

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Executive Committee of Foreign Missions, in presenting their Twelfth Annual Report, would express devout thanks to the great Head of the Church for the manifold tokens of favor bestowed on this important cause, both at home and abroad, during the past year. Especial thanks are due for the large increase of the missionary force; for the preservation of the health and lives of the missionaries in the field; for the quietness, peace and success with which their labors have been carried on; for the presence and power of the Holy Ghost in the conversion of sinners at most of the stations; and that the area of missionary labor has been so materially enlarged. Nor would the Committee feel less grateful for the manifest growth of interest among the great body of our people in this important cause; for the more extended diffusion of missionary intelligence among the churches; for the more general observance of the monthly concert of prayer for the conversion of the world; for the cheerfulness and readiness with which our young men and our young women are offering their services for this cause; and especially for the lively interest that has been awakened in our Sabbath Schools, and the liberality with which they have contributed for the promotion of education in connection with the different missions. Two facts alone cast a shade over this otherwise bright picture. One of these is, that the churches, as such, notwithstanding the demands for increased liberality, have fallen behind their contributions of the previous year by four or five thousand dollars. The other is, that two young men, Rev. Joseph Johnston, a native of Mississippi, and a recent graduate of Columbia Seminary, and Mr. John D. Pinkerton, a native of Virginia, and recent graduate of Union Seminary, appointed missionaries to China, will, in consequence of failure of health, be prevented from going abroad. These young brethren feel the disappointment very keenly, and they deserve, as they will no doubt have, the sympathies of God's people.

MISSIONARIES AND ASSISTANT MISSIONARIES SENT OUT DURING THE YEAR.

Mr. J. L. Caldwell, of Carrolton, Mississippi, and Mrs. Caldwell, who had previously been appointed to Spencer Academy, reached that place in August, and immediately entered upon their labors there. Miss Elizabeth J. Morrison, a former member of the First Presbyterian Church in Lynchburg, Virginia, and formerly connected with the Spencer Academy, was reappointed, and returned there in November last, and has since that time been engaged in labors connected with that institution. Rev. William LeConte, a native of Georgia, and recent graduate of the Theological Seminary, Columbia, South Carolina, sailed from New York for Campinas on the 23d November, and reached that place in January following. Since that time he has been chiefly engaged in the study of the Portuguese language. Rev. J. Rockwell Smith, a native of Kentucky, and recent graduate of Union Seminary, sailed from New York for Pernambuco, in northern Brazil, on the 23d December; and reached that place on the 15th January. Finding no obstacles to the establishment of a mission there, that would not be met with in any Roman Catholic country, but on the other hand many things to favor the undertaking, he commenced the founding of a mission, which, it is hoped, will prove a great blessing to that portion of the Brazilian empire. Rev. John Boyle, a native of Kentucky, and a recent graduate of Union Seminary, Virginia, and Mrs. Boyle, a member of the Presbyterian Church, Farmville, Virginia, sailed from New York on the 23d March, to join Mr. Smith at Pernambuco, and it is hoped have reached their destination in safety before this present time.

MISSIONS TO THE UNITED STATES OF COLOMBIA.

Socorro.—Rev. H. B. Pratt and Mrs. Pratt.

Barranquilla.—Rev. Adam H. Erwin, teacher; Mr. Gallardo, native colporteur.

Mr. Pratt, as has already been made known through the columns of the *Missionary*, visited the province of Santander last autumn, for the two-fold object of finding a climate more congenial to the health of his family, and to ascertain if the people in the same region would not be more favorably disposed to listen to the claims of the gospel than those among whom he had been laboring for several years past. The results of this tour were, that he not only found a more healthful climate, but the people, so far as he could judge from a transient sojourn among them, were more favorably disposed to listen to the gospel. In consequence of this state of things, he has, with the full concurrence of the committee, transferred his missionary headquarters from Barranquilla to Socorro, the capital of the province of Santander. The province of Santander lies to the southeast of Barranquilla, is considerably elevated above the sea-coast regions, is mountainous in its general features, has a healthy climate, and a much more intelligent population than that found along the sea-coast. But whilst the population is more intelligent and liberal in their views, the Roman Catholic priesthood are proportionately bigoted and intolerant, and it is not probable that evangelical religion will ever gain a firm footing here without overcoming the most serious opposition. Here, as in most other portions of Spanish America, the great mass of the more intelligent classes, being utterly uninformed as to the true principles of evangelical religion, have already arrayed themselves on the side of Romanism or downright infidelity, and the religion of Jesus must overcome both of these before it can be firmly established in the land. Mr. Pratt, thus far, has had good audiences, and of the more intelligent classes of society, and there is reason to hope that his mission will prove a great blessing to the country.

Mr. Erwin still labors at Barranquilla, and not without evidences of the Divine favor. He teaches both a day and night school, the former numbering nineteen pupils. He also labors from house to house, planting the good seed wherever he finds the ground prepared to receive it. Mr. Gallardo, a native colporteur, is also doing a good work in visiting families and circulating the word of God. During the last month he visited and read the scriptures in more than ninety families.

MISSION IN NORTHERN BRAZIL.

When Mr. Morton visited Brazil four years ago as a missionary explorer he felt great doubts, as the committee also did, whether the first mission should be attempted in one of the large seaport cities of northern Brazil, or at Campinas in southern Brazil. The committee, after earnest and prolonged consideration of the subject, finally decided in favor of Campinas, but with the express understanding at the time that Pernambuco or one of the other large cities of northern Brazil should be occupied at as early a day as possible. Rev. Messrs. Smith and Boyle having offered their services, and the churches in Mobile and New Orleans having agreed to furnish the means necessary to found the mission, the committee felt no hesitation in going forward. Mr. Smith sailed from New York on the 23d December to visit Pernambuco and the surrounding country. He was cordially received on his arrival there by the English and American residents of the place, and finding no obstacles to the establishment of a mission there, that would not have to be encountered in any other Roman Catholic country, but much on the other hand to encourage the undertaking, he immediately set to work to found a mission which, it is hoped, will prove a great blessing to the country. Mr. and Mrs. Boyle, in accordance

with a previous arrangement, sailed from New York on the 24th March, to join Mr. Smith and aid him in this important work. It is hoped they have reached there in safety before the present time.

MISSION TO SOUTHERN BRAZIL.

Campinas.—Rev. G. Nash Morton and Mrs. Morton; Rev. Edward Lane and Mrs. Lane; Rev. William LeConte; Miss Nannie Henderson, teacher.

The mission was encouraged and strengthened by the arrival of Mr. LeConte in January last. Since then his time has been mainly occupied by the study of the Portuguese language. Nothing of very special interest has characterized the labors of the mission during the year. Stated preaching has been maintained at Campinas; preaching tours have been made to various portions of the country; the scriptures and religious tracts have been extensively circulated; and a number of additions have been made to the church at Campinas during the year. The native membership of the church consists at the present time of twenty-six persons. Miss Henderson has been successful in establishing a very interesting school for girls. The number of pupils is about twenty, and the greater part of them from the more respectable families of Campinas. The number might be greatly increased if she had suitable accommodations. The time and attention of the brethren have been less or more taken up during the year with the erection of dwellings on the newly purchased lot, but these are now completed, and they are comfortably located on ground owned by the mission. Less progress has been made in getting the necessary buildings erected for opening the Institute, owing to the want of both materials and laborers. These difficulties, however, will be overcome in the course of time, and it is hoped that the institution will be opened before long, though necessarily on a comparatively small scale.

CHINA MISSION.

Hanchow.—Rev. M. H. Houston and Mrs. Houston; Rev. Ben. Helm and Mrs. A. E. Randolph.

Soochow.—Rev. J. L. Stuart, Rev. H. C. DuBose and Mrs. DuBose.

Mention was made in the last Annual Report of the proposed transfer of the station at Guchow to some point nearer to Hanchow. After visiting Houchow and several other cities in the same region, it was finally determined to occupy Soochow, a decision which all subsequent experience has fully sanctioned. The station was opened and occupied some months since by Rev. Messrs. DuBose and Stuart. Soochow is situated between Hanchow and Shanghai, has a large population, and is characterized not only by great commercial activity, but the people are supposed to be more kind and liberal in their feelings towards strangers. Ample means have been provided for the erection of suitable buildings both for boys' and girls' school at Hanchow, by the Sabbath Schools, for which they are greatly to be thanked and commended. The missionaries who arrived the early part of last summer have made good progress in the study of the language. Mr. DuBose has already been engaged in preaching in the native language, though, according to his own representations, he does so in a very restricted way. The labors of the mission, in a general way, have been carried on in peace and quietness. The Annual Report of the mission, published in the May number of the *Missionary*, is so full in relation to the condition of the work that it seems needless to recapitulate its interesting details. Mr. Stuart's health, the Committee are sorry to learn, is very much impaired, and it is not improbable that he may have to visit this country before it is restored.

1873.]

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

It will be perceived from the foregoing statements that there are now connected with the Church, and looking to it for support, three missions among the Indian tribes of our own country: one in Italy; two in the United States of Colombia; two in Brazil; two in China; and one about to be established in Mexico, eleven in all. These are as many central points in the judgment of the Committee, as it is expedient to undertake at the present time, unless one more in Japan, which now seems to be open to the gospel, should be added to the number. The true policy for some time to come will be to develop the work around the central points already occupied. Most of these are already demanding reinforcements, more than can be met at the present time, and the great question now pressing is, how all the laborers under appointment, and so much needed at these stations, are to be sent out without a very material increase in the contributions of God's people. This is the question which is now submitted to the Assembly for its earnest and prayerful consideration, and the Committee wait their decision.

All of which is respectfully submitted on behalf of the Executive Committee of Foreign Missions.

J. LEIGHTON WILSON,
RICHARD McILWAINE,
Secretaries.

COLUMBIA, S. C., May 7, 1873.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States in account with Richard McIlwaine, Treasurer of Foreign Missions.

DR.

To cash paid Missionaries to Indians, from April 1, 1872, to April 1, 1873.....	\$7,175 00
To cash paid Missionaries to China.....	5,068 23
" " " " Brazil, (Campinas).....	14,455 11
To cash paid Missionaries to Colombia.....	3,083 03
" " " " Brazil, (Pernambuco).....	3,333 52
To cash paid Missionaries to Italy.....	750 00
To cash paid for printing the Annual Report, circulars, &c.....	220 25
To cash paid for salaries of officers and clerk hire.....	2,547 12
To cash paid travelling expenses on official business (including members of the Committee).....	369 63
To cash paid office expenses (rent, stationery, etc).....	140 92
To cash paid exchange account.....	50 20
To cash paid postage and telegraphing.....	114 24
On account of the <i>Missionary</i>	1,630 25
Balance due the Treasurer, April 1, 1872.....	2,403 23
Balance in Treasury, April 1, 1873.....	6,534 37
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	\$47,875 10

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By donations from churches, etc., from April 1, 1872, to April 1, 1873.....	\$29,196 66
By donations from Sabbath Schools for Mission Schools.....	3,754 78
By donations from Sabbath Schools for Hanchow boys' school.....	1,856 57
By donations from Sabbath Schools for Hanchow girls' school.....	2,192 21
By receipts from the <i>Missionary</i>	1,802 05
By China Mission press fund transferred to Foreign Missions.....	2,321 50
By interest.....	169 02
By interest on Foreign Missionary Fund.....	60 84
By donations to Campinas Institute.....	6,521 45
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	\$47,875 10

RICHARD McILWAINE, *Treasurer of Foreign Missions.*