

teresting station is Siut, or Osiut, in Upper Egypt, where there is a promising state of inquiry and many intelligent converts. They have 200 communicants, 14 schools, 600 scholars, and 22 theological students. The German Pilgrim Mission has been transferred to the United Presbyterians. It was planned to plant 12 missions along the Nile, named after the 12 Apostles.

The English Church Missionary Society had labourers in Abyssinia, under the charge of Bishop Gobat, from 1829 to 1838; when they were expelled, through Roman Catholic influence with the king. The Pilgrim Mission, which was started in 1854, was broken up by King Theodore; and the Swedish missionaries have been driven away within a few months. We are not aware that any Protestant missionaries are now at work in this country, although the Pilgrim stations of Khartum and Matamma are near the northern border. Dr. Krapf, superintendent of the Pilgrim Mission, has offered to transfer its Abyssinian stations to the United Presbyterians, and we trust they will feel able to assume them. The Catholics entered Abyssinia in the 16th century, and soon gained such power that from 1626 to 1632 theirs was the State religion. Their power was greatly political, and a change of dynasty destroyed it. Now they claim 8000 adherents and 14 native priests under 5 French missionaries.

From Abyssinia we pass down the coast over 2000 miles, leaving Madagascar on the left, to South Africa, before we meet any further missions of consequence. The Portuguese have a Catholic population of some 20,000 in Mozambique, and the Oxford and the Church Missionary Societies of England have feeble stations, of which we hear next to nothing.

Madagascar is an island about 100 miles long, and averaging over 200 in width. It is a little larger than France, and a little smaller than the territory comprised by the New England States, New York and Ohio, and has a population of nearly 5,000,000. Since the conversion of the queen, the province of Imerina, in which the capital, Antananarivo, is situated, has in a mass accepted Christianity, and missions are rapidly extending, especially in the Betsileo territory, to the south. Last year the adherents increased from 36,000 to 135,000. An active missionary spirit seems to animate the people. Still nine-tenths of the island are heathen, and have never been visited by the missionaries. The Church Missionary Society is labouring on the coast, and the Quakers in the interior, in cordial co-operation with the London Society. The Norwegian Missionary Society has recently sent Bishop Schrenker, with seven missionaries, who have been assigned places of labour in harmony with the previous

labourers. The English Propagation Society has a small mission at Tamatave, on the eastern coast, and its efforts to secure a bishop and its ritualism have gained the hearty ill-will of the other missionaries. It is to be hoped that ere long Madagascar will be an active centre for missions to the neighbouring coast of Africa. The Roman Catholics have a few missionaries in the island, but have hitherto had but slight success.

Turning to the missions of South Africa, we are embarrassed by the richness of detail, so far as the number of societies labouring in this field and the multitude of their stations is concerned. A number of circumstances have combined to concentrate religious labour in the territory. It is mainly south of the line of the tropics, blessed with a fertile territory, has long been under the control of either the Dutch or the English Government, and has attracted an immense number of settlers from Europe, so that a Christian colony has ever been absorbing more and more of the European population, or of the sway of the Colonial Government. The whole territory for a thousand miles north of the Cape of Good Hope is either Protestant, or is everywhere dotted with the missions of about twenty Protestant societies. The advance is very marked since Dr. Livingstone started on his first journey. Places and tribes which he visited as an explorer are now familiar names in missionary periodicals. The number of converts we cannot give. The London Society reported over a year ago 5866 Church members, 31,197 adherents, and 2800 scholars—all among the natives. The Wesleyans reported 11,500 in full membership, and 2400 probationers. The American Board of Foreign Missions is the only society in the United States that has occupied this field, and its mission to the Zulus near the coast is a successful one, with 500 members.

United Presbyterian Church (of America)

From the Eleventh Annual Report of the Board of Foreign Missions of this Church, we gather the following interesting information:—

The whole number of missions under care of our Church, and regularly receiving contributions from it, is 5; viz.: India, Syria, Egypt, China, and Italy; stations, 20; namely, in India, 3; Syria, 6; Egypt, 10; China, 1. Missionaries and assistants in active service, males, 15; females, 14; natives, 61; total, 90. Churches, 12, with 281 communicants; namely, in Syria, 41; in India, 60; in Egypt, 180. Schools, 19, with 1648 scholars; namely, in Syria, 274; in India, 741; in Egypt, 633. Contributions, \$606; namely, India, \$40; Egypt,