

10,000,000 are Jews, 180,000,000 Mohammedans, 800,000,000 Pagans. Of China's 300,000,000, about 75,000 are in Christian communities; of India's 250,000,000, about 700,000; of Japan's 35,000,000, about 25,000; of Siam's 8,000,000, — 3,000; of Turkey's 20,000,000, say 100,000; of Persia's 7,500,000, 5,000; of Africa's 200,000,000, — 600,000; American Mission fields add 700,000, and the Isles of the Sea 400,000 more, identified with Christian institutions; and so we have a grand total of 2,600,000 who, in the whole mission field, are either converts or adherents of Christian Churches.

GREAT BRITAIN is striving by internal reforms and vigorous justice, combined with good arrangements and alliance with other nations, to help on the cause of human well-being. But she meets with great difficulties at home and abroad.

FRANCE has escaped from its late crisis. President GREVY resigned, and M. Sadi-Carnot is his successor. So the National Congress at Versailles decided. France's new President is only 50 years of age, and, though his election was a surprise, it is regarded as a safe one and one that will preserve the Republic. But still, "a dissolute nation tends to dissolution." Let us pray and toil for timely reforms.

GERMANY, too, has trials. The aged Emperor and Empress are rapidly failing in health. The Prince Imperial is suffering from a malignant affection of the throat, probably cancer, and may die before his aged father. The German Parliament has expressed deep sympathy for the Prince and the Royal family. The Emperor responding insisted upon submission to the inscrutable will of God. The grandson, who will likely ascend the throne ere long, is a young man after the type of Frederick the Great. But he will be surrounded by wise counsellors.

THE RUSSIANS are going to build the most gigantic railroad in the world. It will traverse Siberia, be twice as long as our Canadian Pacific, and bring St. Petersburg within fifteen days of Vladivostock, on the Pacific ocean. The country which it is to traverse is well populated, and Russia will thus add enormously to her military strength in time of need. And we may be sure that she will dangle the pictures of wealth in Ophir and Ind before the wild hordes on the steppes of her Asiatic possessions, and when the light comes, Asiatics may do the biggest part of it in all the corners of the ring.

TEN years ago the United States had pretty much of a monopoly of the foreign wheat sup-

plied to England. Now Russia, South America, Australia, India and Canada are in the field. The result is that wheat is cheaper in England to-day than it has been for years, and it is all owing to competition.

THE report of the Utah Commission shows that the number of Mormons in the Territory is 132,000, and that there are some 30,000 more in the adjacent territories. There are over 60,000 non-Mormons in Utah, as its whole population is 200,000.

REV. FATHER LACASSE, who has just returned from his mission amongst the Indians, has made a special study of the matter of winter navigation; and when asked what he thought of the new scheme to establish a regular steamship line between Bay St. George and Liverpool, said: "I think that it would be very advantageous to everybody to have a line of that kind."

"Would it be much superior to the present route?"

"Certainly it would. The shortest way now is by the Straits of Belle Isle, but that is usually clogged up with ice nine months in the year. The new route would be by railroad to Tadousac, from there to Bay St. George would only take two days, and then straight to Liverpool, a voyage of three days and a half on the Atlantic. The Gulf of St. Lawrence can always be navigated, for the ice usually keeps on the south shore."

SPACE will not allow us to enter more fully into the news of the closing year. Events of which no one has yet heard, may prove more fruitful in human history than any of those we have noted. What Roman, or Greek, or even Jewish chronicler in the year One would have sought for the great event of that year in the village of Bethlehem? Yet we now see that of all the great events in the long reign of Augustus, not one can be for a moment compared to the birth and the life of the Babe, JESUS, of Bethlehem!

OUR OWN CHURCH AND COUNTRY.

NOVA SCOTIA.



ICTOU.—The visit of Rev. D. M. Gordon, B. D., from Winnipeg to his native city, will be happily remembered by many who have been glad to see and hear him. He is to be inducted into St. Andrew's Church, Halifax, on the 27th inst., and we all wish him abundant success and rich blessings.