

## VI.—GENERAL MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

EDITED BY REV. D. L. LEONARD.

## Extracts and Translations from Foreign Periodicals.

BY REV. C. C. STARBUCK, ANDOVER, MASS.

—"The peoples who are able to maintain their national independence are proceeding to shape their civil institutions after the Christian pattern; the rest are accommodating themselves more and more to the suzerainty of Christian nations.

"The axe is already laid at the root of the trees; and although the immemorial, giant oak, planted by a Confucius or a Buddha, does not fall in a decade or two, very probably not in a single century, yet the first strokes have fallen, and the counter-mission, engendered by them, proves that men anticipate its fall. The Crescent also can hardly fail soon to strike its colors. An uneasy foreboding says as much to the Mohammedans themselves. If you could hear their private whisperings, you would find them everywhere lamenting: 'It is the century of the unbelievers, the Christians' century.' The coming century also shall be ours; at first, no doubt, sadly to their displeasure, yet afterward will they be thankful to us and give glory to God."—L. TIERNESMA, in *De Macedoniër*.

—"It is cheering to notice that the Grand Duke of Baden, son-in-law of the late Emperor William I., has taken a firm stand against the anti-Jewish attacks. He lately celebrated the fortieth anniversary of his accession to the throne. On that occasion he expressed his sympathy with the Jewish people, and conferred high decorations on several of their community—rabbis, university professors, magistrates. He singled out for a special distinction his trusted Finance Minister, Dr. Moritz Elstätt, who has held this important post for twenty-four years. The Gospel is making great strides among the

Jews in Germany. I have received news from Bavaria that a Dr. B. and all the members of his family have embraced Christianity; others are acquainting themselves with the teachings of Christ, and our venerable missionary, Mr. Jacobi, in Königsberg, writes about the great change which is coming over educated Jews. For instance, he has been recently invited to the conference of Jewish religious teachers of East Prussia, held in Königsberg. Among those who took part were nine school inspectors and twenty-five teachers. Rabbi Dr. Bamberger, of Königsberg, presided. Papers were read on different subjects by Rabbi Tonn, of Altenstein, Rabbi Sturmman, of Osterode, Rabbi Dr. Rülff, of Hemmel, Rabbi Scherbel, of Gumbinnen, Inspector Rev. Peritz, of Königsberg and others. 'I need not say that these proceedings had great interest for me,' writes our friend Mr. Jacobi, 'and the favorable opportunity was used to distribute German tracts.'"—*Jewish Intelligence*.

## AFRICA.

—"Among the West Coast tribes of Africa there are no written laws, custom and the voice of the elders alone regulating all their judiciary affairs. The administration of law is much more simple than in countries of a higher civilization, less troublesome, and, if anything, more effective. The conscientious student cannot live among these people any great number of years without increased respect for many of the institutions by which they govern themselves. Some of them, when described on paper from the standpoint of the visitor, who at best can know nothing of the inner life, appear extremely grotesque when read on the other side of the sea by people who only regard the negro as a cartoon on human nature. Many things that seem ridiculous from a distance be