

deavor and long waiting, *permission* was received from the powers that be to open and dedicate the Protestant Church in Madrid ; since then, and without any reason given, the chief of police, acting under orders, has closed the main door.

—The Papal Society for the Propagation of the Faith, whose constituency is the Papal Church in all lands, in making report for 1892, gives the total of missionary collections as only \$1,329,543. Of this sum only about \$45,000 came from the pockets of Catholics in the United States. Missions in Africa received \$273,917 ; in Oceanica, \$126,448 ; in North and South America, \$90,631 ; in Asia, \$66,940, etc.

ASIA.

Islam.—Speaking of the value of hospitals in the Turkish Empire, a missionary writes, in *Life and Light* : “ The patients are from all parts of the country around, and of every nationality—Turk, Armenian, Kurd, Jew, Arab, and Greek ; some are from the better classes, but as a rule they are working people and often very poor. Many come from distant villages in the north or east, and from large cities also ; the poor people will sell everything they have, sometimes, in order to make the journey and be treated. One excellent thing in the hospital is this : that men of different nationalities and religions are received on exactly the same footing ; all are treated alike, and, rich or poor, all have to obey the same regulations. Turks become accustomed to eating and sleeping with Christians and Jews, and all learn to help one another and to sympathize with one another in a very friendly way. There is no democracy like that of trouble and suffering.”

—S. M. Zwemer, of the Arabian Mission, whose seat is at Bahrein, on the lower Euphrates, writes in January of a twelve days' tour to Hassa and Kateef, lying to the west, and of the outlook at Muscat, which to a considerable extent is under British influence. Thus far

the missionaries have not been seriously molested, and the sales of Bibles have been surprisingly large.

India.—When the census of 1881 was taken the Brahmins numbered 13,730,000. This exalted caste is divided, according to Sherring, into no less than 1886 classes or tribes.

—In addition to British India proper, there are native States to the number of 693 great and small. Under certain restrictions all these are ruled by Hindu or Mohammedan princes.

—The *Canadian Baptist* has a letter from L. D. Morse, of Bimlipatam, entitled “ Sights and Sounds in India,” and describing the thronging of thousands of Hindus at certain sacred seasons to the Bay of Bengal, in that vicinity, to plunge into the brine, that their many sins may be washed away. A Brahmin with a brass bowl is a necessary part of the proceeding, and after water has been poured by him on the head of the “ penitent,” with the jugglery of magic words to exorcise the demon of transgression and guilt, it is needful to deposit in his hands certain coins, the larger the more effectual the washing.

—The American Baptists believe in adding instruction to evangelization, and so have founded various institutions for higher education in the foreign field. Thus Insein, Burmah, has its theological seminary, and Rangoon its college. There is another college at Ongole, India, where we may be certain the Gospel will not be kept in the background, and a theological seminary at Ramapatam. In the institution first named Karens and Burmans are taught together, while four natives have positions in the faculty.

—A letter from Rev. E. S. Oakley, of the Mission to Lepers at Almora, tells of the baptism of 16 of these unfortunates, 12 of whom were men, and 1 at the age of eighty-three. In former years he had been a devoted Hindu, and had made pilgrimages to many sacred places.