

## RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

## Great Britain.

At the Jubilee Meeting of the Church Missionary Society, November 2, it was resolved to send a Circular Letter to the converts from Heathenism at the various Missionary Stations. It is an important document, and we have great pleasure in placing it on record.

"To our much beloved brethren in the Lord Jesus Christ, gathered out from among the Heathen and Mahomedans, and others in Africa, North-west America, British Guiana, and the West Indies; in New Zealand, China, India, Ceylon, Egypt, and the Islands of the Mediterranean, the Church Missionary Society sends peace in the name of the Lord.

Dear Brethren,—It has pleased God, in his great goodness, to call you out of darkness into light, and to bring you from the bondage of Satan into the fold of his dear Son, through our instrumentality. For this we humbly praise and adore our heavenly Father; and to him alone be all the glory. He alone is worthy! Our fathers were once as you and your fathers, bowing down to dumb idols, without God and without Christ, and without hope. But God has long since given to our fathers the knowledge of the Gospel, and they have told us their children the same;—and we, thus knowing the love of Christ, have desired that his name and his salvation may be published through the whole world;—God has in part fulfilled our desires, and missionaries have gone forth from us with love and pity in their hearts, giving themselves to the work, and not counting their lives dear to them, so that they might exalt that Saviour who was precious to them, and win souls to him, who should be his portion and inheritance and joy for ever and ever.

Blessed be God's holy name that the labors and sufferings and prayers of his servants have not been in vain! Many are the spirits of just men made perfect, now with Christ, who were once dead in trespasses and sins, but who received the word of God which they heard of our missionaries, with joy of the Holy Ghost, who wrought effectually in them, and by whom they were sanctified. And you, beloved brethren, are living witnesses of the faithfulness of that gracious Saviour, who, when he bid his servants go forth to all the world to preach the gospel to

every creature, gave them his sure word of promise, 'Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world.' It is God who hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth; ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building; you and we are those 'other sheep' whom our Shepherd declared he must bring. the Father gave us to him; he laid down his life for us; he purchased us with his blood; he gives us eternal life.

How wonderful and how glorious is the work of God! We have never seen each other face to face. Some of us are living in the furthest north, and some in the furthest south; some in the east, some in the west; the children of Ham, and Shem, and Japheth. Our countries, language, climate, complexion, habits, all different, yet members of one body! quickened by one Spirit! called in one hope of our calling! having one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in us all! Could we meet together on the earth, we should all have to tell the same history, and make the same confession, how in us—that is, in our flesh—dwelleth no good thing; how we have found Jesus Christ all-sufficient, and the Holy Ghost the sanctifier of us. We are persuaded that, through grace alone, we should be able to bear witness to each other, "that the secret of the Lord is with them that fear him, and he will show them his covenant."

We thus address, as elder brethren, the younger, at this our Jubilee season, that our hearts may be comforted by the consideration of the mutual faith both of you and us, and that we may testify of the grace of God our Saviour. We trust that yesterday, in the midst of the abounding wickedness of these last days, and the confusion that is spread among the nations, one continued sound of especial supplications and thanksgivings and praises ascended to the throne of God and of the Lamb, as the sun arose successively on our different Missions and ourselves; that the earth, in the midst of desolation, was encompassed with the crown of the Jubilee adorations of the elder and younger brethren: and that God has mercifully accepted the sacrifice, through his dear Son, and will give us his blessing.

And now, speaking from this our assembly to all of you in different parts of the world,