

ALEPPO—INTERESTING MOVEMENT AMONG THE JEWS.—The Rev. R. G. Brown, in a letter dated 5th September, writes that two hundred Jews have reached the conviction that the Talmud is not of God, and that its burden of commandments and prohibitions is too heavy to be borne. They are ready to declare themselves and form a distinct community, as soon as they can be secured from persecution by the Chief Rabbi. This, it is hoped, may be obtained by Mr. Skene, the British Consul.

MISSIONS TO THE COPTS, &c.

For some years past American missionaries have been labouring in the cause of the Gospel at Cairo, Alexandria, and other places in Egypt, and now their labours begin to be crowned with a rich reward. We learn from a communication in the *News of the Churches*, that in Cairo the mission school is attended by about 200, and that in Alexandria by about 150 scholars. There are fifteen native agents employed. One of the missionaries lately visited the Copts in Upper Egypt. He disposed of 8,000 New Testaments, and could have circulated twice the number. Several priests manifested the greatest desire to know more perfectly the truths which they might teach to their flocks.

In Abyssinia also, the Gospel is extending its influence. Flad, a zealous missionary has been labouring there with encouraging tokens of success. He represents the population as dead morally and spiritually. Still in some cases the seed of the truth has germinated. He mentions particularly Debetra Saneb, the royal chancellor, and his brother Debetra Maskel. These two pious men hold two prayer meetings weekly, which are numerously attended. The attention of the missionaries has been mainly directed to the Jews; 'en of them have declared their faith in Jesus of Nazareth.

MADAGASCAR—INTERESTING INTELLIGENCE.

The intelligence from Madagascar is still interesting and encouraging. When it is considered that, for upwards of a quarter of a century, persecution of the most determined and cruel kind prevailed, it cannot but be matter of thankfulness and even of surprise, that Christianity is so firmly rooted in Madagascar as it is. Indeed during the season of persecution, when every missionary was driven away, the number of Christians greatly increased. The number of two hundred believers with which the reign of the late cruel Queen commenced, having increased ten-fold before her death. During her reign upwards of one hundred believers sealed their testimony with their blood. The following is an extract from an appeal by the Rev. Mr. Ellis, with special reference to the erection of places of worship:

“THE MOST PRESSING WANT AT THE PRESENT MOMENT IS PLACES OF PUBLIC WORSHIP.—*Eight hundred, a thousand, or fifteen hundred natives meet every Lord's-day in different parts of the city. And believing that the Christians of Madagascar would ever cherish the memory of those who from among them had joined “the noble army of martyrs,” I sent to the King, in January last, to ask him to reserve the places on which, during the last twenty-six years, the martyrs had suffered, as sites for MEMORIAL CHURCHES—buildings which should not only be consecrated to the worship and service of that blessed God and Saviour for the love of whom they had died, but which should serve also to perpetuate through future times the memory of their constancy and faith. The proposal pleased the King and the nobles, and greatly encouraged the Christians. Orders were immediately given that the pieces of land should be reserved for that special purpose; and His Majesty has, since my arrival, assured me that the ground shall be used for no other purpose, and shall be given to us whenever we require. The Bishop of Mauritius accompanied me to these spots while he was here, and was forcibly struck with their remarkable appropriateness to the purpose for which it is proposed they should be occupied,*