

Mrs. Guttman is a lady who gets on remarkably well. She visited 2,011 houses, spoke to 3,005 people, gave away 201 Bible portions and 527 tracts besides other books, and her conquests consist of a woman who is reading a book and "whose questions to me are delightful," and an "elderly Jewish gentleman who is always pleased to receive me and to converse on the Messiahship" (p. 20).

There is the same story of progress (?) in the provinces. Mr. G. Priestly, Swansea, plaintively remarks that the attitude of the Jews "towards me is one of supreme contempt" (p. 23). Liverpool makes no converts, but has given away 6,053 Bibles, etc. Miss Werfel, Birmingham, is "thankful that the work of the past year has been most encouraging." Her encouragement consisted, from her report, in having induced a rich Jewess to accept a tract. And, finally, the Rev. E. T. Sherman, Hexham, reporting for Newcastle and district, has no converts, but about twenty Jews came to his house, "*some for help, others as pedlars.*" I think this last is the gem of the report. And these are the wonderful results that are considered worth chronicling, and all that the Society has to offer as the result of a year's expenditure and work in Great Britain! Is the game worth the candle? To the two rev. gentlemen who draw £853 annually, or to their subordinates who squeeze a living out of the movement, probably yes. But what of the general public? How long will it take to convert 8,000,000 Jews at the present rate of increase? How much will it cost to convert the 8,000,000 at the present rate of payment? And how much are they worth when they are converted?

Of all Christian missions, that to the Jews has the least justification. Other missions may plead that they are taking to lower races a superior civilization; that by the introduction of different habits of life these peoples will be benefitted. The Society for Promoting Christianity amongst the Jews can plead no such justification. No one pretends that the Jew is made any better in any of the relations of life by becoming a Christian. Whatever he was before conversion, that he remains afterwards. The sole object here, from the standpoint of the misguided subscribers, is a religious one; from that of the agents employed, a means of relieving the over-stocked clerical labor market; and from neither point of view do the results justify the outlay.

*Freethinker.*

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