

## II.—GENERAL MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

**Africa.**—Dr. Henry Grattan Guinness, in addressing a meeting at Boston, Sunday, Sept. 29, said of Africa: The largest neglected field in the world is the Soudan. There is the North African mission with forty missionaries and 1,100 miles of territory. Both south of Sahara and between that and Congo basin lies this neglected district; from Kong Mountains 180 and sometimes 500 miles inland, clear to Abyssinia, there are no missions. Properly, there are three Soudans, viz.: of the Nile, the Niger, and Lake Chad, between the other two. The Niger is next to the Nile and Congo in importance. It has one branch 1,900 miles long. Lake Chad covers 10,000 sq. miles at its lowest and 40,000 when swollen by rains, etc. Five great nations lie about this lake, with a total of 35,000,000 population and no missionary. Eastward lie two great countries. On the two main branches of the Niger, 2,300 miles long, no missionaries are stationed. About 100 languages are spoken there. Here is a district of country 3,000 to 4,500 miles east and west, by 1,000 miles north and south, in all embracing nearly 90,000,000 people absolutely neglected. What shall be done for the three Soudans? Dr. Guinness presented the destitution before the young men of Kansas and Nebraska, and in each State about 20 of the foremost men volunteered to go as pioneers. The house of the widow of President Roberts, of Liberia—a house situated in Monrovia, has been taken as a sort of home for missionaries who are on their way *via* Liberia to the Soudanese. We look with deep interest to see what is the next step in missionary enterprise. The last five years have seen greater developments in some respects than the 95 years preceding. A. T. P.

—**News from Stanley.** Berlin, Oct. 23. A cable dispatch has been received from Capt. Wissmann, stating that trustworthy news has been received concerning Emin Pasha and Henry M. Stanley, Signor Casati and six Englishmen. They are all expected to arrive at Mpwapwa in the latter part of November. Capt. Wissmann also says that he defeated a force of insurgents near Somwe and killed seventy of them.

Brussels, Oct. 23. A dispatch received here confirms Capt. Wissmann's advices regarding Henry M. Stanley and his party.

**China.**—In a recently published volume, *The Cross and the Dragon*, there is an extended account of the great hospital and dispensary at Canton, from which we glean the following facts. For thirty years the hospital has been under the care of Dr. Kerr, under whose able and judicious management it has been greatly developed, and now unites an extensive hospital, dispensary, and medical college. There are no less than five successive lines of good substantial buildings, four of which are devoted to the accommodation of pa-

tients. There is also a very fine church capable of seating 600 people.

This great institution is one of the sights of the city of Canton, and is visited and inspected by intelligent Chinamen from all sections of the country, and by foreign travelers and residents. Twenty thousand persons burdened with diseases are the recipients of its benefits each year. Its great practical benevolence has so commended it to both natives and foreigners that Chinese and Parsees gladly join with Europeans and Americans in its support. The Viceroy Hoppe, and other native officials, are regular contributors. Connected with the central hospital are branches at four cities in the interior. Associated with Dr. Kerr is an efficient staff of native doctors and surgeons trained by him. In the course of his career he has instructed some scores of pupils, thirty of whom have taken the full course and received certificates. Most of the native doctors educated are Christians, and engage more or less in evangelistic work wherever they go.

In the great hospital and its branches every effort is made to impress the people who come with the importance of Christian truth. There is daily service in the chapel, special services there and elsewhere, regular visitation of the wards, in which the missionary physician is aided by native clergymen, and distribution of books and tracts.

The good effects of this medical-mission work are seen in numberless ways—in lessening the anti-foreign feeling of the Chinese; in diminishing the power of superstition which connects diseases with evil spirits, and sends the suffering to the exorcists and the idols instead of to the physician; and in giving constant proof of the unselfish character of our religion.

**India.**—In the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* Dr. Hunter, Director-General of Statistics of the Government, says: Christianity is now the faith of over two millions of the Indian population—a number twelve times as large as that of those who follow the teachings of Buddha. Whereas in 1830 there were only 27,000 native Protestants in all India, Ceylon and Burmah; in 1871 there were 318,363.

—The *Indian Witness* tells of three recent cases in which poison was administered to Hindu lads who had been baptized. The victims have become mental wrecks. In another case death resulted under suspicious circumstances after the lad had been carried off by his friends. The poisoners in each case were very near relatives. The *Panjab Mission News* also gives a number of instances of young converts whose lives were endangered by their baptism. "A Hindu lad announced his determination to be a Christian. Several tremendous thrashings having been fruitless in changing his determination, he was tied down to a charpoy, and his own father held lighted lamps to the soles of his