

Board of Foreign Missions.

NEW YORK, MAY 20, 1862.

Recent Intelligence.

JAPAN.—We have received letters from Dr. Hepburn, dated January 13th and 27th. He speaks of being much engaged on his Japanese Dictionary, which in connection with acquiring the language has been his principal work for the last two years.

He adds: "I have commenced to go more out among the people and families about me to talk with them about Jesus and salvation." The missionaries expected to be required to remove from Kanagawa to Yokohama, but they had not been able to obtain houses or lands in that place.

CHINA.—Our letters from this country are dated at Canton, March 13th; Ningpo, to February 25th; and Shanghai, to February 20th. Mr. Preston, at Canton, has very interesting audiences every day, and greatly desires another chapel in the city which will cost about \$2,000. The brethren at Ningpo were rejoicing in several additions to the church—two of the girls in the school, the son of one of the elders, and two persons at Bao-ko-tah, one of these a man over eighty years of age. A few other hopeful cases of inquiry were found at Bao-ko-tah, which is a small town a few miles from Ningpo, one or two at Sanpoh, and a few in the girls' school. Mr. Rankin adds: "There is no interruption to missionary work among the villages generally, and the people are eager to hear the gospel. . . . Ask the churches to pray for us."

SIAM.—Our advices from Bangkok are dated February 6th. Mr. McDonald mentions that the number of scholars in the boarding-school has been reduced to twenty-two, in order to save expense. The arrival of Mr. and Mrs. George is reported in another paragraph.

INDIA.—Letters have reached us from Allahabad, March 5th; Futtehpoore, March 2d; Futtehgurh, March 18th; Saharunpur, March

17th; Ambala, February 28th; Kapurthala, March 3d. Mr. Calderwood had been permitted to receive into the church, by baptism, three men and one woman at Ambala; Dr. Campbell to receive eight new members at Saharunpur; and Mr. Fullerton reports the baptism of a man about eighty years of age, and of a young man at Futtehgurh. These additions to the church gave the brethren great cause of rejoicing. Mr. Walsh had returned to Allahabad with health much improved.

AFRICA.—Letters have come to hand from Monrovia, March 10th, and from Corisco, dated to February 21st. Mr. James Amos, of the Niffau station, was at Monrovia on his way to this country, on account of the health of his wife. The missionaries at Corisco, Mr. Mackey says, were enjoying pretty good health, and their work was going on as usual. Mr. Nassau sends us an account of threatened trouble from the followers of *Ukuku*, which for a time endangered some of the missionary labours; but this had ceased.

SOUTH AMERICA.—Letters have been received from Bogota, dated to the 28th of March, mentioning the safe arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace at the end of their journey. From Rio de Janeiro, our letters are dated to the 14th of March. Mr. Simonton, whose visit is mentioned in another paragraph, brings us full and valuable information about the missionary work in Brazil. It is a field of great interest, having its difficulties and discouragements, but one that is open for missionary labour, and this labour has already yielded some precious fruit.

INDIAN TRIBES.—Our letters from the Chipewa mission are dated on the 15th of April, May 6th, and from the Iowa mission, April 16th, but furnish no points for special notice.

CHINESE IN CALIFORNIA.—Mr. Loomis, in a letter dated at San Francisco, March 31st, refers to measures pending before the Legis-

lature, affecting seriously the rights of the Chinese in that State; some of these propose, by excessive taxation, to constrain the Chinese to leave the country. Also in a letter of more recent date, April 17th, he refers to the same subject and cites instances of cruelty upon worthy and unoffending individuals for which there seems to be no redress.

MOVEMENTS OF MISSIONARIES.—The Rev. W. A. P. Martin, D. D., and his wife, and their two youngest children, embarked on their return to Ningpo, China, in the steamer *Ta Kiang*, at New York, May 6th. We ask for them a remembrance in the prayers of the churches. Mr. Simonton arrived at New York from Brazil, on a visit, on the 7th of May. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts arrived at Shanghai on the 1st, and Ningpo on the 23d of February. Mr. and Mrs. George arrived at Bangkok on the 2d of that month, and Mr. and Mrs. Wallace arrived at Bogota, on the 19th of March.

The Missions of the Church on April
30th, 1862.

THE first paper in this number of our magazine will give our readers a general view of the missionary work of the Board, at the end of another financial year. The Annual Report, if approved by the General Assembly, will probably reach the hands of most of our readers. No former report of the Board has contained more signal proofs of the manifold blessing of God upon this cause. The Executive Committee have done well to begin and to end this report with expressions of hearty thanksgiving. We are sure our readers will join the Committee in this rendering of praise unto God.

But the work is going on, and will go on, until all the labourers now engaged in its service, at home or abroad, have entered into rest. This work must be maintained in vigour, or else ground now well occupied will be lost. The report

brings distinctly to view the serious state of the case, that the income of the Board from the *usual* sources is not equal to the current expenditures of the missionary work. This work, moreover, is calling for more missionaries, and these are waiting and asking to be sent forth. See what is said on this point in the Annual Report. We are thankful for the growing work, and for the brethren offering to go out as labourers. Both are to be regarded as very marked tokens of the favour of God towards our Church and towards men perishing for lack of vision.

We trust our Christian people will consider these things well. Rightly viewed, the missionary cause, as embodying and representing largely the interests of our Saviour's Kingdom in many countries, does call for *enlarged* support,—not from all, but from very many. We think this cannot be gainsaid. We think the Committee used words of truth and soberness when they expressed their conviction, that "The members of our Christian body, generally, might make large advances on their past efforts. To refer particularly to the pecuniary means required for increased labours, the Committee do not doubt that the churches which now support these missions could really double their gifts, in a great number of instances; and the churches, which have made no offering in aid of this cause, might surely do something for its support." This is honestly said, and we believe with truth; but while it suggests reasons of humility, it need not be a discouraging opinion. Let our Christian brethren see the Saviour himself present in the work to which he is calling them, and they cannot but join him in it. They will do so with glad and thankful hearts, and their labor will be humble, faithful, and blessed.