

In his report presented to the annual meeting of the English Baptist Missionary Society, Mr. A. Baynes stated that they had had more conversions, larger reinforcements, and larger contributions than ever. Twenty-two missionaries had been accepted by the committee during the year—a larger number than in any previous year of the Society's existence.

Europe

There are now 161 Baptist churches in Germany.

There are fourteen Protestant congregations in the city of St. Petersburg, Russia. During the year 1884 there were 2,131 children baptized and 1,084 confirmations.

Australasia.

The sustentation fund of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales has yielded an equal dividend during the past three years of \$1,500. The total amount contributed last year shows an increase of \$6,940.

Asia.

It is said that recent deciphering of the cuneiform inscriptions on the Babylonian tablets in the British Museum revealed twenty-six names mentioned in Genesis, and confirmed the Biblical record of the migration of Abram from Ur of the Chaldees.

The Rev. Dr. Henry H. Jessup, of Beirut, Syria, writes that the Turkish government is becoming more hostile towards the mission work. They have already closed six of the village schools, and it is feared that they will interfere still further.

Lord Radstock writes to the London *Christian* that prejudice against Christianity seems to be dying out all over India. There are more students in the Christian College in Madras than in the Government and Hindoo College together. Christians in India are convinced that a great preparatory work is going on, to be soon followed by large results.

One question discussed at the late Missionary Conference at Osaka, Japan, was whether it is better that missionaries should be sent out married or single. Not only was the sentiment decidedly in favor of their being married, but statistics from one society showed that the term of service for single men was five years shorter than that of the married.

A place in Tokio, Japan that was built for a Buddhist pacchay service has just been rented to the Presbyterian Mission, to be used as a church. A hall built to propagate infidelity is also rented by one of the churches. The priest of one of the largest temples in Tokio have tried to raise money by offering a mortgage on the temple, but no one will accept of their offer.

Since the close of 1884 the Rev. Narayan Sheeshadri, a converted Brahmin, now a Protestant minister has been privileged to receive into the Church of Christ by baptism more than twenty persons, fourteen of these being adults. In his next missionary tour towards the city of Paitan, in the native State of Haidarabad, he expects to admit about a hundred who are under training for baptism.

There are many that say, "Give us the morality of the New Testament; never mind about the theology." Aye, but you cannot get the morality without the theology, unless you like to have rootless flowers and lamps without oil. And if you want to live as Paul enjoins you will have to believe as Paul preaches.—*Standard of the Cross.*

See this liquor oligarchy! It has our great cities by the throat. It holds in the hollow of its hand hundreds of thousands of votes and can hurl them this way or that, at its own arbitrary will or dictation. It assaults our Legislatures and corrupts our legislation. It is the chief cause of the nation. It pauperizes and demoralizes and wastes and blights and kills.—*Rev. Herrick Johnson.*

The *Congregationalist* says:—"A brother well-known for his evangelist work says that he had talked with fifty persons within a few months who felt that their Christian love had grown cold, and in every case they admitted this had followed the neglect of secret prayer. With many the next important downward step was the omission of family prayer. Certain causes inevitably lead to certain results, and this sliding backward was just what must be expected. The "means of grace" is an expression that seems to be going out of use, but the fact remains no less true now than in past years that every Christian is in real danger as to his spiritual life whenever he neglects these means, such as the reading of God's Word, daily secret prayer, attendance upon the prayer-meeting, and devout observance of the Lord's day."