

acquired by Baron de Hirsch. Colonel Goldsmid hopes that it will be shown to the world, after the inevitable troubles in the first settlements have been overcome, that Jewish agricultural colonies on a larger scale than have hitherto been attempted are quite practicable.

Telegraphing from Jerusalem, Mr. Scott Moncrieff says that a great snow-storm fell there on Christmas morning, covering the ground six inches deep. The distress in the city environs among the poor Jews, ill clad in wretched garments, without warmth of any kind, is pitiful. Besides the crowd of poor ever in a state of chronic starvation there are many famishing refugees. The condition of those "outside the city" is described as "dreadful," whose wants the Society for Relief of Persecuted Jews (Syrian Colonization Fund), Parliament Street, London, is generously alleviating to the utmost of its capacity.

**General Booth in India.**—On December 28th the "General" concluded his Madras campaign by expounding the ideas of his social scheme at the Banqueting Hall before an influential gathering, which included the Maharajah of Mysore. This was followed by an address on similar lines to a meeting comprising 1000 of the leading Hindoos, over which the Dewan Raganath Rao presided. The "General" also opened the Army's new headquarters and hall, when liberal subscriptions were made, one gentleman alone contributing 11,000 rupees to defray the mortgage. At the Memorial Hall he addressed the native Christians, and afterward had an interview with the Governor, Lord Wenlock.

**Methodism in Austria.**—A vexatious piece of persecution has been committed on the Methodists in Vienna by the Public Prosecutor, because an article in the Methodist Discipline denouncing "the sacrifices of masses as blasphemous fables and dangerous deceptions" is regarded as "an insult against one of the religions recognized by the State"—namely, the Roman Catholic. The article in question, it may be observed, is

nothing less than Article 31 of the Anglican Liturgy. It is only in the course of 1891 that the Methodist community, which has been steadily growing in numbers and influence in Austria, has acquired a fixed place of worship through the generosity of the Baroness von Langenau, a convert from Lutheranism. Opposition to Methodism appears to have emanated from various quarters, not particularly the Roman Catholics, and to have been increased by the interest of Sir Arthur Blackwood in missions to postmen while attending the Postal Congress in Vienna, and hence, when a formal application was presented for the recognition of the Methodist Church, the authorities were led to examine her statutes, with the result that the chapel was closed and the minister, the Rev. Friedrich Roesch, inhibited from preaching anywhere in the city. Other conditions of a pecuniary nature which have to be fulfilled before a church can obtain recognition in Austria will readily be met by the liberality of the baroness. Evidently the Austrian Methodists are passing through some of the troubles which the Moravians and old Catholics have had to face and valiantly overcome.

#### Monthly Bulletin.

**India.**—The Christian Vernacular Education Society for India has changed its name to the more appropriate form, The Christian Literature Society for India. Since its organization in 1858 it has issued 15,500,000 books and tracts of all kinds, and 1,000,000 were published last year alone. Its work of providing pure literature for the 12,000,000 readers in India who have been educated in the Government schools, is exceedingly important and valuable.

—The Church of England Zenana Society, working in connection with the Church Missionary Society, though having an independent organization, has, during the past ten years, increased its force of missionaries from 36 to 142,