

We may add that one of the Missionaries associated with Dr. Turner in the work above referred to, is Rev. Henry Nisbet, brother of Rev. J. Nisbet, of the Saskatchewan Mission. He is spending the winter with his father and sister at Oakville.

General Religious Intelligence.

SPAIN—ITS RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL CONDITION.

As the attention of the community has been drawn very powerfully to Spain since the tidings have reached us of the revolution which has been effected so quickly and so thoroughly, a few facts in connection with its past and present condition may not be uninteresting. As to the past, many of our readers, who have read the volumes of McCrie, are, no doubt, aware that in the 16th century the Reformation was introduced into Spain, and was as gladly welcomed as in any other country. It appeared at the time as if it were to take firm root in that sunny land. Some persons high in rank professed attachment to the Reformed Faith soon after the appearance of Luther, among whom was the Secretary of the Emperor Charles V. Many Protestant books were printed at Antwerp at the expense of the Spanish merchants, and were brought to Spain to be circulated among the people. The Scriptures were translated into the language of the country, and Protestant churches were formed in a number of the leading cities. But the power and cruelties of the Inquisition were called into active requisition for the suppression of the truth; and so energetically were the fires of persecution fanned, that even before the end of the century the Reformation was suppressed, the few surviving followers of a pure faith being compelled to seek refuge in foreign countries. For much more than two hundred years Popery has reigned in Spain with an iron hand, and only occasional attempts have been made, not altogether without success, to introduce the word of God among the inhabitants of the Peninsula.

Its religious and educational condition has been deplorable in the extreme. No doubt, it has had churches and convents, priests, monks, and nuns enough. It contains 800 convents with 15,000 nuns, 55 bishops, 2,500 canons, about 1,800 "regular priests," 24,000 vicars, &c. What have all these done for the education and devotion of the people? The *London Christian Times* gives the following details, compiled from authentic documents:—

"In the province of Iden there is a town of the same name, containing 36,000 souls; of these more than 30,000 are unable to read, and as ignorance and crime go hand in hand, there are every year in this town between three and four hundred murders, without reckoning robberies with violence, which are proportionally numerous. We could also add a hundred towns where the mayor and magistrates do not know how to read or write. When the last census was taken, ten years ago, the population of Spain was 15,613,536. Out of this number we find no fewer than 12,843,169 could neither read nor write. What a burning disgrace to the Popish priesthood who control the education of the nation! Spain possesses ten universities. The students are thus distributed:—Madrid, 5,194; Barcelona, 1,365; Seville, 887; Valladolid, 828; Grenada, 617; Valencia,