

VI.—PROGRESS OF MISSIONS: MONTHLY BULLETIN.

Africa.—A formidable religious movement against the Sultan of Morocco has broken out. The Sheikh Shereef, belonging to the powerful fanatical tribe of Eldrissi, has raised the standard of insurrection, and proclaimed himself appointed by Allah to the throne of the Sultanate.

—The Country of the Oil Rivers comprises a large part of the Niger Delta, south of the territory of the Royal Niger Company. It extends from the principal mouth of the Niger (known also as the Nun), east to the German boundary of the German Cameroons. It has a dense population. This is also under "British influence," with a capital of \$10,000,000, and the power to increase this to \$25,000,000. The interest is largely in manufacturing. It is a kind of pooling or trust of 25 or 30 English manufacturing corporations; many of them have factories in the territory. They have applied to the English Government for a charter similar to that of the Logos Company and the Royal Niger Company. Their trade with the natives is already enormous, being last year \$9,000,000, and their exports \$5,000,000. In this, and the territory of the Royal Niger Company, the resources of the country increase as we pass into the interior.

—Four thousand reading tablets in Uganda were shipped from London in May. They were printed under the control of Missionary Ashe, and contain, besides the Uganda alphabet and a few exercises in reading, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and a concise "Way of Salvation."

—Efforts are making by the Congo Free State to introduce copper and silver money; but, except at Banani and Boma, where the natives see many whites, it is almost impossible to get them to touch the new money. In the cataract region the natives will take the coins in trade if they may give their own standard of value. The amount of provisions, for instance, which they sell for a dollar's worth of blue beads, they will not part with for less than \$2.50 each. This has settled the currency question thus far, and strings of blue beads continue to be the only acceptable medium of exchange.

Chinese.—The first Chinese corporation of New York city is the Chinese Charitable and Benevolent Association of the City of New York, whose certificate has been filed and recorded by the Secretary of State. The objects set forth are to ameliorate the condition of the Chinese poor in New York city. The trustees for the first year are Leung Jum, No. 8 Mott Street; Mon Lee, No. 5½ Mott Street; Wong He Chong, No. 19 Bowery; Tom L. Lee, No. 4 Mott Street, and William A. Hang, No. 13 Pell Street. The signatures of

these men are written in English and are well executed.

—In Denver, Col., a Chinese mission school has been carried on for some years, and as the fruit of their labors, they have on the church roll of the Central Church the names of 25 Chinese converts.

—Rev. Dr. S. L. Baldwin, formerly a missionary in China, gives in *The Independent* instances of the disgraceful absurdities occasioned by our iniquitous anti-Chinese legislation. For example, a Chinese merchant, who was in San Francisco before the passage of the Exclusion Act, is taken ill and must die. His wife and children are summoned to come to him from British Columbia. They reach San Francisco, but it requires a telegram from the Custom House authorities to Washington and a special session of the President and his Cabinet in order to make it possible for the family of the dying man to go to his bedside "under a guard from the Custom House" and remain in this "glorious land of freedom" only till after the funeral.

France.—In Paris, a few months ago, there was formed a "national league against atheism." Every member of the league must engage to oppose with tongue and pen, and by every legitimate means, all forms of atheism. The league is open to any person of either sex, of any religion, and of any philosophical opinion who affirms the existence of God.

Japan.—The old edict was, "So long as the sun shall shine upon the earth, let no Christian be so bold as to come to Japan, and let all know that the King of Spain himself, or the Christian's God, or the great God of all, if he violates this commandment, shall pay for it with his head." Thus it is taught in Japan, after the delay of 200 years, "that man only proposes, and the Christian's God disposes."

Jews.—Dr. Edward Bendeman, the director of the Dusseldorf Academy of Art, from whose brush proceeded the celebrated pictures—"Boaz and Ruth," "The Jews before Babylon," "Jeremiah upon the Ruins of Jerusalem"—lately died as a Christian Jew.

—There seems to be a decline of orthodoxy among the Jews in this country. Those in favor of changing their forms of religious worship to correspond more nearly with the altered condition of Jews under the liberal American laws are rapidly increasing in number and influence. A prominent rabbi refers to the movement in several cities to build houses of worship on a grander scale than has ever heretofore been attempted. In New York, a synagogue is soon to be erected by the Temple Beth-el, at Fifth avenue and 7th street, which will cost more than \$500,000, and