

not but transport myself also, in imagination, into that assembly of our brethren in France which I have just quitted. More than one of them to-day directs his looks and his thoughts towards the mountains of this country, and says within himself, 'Ah, if I could but transport myself, this beautiful day, to the soil of our own valleys!' Yes, your brethren do not forget, in a foreign country, their brethren or their church; and I have seen tears glistening in many eyes when we spoke of those objects so dear to their hearts. 'Ah!' said a woman, whose hairs were white with age, 'if I could but die on the soil of my country!' Young and old, rich and poor, the Vaudois brethren of France love you, and send you kindly greetings. They have been truly delighted to see a delegate from their own church, and they understand, better than we could have hoped, the feelings that prompted our Synod to take this step. And were I at once to tell you my first feeling, I should exclaim, 'Let us bless God for all the good he has done us.' I have traversed the countries which God has visited with a terrible inundation. Everywhere on the banks of the Rhone and the Durance, I have seen attenuated and melancholy-looking figures breaking up clods of hardened mud, where before were their richly cultivated fields; and turning over the rubbish to discover the remains of their possessions. During the heavy rains which caused the inundations of this year, the commune of Bezandun, annexed to Bourdeaux, was buried by the bursting of an embankment. The Protestant church, where Casaubon had preached, and where Chamit was for a long time pastor, fell down first. The clock, which bears the date of 1602, and which, consequently, is one of the oldest Protestant clocks in France, struck two at the moment when it fell. The population were suddenly aroused, and speedily all left their habitations, which, after two days of successive inundations, were nothing but a mass of rubbish, which was carried 200 metres (about 650 feet) lower down the valley. Everywhere on the borders of the great rivers of France there is lamentation. The crops are lost; the houses overthrown; and immense heaps of large stones cover to the depth of two metres (six and a-half feet) the richest lands." At the conclusion of his speech, M. Appia related the following touching anecdote:—"Having been led in conversation to say that I was a Protestant, an old carpenter standing by, said, 'Sir, I possess a curious book, in which are all the miracles of Jesus Christ, and also the history of the heavenly Jerusalem.' I answered, 'That book which you have read is the Bible,'—when he began to repeat to me whole chapters, of which he knew the details sometimes better than myself. 'I have had this book forty years; I found it amongst the things left me by my father; and I would not sell it for a 100f.' He thanked me, with tearful eyes, for the conversation I had with him, and I said to myself, 'Truly God has his people everywhere, and often where we least expect it.'" The speaker, after some further particulars, concluded by an appeal to the consciences of his Vaudois brethren: "Here, on the classic ground of sufferings for our faith,—here, in the camp of our persecutors,—we must choose whom we will serve: to remain undecided is to go over to the ranks of the enemy; we must decide either for or against. May God give us all grace to take part courageously for the truth!"

After an animated hymn, the immense assembly dispersed to enjoy an hour of repose, and to recruit their strength with the provisions they had brought; innumerable small groups formed themselves around the springs, which had been very prettily decorated; others satiated themselves on the ramparts of the

camp, on the rocks, or on the turf; and, without noise or disorder, enjoyed the bounties which God had given them. At two o'clock they re-assembled. Miss R—— having offered prizes (to the poorer people) for the best-kept cottage, and for the best-made shirt, gloves, and wooden spoon, the names of those who had obtained the prizes were read. Then M. Meille addressed the meeting, and contrasted the oppression of the past with the liberty of the present. "The two missions," said he, "of which we have heard to-day, are signs that our influence ought to be extending; but how can this be possible unless we redouble our energy in upholding moral principles,—unless we stand up more vigorously against impurity, litigation, and Sabbath breaking?" The speaker then observed that, throughout the Grisons, great respect was paid to the Lord's day, and related an anecdote in illustration. M. Strauss, a pastor at Berlin, just returned from Jerusalem, then spoke, and gave us some interesting details respecting the religious condition of the East, and the labours of Bishop Gobat, which have been so greatly blessed. M. Strauss himself, in company with seventy Christians, had entered the great mosque, built upon Moriah, and supported on the steps by which the Jews, in ancient times, ascended to the temple. M. Lanterat expressed gratitude to Prussia for her good offices towards the Vaudois. M. B. Malan, pastor at La Tour, concluded by asking the blessing of God upon Prussia and her king, on the brethren of the Grisons, on the Vaudois, on foreign parts, and on each of ourselves. The assembly then dispersed, and soon silence, so rarely broken, reigned anew on the summit of the mountain; whilst little bands of pedestrians, gradually becoming less and less visible, at length disappeared among the mountains and the valleys, bearing with them a delightful recollection engraven on their memories and hearts. May God render us faithful and vigilant both in prayer and action!

From News of the Churches.

MISSIONS IN PEGU—BURMAH.

We have received, through Captain Ross of the 71st Regiment, further papers in reference to the Pegu Missions, written by the same person as those which we published in August.

We take the liberty of inserting a portion of Captain Ross's letter, as he bears valuable testimony to the correctness of the reports:—

"This movement in Pegu, especially among the Karens, I look on as the most wonderful now going on in the world, of which little has yet been made known to the Christian public, but which it becomes us to make known, as showing how great things God is doing, and that his name may be praised still more throughout the churches. It is with this view I have determined on forwarding to you these papers, as also in the hope that, by becoming more generally known, God's people may be stirred up to remember those souls who are thus thirsting for the Word, in their prayers, and also in their liberality. Funds are required to provide the Word, and pay native colporteurs. The Rev. S. S. Cuthbert, my friend, Mr R. S. Moncrieff, both of Calcutta, or myself, will be happy to receive any contributions, if no more favourable mode of forwarding them presents itself. I can vouch for the accuracy of the source from which Mr M. obtains his data for the facts he states in these papers. I have myself been fifteen months in Pegu, and know something personally of what is going on among the Burmese at least. I only left Burmah in July, 1855."