

least surprising. Mrs. Finn, *Secretary of the Society for the Relief of Persecuted Jews*, writes: "The Shaftesbury Memorial Fund has been applied each year since Lord Shaftesbury's death to the employment of Jews at Abraham's Vineyard, Jerusalem, where a few are trained in cultivating the ground and other industries. But there are tens of thousands destitute in Palestine. We are ready to give them the work without which they perish of starvation. We last year aided about 300 cases of urgent need in London, and this year as many in proportion, many of them in finding homes in America and elsewhere."

**Madagascar.**—The Drink Traffic. A conference has been held of all the missions working in Madagascar, except the Roman Catholic, on the subject of the Drink Traffic. It took place in the committee-room of the London Missionary Society on the 2d of August, and resulted in the appointment of a representative committee, of which the Rev. B. Briggs is convener, to collect information and frame proposals for a memorial or petition to be addressed to the Queen and the Prime Minister.

—The young native preachers in Antanarivo, the capital of Madagascar, have banded together for the purpose of sending some of their number to the heathen in the outlying districts of the island.

**New Guinea.**—A telegram to London reports the killing of Rev. E. B. Savage, a missionary of the L. M. S., on Murray Island. It is also reported that some of the native teachers were also murdered. Mr. S. went out in 1855, and the work of the Society in Eastern New Guinea of late years has been encouraging. The natives of Murray Island are cannibals, and yet the Christians recently sent \$150 to aid the L. M. S. in its work.

**Scotland.**—Dr. George Smith, in the *Free Church of Scotland Monthly*, reviews the last ten years of the foreign missions of that Church. In 1878 the adults baptized were 277; in 1888, 815; in 1878 the native communicants were, 3,317; in 1888 they were, 6,272, the pupils had also doubled, and the contributions from native churches and the number of native Christian agents. The revenue has also increased in the same proportion. It was £48,775 from all sources, in 1878, and £97,542 in 1888; the home donations being £31,363, as against £64,999, and the foreign £17,512, as against £32,543. Starting now on the next decade with what is practically £100,000 a year, it is to be hoped they may again double it. This little church has a missionary record of which it may well be proud.

**Syria.**—The population of Syria and Palestine, together, is estimated at about 2,000,000. The prevailing language is Arabic, though many languages are spoken.

—The mission of the Free Church of Scotland on the Lake of Galilee, in Palestine, is

prospering. A liberal friend of the cause in Scotland has promised \$6,500 to build another house for the missionaries at Tiberias. This is chiefly a medical mission.

**United States.**—Missionary Statistics. We are glad to notice that The Missionary Review of the World proposes to tabulate each year the statistics of all missionary societies in the world. The work of the former editor, Mr. Wilder, though imperfect, was exceedingly useful; and every missionary editor has undoubtedly greatly missed these annual tables since Mr. Wilder's death. It can hardly be the case that any editor of a denominational missionary magazine would have the time to prepare these annual tables. But this Review is the place where they ought to appear, and we offer the editors our hearty encouragement in their effort to give every year a summary of the missionary statistics of the world, which is promised to be the most complete and satisfactory ever published. It will be a strong feature of their already exceedingly valuable publication.—*Baptist Missionary Magazine*.

**Miscellaneous.**—Colonel Olcott, the traveling theosophist, has touched at Belfast, and lectured in that fine city at a shilling a head. He is cheaper than a blaspheming "Colonel" who remains on this side of the water. Colonel Olcott did not secure a large audience in the old Presbyterian town, and the indifference with which he was listened to appeared in the fact that when he closed no one was found ready to move the customary vote of thanks. The Colonel's lecture, semi-Buddhistic, and wholly infidel, does not seem to have been very luminous, especially in the statement of his theosophic vagaries. In Dublin a gentleman rose in the audience, after listening intently to the lecturer, and asked the Colonel to state in brief what he had been talking about, as he had utterly failed to understand him. There was no response.

—In heathen countries Protestants occupy 500 separate mission fields, containing 20,000 mission stations, supplied by 40,000 mission aries. In these 20,000 mission stations there are 500,000 Sunday school scholars an average of 25 to each station. In the 20,000 Protestant mission stations there are one million of native communicants, or an average of 50 to each station. There are also 2,000,000 of adherents who are friends of the evangelical faith and hearers of the Gospel preached from the Bible—an average of 100 to each station.

The Star of India says that among the countries barred to Protestant missionaries should be named Nepal, between India and Thibet, a most interesting country.

Dr. Abel Stevens says that the old Asiatic heathendom is generally giving way before the continually increasing power of Western thought and Christian civilization.