

Board, for the establishment of missions in his native country; and in response to these appeals, something over \$5,000 were contributed during the fiscal year 1883-84, for the establishment of a Mission. Meanwhile, another Special Commissioner from Korea to Japan having become interested in Christianity, through the influence of Rijutei, though not professing personal faith in it, proposed to one of our missionaries the establishment of a medical mission, with a hospital at the Korean capital, and promised his influence in its support. In a letter written from Seoul to Rev. Geo. W. Knox, he stated that he had obtained the sanction of the Korean king to the establishment not only of a hospital by our Mission, but also of an English school.

Meanwhile, Dr. H. N. Allen, a medical missionary of the Board in China, volunteered to go to Korea to establish a medical mission, should the Board's consent be given. The Board's sanction having been sent by cable, Dr. Allen proceeded to Korea, and arrived in Seoul about the 15th of September. On his arrival he was received with much favor both by our United States Minister, Gen. Foote, and by all foreign residents, American and European. He was at once appointed by Minister Foote as physician to the U. S. Legation. Through the kind interposition of Gen. Foote, he was at once able to secure for the Board an advantageous site for a Mission station, together with certain buildings, which only needed a few changes and repairs to be ready for his use. Upon his representation of the facts, he was directed by the Board to conclude the purchase.

Late in the autumn, Rev. H. G. Underwood, having been appointed a missionary to Korea, sailed for Japan, to commence the study of the language under such teachers as could be found, while holding himself ready to enter Korea as soon as the way should be opened, and, if need be, to engage in English school-work until he should be permitted to freely preach the Gospel.

On the 5th of December a disturbance broke out in Seoul, mainly between the respective military forces of the Chinese and Japanese Governments, but also involving several Koreans of high rank. So great was the disturbance, that for a time the representatives of the foreign governments and other foreigners found it prudent to withdraw to the seaport, Chemulpho. But our medical missionary, Dr. Allen, having been already placed in charge of the wounded of all the conflicting parties, felt it his duty to remain, though accompanied by his wife and child. There is every reason to believe that this timely service rendered to the severely wounded in their hour of need, resulted in the preservation of many valuable lives. It also secured a most valuable prestige and influence for the work of the Mission.

Min Yong Ik, a nephew of the king, who had been dangerously wounded, informed Dr. Allen that the people were loath to believe that he came from America, they were "sure that he had been sent from heaven for the special relief of the wounded." At the date of the last letters received from Dr. Allen, the Government was contemplating the establishment of a hospital, to be placed under his charge. The future of Korea seems involved in much uncertainty, for the reason that it is a poor country, but slightly developed in resources, power,

and culture, and must be more or less dependent upon foreign influence. At the same time, its strategic position renders it the object of political ambition on the part of several great maritime powers. The one thing that appears certain is that the country can not return to the exclusive policy of the past. It presents a wide arena, now thrown wide open to foreign influence, possibly foreign aggression, but these facts render it only the more important that the Gospel with its disinterested Christian influence and beneficence should be abundantly and seasonably propagated.

The prayers of the whole Church are loudly called for on behalf of this interesting people, so long standing aloof from the great family of nations.

#### Statistics.

Ordained Missionary .....	1
Missionary Physician .....	1

### MISSIONS TO THE CHINESE IN THIS COUNTRY.

**SAN FRANCISCO:** mission begun 1852; missionary laborers—Rev. Messrs. Augustus W. Loomis, D.D., and A. J. Kerr and their wives; Miss Maggie Culbertson, Miss E. R. Cable and Miss M. M. Buskin; three teachers in English; two other native helpers.

**SACRAMENTO AND ST. JOSE:** two teachers; two native assistants.

**OAKLAND:** mission begun 1877; missionary laborers—Rev. Ira M. Condit and wife; two teachers; one native helper.

**LOS ANGELES:** One native helper.

**PORTLAND, Oregon:** Rev. W. S. Holt and wife, under appointment.

**NEW YORK:** one native assistant.

The missionary force engaged in the Chinese work in this country has been mercifully preserved in usual health during the year. The missionaries have been kindly assisted, as in other years, by a goodly corps of devoted men and women, who by voluntary and unpaid labor have rendered valuable service in the night-schools and other forms of work. The Chinese churches in San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles, Napa, and elsewhere, although suffering somewhat from the returning wave of migration from this country to China, have maintained a good degree of prosperity.

#### San Francisco.

The congregations in the First Chinese church of San Francisco have been large and attentive—the morning and evening congregations averaging about 450. The conduct of the audience has greatly improved. Many formerly came in out of curiosity and left when their fancy took them; now very few leave before the close of the service.

The Gospel has been preached stately by the two Chinese assistants with fidelity and Christian spirit. The Rev. Mr. Condit, in charge of the Oakland Mission, has also, by exchange, preached several times, and always to deeply interested audiences.