

One of the great missionary societies asked for £36,618 additional, and received £36,547. One man gave £35,000 stg., in December, to assist native churches in India. The Scottish missions in India, have reached the fiftieth year of their history. The Jubilee is to be fitly celebrated by enlarged contributions for the further development of the missions. "The Bridegroom is coming: let India be prepared to meet Him," said Chunder Sen, lately in a remarkable lecture before the *elite* of Calcutta. "Christ rules British India," he added, "and not the British Government. England has sent us a tremendous moral force in the life and character of that mighty Prophet to conquer and hold this vast Empire. None but Jesus ever deserved this bright precious diadem, India: and Christ shall have it!" He goes on to say that not to the British army but to the missionaries belongs the honour of holding India—"the missionaries headed by their glorious Captain, Jesus Christ." He passes a high eulogy on the missionaries and promises to them the lasting gratitude of the nation. Wonderful utterances truly, from a mystic, pantheistic Hindu! It is very evident that Christianity is now permeating India, as it permeated the Roman Empire two centuries after the advent of the Lord Jesus.

Curious theories are sometimes broached as to the "identity" of the "Ten Tribes." Genuine and truthful news come from a Presbyterian Missionary at Hamadan, Persia, concerning the progress of God's work in one of the oldest colonies of Israelites in the world—a colony whose ancestors were carried captive by the Assyrians more than twenty-five centuries ago. "Is not Jesus the Messiah?"—is the question which agitates the colony. Four of the chief men, the heads of a thousand families, have professed their faith in Jesus and have been publicly baptized. Converts are flocking to the missionary for instruction. In Japan the Presbyterian missionaries from the United States, and from Scotland, combine in one ecclesiastical organization. This is surely wise. The time cannot be far distant when all evangelical missionaries will work hand in hand, and heart to heart in the face of the mighty hosts of heathendom. In Madagascar education is largely under missionary control. By a law just proclaimed it is made compulsory on all parents to send their children of seven years old and upwards to school "to learn wisdom."

Fifty-six societies in England received during

the year, £1,703,523 Sterling.—being an advance of about £16,000 on the previous year. The "forces of evil" are busy everywhere, and a sad column could be written regarding the triumphs of the kingdom of Satan; but we know and believe that greater and stronger is He who is with us than all that can be against us. The practical lesson of all the foregoing notes of progress is that we must not prove forgetful of our own share in the world-wide struggle.

M.

## Editorial Correspondence

EDINBURGH.

NO SEDAN CHAIRS are now to be seen at the corners of the streets; nor brawny Highland porters inviting weary pedestrians to take "a lift." This obsolete conveyance was as common in my school-days as the hackney-coach. In many other respects Edinburgh has since undergone changes—for the better. But its main features are unimpaired. The grim, quaint Old Town still looks down upon the New; and the New looks up to the old, never more charmingly than in the month of May, when its streets are crowded with visitors attracted by the annual meetings of the General Assemblies, which have for Scottish folk a higher interest than royal court or parliament. Princes Street used to be called "a poem." This latest edition of it, greatly enlarged, and beautifully embellished, is certainly worthy of the title. The public gardens between it and the Castle are admirably arranged, though we were staggered by the announcement made in "*The Scotsman*" a few days ago, that no less than twenty-eight thousand persons, by actual count, had repaired to them on a recent Sabbath; and, that, emboldened by success in this direction, the populace begin to clamour for the opening of the Botanical Gardens on the Day of Rest. And some people are asking whether opened Museums and Art Galleries, and possibly Theatres, after a while, may not be next mooted. "Such things are done in Paris!" The Scott Monument, and the statues of John Wilson, Allan Ramsay, and David Livingstone are notable among the other attractions of Princes Street—recalling names that Scotchmen the world over delight to honour.