

FACTS ACCORDING TO THE "MORNING STAR."

METHODISM AND MISSIONS.—From the most authentic statistics, dating two years back, we learn that the total strength of the evangelical missionary enterprises, throughout the world, in foreign lands, comprise 2,945 missionaries; 11,807 assistants; 333,604 Church members; 31 native institutions; and 40 printing establishments. The expenses of all these amount to 13,204,419.

The various departments of Methodism support 900 ordained ministers in the foreign field. Those are assisted by 8,226 local preachers, catechists, interpreters, school teachers, etc. Under the pastoral care of the Methodist churches are 165,972 church members, and 101,742 scholars in schools. On these foreign fields are seven institutions for training a native ministry, and eleven printing establishments. The amount necessary to support these agencies last year was \$684,453.

DAMASCUS.—The Associate Reformed church have a mission established in the most ancient city of the world—the city of Beuhadad and Hazael; the missionary, Rev. Mr. Paulding, says that the past six months have witnessed a great increase of interest on the part of the people in the Sabbath services, and in pursuing the inquiry "what is truth?" The seminary contains 24 pupils—all making rapid progress in their studies; is grows fast into public favor, and promises great efficiency in enlightening and evangelizing the community. Between thirty and forty Christian, Jew, and Moslem boys in a primary school receive instruction in reading, writing, arithmetic, geography and grammar, from a native member of the church, under the supervision of the mission. Though there is much excitement about the war, progress is clearly making against "the powers of darkness," at least in benighted Damascus.

CONSTANTINOPLE MISSION.—Five theological students in the Mission Seminary, natives of cities in the interior, have just been licensed by the missionaries and two native pastors to preach the gospel; they are pious and clear minded young men, and at their examination gave full proof of their fitness for the work assigned them; though they would have preferred remaining a year longer in the Seminary, yet the calls for labor in the interior were too imperative to be resisted, and they go at once severally to Adrianople, Cesarea, Sivas, Kesseb and Diarbekir. It cannot be doubted that the Lord will go with them; and it cannot fail to be regarded as a source of rejoicing, that native missionaries and pastors are thus raised up to supply the waste places that cannot be occupied, permanently, by men born and educated at the distance of 6000 miles from the scene of action. Every day increases the demand for them.

BAPTIST MISSION TO BURMAH.—The Baptist Mission in Burmah has been established forty years. Since its establishment, 10,000 of the natives have embraced Christianity; and the Christian population,—those who no longer acknowledge heathenism,—amounts to some 75,000.

THE GERMANS IN NEW YORK CITY are estimated at 80,000 at least. They congregate chiefly along the eastern borders of the city. A Mr. Bogen has undertaken the duties of a missionary to these people. He visits the wharves, to give counsel and directions to the immigrants when they land; and visits the houses of the poor Germans all through the city. His visits during the year are reported to number 1,200. He distributes pamphlets of an instructive kind and New Testaments to his German friends, and when he finds a family in special need, affords them some pecuniary aid.

According to the Rev. R. Bickersteth. there were about six years ago, upwards of 5,000 priests in Ireland;

last year, as appeared from a return, there were only 2,366.

There are between six and seven hundred Union Sunday Schools in Texas, most of them supplied with good libraries of the American Sunday School Union.

RUSSIA AGAINST THE BIBLE.—The edition of the Bible translated and printed by the British and Foreign Bible Society, in the language of the Mongol Tartars, remains useless on the Society's shelves in London,—the Emperor of Russia having forbid its circulation.

UNIVERSALISM CHANGING.—Universalism by its own papers is said to be assuming somewhat of a new type. The New York Universalist papers says:

"It is no longer necessary the fact should be overlooked, that the major part of Universalists believe in a future state of discipline. This jumping into glory as a man pulls off his clothes and dives into the bath, is to me unreasonable. Analogy, facts, the scheme of salvation revealed in the Bible, the relation existing between God and his creatures, all prove to my mind the position that there must be a disciplinary process to induce a progress in holiness—that there must be a difference of moral character and spiritual excellence, of purity and happiness when men enter the future state in accordance with their moral condition at death."

CUBA AND THE CUBANS

The last number of the North American Review contains an article respecting the Queen of the Antilles, which gives some interesting statements. The coast of Cuba is indented with fine harbors, the soil is extraordinary rich, and the temperature equable and salubrious. The rainy season is far from being disagreeable, for the rain falls but an hour or two each day, and the air is invigorating. There are three kinds of soil—the black, the red and the mulatto—all rich, and composed of fine particles with little adhesiveness. The dust of the red soil will penetrate clothing and remain on the body after vigorous scrubbing. In some places one may travel for miles, without meeting a stone. The principle trees are the palm and the ceiba or cotton tree; the latter of which grows over a hundred feet high, and sends forth horizontal branches covered with thick foliage. The scenery around Matanzas is exceedingly beautiful.

Havana contains 135,000 inhabitants, and resembles an oriental city, the houses being chiefly stone and stucco, rarely more than two stories high. The streets are narrow, often with no sidewalks, which are never over three feet wide. The carriage-ways are covered with a conglomeration of limestone and cement which makes an irritating dust, and granite is now being imported from New England at great expense, for pavements. The windows are without glass, those on the ground floor being protected with grates, behind which the inmates sit, and passers by are allowed to stare at the ladies as much as they please, they being exceedingly bold, and considering such observation a compliment. Houses of different classes—hovels and palaces—ajoin each other, and it is not uncommon for a rich man to buy out his neighbor's right of building a second story, thus preventing the obstruction of his view and air.

The population consists of Spaniards, Creoles, free colored, slaves, and foreigners. The natives of old Spain are the aristocrats and hold all the public places; they also manifest great contempt for the creole or native population. There are three classes of cars on the railroads.—Gambling cockfighting, &c., is universal among all classes. The women also engage in the lottery and indulge in smoking. The ladies are uneducated and lead a monotonous, unemployed life, and are consequently subject to extraordinary freaks, and are kept under strict surveillance.