

presbytery, consisting of about twenty members. It is located in Yedo, and is the result of Rev. Mr. Carrothers' labors in that city. The membership of the church here is now twenty-three.

"A church has also been organized by the Rev. Mr. McDonald of the Canadian Wesleyan Union at Shidzooka. The membership is about twenty. The Rev. Mr. Cochran of the same mission has baptized several, and expects to form a church soon. One of the converts is a man of extensive learning and large influence.

"At the meeting of the presbytery on the 5th inst, eight young men applied to be taken under its care as candidates for the ministry. They have now entered upon a course of study, and it is hoped, will soon be able to assist in the work of evangelization.

"The Rev. Mr. Neeshima has reached Japan and entered upon his work. While visiting his parents he improved the opportunity to preach to the people, and was constantly visited by inquirers who desired to learn about the new faith. A few seemed to be sincere believers, and had his services not been required at Osaka, he would probably have been able soon to organize a church. His success roused the opposition of the priests who petitioned to have the services stopped. All are greatly pleased with the spirit that Mr. Neeshima has shown, and great good is expected from his efforts. He seems filled with but one purpose, and that is to make Christ known to his people.

"In accordance with the directions of Dr. Clark (and also the views of the mission), the churches formed at Kobe and Osaka are strictly congregational. They have no connection with the so-called "Union churches" in Yokohama and Yedo. They will perhaps adopt the same name and designation for church officers; but the duties of these officers and the general government will be entirely unlike. The

"Union" churches here and at Yedo were organized as Presbyterian, and continue as such. The creed, however, thus far adopted, is only the Articles of union which constitute the basis of the Evangelical Alliance.

"The Reformed Church in America are supporting the "Union" church, with the understanding that "no other organization was possible." How long this will continue remains to be seen. The board itself was opposed to the measure, but the Synod ruled to the contrary.

"The Gospel of Luke has just been completed by the Translation Committee and is to be issued soon. The Epistle to the Romans is now in process of preparation. After this is completed it is expected to take up Acts, on which Dr. S. R. Brown is now engaged preparing the first draught."

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SIAM. BANGKOK.—During the year just closed, the Rev. Dr. Dean of the American Baptist Mission has been permitted to baptize more than two hundred converts from heathenism,—mostly Chinese residing in and near Bangplasoi, a town at the N. E. corner of the Gulf of Siam.

At the annual meeting of the presbytery of Siam in November last, it was found that during the twelve months previous, seventeen adult Siamese had been added to the number of professing Christians, at the stations under its care.

The Rev. D. McGilvary, the pioneer of the North Laos Mission, has lately returned from a visit to the U. S. He left on January 8th with his family and Dr. Check, a medical missionary of the Presbyterian Board, on their long journey of five hundred miles up the Meinam river, to their post at Chiengnac (Zimmè). The Rev. J. Carrington of the American Presbyterian Mission here, six years in the field, is obliged to return to his native land on account of the broken health of Mrs. C.

NINGPO.—The *Presbytery of Ningpo*, of the American Presbyterian Mission, met at the Fu-zin church in that city on Monday October 17th, and continued its sessions through four days. The attendance was unusually full, and the meetings very interesting. A fuller account will appear in our next issue.

FOOCHOW.—The Annual Conference of the American Methodist Episcopal Mission assembled on Oct. 13th, and continued in session for several days. Besides the Missionaries, there was a full attendance of native agents, including several presiding elders and other ordained preachers. There were as usual, deputations from the other Protestant missions in Foochow; also from the Presbyterian Mission and Congregational Union at Amoy; each of which sent a missionary and a native pastor. We hope to be able to give a report in our next number.

CANTON.—Miss Galbraith arrived from U. S. per *China* in Oct. to join the United Presby. Mission at that port.

CHINCHIEW.—We hear that the case

of persecution which we noticed in our March-April number, still continues in the same state; and similar troubles have arisen at several other stations near Amoy.

HONGKONG.—Rev. S. G. McFarland and family on their return to Siam; and Rev. and Mrs. Duulap, newly appointed to that mission, arrived per *Str. China* in October, *enroute* to join the American Presbyterian Mission.

SIAM—BANGKOK. On a recent visit to this station, the Rev. J. R. Goddard of Ningpo baptized twenty-five Chinese at the out-station of Banplasoi, making the number a hundred and forty-nine, baptized there within the last fifteen months.

Mr. Goddard and family have found Bangkok a sanitarium during the hot months of July and August; the thermometer having ranged ten degrees lower than usual at the same period at Ningpo. Their visit was a source of joy and gladness to their friends and the native churches there; and their departure called forth a manifestation of much kindly feeling, and the benedictions of all.

Notices of Recent Publications.

Ye Book of Ser Marco Polo ye Venetian, concerning ye Kingdoms of ye East: Newly done into English by Henry Yule, c. B. In two volumes. Second Edition. London: John Murray: 1874.

A second edition within three years, of such a bulky work, on the well-worn topic of the travels of Marco Polo, implies a merit of no mean order, and indicates a popularity which is not the usual fate of works of this class. Col. Yule's reputation as a painstaking investigator, an acute archaeologist and an accomplished writer, was established previous to the appearance of the first edition of the present work; and the author of *Cathay and the Way*

thither, has well sustained his position, in elucidating and illustrating the musty records of the old Venetian. On the appearance of the first edition, we were inclined to look upon it as so exhaustive, as scarcely to leave room for much additional matter in any further issue. The new volumes however demonstrate the fallacy of such a conception. Marked as the present age is by a progressive activity, which is changing, not merely the boundaries