

1871.]

Mr. Balentine labors in the northwestern portion of the Cherokee country, at a place called Cabin Creek. The chief consideration which induced him to occupy that particular part of the country, was the extreme ignorance and destitution of that portion of the Cherokee population. He and his family endured great hardships during the first year of their residence in that far-off and isolated position, but they have been greatly comforted by feeling assured that they were walking in the path of duty, and by the marked tokens of favor that have been bestowed upon their labors by the great Head of the Church.

But our principal mission among the Indians is that to the Choctaws and the Chickasaws. When this mission first came into our hands, it was sustained by six white missionaries and a number of native laborers. Since then, two of these white missionaries, Rev. Messrs. Stark and Reid, have withdrawn from the work and are laboring elsewhere; whilst the four older ones, Rev. Messrs. Kingsbury, Byington, Hotchkin, and Copeland, all died in the midst of their labors, and after long periods of earnest and self-denying efforts to build up the Redeemer's kingdom among the people. It is only a few months since Dr. Kingsbury, the founder of the mission, was called to his rest. At the present time there are only four ordained missionaries in the field—Rev. James H. Colton, of the Synod of North Carolina; and Rev. W. J. B. Lloyd, of the Synod of Arkansas; and two native preachers, Rev. Allen Wright and Rev. Thomas H. Benton; with a few other native helpers. These brethren have divided the whole field into four evangelistic departments, and in this way all the churches have been brought under their pastoral care. It is not known how many communing members there are in all these churches, but probably not less than ten or twelve hundred. There were added to the churches something like one hundred new communicants the last year; and with the exception of the want of more ministers, the prospects of the mission are very encouraging.

SOUTH AMERICAN MISSIONS.

Of our two missions in South America, one is located in Barranquilla, a large sea-port town on the northern borders of the United States of Colombia, and the other in Campinas, one of the largest interior cities in the empire of Brazil. Neither of these two missions have been in existence more than two years. Barranquilla, the seat of one of these, is located near the mouth of the Magdalena River, and not far from the sea-coast. It has a population of nearly twenty thousand, and is a place of very considerable commercial importance. Rev. H. B. Pratt, our only missionary here, had spent several years before the war at Bogota in missionary labors, and had become well acquainted with the Spanish language, so that on his arrival at Barranquilla he was prepared at once to enter upon his public labors. He has maintained preaching both in the English and Spanish every Sabbath, but with very variable audiences as to size. Two persons of somewhat marked character have been hopefully converted, one of whom has recently been removed by death. Mr. Pratt, besides his labors as preacher, is revising the Spanish New Testament for publication, which will be of great value to the whole Spanish-speaking population. The mission at Campinas is sustained by Rev. Messrs. G. Nash Morton and Edward

Lane. Campinas is located in the province of Sao Paulo, communicates by railroad with the sea-coast, and has a population of something more than twenty thousand. The brethren here made themselves sufficiently acquainted with the Portuguese language in six or eight months after their arrival to hold public services, which they have continued ever since with growing congregations. A church has been organised here embracing six or eight members, and it is supposed that a good many others have become deeply interested in the truths of the gospel.

ITALIAN MISSION.

Our only representative in this part of the papal world is Miss Christina Ronzone. She is a native of Italy, but spent a number of years in this country, and became a member of the Presbyterian Church while residing in South Carolina. The principal part of her time is devoted to teaching a school in Bordighera, but she is also engaged in preparing and translating tracts and books into the Italian language, and will in this way contribute much towards the evangelisation of the Italian people.

CHINA MISSION.

Our first mission in China was founded, in 1867, by Rev. Elias B. Inslee. The year after, it was reinforced by the arrival of Rev. Messrs. M. H. Houston, Ben. Helm, and John L. Stuart—the first from the Synod of Virginia, and the other two connected with the Synod of Kentucky. The year following, Rev. T. E. Converse and his wife were added to the mission force. Hanchou, a large city of six hundred thousand or eight hundred thousand inhabitants, is the site of the principal mission. A second station was formed something more than a year ago at Gü-tsiu, a city of one hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants, and situated about 150 miles nearer to the heart of the empire. At the principal station there are two schools, one for males, and the other for females. The funds have been contributed for the purchase of a printing press, which will be sent out as soon as the country has become more settled. A church has also been organised, which embraces, besides the mission family, several native converts. Mr. Inslee, in consequence of broken down health, has been compelled to return with his family to this country, with little or no prospect of ever being able to return to China. An effort will be made to send out another missionary in the spring to take his place in the mission; but no definite arrangement has yet been made.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE AND LABORS OF REV. CYRUS KINGSBURY, D. D.

The name of Dr. Kingsbury is familiar to every one who is at all acquainted with the history of modern missions. The following sketch of his life and labors has been furnished by Rev. Allen Wright of the Choctaw mission. Mr. Wright was