

rate of 2,000 a year. Telegraph and railroad lines thread the land, a knowledge of the English language is eagerly sought, and the stir of a great movement is felt in the land. A proclamation lately issued in many provinces describes the missionaries as teachers of virtue, and their influence as helpful to the state, enjoining all citizens to refrain from violence, and to live with them in the relation of hosts and guests.

—After eighty years of contact with England, there are 32,000 Christians, for which we may be thankful, and 150,000,000 opium smokers, for which we may hang our heads in shame. The slave trade, the liquor traffic, the licensing of immorality—these were bad enough, but the opium curse is the sum of all villainy.—*J. Hudson Taylor.*

—The Chinese Government threatens to drive all missionaries out of Peking and Canton in retaliation for the bill which has been adopted excluding the Chinese from the United States.

—The Baptist Missionary Magazine for December reports 260 baptisms, and news has been received of 23 recent baptisms at Swatow, China, and 73 at Ongole, India.

—The first railroad built in China with the sanction of the government was completed in August. It runs from Tientsin to Taku, fifty miles, and the trains are crowded with passengers.

England.—London Missionary Society. The Ladies' Committee, in connection with the society, does not form a separate organization, as in the case of some of the other large societies. We append the leading statistics: Mission stations and sub-stations, 1,787 (1,161 in Madagascar); foreign workers, ordained, 150; lay, 21; native workers, ordained, 1,143; lay, 5,156; communicants, between eighty and ninety thousand, of which more than sixty thousand are credited to Madagascar. The statistics are not quite complete. Full returns would show somewhat increased figures. The total income is over a hundred thousand pounds sterling.

—The valedictory dismissal of a band of forty-five missionaries in connection with the Church Missionary Society took place in St. James's Hall, Piccadilly. Twenty-five of the missionaries are returning to the field, and twenty are new recruits. Already nearly twenty others have departed, chiefly going to Africa. Except Bishop Crowther, who returns to the Niger, and one lady for Lagos, all the forty-five taken leave of are for Asia—Palestine, Persia, India, China, and Japan. Eight of the new recruits are university men. Sir J. Kennaway, Bart, M. P. (president), presided over a large gathering of friends and supporters, and on behalf of the society and the meeting bade the missionaries Godspeed.

—The latest outburst of "Paganism" in England is an arraignment of missions as a "failure." Canon Taylor last year made a sensation by a laudation of Islam as a system of

faith and as a missionary force. Now he appears in an article with the title, "The Great Missionary Failure." He enters into calculations and comes to the conclusion that "it would take the Church Missionary Society 2,750 years to overtake the additions made in India by birth in a single year." His manipulation of figures is deceptive. Sir Charles Atchison, an Englishman in India, says that "in the Punjab, the Hindu and Mohammedan religions are practically stationary, that of the Sikhs has declined, whereas the Christian religion has increased 38½ per cent." The quality of Canon Taylor's intellect may be judged by the fact that at the late Episcopal Congress at Manchester "he expressed the opinion that the bishops' physical powers often gave way because they were compelled to put their hands on the greasy heads of thousands of confirmation candidates." There were cries of "shame" from the audience.

France.—The annual report of the *Société du Nord* says that they have now in the north of France 52 pastors and 145 places of worship, of which 84 are temples, and nearly 30,000 adherents.

—Dr. Pierson was present and made an address at the opening of a new station in Paris, the Salle Rivole. The very name of this hall is associated in Paris with all that is included in the words, "The world, the flesh and the devil," and where for one hundred years Satan has held sway. It is situated in a densely populated quarter, at the confluence of the rue St. Antoine and the rue de Rivole, about half way between the Bastille and the Hotel de Ville. It was formerly used as a ball room; then a fashionable billiard room; later it was most notorious for the low dances which were held in it; and since the days of the republic it has been the meeting-place of the Anarchists. This wicked den, in the very heart of Paris, has been transformed, by the McAll Mission, into a gospel temple, where every night the "good news" will be proclaimed. Its support is furnished by the New York Auxiliary.

India.—Out of the 555 adult converts baptized by the English Church missionaries at Amritsar, India, since the establishment of the mission in 1852, no less than 253 have been converts from Islam. While this betokens no great movement among the Mohammedans toward Christianity, it shows that Moslems can be reached and brought under the influence of the gospel.

—A revival of Hinduism is taking place in Madras Presidency, India. In the past the Hindus have looked on the efforts of the missionaries with contempt or indifference. Now they are becoming alarmed at the progress of Christianity, and are opposing it by every means in their power. They have formed "preaching societies" and "tract societies," and are fighting for Hinduism by the methods which have proved