

when that proved unavailing, got into a fury, and murdered the child with a knife! Cressi has just returned from Geneva, where he has been ordained to the ministry by Dr. Merle D'Aubigne and others, under whom he studied theology some years.

*Don Ambrogio.*—There is a priest now in Turin, named Don Ambrogio, who preaches in the public squares to the people, with great energy and boldness, against the errors of the Church of Rome, exhorting the people to read the Scriptures. I believe he professes still to be a Roman Catholic, and not to have left the Church. He has been apprehended scores of times by the police, and led to prison with hand-cuffs on, but next day he is always at his post again preaching to the people. The clergy of Turin have warned their flocks against going near him and the result has been that he is now attended by multitudes. M. Meille, the pious Waldensian pastor at Turin, endorses Ambrogio.

*Gen. Beckwith and the Church Government of the Vauds.*—The late Gen. Beckwith, a British officer, is well known as having been the ardent and highly successful patron of schools, colleges, churches, and the general interests of the Waldenses. He foresaw a quarter of a century ago, the profound relations likely to be held by this single pure church of Italy to the Evangelization of the Peninsula, and he labored earnestly to prepare it for its high mission. He died about a year ago, having lived to see his christian foresight fully justified and his labors rewarded in the prominent part which the Vauds were at once enabled to take in the great missionary movement to which Italy was open. In one enterprise, however, he failed. Some fifteen years ago, he tried to prevail upon the Vauds Synod to change its Presbyterian form into a sort of Episcopal, by appointing its moderator for life. The body of the Vauds ministers took his proposal into serious and prayerful consideration; but however desirous of giving their benefactor a proof of their cordial affection and confidence, they declared that their conscience did not admit of such a modification of their Church government.

### India.

*Timnevelly* is still a prosperous mission. There have been 261 adult baptisms in three months. With growth there is health: as an evidence, we have the efforts made by those Churches towards self-sustenance and missionary enterprise. They collected among themselves last year more than 800 rupees, with which they paid half the salary of their native teachers, and helped the itineracy of the mission amongst the

heathen. A very interesting work is going on amongst the slaves of Travancore. Four congregations have been gathered and consolidated.

### America.

Notwithstanding the desolations of war, all the great missionary and benevolent operations of the American churches have been sustained. The treasury of the Lord is well supplied, and the work of the Lord is prospering. Revivals frequently occur in the camps. The "Christian Commission" puts forth great exertions to supply the soldiers with good reading. Bible circulation was never so active before.

**WEEK OF PRAYER IN 1864.**—The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, (O. S.) have recommended to the sessions of the church to set apart as a season of special prayer the week commencing Sabbath 3 Jan. 1864, including Sabbath 13th. The Moderator of the Assembly was Dr. J. H. Morrison, of the Lodiana mission, who first suggested the annual week of prayer.

### Missions of Free Church.

**GENERAL VIEW OF OPERATIONS.**—(1.) In India the Free Church has 27 central and branch mission stations, worked by 16 ordained European, and 10 ordained native missionaries. There are three native licensed preachers, three European missionary teachers, two medical missionaries, 53 native christian teachers, 6 colporteurs, and 9 students for the ministry. There are 374 communicants in the native churches. During the last year 38 adults have been added to the churches. There are 36 schools for males, attended by 6,524, and 149 schools for females, attended by 1,934.

(2.) In Africa there are 23 mission stations, with 6 ordained European missionaries, one European missionary teacher, 13 native christian teachers, two European catechists and missionary mechanics, and 5 Scripture readers. There are 719 communicants in the native churches; and 87 adults have been admitted during the year.

## News of the Church.

### LETTER FROM REV. D. MORRISON.

To the Members and Adherents of our Church.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,—In the hope of hereby serving the Gospel, permit me to address you a few words. I am now a year and a half in the service of the Foreign