

I sees a man going home wid a gallon of whiskey, and a half pound of meet, dat's Temperance Lecture nuff for me; and I sees it every day. I knows dat ebery ting in his house is on de same scale,—gallon of misery to every half pound of comfort."

AFRICA.—At a meeting held in Glasgow, Mr. M. H. Stanley, the celebrated traveller and explorer of the Dark Continent, said:—Seven years ago the richest tenth part of the Dark Continent was unknown and unexplored. On the east, months of travel on foot through wilds and jungles, ranges of mountains, and bleached grass-plains of far-reaching extent, separated it from the Indian Ocean. To the south extended one unraversed area, peopled by countless tribes who knew not the white man; to the north lay the wide waste of the Sahara desert, and from the southernmost edge to the frontier of the Congo basin there was a wide blank, the nature or breadth of which was still an unsolved mystery. On the west was found a wide gateway, which had been used only to permit the cruel slave-trader to pass in and out on his nefarious business. This gateway was the mouth of the Congo. At the distance of 110 miles were found impassable rapids, and here Tuckey and his gallant band of navigators died of fever and misery sixty-eight years ago. By the exercise of a little resolution it was discovered that above these rapids the Congo was navigable for nearly 1,100 English miles, and that the magnificent affluents of the river afforded means of penetrating through and through the basin. It was found also that there were several lakes in it whose shores were exceedingly populous, all of which furnished 3,000 miles of waterway. A little more research into the capabilities of this basin, and we discovered that two portages would add about 2,000 miles more, which might be utilised for the promotion of good and the extension of civilisation. No part of Africa, look where I might, appeared so promising to me as this neglected tenth part of the continent. I have often fancied myself—when I had nothing to do better than dream—gazing from some lofty height, and looking down upon this square compact patch of 800,000,000 acres, with its 80,000 native towns, its population of 40,000,000 souls, its 17,000 miles of river waters, and its 30,000 square miles of lakes, all lying torpid, lifeless, inert, soaked in brutishness and bestiality, and I have never yet descended from that airy perch in the empyrean and touched earth but I have felt a purpose glow in me to strive to do something to awaken it into life and movement, and I have sometimes half fancied that the face of aged Livingstone, vague and indistinct as it were, shone through the warm hazy atmosphere, with a benignant smile encouraging me in my purpose.

THE MISSIONARY ARMY.—Dr. George Smith, of Edinburgh, in his "Short History of Christian Missions," gives the following estimates for 1884:—

Population of the world	1,440,000,000
Christians in the Reformed Churches.....	160,000,000
Greek, Eastern and Romanist "	280,000,000
Jews	8,000,000
Mohammedans	172,000,000
Pagans and Heathens	820,000,000
Ordained Protestant Missionaries	3,040
Lay Missionaries	619
Female Missionaries	2,016
Native ordained Missionaries	2,511
Native Teachers and Helpers	21,471
Native Communicants	622,577
Total Native Christians	2,750,000
Scholars in the Mission Schools	393,180

Dr. Smith estimates the total missionary contributions of the missionary societies and churches of Protestant Christendom in 1883 to be £2,275,000 sterling per annum—in round numbers \$11,375,000, divided as follows: Great Britain, \$7,650,000; America, \$3,000,000; Continent of Europe, \$725,000. Christlieb, on the other hand, gives the figures for 1879 as follows: Britain, \$3,500,000; America, \$1,750,000; Continent of Europe, \$1,750,000—Total \$7,000,000. The precise amount is difficult to ascertain; it may be found half-way between these conflicting estimates. Christlieb, it will be observed, credits the continental churches with more than double the amount attributed to them by Dr. Smith, and we cannot suppose they have decreased their givings since 1879.

North-West Missions.

A neat frame church was erected at Souris, and opening services conducted by the Superintendent of missions on the 21st December. The district is famous for the excellence of its wheat, and only a few years are required to develop a self-sustaining congregation at Souris. At present a number of outlying stations are associated with the village. A successful social was held at Qu'Appelle, and steps taken with the view of erecting a manse next summer. At Fort Qu'Appelle material is being got on the ground for the erection of a manse too. At Barnes, fourteen miles to the N. E., material is being prepared for a church. At Fort Macleod and Pincher Creek also. Mr. T. Collins Court, of Chatham, has entered upon his work at Auburn with much spirit, and his services are very acceptable. Rev. M. Mackenzie has taken charge of Rat Portage and Keewatin till spring. The Presbytery of Brandon propose to break ground in seven or eight new fields next summer. Tired of appealing almost in vain for men, this Presbytery is moving to have a number of acceptable catechists licensed and ordained for the ministry. It would seem as if our young men shunned the mis-