

now in Rome, selling copies of the Bible, which was well accepted everywhere. Upwards of 10,000 copies had been sold in a very few months, and he calculated there were now 20,000 copies of the Word of God in Rome. 2,000 copies of the New Testament alone had been sold in the Ghetto to the Jews. Father Gavazzi described his own Evangelistic work in Rome, and stated that he had preached there nine times in a week to large and enthusiastic audiences.

Damascus.

Within a short period a wonderful movement has taken place among the Mohammedans of Damascus. According to the old law of this Empire, the Mohammedan who renounces his faith and becomes a Christian is instantly put to death. A few weeks ago one convert actually suffered this penalty, and afterwards Hassan, another convert, was arrested at Beyrout and doubtless would have met with the same fate, had not the missionaries interfered in his behalf. At once the American Presbyterian Missionaries applied to the British Consul at Beyrout, who promptly telegraphed to the British Ambassador at Constantinople for instructions. After much suffering, through the intercession of the British Consul, he was released from prison, and has passed over with his family into Egypt, where he will be cared for. It is more than probable that the following extract from a letter of one of the Abyssinian Missionaries referring to the great movement now going on in Damascus, may be attributed, under God, to the confidence which the rescue of Hassan, through the influence of the British Government, has inspired:

"It is truly an exceedingly great privilege for England to have so noble a work in this old city, so interesting, and the Lord God will bless every one who will help for its extension. The kingdom of God makes great progress in the East. There are no sects, confessions or denominations which are not affected by a very deep anxiety for salvation; and no doubt you will be astonished to hear that there is at Aramoun, in our English School-house every Sunday, a meeting of more than one hundred souls, belonging to the Greek Orthodox

Church, hearing the word of God preached to them, and a good number of them have already become regular members of the Protestant Church at Abeih. But you will be more astonished and surprised when I tell you that here, in Damascus, is a wonderful movement among the Mohammedans, so that not less than 3000 of them desire to become Christians. They have regular prayer meetings and they pray to our Lord Jesus Christ that He might reveal Himself to them as their Saviour, and lead them out of darkness into light and truth."

"The old law of this Empire pronounces death to every one who becomes a Christian, and this might be executed on individuals, but how can it be executed on three thousand? The Missionaries tell me that the number increases every day. That may be the end of such surprising things."

The following extract from the reply of the British Consul at Damascus to the address presented to him by the Missionaries, thanking him for his efforts in rescuing Hassan, are of interest:—"I feel assured that we may look forward to happier days at Damascus, when peace and security shall take the place of anxiety and depression. Meanwhile I take the liberty of recommending to your prudent consideration the critical state of affairs in Syria. A movement which cannot but be characterized as a revival of Christianity in the land of its birth, seems to have resulted from the measures adopted by the authorities, and from the spirit of enquiry which your Missions have awakened in the hearts of the people. The new converts are now numbered by thousands. Men of rank are enrolling themselves on the list, and proselytizing has extended to the Turkish soldiery."

What a wonderful movement is taking place in this old city, Is it not the doing of the Lord, and marvellous in our eyes? Should not such wonderful revolutions, opening up the way for the free access of the Gospel, impress us all. God is working in the dark corners of the earth, and is overruling what seems to be trying dispensations for the furtherance and promotion of His kingdom and glory. Such great movements as