most of whom are members of the church. The evangelist tells me that the congregations are not so large as they were shortly after his arrival, those who were drawn by mere curiosity having dropped off. The more seriously disposed continue to come, and he hopes that it will be his pleasure to baptize several before the close of the year.

In Modena I found Sig. Martinelli much strengthened by his vacation. Since his severe stroke of paralysis nearly two years ago he has not been himself. He is no longer able to visit the towns near Modena, a work in which he felt so much interest, but must now confine his labors to the city. He has lately baptized a family of three, whom it was my pleasure to meet. The winters in Modena are very severe, and Sig. Martinelli begs earnestly to be sent to the South, to Bari, the physicians having assured him that his life is in danger in such a cold, damp climate. One member of Signor Martinelli's household, a good old sister who has been with him several years, was very ill, probably nigh unto death, but she was as happy as a child. It was joy and strength to hear her talk, and to look upon her wrinkled, but beaming face. She is a widow and has twelve thousand francs, (about \$2,400), and in her will she has left something to the poor of our church.

I spent Sunday in Bologna. The weather was quite warm, and hence the congregation was small. There are some serious difficulties disturbing the peace of the church, and I fear that they will for a while interfere greatly with the work. Our hall in Bologna is the largest and best situated we have in Italy, and offers a fine opportunity for evangelization. Not being able to keep the people away, the devil has gotten into the church among the sheep, and is trying to scatter them. May he fail in his wicked design!

There have been about 500 cases of cholera in Bologna, and nearly 400 deaths. Several died while I was there. Shortly after my arrival I went into a shop to buy some fruit, and while eating it I enquired if there had been any cases in that part of the city. The shop-keeper pointed to a closed shop across the street, ten steps away, and said that twenty-four hours before the owner was in good health, but that now he is in his grave, having been carried away by a sudden and violent attack of cholera. The next time I bought fruit I went to another shop.

I reached Venice just in time to be present at a church meeting, a meeting for Bible study. All except five of the members were present. The Sunday previous Signor Bellondi had baptized three persons. Though so many have been baptized in Venice, the church is still small, about three-fourths of them having gone to other parts of Italy. It is exceedingly difficult in Italy to gather together and keep a regular congregation. This may prove a blessing in disguise, especially if each member will be a faithful witness for Christ wherever his lot may be cast. The climate of Venice is a trying one, and as Signor Bellondi has been there about ten years, he pleads for a change, it being necessary for himself and his family. But these changes cost money, and even at the risk of sacrificing a good brother's health, I must not increase the debt under which I am already groaning. I am sure if the readers of the *Journal* knew what I had suffered of late, owing to an unexpected cutting down of the appropriation to Italy, they would have pity and enable the Board to lift the burden. Of course the Board cannot give what it has not. I am cutting down expenses at every possible point, and refusing every request for enlargement, however enticing it may be. May the Lord direct and provide.

The summer is ended, and we are now packing for our journey to Rome. The summer has been a busy one, but this fresh mountain air has put new life and courage into us. I hope one of these days to see a good work going on in these mountains.

Yours in Christ,

JOHN H. EAGER.

CANTON JOTTINGS.

CHINESE SUPERSTITION.

A letter received from Shiu Hing last week states that placards are posted at the city gates warning the people against foreigners, who wish to get their children to kill them. The story arose in Hong Kong two months ago. The English are making a tunnel for their water works, and find it slow work drilling a passage through solid granite rock. Some designing Chinese circulated the report that the foreigners were going to catch three hundred children and kill them to use their blood as a solvent, or

make the holocaust to secure success in their undertaking. Immediately a panic spread through the town. The children were withdrawn from the schools, and mobs began to assemble and threaten to tear down the schools of the cruel crafty foreigners. Dr. Eitel, the superintendent of Public Instruction, had hard work to persuade the silly people to disperse. The government only stopped the foolish panic by offering a reward for the arrest of any one found circulating the foolish rumor, and by arresting a man, putting him in the public stocks and imprisoning him for two months.

It was not only the ignorant rabble, but so-called intelligent men, men who spoke English, and who had lived with foreigners for years who believed the silly story. This is the result of Chinese conservatism. Because the "classics" mention such things as the sacrifice of human beings by former despots on laying the foundation of a city, the people still believe that there may be efficacy in it. The gross superstition of the literati is appalling.

Another instance of the influence of superstition over the minds of the leading classes occurred within a few weeks. A graduate of the second degree was unsuccessful in his examination at Peking for the third degree. He returned to his native place, and instead of ascribing his failure to any fault of his own, he laid the blame on a Christian chapel, which he said interfered with the *fung shut* of his dwelling. So he raised a mob and they tore down the chapel. The Christians are made the scape-goats for all the evils that befall a man or a place. Thus we see ancient history repeated before our eyes, and the Chinese in the 19th century imitating the Romans of the 2d and 3d. Heathenism is the same in all ages. Satan knows how to marshal his forces against Christ.

In Sz Chuen serious riots are still in progress, said to have been caused by the location of a missionary hospital. Many lives have been lost, among them one French priest.

R. H. G.

FROM DR. GRAVES.

GOD HONORS HIS WORD.

CANTON, Sept. 1st, 1886.

Dear Dr. Tupper:

You will be glad to hear that we have been encouraged by several baptisms recently. On Sunday last three were baptized here. Two of them were boys in my school, grandsons of old Yung Leen Shang. The other was a very encouraging case. A clerk in a military mandarin's office, some 200 miles from Canton, found an old torn copy of the New Testament in the office and began reading it. The more he read the more interested he became. About 18 months ago he got hold of a street tract which had a prayer on it, and spoke of the Old Testament. He came to Canton and bought a copy of the Old Testament and began using the prayer. While here he attended some of the chapels, and met one of our members, who told him he must give up opium if he wished to be a Christian, and urged him to pray to God to help him to break off the habit. He did as he was told, and when he had been home for three months wrote down here that he had been delivered from this besetting sin. This was over a year ago. Now he has come down to join himself with the Christians. He has evidently been taught of the Spirit, and has great confidence in the power of prayer, which he has learned by his own experience. He bought a number of Christian books last year, and has learned them, and spoken to his friends about the new doctrine, and several young men meet with him on the Lord's day to read the Bible and worship. He is a very earnest talker, and I think will exert a good influence for Christ in his distant home. In a former letter I mentioned that Pastor Lo Kwok had gone to Cheung Ning district, where there were some applicants for baptism, brought to Christ through the labors of a colporteur and a brother, recently baptized, from that place. Brother Lo baptized three out of nine who applied for baptism. One of these is attending my quarterly class. The other six were advised to wait until they were better instructed. The men in this village gave us the use of their ancestral hall free, and supplied the lights for the evening meetings. I hope the gospel will yet bear fruit in this region.

My quarterly class began its autumn session on Monday. We have 22 in attendance, and expect several more. I hope I will have strength given me for this service. Our chapel congregations have been very good and attentive of late, and several men have expressed a desire to unite with us.

My health has been decidedly better this summer than last, and I hope that by being careful not to overtask myself I may be able to remain awhile longer without a change of home. Mrs. G.'s health is very good.

Yours sincerely, R. H. GRAVES.

RETURNED TO ROME.

Dear Brother Bell:

Two weeks ago we returned to Rome, where we have found plenty of work to do. The weather is very hot, hotter than I remember ever to have felt it at this season.

Our services have been fairly well attended during these two weeks. Last Sunday I was much encouraged at the number present at the communion. We are just beginning the study of Romans, and I spoke on the first verses. Brethren in Italy are very fond of taking up some portion of the Bible, and going regularly and systematically through it, verse by verse. Hence some of our very plain members are remarkably well versed in the Scriptures. The meetings in our new locale have been good all the summer, the position being a very fine one. Mrs. Eager's Mother's Meeting promises so well that she is obliged to limit the number. The full number will probably be enrolled during the first two or three meetings of the new season, beginning on her return to Rome.

The Catholics are working harder than ever, and we feel that we must do the same. There is a door of usefulness open to us, not so great perhaps as Paul had in Ephesus, but "there are many adversaries." This is especially the case now that the Jesuits have regained their lost privileges, and are busy at work in Rome with none to say "nay."

Last night I was at the monthly union meeting for prayer, and the general feeling seemed to be that we must work shoulder to shoulder, redoubling our efforts, and "in nothing terrified by our adversaries, which," adds the Apostle, "is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God." The enemies of the gospel will surely be overthrown, and we are sure to conquer in the end. Pray for us that our faith and courage fail not.

I am sorry to have to report the death of Mrs. Cossu, the wife of our Sardinian evangelist. She leaves a son, just grown, and a sweet little girl about five years old. Six dollars a month would keep this little girl in a good evangelical home. Perhaps some church or Sunday-school would be glad to undertake this work. Mrs. Cossu was an excellent woman. Death had no terrors to her. She begged her husband and children and friends not to weep for her, but to rejoice that she was going to be with her Saviour. Just a moment before dying she called her husband to her side, put her arms around his neck and kissed him, and then, as she fell back on her pillow, she looked calmly into his eyes and said: "Well, Angelo, you understand me, do you? We shall meet again, good-bye!" These were her last words.

I have lately had good news from several of our stations, especially from Cagliari, where the meetings have been unusually large. The evangelist pleads for a locale in Iglesias, where he goes once a week to visit from house to house, and to preach in a private room. But of course enlargement of the work is impossible without additional means.

May God bless you in your new and responsible position.

Affectionately,

JOHN H. EAGER.

Rome, October 5th, 1886.

FROM BROTHER WILSON.

PATOS, MEXICO, Sept. 20, 1886.

Rev. H. A. Tupper, D. D.:

You heard from brother Powell, brother McCormick and myself, some of the reasons which induced the mission to recommend the opening of a new mission in the city of Guadalajara, but as this is a field that has never been brought to the special notice of the Board, I deem it not improper to offer you a few thoughts in the present letter upon this subject.

If I mistake not it has always been considered wise on Mission fields to occupy first the centres of influence. This, at least to me, seems the reasonable method. Occupy the important cities, and the interest will grow outward, more rapidly and more surely, than it will grow inward from the outskirts to the centre. Guadalajara is the third city in the Republic in wealth and population, having already reached a hundred thousand inhabitants, and the population rapidly increasing. I do not suppose that the people of these large cities will accept the gospel more readily than in the villages, by no means. But I do believe that in time to come a much more important and abiding interest can be built up, and one that will be a greater power for good.

The middle portion of Mexico, in which Guadalajara is situated, is far more fertile and populous than the northern and north-western portion, and the gospel could be given to a much greater number of people with the same labor and means. This, of course, will apply to other cities beyond Zacatecas as well as to Guadalajara.

The State of Jalisco, of which Guadalajara is the capital, has one-tenth of the inhabitants of the Republic, and has more

public schools for females than any other State in the Republic. Further, the people of this State are said to be more liberal minded and democratic than in many others. Efforts that have been put forth by other evangelical denominations in this field have been successful, indicating that the field is fruitful.

The Board may feel that we are attempting to scatter our forces too much. But while this point will be a considerable distance from any other station, it will be only about as far from Zacatecas, as Zacatecas is from Saltillo. Moreover, while the distance is considerable, it takes the important places in a direct line across the Republic, about midway. Saltillo, Zacatecas, and Guadalajara command the three principal highways of commerce in Mexico.

Saltillo, the terminus of the Mexican Nat. Railroad. Zacatecas, a central point on the Mexican Cen. Railroad. Guadalajara, the most important point on the railroad from the port of San Blas, on the Pacific, to the City of Mexico.

It may be thought unwise to leave the work at Patos. It is true we have a good work here, and one that must be cared for. But the mission has a native brother, Albino Martinez, who has had considerable opportunities, and I feel sure that he can manage the work well. Besides, it is only a short distance from Saltillo, and brother Powell can well visit them occasionally, and help them, as he has done in building up the church.

If the station in question shall be occupied, the distance will likely render it necessary to constitute it a separate mission. This I think would be the best. My desire is to remain in Patos till the last of December, meanwhile to visit Parras and gather up the few sheep that are there.

Yours fraternally,

D. A. WILSON.

Dear Brother Bell:

It seems presumptuous in me to offer another article for the Journal so early, when it has so many able contributors to fill its narrow limits. I should not write, but I have just a little good news from this part of the field. This evening we assembled on the banks of the beautiful little stream that waters the village of Patos, where it was my pleasure, for the first time in Mexico, to administer the sacred ordinance of baptism. The candidates were two young men, one of them from the Presbyterians. There was a large crowd present to witness the baptism, and we pray that the action itself may prove a strong argument, and may convince others that we practice this ordinance as it was at first delivered to the saints.

We have now quite a nice class of young men who study the Bible with us every Sabbath morning. We believe that we have one of the very best of Mexican brethren laboring with us here, brother Gamez. By the grace of God he is going to be a power for good among his people.

Affectionately,

D. A. WILSON.

Patos, Mexico, October 10, 1886.

RIO MISSION.

RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL, Sept. 1, 1886.

Dr. Tupper:

Dear Brother.—This leaves us all in health, thank God, though we have had very unpleasant weather to contend with all the past month, this being our wet season. The attendance at our services has been good, considering the weather, and the month has not passed without some tokens of the Lord's blessing on our work. I have baptized two and received them into our church, and to-night we receive another candidate for baptism to begin this month with. God grant it may be a month of much fruit. Our members are working hard, visiting and trying to get people to attend worship. At our fellowship meeting each handed in a written report of what work they had done during the month. Some told of what they had seen in the houses visited, and the excuses made for not attending service. We are a small band of Christians, but truly united in the bonds of true Christian love. I have done much visiting around the streets, giving books and tracts and invitations in the stores and coffee restaurants; also to the people at their doors and windows. My wife and sister Williams have done a good work visiting houses and reading and praying with those who cannot read themselves. Some were induced by them to attend service. On Tuesday, the 8th of August, a young priest came to our meeting, and during the sermon got up and made several remarks. One was: "Who was Paul? He was of no importance, and we need not make so much fuss over him." He has attended several times since, and brought several young students with him. I think the Lord has begun a work in his heart, for he now sits and listens very attentively. I trust he may yet thank God for ever being brought beneath the sound of the gospel in a Baptist preaching hall. We

have with us a young Italian, a very earnest Christian, and gifted. He is quite anxious to preach to his own countrymen here, and they are many. He is seeking a place to work where he can have his Sundays free, and if he succeeds he will settle here, and I hope, go to work for Christ and souls. He is now studying the subject of Christian Baptism, and I doubt not but he will see the truth as it is in the word of God.

My wife and I have spent much of our time in study of the language, and I think have made fair progress. I am preparing my first sermon in the language from Acts 17-23, and only those who have seen for themselves can know how truly that text fits this people, for they do ignorantly worship a god they know not, for the simple reason that God is not preached to them, nor his record read to them. There has been quite a stir here over the change in the Roman Catholic religion in the United States, and some are heard crying out, "Why cannot it be the same here." The Romanists are making a hard struggle against the gospel all over this Empire, and it hurts them no little to see several Christian papers issued monthly, and thousands of Bibles, books and tracts in the Portuguese language flooding the provinces of the Empire. And now brother Taylor has put C. H. Spurgeon on the field by sending out his sermons in the language. May the Lord enable us to use every lawful means in our power to overthrow the kingdom of error and sin in Brazil. Sometime back I was asked to go or send and bring two Brazilians to hear our preaching, as they were afraid to come themselves because of their friends. Yet one of them was the god-mother of the child of a member and an officer in the E. Methodist church here. This is what infant sprinkling is doing for Brazil. Some will say: "can these things be so." Yes, they are just so. I know a lady, a member of a Presbyterian church, who took as sponsor for her child an old Portuguese, that she would hardly care for her children to see after he had served her purpose, and I myself saw him drunk and helpless. Our work report for the month is as follows: services held—Portuguese, 28, English, 4, Ladies' meetings, 4; total, 36. Baptisms, 2. Colporters' report—Bibles sold, 7, Testaments, 6, gospels, 5, and 5 Baptist histories. Houses visited, 29; persons talked with, 160; hours worked, 175. Besides this he has assisted much in mission work at our different preaching halls. It is now over a month since we had any letters from the States, and we are getting anxious to hear. All our members send Christian greeting to our dear brother and sister Bagby, and all the friends who are interested in our work here. Brethren all pray for us and our work in this dark land, and believe me yours in Christian bonds.

E. H. SOPER.

FROM MISS EVERETT.

BAHIA, BRAZIL, Sept. 23, 1886.

Dear Dr. Tupper:

The letters I sent last I presume reached Richmond while you were away. I am anxious for you to read the private one if you have not done so.

I hope your excellent daughter is well by this time and attending the work that the Lord has called her to do.

On Sunday night, September 12th, an attempt was made to throw a bomb into our crowded worship hall. The person was caught and held by some of the brethren, who discovered him trying to light it from the gas at our entrance door on second story. The brethren held the boy in order to hand him over to the police. His yells soon enraged a large number, who evidently devised the plan. They came like howling wolves trying to get in the house, throwing stones at the door and windows. The boy was turned loose before the policemen arrived. Several of the brethren were stoned. The bomb was taken to one of the chief officers of the city, who lives next door to us, and who is, and has been, a personal friend of brother Taylor for four years. He immediately saw the danger of such a thing, and promised protection. We now have soldiers to guard our place every time of worship. Brother Daniel has a letter from brother Lius, of Pernambuco, which gives the news of four more baptisms. The Bahia church is being added to every month. Let us have your prayers, and write us when you can.

Ever yours in the love of Christ,

MINA S. EVERETT.

LETTER FROM Z. C. TAYLOR.

BAHIA, Sept. 25, 1886.

Dear Dr. Tupper:

We are all well at present. Four of our members have been called away in the last six weeks; but their places have been filled by as many professions. The burial and profession of these have called out fresh persecutions against us. A

rocket containing a half teacup of powder was being lit to throw into our congregation, when it was snatched from the boy's hand by one of the brethren. We sent the rocket to the police, and since that time from four to twelve soldiers have guarded us during hours of worship. Two of the principal officers of police are acquaintances and strong friends of ours. The sheriff lives next door to us. Four baptisms in Pernambuco recently, one in Maceio and three in Bahia. Good interest and congregations now. A young lawyer who, three weeks ago was a strong Romanist, by permission, gave us his experience at last meeting. Another who came to criticise us was changed, and now has a hope. Several others are hopeful.

We have now over 200 subscribers to our paper, and as many to sermons. So far enough has been collected to pay half the expenses. Besides two houses here, paper, sermon, Sr. Teixeira, our mission is sustaining brother Lius at Pernambuco. The cause is very hopeful there. Some months we can send only \$20 to brother Lius, but we are economizing all we can here to sustain that point.

We are losing the opportunity to buy this property, as the owner is building and improving at back end of it. Dr. Tupper lacks one laurel in his crown of honor and usefulness, and that is a church building in Bahia. During his secretaryship houses of worship have been built in Italy, in China, in Africa, and in Mexico. Just see, Europe, Asia, Africa and North America have enjoyed this bounty of their fostering father, while this poor and fifth continent is only living on hope. May our Heavenly Father fill all our lives with usefulness. We are expecting great things in our work here.

On the 15th of October our church will celebrate its 4th anniversary.

Yours faithful over a few things.

Z. C. TAYLOR.

FROM BROTHER POWELL.

SALTILLO, MEXICO, Sept. 18, 1886.

Rev. H. A. Tupper, D. D.:

Independence day was quite elaborately celebrated. For two nights the plaza principal and the various public buildings were beautifully illuminated. The bells rung, the band played, the cannon roared, while the people in their best attire crowded the streets. The ceremonies were quite imposing.

The hospital and a public library were thrown open to the public.

Our church concluded to observe the day by giving the poor a week's rations. We raised about \$250 or \$300, and supplied nearly 350 families. We had appropriate services on the night of the 16th. Three candidates for baptism were received. One had come nearly a hundred miles to present himself. He lives at Rayohes, and at his earnest request I will leave on Monday to visit his town, and the ranches between here and there. Will be absent possibly two weeks.

All well. Love to Miss Annie.

Affectionately,

W. D. POWELL.

LATER.

SALTILLO, MEXICO, October 11, 1886.

Rev. H. A. Tupper, D. D.:

I have baptized thirty-three candidates since July 1st.

I have just returned from a trip to the ranches. I went about one hundred miles from Saltillo. I was nineteen days in the saddle. The country was so mountainous that for ten days I saw no wagon road. I was ten thousand feet above the sea. The path was often so narrow and dangerous that I walked. At times should my horse's foot have slipped eight inches we would have fallen hundreds of feet below.

The spirit of the Lord was with us from the first day. Everywhere I preached to large congregations. Fifty-two candidates for baptism were received and two baptized. Thirteen owners of ranches were received. The people are very anxious for regular preaching. The field promises to be self-sustaining at an early day.

Pray for us.

Fraternally,

W. D. POWELL.

From the *Heathen Helper* we glean the following facts:

Eighteen Woman's Missionary Societies were organized in Alabama last year.

The Baptist women of Georgia contributed nearly \$6,000 to the Lord's treasury last year.

From April, 1885, to July, 1886, the Ladies Societies of Mississippi contributed \$1,252.78 to the various benevolent works of the churches.

From South Carolina comes a suggestion that the women begin to organize men's societies for mission. They are needed.

