

footing. The next 14 years should, with such a wonderful foundation, manifest most remarkable gains in this island, and its complete domination by Christ may be expected in the near future. God has his own way of working; but whether it be by slow or by speedy processes, let us not despair of his final conquest of the world, nor, relax our efforts to circle the earth with His Gospel.

Italy.—The Evangelical Church of Italy, formerly called the Free Italian Church, is doing a noble work for Christ in that land. Its report for 1889 shows that it has many encouragements attending its work. The churches number 31, with 55 stations. There are 2,305 communicants, and 1,374 school children. Evangelist Spigno, of Genoa, one of its agents, makes the following cheering statement: "The time is not mature for a profound and general revival among the Catholics, but it is certainly coming through the power of Christ. With pleasure, too, I observe that the skeptical spirit, once so dominant, is gradually dying away, so that the Gospel is no longer the object of scorn. In regard to Catholicism, it is morally demolished.

India.—At a recent meeting in connection with the C. M. S. in Salisbury square, a letter was read from Rev. H. J. Hoare, of Peshawur, Punjab. He speaks of it as a city of seventy or eighty thousand inhabitants. The Afghans in it call themselves Bani-Israel—sons of Israel. They have a decidedly Hebraic cast of feature. They are great enemies of idolatry and bigoted Mohammedans. The Gospel can be freely preached; a handsome church is built; and English-speaking natives attend a literary institute. Before this wide door which is opened, the paucity of missionaries is the pressing distress. "Fields white unto harvest" is the summons proceeding from every quarter.

—Two Bengalee ladies, after a five-years' course of study, received the degree of M.B. (Bachelor of Medicine), at the Calcutta University. They are both Christians. One has received an appointment under the Countess of Dufferin fund, and the other will open private practice in Calcutta.

—The baptism of Baboo Poresh Nath Sarkar, an interesting young Hindu, by Mr. Hector, principal of the Free Church College at Calcutta, which took place on a recent Sunday at Mahanad, has excited no little interest. His relatives tried to prevent the baptism by detaining him in Calcutta, but he escaped from their toils, and reached the appointed place in time to meet Mr. Hector. He has had to leave his wife and three children, who have been taken possession of by his father, a bigoted Hindu. This persecuted disciple took his B.A. degree in 1884, and has been head master in a Christian school in Mahanad since 1887.

Japan.—Murder of Mr. Large. Dr. Thwing, our correspondent, who has just returned from Tokyo, and who spent some time among the associates of the recently-murdered missionary, writes us that it was clearly a case of revenge, and not of cupidity. The reply to the question, "What is it?" which met the two assassins as they entered the chamber, was "Business," the euphemistic word for revenge. Mr. Large had not an enemy, but he and his wife were regarded as one in this savage, retaliatory action. There is a widespread feeling of unrest and of repugnance against the revolutionizing influence of Western ideas, both in education, religion and politics.

—It is a noteworthy circumstance that the first Japanese Parliament, elected on the first of last July, contains ten Christians, or one in thirty of the whole number of members. These Christians were elected in the face of much opposition to them on account of their religion.

—It is reported that there are 3,000 Japanese in this country, of whom 2,000 have been baptized by missionaries in their own land, or since they came to the United States.

New Hebrides.—We have another striking instance of the fact that the gifts of converts from heathenism for the work of the Lord, put to shame the contributions of Christians in better circumstances. The converts on Anietyum, one of the New Hebrides Islands, volunteered the price of this season's crop of coconuts for the purpose of roofing two churches with corrugated iron. The copra, which is the dried fruit of the coconut, is the chief source from which these islanders obtain their foreign goods, such as clothing, ironware, tea, sugar, rice, etc. These Christians agreed to use for this purpose all their copra for six months, so dispensing with the comforts, not to say the necessities of life. In this way they gave twenty-six tons of copra, valued at \$574. While engaged in this work of self-denial one of the churches was destroyed by a hurricane, and so the people proposed, in addition to what they had already done, to devote the proceeds of the annual arrowroot contribution toward this object. Giving like this, were it practised among Christians generally, would make the Lord's treasury overflow.

New Zealand.—The last census in New Zealand reveals the interesting fact of a profession of religion on the part of no less than 95 per cent. of the whole population.

Palestine.—Bishop Blythe, of Jerusalem, says there are now in Palestine double the number of Jews that returned from the Babylonish captivity, and that the "latter rains" which had been withheld since the times of the exile, had been granted again during the last two years.

—Colonization.—At a meeting of about