

dozen or hundred, shows a laxity of management which, if suffered in business affairs, would result in hopeless bankruptcy. "The evil is, we suspect, a wide-spread one, and demands a remedy."

### NOTES ABOUT MISSIONS.

THOSE who speak of the inutility of Foreign Missions, should read some of the results of that work, as they exhibit themselves in every department of the field. We are often surprised at the very rapid growth of Christianity in parts of the world that are known as the very hot-beds of Paganism, superstition and idolatry; and on what reasonable ground any Christian can withhold his sympathy and aid from such a noble movement, is to us inexplicable. We give instances of two countries only.

In *India* alone, there are now twenty-five Missionary Societies at work, and upwards of 500 missionaries represent them. From late census returns, we see that "the number of *European ordained agents* in Bengal in 1871 was precisely the same (106) as in 1861; but the number of *ordained Native agents* has been doubled, from 16 to 32; whilst the number of *unordained Native agents* has increased still more rapidly, from 185 to 398." Further, "there has been a decided growth in the number of Native Christians during the ten years. In 1861 there were 20,518 Bengali Christians; in 1871 there were 46,968; whilst the number of communicants rose during the same period from 4,620 to 13,562." A revival of religion has manifested itself among the Bengali churches, and it is hoped that the fruits thereof will be an increase of the knowledge of God among those who are still holding on to their blind superstitions. The *Bengal Christian Herald* speaks very hopefully of the movement, and says of the first meeting:—"We witnessed a sight, the like of which we had not seen before in connection with the Bengal churches on such occasions. We feel exceedingly thankful to God for this, and we hope better things are yet in store for us."

In *Turkey*, there are now seventy-six evangelical churches among the Armenians, with four thousand and thirty-two church members; there are fifty

ordained native pastors, and fifty-six educated licensed preachers; one hundred and twenty-eight Sabbath Schools, and two hundred and twenty-two common schools, besides a number of seminaries of a high grade for the youth of both sexes. This is the result of only forty-two years of labour by American missionaries in that country.

### MISS JOHNS AND HER WORK.

THE Church of Scotland *Record* has the following article in reference to Miss Johns and her work, under the heading of

#### ZENANA MISSION IN INDIA:

WE have a few facts to lay before our readers, which, we are sure, cannot fail to be of comfort and cheer. Nearly a year ago the Ladies' Association was informed that a lady, Miss Johns, belonging to St. Matthew's congregation, Halifax, Nova Scotia, had volunteered to her minister, the Rev. G. M. Grant, to go as a Foreign Missionary wherever she might be ordered; and that Mr. Grant's congregation, knowing her rare qualifications for the work, and counting it high honour that one of their members should so dedicate herself to the Lord's cause, had agreed to become responsible for all expense of outfit, travel, and salary. It was, however, deemed expedient by them that, in order to rescue from isolation and to secure sympathy and co-operation, she should be connected with some agency already in the field, and therefore communication was opened up with the Association. The result was, that it was arranged that she should proceed to Madras, and, under the auspices of the Association, take charge of the work there. Accordingly Miss Johns arrived in this country about the end of September, and spent a few weeks in Scotland before proceeding to her destination. On the 19th October a prayer-meeting was held in the hall 22 Queen Street, Edinburgh, when she was solemnly commended and committed to the Great Head of the Church for guidance and blessing in the "work whereunto she had been called." The meeting was of a deeply interesting character, Dr. Herdman, Dr. Maxwell