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dence for making known the Gospel of Christ to many persons, who have not heretofore possessed any acquaintance with the simple way of salvation, must surely commend these missionary labors to the favorable regard of the churches.

MISSION IN BRAZIL.

RIO DE JANEIRO: The capital of the country; population variously stated up to 400,000; occupied as a mission station in 1860; missionary labourers—Rev. Ashbel G. Simonton and his wife; one native colporteur.

SÃO PAULO: 220 miles W. S. W. of Rio de Janeiro; chief town in the province of the same name; population 22,000; occupied as a mission station in 1863; missionary labourers—Rev. Alexander L. Blackford and his wife. **GERMAN SETTLEMENTS** in this province: occupied for missionary labour in 1862; missionary labourer—Rev. Francis J. C. Schneider.

Under the direction of the mission—three native colporteurs, of whom two are supported by the American Bible Society, and one by the British Bible Society.

Mr. Simonton arrived at Rio de Janeiro in July, on his return with his wife. Mr. Schneider spent several months at Rio, in accordance with the counsel of his colleagues, but returned in December to the field of labour among the Germans. Mr. Blackford removed to Sao Paulo in October.

The religious services in Rio were steadily maintained in Portuguese; and in English they were resumed after having been suspended for a short time. They have been attended by increasing numbers, making it necessary to procure a larger room. The brethren feel deeply the need of a church building in this city, to accommodate the growing audiences, and also to attract many to the worship of God, who are unwilling to attend religious meetings in a private house. It would be a public witness of the toleration liberally granted by the government of the country, and of the simplicity, order, and truth of Protestant Christianity. The professors of this pure faith are too few in number and feeble in resources to provide such an edifice. This object is commended to the liberal support of our people, and particularly of those amongst them who have been led by Providence to feel a special interest in the welfare of Brazil.

The walls of the spiritual building have received the addition of living stones; it is remarkable that at every communion season, held quarterly, there have been new members admitted to the church. In their report, the brethren say, "During the year one Englishman, and twelve Brazilians and Portuguese were received on profession of their faith. Twelve adults and one infant were baptized. One American, one Englishman, and one Brazilian were received on certificate, making sixteen additions in all for the year. Our mission church at Rio now numbers twenty-two persons, besides the members of the mission families. Most of our people have to contend

with many difficulties and sore trials; but we rejoice to testify to their general faithfulness and their consistency of conduct." One case of discipline occurred, "which issued in the evident repentance and full restoration of the offender."

The station at Sao Paulo has been too recently occupied to furnish materials for extended notice. It is a city of considerable importance in a missionary point of view, on account of its educational institutions, and especially of a college for young men preparing to enter the legal profession. Of these a large number, from different parts of the country, resort to this place for several months each year. It may be found, however, that peculiar difficulties stand in the way of direct evangelical labour and influence.

Among the Germans, Mr. Schneider's ministry was continued during the earlier months of the year under review. The lax notions of discipline, prevalent among church members, proved a discouraging trial to the missionary. He was led to return to Rio, under the impression, for a time, that he could be more useful in missionary work among the Brazilians; and this work will still receive his attention, as opportunities serve. A visit of a month among the German settlements by Mr. Blackford showed clearly, that Mr. Schneider had gained a large influence among the Germans; they were anxious to have him return and resume his labours among them. Towards the end of the year this measure was accordingly adopted. It is in some respects a difficult sphere of duty, but it is one of marked importance, and one for which, by his native acquaintance with the language and people, the missionary is well qualified. As these Germans and their children form a permanent part of the population of Brazil, their being kept or brought under the influence of the gospel is much to be desired. At present they are mostly poor, but their industry and frugality, especially if directed by enlightened and earnest Protestant faith, will give them great influence among the other inhabitants of that country.

Referring to the published communications of the missionaries for further details of their work, the Committee would only add here the expression of their continued and deep interest in this mission. It is formed in the most important country in South America. It finds there a door remarkably open for a Roman Catholic country. It has been sealed already with manifest tokens of the blessing of God. It needs to be enlarged. More labourers are needed. Greater facilities should be given to the work of the brethren. Faith and prayer should look forward to great and blessed triumphs of the gospel in Brazil.