

eign field. This was the Rev. William Anderson of Old Calabar. He is returning to Africa to devote his remaining life to the furtherance of a work which has happily been most encouraging and successful in his hands. We congratulate the United Presbyterian Church in having such a veteran to represent it.—*Free Church Monthly*.

—Queen Victoria honored herself and her realm when she received the Christian King Khama and the other African chiefs in Windsor Palace. And it was a righteous act when assurances were given that the Government would see to it that no chartered company was suffered to force upon his people any of the vices of civilized countries.

—George Müller, of Bristol, recently celebrated his ninetieth birthday. His orphan houses, known all the world over, have been wholly supported by "prayer and faith" during the sixty-one years of their existence. He has received for them altogether the sum of \$6,866,743, and has provided for the maintenance and instruction of 120,763 children. It is also said that he has been the direct and indirect means of distributing more copies of the Bible than any other individual.

The Continent.—The Basle Missionary Society closed its last financial year with a balance in the treasury of more than 64,000 francs. The receipts surpassed those of the previous year by 60,326 francs, and this increase is due simply to the consent of the contributors to the "missionary penny collection" to increase their annual offering by 40 cents.

—The Moravian Church is endeavoring to accumulate £15,000 for a medical missionary training fund, but so far only £1500 have been received.

—Italy expends every year \$96,000,000 for her soldiers, and less than \$4,000,000 for her schools. In Spain it costs \$100,000,000 to maintain the army, and only \$1,500,000 to educate the chil-

dren, and it is the exception to find a Spanish farmer who is able to read or write. Germany boasts of being in the foremost rank among the nations in the *kulturkampf* of the world, yet she expends \$185,000,000 on her army, while \$10,000,000 is deemed sufficient for education. France maintains an army at an expense of \$151,000,000, and supports her schools with \$21,000,000. The United States expends \$1.5,000,000 for public schools, while the army and navy cost only \$54,000,000.

ASIA.

Islam.—The fleets of European powers now gathered in the Levant are formidable enough to compel the assent of the Porte to any terms which these powers can unite upon. England has 28 vessels in Turkish waters, 10 of them first-class battleships. France has 19, Russia 13, Italy 6, while Germany, Austria, and Greece have enough within easy reach of the Dardanelles to swell the number to 80 or more.

—At no time nor in any age has human life been safe from a violent death in a Mohammedan land, writes Dr. William H. Thomson, in *Harper's Magazine*. The sword renders every country where Islam rules alone a constantly increasing scene of desolation. No roads are ever kept up in a Mohammedan region. No man ever went from one Mohammedan city to another unless he carried arms or joined a cavalcade. It is not safe to travel alone for a mile's space in the Moslem world beyond the reach of some Christian occupying power. No traveler can tread the soil of Mecca or visit the ruins of Yemen but at the peril of his life. Wherever Islam reigns unchecked, whether in Arabia, Afghanistan, or Morocco, this uniform but natural outcome of the religion founded by a highwayman is the fruit by which this tree is to be judged. To a sincere Moslem no Christian has a right to live unless he has paid the *khara*j, or escape-money, of Koran law from decapitation.