

## CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THE annual meeting of the Church Missionary Society was held yesterday in the great room at Exeter Hall. The Earl of Chichester took the chair, supported by the Bishops of Ripon, Chester, and Norwich, and a large body of the clergy of the Church of England. The report detailed at great length the operations of the Society in various parts of the world during the past years. The labours of the missionaries have, it appeared, been highly successful in India and in Africa, as well as in Zealand, and the other colonies of Great Britain.

The total amount of the receipts for the year was £90,821, and of the expenditures £110,808—leaving a deficiency of £19,987. The reading of the Report occupied nearly two hours. It was adopted on the motion of the Bishop of Ripon, seconded by the Rev. J. Cumming.

## WESLEYAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THE annual meeting of the Wesleyan Missionary Society was held on Monday, May 2, in the great room, Exeter Hall. Colonel Conolly, M.P., presided. The Rev. Dr. Bunting read the Report for the past year, from which it appeared that the receipts amounted to £101,688 3s. 4d., and the expenditure to £98,754 7s. 9d.—leaving a surplus of £2,934 14s. 7d.

The present number of principal or central mission stations, called circuits, occupied by the Society in the several parts of the world, is 261; the number of missionaries employed, exclusive of catechists, 368; the number of full and accredited members, exclusive of those under the care of the Society's missionaries in Ireland, 87,258; and the number of scholars in the mission schools is nearly 60,000.

## THE BISHOP IN JERUSALEM.

THE report of the ill-usage experienced by the Bishop of Jerusalem, and which has been commented upon with such unmeasured satisfaction by the Newmanites, turns out to be unfounded. The objections of the party to the appointment of Bishop Alexander are threefold; first, that it recognises the ecclesiastical system of Prussia, the Lutheran, who are the cursed of Mr. Palmer; secondly, that it seems to clash with the apostolical claims of the idolatrous Eastern Church; and thirdly, that the Bishop has taken out with him a "Bishopess" and "Bishopings." Seeing that the Lutheran clergy in Denmark are persecuting the Baptists with great vigour, the Newmanites will probably withdraw the anathema, and recognise the apostolicity of the Lutheran Church.—*Oxford Chronicle*.

Letters have been received from the Bishop of the Anglican Church at Jerusalem, of which the latest is of the 9th of March. Of course they cannot contradict reports of insults offered to him stated in newspapers, of which he could not be aware. But there is not a word or an expression that leads to the supposition that he had experienced any insult of the sort; on the contrary, all the evidence of feelings entertained towards him appears to have been satisfactory, and the conduct of the authorities had been "most encouraging." There are various letters from other persons attached to the missions, which lead entirely to the same conclusion.—*Record*.

## SANDWICH ISLANDS.

THE Missionaries here have requested the addition of ten to their number, and each of them would have a large congregation. If the people are not soon supplied by us, they will be by Papal Missionaries.

Mr. Bishop writes from Honolulu, Nov. 29th, that a great battle is yet to be fought here between the friends of truth, and the emissaries of Rome. The Catholics are constantly receiving accessions to their number from Valparaiso, in South America, where they have a college for educating priests. The presses of the Board at the Islands were stopped for want of funds. The Secretary said, that by paying special attention to those Islands for a little time longer, we may hope that the people will be so thoroughly Christianized, that our labors there can be progressively discontinued, until, at no distant period, the song of jubilee may be raised over nations rescued from heathenism. Rev. Mr. Smith, pastor of the Second Church at Honolulu—a church which numbers twelve hundred members, writes under date of Nov. 24th, that the outrageous conduct of

Capt. Laplace, the commander of the French frigate L'Artemise, had opened intemperance at the Islands, and that its fiery waves have been rolling over them ever since. The true character of the Roman Catholic religion is becoming well understood by many of the Chiefs and the people. The Catholic schools are seen to be quite inferior to those established by Protestant Missionaries. We have this grand advantage over them—we can teach the people to THINK—they dare not.

The good effects of the revivals of 1838 and 1839 are still very obvious, and the temptations before the people to return to idolatry, are strong.—One hundred and eighty-seven persons stood propounded for admission to Mr. Smith's Church. Fourteen hundred children, belonging to the schools in the two parishes of Honolulu, attended a celebration last autumn in a beautiful valley near the town. The King of the Chiefs led the procession, and the King addressed the children, and John Li, the Superintendent, followed with some eloquent remarks. The Papal Missionaries also had a celebration, about that time, which was attended by the seven hundred youths who are in their schools.

English newspapers declare it to be the object of the French Government to establish their power in the Pacific, through the agency of Papal Missionaries. The French Consul at Tahiti, during an absence of the Queen, and through the agency of the Catholic priests, induced the Chiefs to sign a written document, ceding the Islands to France. They are said, not to have comprehended the nature of the proceeding. The Queen, on her return, was indignant, and annulled the act, although the papers containing the cession were then on their way to France. Mr. Pritchard, the English Consul, happening to be in England at the time of the arrival of that fraudulent treaty in France, is doing all he can through the English Government to counteract the French project.

CHINA.—Mr. Williams writes, that there is no prospect of a speedy termination of the war, and that the war spirit is gradually diffusing itself through the mass of the Chinese nation. The result, however, will doubtless be, to render at least a part of that vast empire more open to the introduction of the Gospel than it has been.

MALAYS.—A ray of light has at last beamed upon the Malay race, which is Mohammedan, and one of the darkest of the unevangelized portions of the human family. A single religious tract found its way into a village in the eastern part of Java, and solely by the reading of it forty persons became earnest inquirers after the way of salvation.

CENTRAL ASIA.—The apparent value of the river Indus as a great high way into Central Asia, has been considerably diminished by the different surveys that have been made of it. It is said there is no river in either hemisphere, discharging half the quantity, which is not superior for navigable purposes, to this far-famed stream. Its current is rapid, and it is filled with sand banks; and its numerous entrances into the sea are all narrow. It is probable that steamers of a large size cannot navigate its waters.

The inhabitants of Afghanistan are Mohammedans, and are a much more steady race, physically and mentally, than the inhabitants of India; and cannot easily be subdued. In 1839, the English first planted their power in Afghanistan, and as they supposed with success; but their hopes have been cruelly disappointed in the recent assassination of their envoy, and also of that distinguished traveller, Sir Alexander Burns, and the destruction of their army of 13,000 men. Great Britain seems however determined to establish her power in Central Asia. Without expressing any opinion upon the justice of this war with the Afghans, we may believe that an overruling Providence has some great and wise designs to accomplish by its permitting it.

SYRIA.—Rev. Eli Smith writes from Beyroot, Jan. 7, that the state of things has assumed a new aspect since his former residence in that country. Then missionary movements attracted little attention; now Syria is the theatre of political intrigue, and diplomatists are calculating how they can make missionary operations subservient to their ambitious designs.

In Syria, the religious sects are very numerous—the political power is so often changing, and revolution is so rapidly following revolution, that it is nearly impossible to make a correct description of the state of things there. That part of the world does not stand still long enough to secure even a Daguerreotype view of it. A short time since, the Moronite Patriarch's power was great, and the Druses were accessible by missionary influence; now, the Patriarch's power is destroyed, and he has even been obliged to fly to one of his mountain fastnesses to avoid being removed from the country, and the religious prospects of the Druse population are unfavorable. But all these changes are the precursors of the downfall of Moslem power, and indicate a real advance towards a desirable result.

Rev. W. Thomson writes, that the renewal of civil war betokens the prostration of the feudal power, or the influence of the nobility over the common people. Turkish fanaticism is reviving, and the Turkish character is falling back upon itself, from mere weakness.

The state of religion among the Armenians at Constantinople, is perhaps more prosperous than ever. On the whole, the present peculiar condition of the Turkish Empire affords unquestionable evidence that the Providence of God is mysteriously, but infallibly, working out the fulfilment of the designs of infinite mercy.—*Puritan*.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

PLAGIARISM.—If we steal thoughts from the moderns, it will be cried down as plagiarism; if from the ancients, it will be cried up as erudition. But in this respect every author is a Spartan, being more ashamed of the discovery than the depredation. Yet the offence itself may not be so heinous as the manner of committing it; for some, as Voltaire, not only steal, but like the harpies, befoul and bespatter those whom they have plundered. Others, again, give us the mere carcass of another man's thoughts, but deprived of their life and spirit. I have somewhere seen it observed, that we should make the same use of a book as a bee does of a flower; she steals sweets from it, but does not injure it; and those sweets she herself improves; and concocts into honey. But most plagiarists, like the drove, have neither taste to select, nor industry to acquire, nor skill to improve, but impudently pilfer the honey, ready prepared, from the hive.

RELIGIOUS PAPERS.—Preachers generally say that there is more satisfaction in visiting those persons who read religious papers than those who do not, because they converse more understandingly on the interests of religion. They find also that such members listen with great attention to many subjects discussed in the pulpit. And this is not all; those who read a good religious paper have a better knowledge of the Bible than those who do not. Ministers, therefore, may spend some time very profitably, in laboring to induce all they can to become subscribers to religious publications.

TIME.—Man is ever quarrelling with Time. Time flies too swiftly; or creeps too slowly. His distempered vision conjures up a dwarf or a giant; hence Time is too short, or Time is too long. Now Time hangs heavy on his hands; yet for most things he cannot find Time! Though Time-serving, he makes a lackey of Time; asking Time to pay his debts, Time to eat his dinner, Time for all things.

A BLIND MAN'S IDEA OF LIGHT.—N. Rohault wished to communicate the idea of light to a blind pupil; after a long and elaborate discourse, when he hoped he had in some measure succeeded, he was asked this question by the blind man, "Is not light made of the same materials as sugar?"

PAULINUS, Bishop of Nola, having spent his whole estate in redeeming Christian captives, at last offered his own person to redeem the son of a poor widow; but the barbarians were so moved with his benevolence, that they sent him back, and released several captives to accompany him.

THE more we make the glory of God our end, the more fully shall we enjoy holy peace.—*Reynolds*.