

is that in Matanzas, Villa Clara, Veda-do, and other points. The first and most effective work done in bringing about what liberty exists in these islands for the dissemination of religious truth, was done by the Bible Society's agents; and now they say missionaries must gather their harvests or the labor will be lost. The agent remarks that "it is commonly thought that the substance of the Bible is taught by the Roman Catholic Church, and that the difference is non-essential; but no one would retain that idea in a Roman Catholic country where ignorance and superstition are as gross as in any heathen land. Few of the people have ever seen a Bible or heard anything but mass in a foreign and unknown tongue, barbarously pronounced. The men rarely listen to a sermon, and those who do are generally satisfied with one in a life-time."

*Mexico* has an area of 767,000 square miles and a population of about 12,000,000, of whom one fifth are white, three tenths are Aztec, and one half mixed blood. There are nine Protestant missionary societies at work in 270 stations and out-stations. The schools number 150, and the scholars about 7000. There are over 10,000 Catholic churches in the country. Spanish is the language generally spoken. Educational and Bible work are among the most important features for the evangelizing of the country.

Twenty-two years ago in the City of Mexico there was *one* Protestant minister and one congregation of about 75 communicants. To-day there are *eighteen* congregations, 16 native ministers, 8 missions, and a large native membership. There are 9 Sunday-schools, 13 Protestant day-schools, and 3 girls' boarding-schools.

According to an official of the Treasury Department, the inhabitants of Mexico are "half fed, a quarter clad, and an eighth illuminated" (oil retails for 75 cents per gallon).

*Central America*, consisting of five

republics and British Honduras, has an area of 177,455 square miles, and a population of 3,209,908. Foreign ordained missionaries number 29, from 3 societies. There are 15 stations. Native helpers number 70, and communicants 2389.

*The West Indies* include many islands under British, Dutch, and French rule, and the Republic of Hayti. The total area is about 100,000 square miles, and the population 5,500,000. Sixteen societies are at work with over 120 ordained missionaries and 500 native helpers. Communicants number 75,000.

The Presbyterian Church of Canada has for twenty five years been laboring with marked success among the Hindu coolies of *Trinidad*. This island has a Hindu population of about 75,000, imported from India to labor on the sugar plantations. The beginnings of the work were small, but the progress has been steady. There are at present 5 stations with a foreign force of 5 missionaries, 2 ordained natives, and 4 lady teachers. There are 52 schools with 4321 scholars. Communicants number 573. Last year a college was established with a staff of 5 professors. Thirty-nine Hindus are now studying for the ministry.

'The special providence of God in the interests of missions in the past century has been revealed chiefly in five ways: 1. He has opened the world to the entrance of the missionary. 2. He has supported the missionaries by great colonization. 3. He has surrounded them with unprecedented facilities. 4. He has called the attention of modern scholarship to the fields of literary, historical, philosophical, archaeological, and religious research. 5. He has not only unsealed closed doors, and subsidized government ambitions, and cast up modern highways, and kindled the spirit of scholarly research, but He has secured the removal of hindrances, and put a restraint upon human violence and opposition.—*Dr. Dennis.*