

ment African ports, and saw landed on a single Sunday from two steamers, about 50,000 casks of gin. Think of one missionary and 50,000 casks of gin coming into Africa at once!"

—The natives of Swaziland, South Africa, have agreed upon a triumvirate to govern their country. It will consist of two British members and one resident of the Transvaal. The chiefs of Swaziland have also joined in a petition for the abolition of the liquor traffic in their country.

—Mr. Stanley has written a letter to Mr. Bruce, the son-in-law of Dr. Livingstone, describing the expulsion from his kingdom of Mwangi by a revolt of the combined native Christians and Mohammedans, and the subsequent conversion of Mwangi himself to Christianity. This Mwangi was the persecutor who murdered Bishop Hannington. Mr. Stanley says that the fact that the native Christians had grown strong enough to make a revolution in one of the most powerful of the African kingdoms, is one that if Livingstone could have known it would have filled his dying moments with content and love. The most deadly persecutions—the stake, the knife, and the bullet—had failed to shake the staunch fidelity of these African converts.

—After all our explorations and discoveries, the future of Africa seems very dark. Our trust must be that under the guidance of a divine Providence, there may soon come a league of our most powerful Christian and civilized nations, which, making the African slave trade more criminal than piracy, shall move promptly to its suppression at whatever cost. Such a league might conclude to begin its work by the construction and operation of transcontinental African railways, bisecting the slave trade regions of Africa, and so extinguishing the inhuman and infamous traffic.

Burma.—Sir Charles Bernard recently stated that the Christian Karens number 200,000, or fully one-third of the Karen people. About 500 congregations are practically self-supporting. They till the produce of their land for the support of their pastors. They also send missionaries to Siam, and furnish all their support.

China.—China has 82 medical missions, a majority of whom are from the United States and mission hospitals and dispensaries in several cities. A large part of the expenses of these hospitals is borne by the better classes of Chinese, who highly appreciate the work.

England. The Church of England has nearly 300,000 members in India.

\$1,334,491 is estimated as being the aggregate amount of the year's British contributions for foreign missions. This is \$125,000 more than the previous year's total.

India.—A few years ago Keshub Chunder Sen and his Brahmo Somaj, in India, attracted wide attention. The new religious movement was hailed as one full of promise.

Six or seven years ago, when Mr. Mozoomdar, the second minister of the "Church of the New Dispensation," was in this country, and published "The Oriental Christ," fresh hopes were raised as to what might be the grand issue of the movement. The Brahmo Somaj has since then suffered eclipse, and Mr. Mozoomdar now writes sadly of it, but he adds: "Christ is a tremendous reality. The destiny of India hangs upon the solution of his nature and function and our relation to him. Let us not hide in darkness, and rest contented with random streaks; but place ourselves in open light, and solve the problem, 'Who and what is Christ?'"

—The *Indian Witness* states that secret believers in Christ are rapidly multiplying. For every convert who openly avows his faith, there are hundreds who withhold such declarations for fear of their own households and caste circles. Thousands are being made ready for public avowal and loyal service when the break shall come.

Japan.—In the course of his journey around the world, with the design of arousing interest in Christianity among the colleges of the Orient, Secretary L. D. Wishard has reached Ceylon and India, where he is meeting with happy results. His nine months' stay in Japan afforded him opportunity to visit eighteen leading cities, and twenty-nine Government and eighteen Christian colleges and schools. He conducted over 200 meetings attended by thousands of students and business men. Over 140 students united with the church connected with the Doshisha School at Kyoto, and large accessions to other churches followed his labors elsewhere. He writes strongly of the need and demand for special work for young men in Japan, on a basis similar to that on which our Y. M. C. Associations rest in this country. In his interviews with more than 100 missionaries, he says that not one raised an objection to such an extension of missionary work.

Java.—Java is the most fertile, the most productive, and the most populous tropical island in the world. The Dutch have had possession of it many years, and have derived great revenues, especially from the coffee plantations, but have done little for the religious elevation of the people, who are Mohammedans.

Madagascar.—The missionaries of the London Society in Madagascar affirm that their hold upon the people is as strong as it ever was, while the French influence is much less than it was feared would be the case. Just now an event of much political importance is taking place. An attempt is being made to establish the authority of the Hovas over the Sakalavas, near Saint Augustine Bay. A strong military expedition has been sent for this purpose, and if it succeeds, that portion of Madagascar will be open to missionary effort; if it should fail, the central government will be seriously crippled.

J. M. S.