

eastern part of the Nestorian country. As the passes into the mountains from Ooromiah and from Van lead through the Hakary country, this tribe has been a wall of defence to the Nestorians against all invaders from that quarter. Within two or three years, the chief of this tribe has made his peace with the Turks, and placed his country under their jurisdiction; not because he has been conquered by them, but for the sake of strengthening himself by the connexion. The Patriarch's residence, which has been burned, was on the very borders of the Hakary country, and the Koords had no more difficulty in reaching it, except the resistance of the Nestorians, than in passing from one of their own villages to another. The most powerful of the Nestorian tribes are at some distance to the west and south-west. On the west are the Tyary, the most warlike of the tribes, and estimated at 50,000. The country between them and the seat of war is extremely difficult to pass. The Jelt, and other tribes farther south, are less numerous; but the natural obstacles which an invader from the north must overcome, are still greater. The great body of Nestorians, then, has not been reached, and will not easily be overcome by this movement from the north. The danger is, that there may be a combined movement of the Hakary on the north, and the Koords of Amadieli and others on the south and west, supported by the energetic Pasha of Mosul. Such a movement, the Nestorians might find it very difficult to resist. Still, such is the natural strength of the country, the known bravery of its inhabitants, and the consequent probability that the conquest would be an expensive one, that the Pasha of Mosul would probably make peace on easy terms; the Patriarch, perhaps, acknowledging the supremacy of the Sultan and paying a trifling tribute, and retaining the government in his own hands, much as it has been.

THE DRUZES.

The report of the mission at Beyrout for 1841 has been received. Since the cessation of hostilities, prospects are most encouraging. All the Druzes with which the mission formerly had intercourse, have renewed their acquaintance; all the schools which had been broken up are resumed, four or five more are requested, and other applications are expected. The Seraskier Pasha, whom the Sultan had sent to pacify the country, (by the way, he did not come till the war was over, and the Maronites expelled from among the Druzes,) was there; the Druzes appeared to be regarded with favour, and there was thought to be no danger that the Maronite Patriarch would ever regain his power. In the course of the year, one door of access and of hope after another was closed, till expulsion from the country appeared to be nearly inevitable. Now, the doors are all thrown wide open—wider than ever before. The mission is in correspondence with nearly all the Druze sheikhs, concerning the means of enlightening their people. Nor is this all. They have received an application to establish a school among the Metawileh. The Metawileh profess to be Mohammedans of the sect of Aly, but are regarded by the Turks as heretics. Their principal residence is in the province of Belad Besharah, which includes Tyre, and south and east of the river Leontes, and running up on the north-east nearly to the latitude of Sidon. This is the first instance of an application from them for missionary labour.

MADAGASCAR.

From this island, your readers will recollect, all missionaries were expelled some years since, and native Christians have been subject to a violent and bloody persecution, in which many have lost their lives, and many compelled to flee to other countries. Yet it has lately been ascertained, that the native Christians are more numerous there now, than they were when the missionaries were expelled.

FRUITS OF INSTRUCTION.

It is stated that in Medway, (Mass.) about thirty persons have recently passed from death unto life, of whom twenty-seven are members of the Sabbath-school.

We learn that in Bedford, (Mass.) a few weeks since, twenty-seven persons made a public profession of religion, most of whom were connected with the Sunday-school.

In the Tabernacle, (Baptist) church, N. Y., sixty have lately been received into communion,

a large proportion of whom trace their serious impressions to the exercises of a Bible class.

THE JEWS.

WE copy the following truly cheering intelligence respecting God's "ancient people," from the last number of the *Harbinger*. We hope the time is not far distant, when the Jews shall be gathered in with the fullness of the Gentiles, and there shall be "one fold under one shepherd." May the great Head of the Church abundantly prosper the means employed for so glorious a consummation.

The Rev. T. S. Grimshaw, known to American Christians as the biographer of Leigh Richmond and Cowper, has lately returned from a visit to the East. At a meeting held at Shrewsbury, England, in behalf of the Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews, he said he found in Greece, Turkey and Syria, an extraordinary spirit of inquiry among the Jews. There seemed to be a general impression that the period was at hand when the Jews, as a nation, would return to their own country; that the prophecies mentioned by Daniel and the other prophets were being fulfilled; and that the finger of God was pointed toward Jerusalem, and bidding the Jews to march forward. There was a universality in it that seemed to be of God; he found it prevailing in these two cities, and throughout the whole of the Levant. It existed along the banks of the Danube, and he heard of it generally diffused among the Jews of Poland. In Egypt also he found a similar impression, and he learned from travellers that it prevailed through Abyssinia; and he discovered that it was also prevalent in Palestine. He had no hesitation in stating that the restoration of the Jews is firmly and universally believed by the Jews themselves, more especially in the East, and presumed to be drawing nigh. A Jew, at Constantinople, told him that all they wanted was freedom of inquiry. "Go, sir," said he, weeping, and moistening his (Mr. Grimshaw's) hands with his tears, "to your own land—go to the land of civil and religious liberty, and intercede for the poor Jews, and obtain for them a participation in those privileges by which you yourselves are so greatly distinguished, and know that there are hundreds of us already secretly convinced of the truth of Christianity, who are prepared openly to embrace it. Did I say hundreds," he added, "I would rather say there are thousands, who are inwardly convinced that Jesus is the promised Messiah."

PUBLIC RECANTATION OF ROMANISM.

A most interesting ceremony took place lately at St. Jude's Church, Liverpool, when five persons publicly recanted the errors of the Romish Church, in which they had been nurtured. The church was filled to an overflow. The church of England having no prescribed form of recantation of error, the Rev. Hugh McNeile, the incumbent, prepared one, and which has been printed for circulation. The conversions from Popery are rapidly increasing.

The *Dublin Statesman* says:—From our clerical correspondents, located in various parts of the country, we continue to receive the most cheering advices relative to Protestantism amongst members of the Popish communion. Since we were last enabled to report on the public recantations which were made, several individuals have privately joined our church who were not possessed of sufficient daring openly and in the face of persecution to declare themselves no more the slaves of spiritual oppression. This private renunciation of the baneful errors of Popery has been the effect of the noble example set by those who, in the first instance, came over publicly to our communion. Nor is it all the effect that can be looked for. Already several are preparing to follow in their footsteps, and formally break off from the connection in which they were trained, and all but victimized. We trust that very shortly we shall have it in our power to announce the recantation of a large party of Romanists who are now candidates for admission into our scriptural confederacy.

THE American Board of Foreign Missions has been the means of gathering in heathen lands fifty-nine churches, including twenty thousand

members. The donations to this Board during the month of December, amounted to \$28,396.

The receipts of the Am. Board of Missions during the month of January, were over forty thousand dollars.

THE PRESENT KING OF PRUSSIA.

Our correspondent, while at Paris, obtained the following item of intelligence in reference to the present King of Prussia, who has recently visited England, as one of the sponsors at the baptism of the young Prince of Wales.

"I think I have not yet mentioned the very delightful Christian intelligence from Prussia, received from the Rev. Mr. Giron Pierre, of Paris, who has recently returned from Berlin. The facts may be relied upon—some of which are familiar to you. The King and Queen are decidedly pious—also, the four principal ministers of state, and a number of generals in the army. The leading members of the University (which has 144 Professors,) have become decidedly evangelical—also, the court preachers, and twenty-three, being a majority, of the pastors of the town.

"The king, when a young man, was often at a Bible-class, when his father was at the theatre; and he declared, at his coronation, that it would be his effort not only to be a just but a Christian king. He is said to be much interested for the Jews."—*Epis. Recorder*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE DRUZES.

THE Rev. Eli Smith, Missionary of the American Board, has written home a letter from Beyrout, giving an account of some of the causes which have led to the civil war in which the inhabitants of the mountains of Syria have been involved. From this letter it seems that the Druzes have been goaded on by one indignity after another, received from the Maronite Christians, till they have risen in vengeance, to assert their rights, and seem determined to drive the Maronites entirely out of their part of the mountain. Mr. S. adds:

"All this while, the Turkish commander-in-chief in Syria is sitting in his house at Beyrout afraid or unwilling to interfere. If the war goes on it can hardly fail to attract the attention of the European powers, especially of England, who still maintains here a small military establishment. And where it will end, if foreign interference commence, I venture not to divine. In the meantime, as you may well imagine, the passing events are full of interest to us. The Patriarch has business enough on hand now, without persecuting us, and we are left in quiet. We even ask ourselves the question, whether God is not about to visit him for his iniquities in the martyrdom of Asaad Shidiak, and all his persecutions of the truth. But in the meantime, how much misery is produced! Thousands and thousands of poor people burnt out of their houses, and robbed of their stores; and what are they to do through the approaching winter? They are flocking to Beyrout; and even here I am seriously afraid of a scarcity approaching to famine. And then, what permanent injury to the mountain! A generation will hardly restore what these few days destroyed. Formerly, Mount Lebanon was without ruins, and the only part of Syria where the traveller did not meet them at almost every hour. Now it is full of them. The whole is but another step in the rapid downfall of Turkey. Do what they will, the European governments cannot uphold her power. Every measure but hastens her ruin. God has decreed her fall, and who shall resist his will?"

A NEW DISCOVERY.—A new and extraordinary discovery has just been made in Prussia, by which printed works of any kind can be copied with perfect accuracy, and copies multiplied with no further expense than the cost of paper and press-work. The plan is kept a profound secret by the inventor; but he has demonstrated its efficacy by copying two pages of the London Athenæum, which so closely resemble the original as to be scarcely distinguishable from them. By the process it would appear, that old manuscripts can be accurately transferred; illuminated copies of ancient books imitated; books of all kinds reprinted, in numbers, and with a facility and correctness that almost exceeds belief.—*London Athenæum*.