

Missionary Items.

Some fresh developments in regard to the new Mohammedan movement called Babism appear in the May Herald. It will be remembered by our readers that the leaders of this sect, which arose in 1843, were slain, and the sect proscribed by the Persian government and expelled from the country.

WOMAN'S WORK.—The Herald says that arrangements are in progress to secure special training, for missionary work, to such women as may desire it, in connection with the hospitals and city missions of New York City.

THE RECEIPTS of the A. B. C. F. M. for the month of March, \$37,202.24, were \$6,264 more than for the same month last year.

—In his "Chips from a German Workshop" Professor Max Müller accepts the calculations of M. Berghaus, who estimates the Buddhists at 31.2 per cent. of the human race, the Christians at 30.7, the Mohammedans at 12.7, the Brahmanists at 13.4.

—In 1863, the minutes of the Southern Presbyterian Church reported 930 ministers and licentiates; in 1866, 932; in 1867, 850; and in 1868, 837. This shows a falling off of ninety-five in five years, and a still further diminution is expected to be manifested by the reports to the next Assembly.

TWO MISSIONARY FAMILIES of the American Board, Messrs. Gulick and Williams, reside at Kalgan, about 140 miles from Foo Chau, engaged principally in the study of the language. They have two children, and have baptized a few Chinese.

Mr. J. B. Renville is a native preacher of the American Board among the Dakotas, of whose labors and sufferings in the cause, Dr. Williamson thus writes: "Returning from a preaching tour in December, in a severe snow-storm he missed his way and drove into a marsh, where, the snow being deep, the ice was thin, and his horses broke through. He lost time in getting them out, which caused night to overtake him before he reached Redwood, and the storm was such that he could not find his way, nor even reach wood so as to make a fire, and he was forced to lie out on the bleak prairie the worst night we have had this winter. He and his horses were near perishing with cold. It is often said, and I suppose is generally believed, that worldly men labor harder and suffer more for worldly gain than missionaries to extend the Redeemer's kingdom. But this has not been true among the Dakotas since I have been with them."

BULGARIA.—Rev. Mr. Morse writes, January 20th: "Last Sabbath I think was the happiest day I have spent in Bulgaria. Four persons were admitted to the communion; two of them pupils in the school and two married men. . . . Eleven Bulgarians (seven girls in the school and four men, two of whom are helpers) and six missionaries, made a goodly company of communicants. About twenty Bulgarians, Jews, and Turks were present, beholding in silence."

AN ARMENIAN CHURCH in a village in Central Turkey was recently opened for service to Mr. Trowbridge of the American Board; the priest took part in the service with the missionary, who writes: "I assure you it was rather difficult for me to control the tide of feeling that surged through my heart while I talked to those rough mountaineers of the sufferings of Christ."

THE TWO CHURCHES of MARASH have received during the year, 80 members on profession, and 95 children have been baptized; number of persons who pay tithes, 102; amount paid nearly \$400 in gold; contributed to their town home missionary society, nearly \$200 in gold. The total amount of contributions for the Lord's

work in 1868 was about \$1,300 in gold. This sum has entirely supported their own pastors and schools, has paid all their incidental expenses, and enabled them to give \$200 in gold to extend the Gospel to the regions beyond. There are about 500 members, in the two churches, nine-tenths of whom earn a bare living, by hard work from day to day, a day's labor being worth only thirty cents in gold.

Religious Intelligence.

THE REFORMED CHURCHES.

City.—In the Third R. P. church (Rev. M. Gailey pastor), at the half-yearly communion, April 18th, there was an accession of 32 members, 15 on certificate and 17 on profession.

—Rev. Wm. S. Owens has accepted a call from the North U. P. Mission, on Master St. above XVth, recently in charge of Rev. Lafayette Marks. He will be ordained and installed May 18th. The Christian Instructor says: "From a small beginning this mission undertaking has ripened into a promising young church." Mr. Owens is also called to the U. P. church of Chicago.

—The Christian Instructor, in reply to general inquiries as to the meaning of the recent overture from the U. P. Presbytery of Philadelphia, in regard to secret societies, says that "the desire was simply that the General Assembly would show what particular secret societies are condemned in our Testimony, and what is the authority in the word of God for this condemnation." In view of the diversity of views and consequent practices in regard to these points, it was felt that it was all important that there should be a distinct and easily understood declaration about this article, and consequent uniformity of practice in regard to it, or that it should be removed from our Terms of Communion.

—In 1863, the minutes of the Southern Presbyterian Church reported 930 ministers and licentiates; in 1866, 932; in 1867, 850; and in 1868, 837. This shows a falling off of ninety-five in five years, and a still further diminution is expected to be manifested by the reports to the next Assembly.

Churches.—A church, the outgrowth of a Sunday-school founded in a larger beer saloon a few years ago, has just been organized in Allegheny City. The students in the Seminary have been very active and efficient in fostering this enterprise.

—Rev. F. Fox has organized a German Reformed church of fifty communicants in Oakland, Cal. Mr. Fox has hitherto acted with the N. S. Presbyterian Church on this Coast.—The Pacific.

—It is just one year since the U. P. church at Living Lake, Pa., was organized, and now they have a house of worship finished at a cost of \$4,000, without help from the Boards. Rev. James Patterson, D. D., was installed pastor, April 8th.

—The Trustees of Washington and Jefferson college met at Pittsburgh, April 20th, and voted to locate the college at Washington, Pa. The question of locality had excited great interest in Western Pennsylvania.

Change of Relation.—Rev. S. H. Thomson has been dismissed from the pastorate of the church at Maguire's Bridge in Ireland, to unite with the O. S. church in this country.

—Rev. Wm. J. McCurely has been received from the U. P. church by the O. S. Presbytery of Cincinnati.

—Rev. John Kinnear of Letterkenny, Ireland, declines the call from the First U. P. church of Cincinnati: "The circumstances in which the call was given had occasioned serious disagreement in the congregation.

Presbyteries.—The Free Christian Commonwealth says: "It is with profound gratification that we announce the conclusive settlement of the ecclesiastical relations of the Synod of Kentucky. The seven Presbyteries constituting this Synod have appointed Commissioners to the General Assembly, which is to meet in Mobile on the 20th of May."

ministers were called upon to answer whether they had read to their people the resolution of Presbytery on the duty of contributing to our Boards. Churches were called upon to answer whether they had settled with their pastors, according to agreement for salary. [Methodist methods of securing faithfulness.]

—The delegates of the O. S. Presbytery of Washington, Pa., were instructed to vote for Union on the Basis of the Standards, pure and simple, and if necessary to effect the Union, to use their influence to have dropped from the Basis the Tenth Article.

—In the O. S. Presbytery of Erie it was Resolved, That the General Assembly is hereby authorized to consummate the reunion on the Basis of the Standards, without re-committing to the Presbyteries for their sanction. This Presbytery overtures the General Assembly to take some action in the matter of instructing the Board of Publication to exchange the Book of Psalms and Hymns at a discount for the Hymnal, and to require the suspension of the publication of the former.

—The Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, O. S., will meet this year in Newburgh, N. Y., on the 26th inst. Rev. N. R. Johnston, of Newcastle, Pa., has arranged to make a full report of the proceedings in the leading Newburgh newspaper.

—The following are the receipts for March: Domestic Missions, \$4,314.84; Education, \$3,860.78; Foreign Missions, \$19,945.97; Publication, \$5,456.70; Church Extension, \$12,919.16; Disabled Ministers, \$1,821.48; Aged Women is to be erected in Seventy-third street, near Madison Avenue, New York. The building, eighty-six by ninety-two feet, will be of Philadelphia brick, with Ohio stone trimmings, and will cost \$110,000.

—The Old South church of Boston, founded May 12th and 16th, 1669, (corresponding to our May 22d and 26th) invites all past and present members to unite in the religious celebration of its second centenary. Appropriate discourses will be preached May 23d and 30th by the pastor, and a social gathering will be held in Horticultural Hall.

—The Springfield St. church adopted the system of free seats and weekly collections six months ago. Families keep their own pews by common consent, and the rate of giving has been increased five fold.

—Rev. Lewis Sabin, D. D., resigns the church of Templeton, Mass., after a thirty years' pastorate.

—The church in Framingham is being repaired, and a chapel built at a cost of \$12,000. Rev. Minot J. Savage (formerly of California) is pastor.

—The old church at Lingham, Mass., whose quonset square peaked roof and large square, high-backed pews for pews, would have made a Pilgrim father feel at home, is to be refurbished.

—Rev. Brown Emerson, D. D., ordained pastor of the South church of Salem, Mass., 1805, and now in his ninety-second year, was in the pulpit on the sixty-fourth anniversary of his ordination, April 24th.

—The Yale Theological School holds its anniversary exercises, May 20th. Dr. Biddington, of Brooklyn, addresses the Alumni.

—The Hartford Herald notes new vacant pulpits in its vicinity, one being the Park church in that city, and two others being in New Haven.

—Rev. S. A. Baker, D. D., has left the church of the Pilgrims in New York for a Professorship of Rhetoric in Adrian (Mich.) College.

—The New Jersey churches are to withdraw from the New York Association and to unite with the churches of Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburg, &c., in forming a new Association of forty churches.

—Rev. John Monteith, Jr., leaves the Pilgrim church of St. Louis for the pastorate of the Mayflower (3d) church, a new colony of sixteen members, who are erecting a house of worship to cost \$6,000.

—A new house of worship was dedicated, April 18th, at Eden Plain, Cal., costing \$12,000. A debt of \$830 was wiped out before dedication.

—A new church of nine members was organized, April 10th, at Los Angeles in Southern California.

—The "Baptist Social Union" of Cincinnati have begun their operations by helping the Second church to erect a house of worship on Baymiller St.

—Rev. A. D. Gillette, D. D., resigns the pastorate of the First church of Washington, D. C. on account of ill health.

—The Campbellite "University of Kentucky" has 750 students in all departments, and 108 candidates for the ministry. It enjoys the entire income realized by the sale of the U. S. grants to the State for Agricultural Colleges.

—Hard Shellism, or opposition to Missions and every other form of organized benevolence outside of the local church, once had fast hold of the churches in the upper counties of South Carolina, but is now nearly dead. It was logical independency, and will come to life again.

—Dr. Thomas, formerly of San Francisco, accepted a call to Chicago.

—The Observer notes the recent organization of fourteen churches, three (Bethlehem, Winfield and Williamstown), in this State; one (Davenport, Iowa), German; one (Galesburg, Ill.), Swede, and one (Shelbyville, Ind.), colored.

Methodist.—Several English Wesleyan preachers issue a monthly newspaper for neighborhood circulation and to call attention to their chapels. The advertisements inserted pay expenses.

—The New England Methodists have been so free in their denunciation of the spirit of caste, that the Bishops have dared to test their sincerity. Rev. J. N. Mar from the Washington (col.) Conference takes charge of the Revere St. church in Boston.

—A western Methodist paper thinks it a hopeful sign that the New England Methodists begin to ask for circuit preachers. It does not like the burdensome fashion of cutting up the work into small stations, and thinks that the circuit method economizes the ministerial force and saves money.

—A western Penna. preacher reports a revival "after the old style." The brethren knelt when they prayed and shouted when they got happy. The converts made the pastor a donation of fifty dollars.

—A great revival is in progress in Roberts chapel, Indianapolis, in which nearly three hundred have already been converted, and nearly all received into membership.

—The M. E. church expended \$4,991,000 on ministerial support last year, and \$911,21 on benevolent purposes. This last item averages 72 cents per member.

—Sixty-six new converts were admitted to the African M. E. church of Quincy, Ill., recently by immersion in the Mississippi.

—A German Mission-Haus Association for the Port of New York is one of the fruits of the Centenary year. It is to care for the temporal and spiritual interests of German immigrants, secure them employment, protect them from swindlers, and seek to bring them under wholesome religious influence. During the year ending April 1st 2,602 persons were cared for.

Romanist.—The troubles in the diocese of Chicago have put Bishop Duggan out of his head. He is under perpetual fear of arrest. His main offence was in introducing the free aid easy fashions of European prelates, into a Church whose clergy have always been hard working missionaries. The Pope sustained him, and his rebellious priests had to submit.

—The Archbishop of Paris is offered a cardinal's hat if he will so far submit to the Ultramontane pretensions of the Papal See as to make a simple statement to the Pope, of the way in which he has administered his diocese. Napoleon is pushing the Archbishop's claim with such vigor that it is doubtful if even this demand will be insisted on. The Archbishop is expected to lead the Gallicans in their protest against any discussion of the Gallican and Ultramontane issues in the coming council.

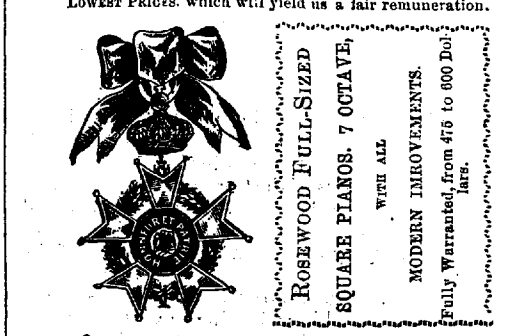
—The Pall Mall Gazette says it is reported that the preliminary Committees of the Ecumenical Council have disagreed so seriously as to the questions to be submitted to the council, that the advisers of the Pope urge him to postpone it altogether.

Unitarian.—Rev. John Weiss (of the Free Religious Club and The Radical) has been invited to preach the sermon before the graduating class of the Cambridge Divinity School. The choice suggests that the next contribution of Cambridge to the Unitarian ministry will not strengthen the conservative wing of the denomination.

—Rev. C. H. Dall has gone out for a third time as a Unitarian missionary in Calcutta. His chief instrumentalities are a school and the circulation of books. "An assistant goes out with him, under the auspices of the Unitarian Association.

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