

lish Episcopal Church, the French, Presbyterian, and National Churches. The attendance was large, many eminent ministers and laymen being present from Britain, Germany, Switzerland, France, Holland, Italy, Spain, Sweden, and the United States of America. Some were present from Canada, among others Principal Willis, although he was unable to remain for more than three days at the commencement of the proceedings.

At the opening of the Conference, Baron Van Wassenaar, President of the Alliance in Holland, took the chair, and, first in German, then in French, welcomed the brethren to Amsterdam. Papers were read on the religious state of Holland, Belgium, and Germany, and thereafter an address was delivered by the Rev. Canon Battersby, on the religious condition of the Church of England, another by Rev. J. H. Hinton, on the non-conformist churches, and another by Rev. W. Robertson on the condition of the Scottish Churches. Rev. Dr. Prime of New York referred to the organization of the Alliance, recently formed in America, and General Burrows spoke on behalf of Canada. On the second day a brilliant address was delivered by Dr. McCosh of Belfast, on "Moral Philosophy in Great Britain in relation to Theology," and various other papers were read, and addresses delivered. An interesting address was delivered by Rev. Mr. Bliss, of Constantinople, who brought the salutations of the Turkish branch of the alliance, and bade the assembly greeting in the name of the Christians of Macedonia, Bithynia, Galatia, Cappadocia, Mesopotamia, and of all Asia.

Interesting addresses were given at the dinner table, and at evening conversaziones. Various important subjects, including Sabbath observance, were discussed. To some of these subjects we may afterwards refer.

The meeting was brought to a close on the 27th. The closing addresses was by Dr. Prime, of the "New York Observer."

There is a probability that the next general meeting of the Alliance will be in New York.

ITEMS OF INTELLIGENCE.

ABYSSINIAN EXPEDITION.—Preparations are making in England for fitting out an expedition for the relief of the captives who have been so cruelly held in custody by the King of Abyssinia. These captives consist of an Ambassador, a consul, two or three missionaries, and several other persons. They have been kept in captivity for a considerable time, some of them for several years by Theodorus, King of Abyssinia. Much interest is excited in these unfortunate prisoners, and an invitation to special prayer in their behalf has been drawn up and issued by the Rev. Dr. Charles Brown, of Edinburgh.

REPORT ON RITUALISM.—The Commission recently appointed on the Ritual of the English Church have published their first report. The Report is decidedly adverse to the Ritualists on the question of vestments—the first subject which has received attention from the Commission, and recommends that congregations ought to have some simple mode of process against the excesses of ritualism. They do not, however, suggest how such a thing can be carried into effect. This will be the great difficulty.

SUCCESSOR TO PROFESSOR GIBSON.—The Rev. Mr. Wallace, of Londonderry, has been appointed Professor of Christian Ethics, at Belfast, in room of Professor Gibson, whose sad death has been so much lamented by all who knew him.

PERSECUTION IN EGYPT.—For a number of years there have been mis-