

and will make three volumes of over five hundred pages each, illustrated with portraits of the principal speakers, and bound in the best English cloth. The regular price for the three volumes is \$7.50, but a special advance price was announced, and may still possibly be available, of \$6. The subscriptions should be sent to Rev. E. M. Wherry, D.D., Corresponding Secretary of the World's Congress of Missions, Chicago. Dr. Wherry's regular address is 211 Wabash Avenue; but we take it no street or number is necessary.

5. The subject of missions so interpenetrates all Christian life and activities that it is not surprising that the Evangelical Alliance Congress could not get through without having a session devoted to it. The summary of its proceedings, which we find in *The Interior*, must suffice for the present:

"The session was opened by an admirable paper from the veteran Indian missionary, the Rev. Dr. Murray Mitchell. He reviewed in a very concise and masterly fashion the leading religions with which Christianity has to grapple. He corrected some of the popular and mistaken views now abroad, such as we find, for example, in Sir Edwin Arnold's 'Light of Asia,' and gave a vivid picture of the great problem which the Gospel has to solve in heathen lands. He spoke with authority, as one who had experience as well as information, upon the subject.

"Then we had short speeches from Professor Thounaian upon the suffering of Christians throughout the Turkish Empire, in which he brought out the jealousy which the 'unspeakable Turk' entertains toward his Christian neighbor because he is more progressive and successful than he; from Mrs. Meek, the Zulu princess, a cousin of the renowned King Cetewayo, and who detailed her feelings and hopes in coming to the United Kingdom, and who finally sang a hymn in the Zulu language. She was interpreted, as on the previous occasion, by her husband. The last speech at the afternoon meeting was

made by Mrs. Abraham, a young Christian from the Nestorian Church, who claims to belong to the 'Lost Ten Tribes.' She speaks English wonderfully well, and made an excellent impression. She wore the Oriental dress, and there was a picturesqueness about the afternoon's proceedings which will not soon fade from remembrance. Such information as is communicated in these meetings is calculated to deepen the interest in and the liberality of the people toward foreign missionary enterprise."

Some Causes of the Present Improved Health of Missionaries to Africa.

BY REV. ROBERT HAMILL NASSAU, M.D.,
GABOON, WEST AFRICA.

Undeniably there was great loss of life in the early history of missions to Africa. There is still much loss. But in the walks of commerce on the African coasts still greater loss existed and still exists. If you knew, as I do, how the majority of African traders live, you would not wonder at their mortality on moral grounds. Of course, the percentage of missionary deaths must be explained on other grounds; and present improvement is on those same grounds.

I. *Hygienic*.—Without wishing severely to criticise the noble men and women who first went out to Africa, I think a great cause of the former large number of early deaths on the field was a failure to recognize the limitations which climatic and other surroundings in a new country impose on the newly arrived foreigner. I sympathize with the earnest zeal of those brave men and women burning to proclaim the Gospel they carried as pioneers to Africa; but their zeal consumed them. Therefore, I think it wise to recognize and act on the limitations of one's environment, even if, as in Africa, in so doing we become only half a man or half a woman. It is a painful situation for a zealous soul; but it is simply also one of the sacrifices we must make. I think