

"The Roman Catholic church has in our country 154 hospitals, with 30,000 inmates; 320 asylums, with 40,000 inmates; it cares for 20,000 orphans; it has 124 Jesuit and other colleges and institutions of high grade, with 19,000 students; it has 377,000 students of all classes under its instruction, and its church buildings and other edifices number about *4,000, with a church seating capacity of 3,000,000.

It claims as members and adherents 7,000,000 of our population, and it has property valued at \$70,000,000."

E PLURIBUS UNUM.

The problems that have been presented to the churches in this century and especially in recent decades have been the problems of a vast increase of population, of heterogeneous masses, of the distribution of multitudes over wide areas, the accession and settlement of new territories, the building of many great cities, the "quartering" of the poor and of one foreign nationality in city districts, the organization of vice and crime, repeated financial stringency, civil war, mobs, pauperism, etc. Some of these problems are old, many of them are new and more formidable than ever in the past. The problems have been civil, social, industrial, physical, moral and religious. The all-comprehensive problem has been to amalgamate the heterogeneous multitudes into one people whose God is Jehovah. Let us note the leading problems of

Population and Immigration.

The total immigration from 1790 to June 30, 1887, has been 14,177,747. From 1820 to 1885, 28.90 per cent. came from Germany, and 18.63

*One statistician allows 6,211 edifices.

per cent. from Ireland. "Three-fifths of the European immigrants have come from Roman Catholic and many from infidel or rationalistic and communistic stock." An historian says: "Colonizing races, nascent languages, and periods of agitation have been the favorites of Christianity." The existence in the United States of 112,714 evangelical church organizations, with 83,851 ministers and 37,379 local preachers, and 12,132,651 communicants, a three-fold gain of their communicants upon the total population is at least some evidence, that this is one of Christianity's "favorite" periods. One great test of the piety of the times is the willingness to give freely and as the Lord has prospered. Here also there has been progress. The aggregates are vast, although by no means equal to the ability of God's people. The American churches in the last 86 years have contributed \$167,959,921 to home and foreign missions, and are contributing \$7,000,000 annually to these objects. Dr. Dorchester, to whom more than to any other scholar the students of religious statistics in this country are indebted, and to whom the compiler of these facts acknowledges his indebtedness, said at the Washington meeting of the Evangelical Alliance: "Probably, since 1830, more money has been raised by the Protestant churches of Christendom for purely evangelizing purposes, aside from current church expenses and local charities, than was raised for the same object in all the previous eighteen centuries."

The proofs are sufficient that while there is the inexorable demand of God's law and providence upon all his people that they be prophets and come to his help against the mighty, there is little occasion for alarm and hopelessness.

Condensed Tabular View of Missions of the A. B. C. F. M. for the year 1886-87.

MISSIONS.	Stations.	Out-stations.			Native Helpers.	Of whom Preachers.	Churches.	Communicants.	Added 1886-87.	Colls., Seminaries and High Schools, Male or Female.	Pupils in Same.	Total under In-struction.
		Men.	Women.	Total.								
E. Central Africa.....	3	..	12	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	265
Zulu.....	7	17	10	18	28	12	55	16	969	129	4	1,612
W. Central Africa.....	3	..	6	5	11	..	..	1	14	14	..	35
European Turkey.....	4	25	12	16	28	35	19	8	553	68	3	100
Western Turkey.....	8	111	24	42	66	268	54	25	3,574	143	17	936
Central Turkey.....	2	40	10	17	27	136	130	33	3,740	249	10	417
Eastern Turkey.....	5	118	15	27	42	252	61	39	2,301	145	20	967
Marathi.....	7	101	13	13	26	245	29	27	1,776	114	4	592
Madura.....	12	235	13	16	29	422	170	36	3,053	205	11	612
Ceylon.....	7	16	5	8	13	365	32	14	1,343	127	5	574
Hong Kong.....	1	3	..	1	1	10	..	2	25	3	..	334
Foochow.....	3	18	7	11	18	44	14	15	556	34	2	62
North China.....	7	29	19	32	41	56	17	6	961	107	4	283
Shanso.....	1	5	4	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japan, North Japan.....	8	102	29	45	74	40	40	41	4,226	863	0	1,060
Micronesia.....	3	43	10	13	23	55	17	46	5,312	578	6	165
Western Mexico.....	12	6	..	3	5	..	..	..	91	218	2	42
Northern Mexico.....	3	..	4	5	9	4	..	..	77	30	..	88
Spain.....	1	10	1	1	3	29	..	3	567	43	1	117
Austria.....	1	16	1	1	1	6	3	3	181	27	..	29
No. Pacific Inst.....	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	15
Totals.....	89	891	190	271	461	2,037	518	325	28,042	2,906	98	5,911

*Of whom 23 are physicians.