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HOME

CHIRISTIAN
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AN IDEAL CIRCULATION FOR ONE CONGREGATION. See Editorial



FOREIGN MISSIONS

Publication and sabbath school work

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.

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sistance, and took us to their homes.

For a whole week we had the pleasure of being entertained by this mis-They laid aside important duties of their own to help us with ours; they gave us the best rooms in their homes and slept we know not where. From their store we were supplied with necessary articles which we had failed to purchase in London or which were delayed in transport—salt, cloth, matches, saws, blankets, tent euipammunition, food supplies: from their dispensary we purchased medicine; from their printing-office we obtained blackboards, stationery, Batetela hymn books and catechisms (the Batetela being the tribe among whom we work), work books and contracts. They gave us valuable suggestions as to the pay and management of our workmen, and cashed our check for 5,000 francs without question. Not content with this, they did the best possible service in giving us as permanent possessions their two best native evangelists, men who were Batetela and spoke the language perfectly, also eleven of their native church members, thus enabling us, before we had been at our new station two weeks, to organize a church and begin evangelistic services.

When they had finished with us there, they put us on the "Lapsley," giving us an encouraging and inspiring ovation as we left, and sent us on to another one of their stations, Lusambo, several hundred miles closer to our work.

At Lusambo were Mr. and Mrs. A. C. McKinnon and Rev. R. D. Bedinger. The latter had already been appointed to receive and store our goods as they came up the river from Stanlev Pool. Lusambo is the base of our overland travel; it is therefore an important point and entails much work on Mr. Bedinger. We were given the best rooms in the home of Mr. and Mrs. McKinnon; we were assisted in getting up a caravan of 200 men to carry us and our effects to Wembo-Niama, an exceedingly difficult journey of 250 Mr. Bedinger left important miles. duties of his own to come with us, taking upon himself ungrudgingly a thousand duties and responsibilities rightfully belonging to us. He stayed at Wembo-Niama with us two weeks, assisting us in the language, in staking off our concession, in settling "palavers" with the chief and in organizing the first Methodist Church in Central Africa. Five weeks of his time he gave us as freely as if we were of his own church.

But we must stop here, though half has not been told. Better than anything that has been spoken of is the promise of over 10,000 native church members to remember our mission daily in prayer, prayers which are already being richly answered. Comment on all this is unnecessary. The relationship between these two missions is as beautiful as it is inspiring and must fill with joy the great heart of Jesus himself, who prayed the matchless prayer "that they all may be one." Wembo-Niama, Congo Belge.

OPENING A NEW STATION.

REV. R. L. WHARTON.

O more stimulating work can be imagined than that of opening a mission station in a town where the Gospel has never been preached—not even one single sermon. In such a town the great majority of the people have never seen a protestant

missionary and his presence is almost as much of a curiosity to many as the big elephant in Barnum's circus was to the writer many years ago. There is always the thought in the missionary's mind as he undertakes the new field, "Will the people receive the message



kindly, or will they be utterly indifferent or possibly oppose the work openly?" When the newly formed "Cuban Central Presbytery" determined to open the town of Yaguajay and ordered Rev. J. M. Hernandez and the writer to visit the town and hold services every Monday night there were loomed up before us all these questions and perplexities, yet right gladly did we accept the honor placed upon us of carrying the "good news" to a town within which no evangelical service had ever been held.

Two visits were necessary to secure a building within the presbyterial appropriation and fit up the building with seats, lights, etc. Upon the third visit it began to be evident that God had been there before, preparing the field for the coming of the workers. Scarcely had the writer gotten to the chapel that morning, whither he had gone to get things in readiness for the night, when a respectable looking man of some sixty years of age appeared inquiring if that were the new chapel Upon being informed that it was he replied, "Well I am a Presbyterian and have come to see what I can do to help." A little later as we entered the freight office we were met by a ounger man telling us that his family were all protestants and that we could depend upon their help.

noon in the hotel, seeing a man looking at me as though he knew me, I ventured to nod to him and was somewhat surprised to have him come up and say, "I heard you preach twelve years ago and am glad to see you in Yaguajay. If you need any one to help with the music, my wife plays, and will be glad to help you." (The good fellow didn't know we would be months struggling over the question of securing an organ).

That first day, three months ago, was but a prophecy of what was to be our lot. On all sides we have found friends and after preaching four consecutive nights last week the names of twentynine candidates for membership were taken and many more seem very near

the kingdom.

Yaguajay is a very live town of four thousand inhabitants and is one of three towns so near together that the minister to be placed there in July will be able to preach at the three points.

This is the first Home Mission work of our Presbytery, its support having been provided for by native contributions. We are trusting that the great and immediate blessings following this undertaking may encourage our little native force to reach out with all its strength into the many waiting fields around us.

Caibarien, Cuba.

WHAT IS IN A NAME?

MRS. J. S. NISBIT.

E have just had our first graduating exercises since we raised our school standard two years. March seems a funny time to be giving out diplomas, but the Japanese schools all have their commencements then and we try as far as possible to make our mission schools follow the government custom.

I am sending you a picture of our Mokpo school, we enrolled eighty-two girls and had sixty-five stand final examinations. The gentleman seated just

in front of Mr. Nisbet is Mr. Yi, of Quelpart, he is one of the first seven native ministers ordained in Korea and was sent at once to Quelpart as a missionary; the native church bears all the expense of this work, so the Korean church has been from the beginning a missionary church. Mr. Yi delivered the graduating address to our girls and then spent some time visiting our country churches and telling of the Quelpart work.

The second, third and fourth girls