

Bedouins of the Hauran, (the ancient Decapolis,) and the Druses on the southern slopes of Lebanon are within easy reach. Thus from the lowly spot where our Saviour was pleased to pass the greater part of his earthly life, his gospel can now be widely preached to the Moslems, wandering Bedouins, the Druses, and other dwellers of the East.—*Missionary Herald*.

### South Africa.

A letter from a missionary congregation of Kaffirs to a missionary congregation of Esquimaux is a novelty. The translation of a fraternal epistle of this kind is subjoined. It is addressed by the Moravian Church at Shiloh (Queensland) to the Esquimaux Church in Labrador, in answer to one sending a contribution to the building of the church in Shiloh: "Beloved brethren, —Your letter has given us great joy. We see from it that the work of our Lord Jesus Christ is powerful. We could not have expected such a gift, as our teachers told us of your cold climate, possessing neither cows or sheep like ourselves. Although we are poor, you are still poorer. When you heard we were building a new church, you sent us a gift of money (\$1.); we thank you, dear friends in Christ. We see in it the power of God's word working in us to love one another, although we have never seen each other. The Lord bless you for your love to us, and repay you what you have done for us. You, brethren, make us ashamed. Now that we hear you are building a church at Zoar, what can we do for you? We are still in difficulties this year concerning our own church; though we wish much to help you, if possible, but trust we may be able after a time. Meanwhile we will support you with our prayers, though they may be weak. Continue to pray for us, for our Kaffir people are mostly indifferent to spiritual things. At the same time we praise our Lord, there are many who strive to love him. Brethren, let us keep the faith, so we shall receive the crown of life through Jesus our Lord. May he be with us all until we meet in heaven! Farewell; we heartily greet you, our Esquimaux brethren."

Soon after the Rev. Francis Mason, now for nearly forty years a missionary among the Karens, was received by the American Baptist Board for Foreign Missions, he called upon the Rev. Joseph Grafton, then pastor of the Baptist church of Newton, Massachusetts. Said that venerable father in the Baptist ministry—"Mr. Mason, I understand that you are determined to spend your days in Burmah." "Yes, sir; such is my decision." "Well, well, my brother," said this reverend patriarch, with his

characteristic deep-drawn sigh, "you will need a great deal of piety to go to Burmah." To which Mr. Mason, with the laconic style of an Englishman, and the decision of a Christian, answered—"So I should to stay at home, sir." When subsequently referring to this conversation, "Never," said Mr. Grafton, "did I before receive such a kind, but cutting reproof; and never did I so forcibly feel that every man is solemnly obligated to be entirely consecrated to God, whatever his profession or field of labor."

The *New York Spirit of Missions* quotes a statement of Rev. W. Williamson, agent in China of the National Bible Society of Scotland:—"The Greek Church, under the patronage of the Russian Government, has of late manifested a deep interest in the spiritual welfare of the Mongols. They have established missions in several important localities, and are carrying them on with zeal and intelligence; and what is most satisfactory, the views of Divine truth held by the present head of that Church are clear. They now use that translation of the Scriptures in the Mongolian language which was made by Messrs. Swan and Stallybrass, of the London Missionary Society, and also the school books prepared by them previous to expulsion. Perhaps the most astonishing fact of all is that which the Archimandrite at Pekin told me two years ago, that they had now established missions all throughout Siberia, and had missionaries in all important centres, such as they are on the north of the Amour, and in the remotest confines of Asia, both on north and east."

### Death of a Missionary.

The *Inverness Courier* mentions the death of Mr. John Fraser, a well known Scottish missionary in the East. Mr. Fraser, now in his thirty-ninth year, was the fourth son of the late Provost Fraser, of Inverness. The eldest son of the family is Mr. Alex. Fraser, of Cobourg, Ontario, and a member of the Legislative Assembly of that province; the second son is the Rev. Donald Fraser, of Marylebone; and the third the Rev. Wm. Fraser, of Edinburgh. His first labors in the East were at Cairo, where he laid the foundation of a thorough acquaintance with the Arabic language. Thence he removed to Beyrout, where he taught for some time in the Syriac Protestant College, making excursions into the region of the Lebanon, and not only preaching in villages, but reading the Greek Testament in the Maronite and Greek Catholic convents. In Baghdad, his last station, he labored among Mohammedans and Jews.