

The preacher's heart is often sad and ready to sink. But he reflects that he has tried to do his duty and spoken the truth in love, and that God will take care of his word. It may be after many days the bread cast upon the waters shall be found. And he that goeth forth and weepeth bearing precious seed shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. Thus in many places, by the living voice and the printed word, the gospel is scattered in this land. Many have come to a saving knowledge of its truth and multitudes have a general knowledge, which only waits the effectual calling of the Holy Spirit. For this let us all pray.

#### Brazil Mission.

Letter from Rev. G. Nash Morton.

CAMPINAS, Oct. 17, 1870.

The time has come to set before you a general report of our operations during the year just ended, as well as to give you an estimate upon which your Committee can base its appropriations for the year 1871.

We are constrained to acknowledge the good hand of our God upon us, both in leading us to this province and in opening to us so effectually a door for the preaching of the gospel of his Son. During our year's residence in Campinas we have encountered no outward opposition, but have been treated with uniform courtesy and kindness by all classes of citizens. The fact of our being Protestant missionaries has been no bar to the enjoyment of social intercourse, even with those who never attend our services.

As soon as we were able to read intelligibly the Portuguese language, we began to hold meetings in our house on the Lord's day. We read portions of the Scriptures and a tract or sermon. The attendance, at first, was small; but since we have commenced preaching the number of hearers has steadily increased. On last Sabbath I preached to about fifty souls. Our parlor, which is quite a large room, was full. I believe that if we could obtain a suitable hall, separate from our dwelling-house, the attendance would be

much larger; for there are many persons who do not like to enter a private house without a special invitation.

We have baptized two persons on profession of their faith in the Lord Jesus. Two others have applied for baptism, and I hope that yet another two will join us at our next communion. Besides these, there are seven members of the Northern Presbyterian Mission residing in our midst. We have therefore the nucleus of a good church with which to enter on the labors of another year.

In our Sabbath-school we have twenty-five bright and interesting children. Through them the Bible and other religious books are introduced into the families to which the children severally belong. We are very much in need of a Sunday-school library, for the scholars read with eagerness, and they have already exhausted our limited supply of books for the young.

In addition to the Sabbath-school, we have in operation a night-school, taught by a Christian Portuguese. By opening this school at night we reach many, both men and children, who belong to the laboring classes, and who could not attend during the day. We hope to make it a very important auxiliary to our work of preaching the gospel. It is opened by prayer and reading the Scriptures, and each scholar, as soon as he learns to read, begins the study of the scripture text. The number of scholars reaches to twenty-eight—the maximum which the room will accommodate.

In a wide circuit like ours, we cannot expect to preach at every important point more than three or four times in a year. Under such circumstances we cannot expect the people, without some additional means of instruction, to be built up in a thorough knowledge of the word of God—a knowledge in which so much of their efficiency and growth in grace is dependent. We therefore deem it very important, and earnestly desire to open in the towns at which we expect to preach regularly, night-schools similar to the one we have established here. These towns are the

following, to wit: Santa Barbara, 28 miles northwest of Campinas; Itu, 36 miles southwest; Limeira, 36 miles northwest; Mogy-morim, 40 miles north. The teachers can be at the same time colporteurs and Bible-readers in the towns in which they may be severally stationed. We will thus have a ground-work for our preaching, and will be enabled, by the blessing of the Lord, to build up an intelligent class of Christians throughout an extensive region of country at a comparatively small cost on the part of the Committee.

There are three distinct settlements of North Americans within our reach—two near Santa Barbara and one between Campinas and Limeira, on the Fayenda of Funil. The settlers amount in all to about 400 persons. We have preached to them whenever it was in our power to do so. We have also kept up regularly English services in Campinas, but thus far with poor encouragement.

We have not had any regularly employed colporteur, but by various means have put into circulation a considerable number of Bibles and tracts. We have sold or distributed gratis—Portuguese Bibles, (entire,) 22; Portuguese New Testaments, 21; Portuguese Gospels, in tract forms, 40; German copies of Gospels, 16; Portuguese tracts, 50,000 pages; English tracts, 10,000 pages; German tracts, 3,000 pages. We have circulating as loans—Bibles, 10; New Testaments, 14.

In addition to the above, we have sold for the Publication Committee at Richmond books to the value of \$31.35; and obtained for the *Children's Friend* 40 subscribers.

I have thus given you a succinct account of the first year's labors of your two missionaries, and of their efforts to bring the Gospel before the minds and consciences of the people. It remains for me to speak of one other work which does not belong exclusively to us, but from which we have good reason to hope that we shall reap much benefit. There are in this Province nine Christian ministers, united by personal friendship and a cordial sympathy for the spread of the gospel among all classes of inhabitants, which are composed

chiefly of Portuguese, German, and English speaking people. They determined that they would make themselves responsible for the support of a godly man whose business it should be to go from neighborhood to neighborhood and from house to house without reference to nationality, and to sell religious books, read the Scriptures, and pray with the different families, and endeavor to interest the parents in teaching their children the catechism. They found a Methodist brother among the American emigrants near Santa Barbara and employed his services. He is an earnest devoted Christian, and speaks German, English, and Portuguese. He has been laboring for several months faithfully in this work, and we believe that the Lord has greatly blessed his labors.

#### Colombia Mission.

Letter from Rev. H. B. Pratt.

BARRANQUILLA, October 28, 1870.

Since I wrote you about a month ago, nothing of importance has occurred, beyond the unusual quantity of rain that has fallen. In God's mercy, we have all been kept in the enjoyment of good health; and being at the top of the hill, the excessive rains have been of no inconvenience to us, compared with what has fallen to the lot of those living in low houses at the foot of it; many of which have been flooded, and the floors of all have been and are very damp. We are perpetually saying that we would not exchange our premises for the best in Barranquilla.

Dr. Pardey, our physician, is and has been as kind and attentive as though we were his nearest of kin; coming not merely when he is needed, but dropping in frequently, (though out of the routine of his ordinary rounds,) to inquire how we are, and to suggest needful precautions for the preservation of health in view of the unusual amount of sickness prevailing. The kindness of this gentleman, on whom we had no claims of any kind, not even that of religious affinities, and his generous attentions, have given him a distinguished place among the many kind