

## FOREIGN CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

George Darsie, in the annual address emphasized the thought that what our people need first and foremost on the missionary question, is *light*. The dying words of Goethe, "More light, more light," express the need of the hour. Competent judges believe that the only thing necessary to interest the entire brotherhood in this cause is a knowledge of the facts. This statement has been prepared with this thought in mind. Its aim is first to set forth what has been done by the Society; and secondly, to outline the work of the present year.

I. What has been done since its organization in 1875. Eleven missions have been established under its auspices. These missions are located in England, France, Denmark, Turkey, India, Japan, and on the Isthmus of Panama. Since the Convention, Garabed Kevorkian, was sent to Tokat, in Asia Minor. He is a physician as well as a preacher. The total membership under its care is about 1,300. It has five chapels in England worth in all \$80,000. Its receipts from the first amount to \$97,000. Last year they were over \$25,000. Several of these missions will soon be self-supporting, and will become sources of revenue. The efforts put forth thus far have been signally blest. The results have far exceeded all expectations.

II. The work proposed for the present year. It is briefly as follows: 1. To send three evangelists to England. 2. To strengthen our present missions in France and Denmark. 3. To send a physician to India. 4. To build a home, costing about \$4,000, for our missionaries in India. 5. To establish one or two new missions. We may have to revise and enlarge our plans as we go on. Our policy from the first has been to follow the leadings of Providence.

To carry out these plans we will need a dozen missionaries. We will need besides \$60,000. We can afford to raise this sum, and at the same time give double as much as in any previous year for all home enterprises. The Disciples of Christ ought to pay \$0.10 a member, when the Methodists pay \$0.20, the Baptists \$0.40, the Presbyterians \$1.00, the Congregationalists \$1.20, and the Moravians \$5.19. It should be borne in mind that only one-fifth of the sum pledged at the Convention is payable this year. This is a very small part of the amount that will be needed.

There are now one hundred great societies in existence. They spend annually \$7,000,000. They have 2,000,000 converts under their care. They have translated the Bible into the language of four-fifths of the race, and yet it is the conviction of some of the wisest and best men living that the Christian world is only *playing* at missions. The American people pay more for dog tax than for the conversion of the heathen. They pay more for liquor weekly than for missions annually.

From our doctrinal position we ought to lead the world in missionary activity. We believe, as no other people, that faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. We believe that men can not believe in him of whom they have not heard; that they can not hear without a preacher. With us it is a cardinal maxim that in conversion the spirit operates through the truth. To be consistent we ought to surpass all others in zeal and liberality. We are not doing a tithe of what we are able to do. As a people we are not giving as the Lord has prospered us. Very many are doing nothing at all. May the day come speedily when our efforts will be commensurate with our numbers and resources. This cause needs the hearty support of every member of the brotherhood. May we not ask for yours?

(We will give the Constitution of this Society in our next.)

Articles from Bros. Murray and Emery have been crowded out, but will appear in our next issue.

## CURRENT EVENTS.

## DOMESTIC.

Among the many reports, during the past month, of disasters at sea, none were more sadly received by the people of St. John and Halifax, than the loss of the Princess Louise with eight of her crew. She was a new vessel, just launched at Maccan, and was being towed to Halifax to be rigged, by the Government steamer *Newfield*. When off Point Priu, Digby, during a terrible gale accompanied with a snow storm the steel hawser broke and the helpless ship was soon driven on a lee shore and was broken up on the immense rocks.

Sir Charles Tupper has resumed his duties as Minister of Railways and Canals. While passing through Montreal on Monday, Dec. 24, he was interviewed by a reporter, and gave most encouraging accounts of increased good feeling in the Old Country towards Canada.

Sunday (Dec. 23) was one of the coldest days that has been experienced in St. John for years. In the city it was  $19\frac{1}{2}$  below zero; at Mount Pleasant 22 below. According to the notes of our esteemed citizen, J. W. Lawrence, Cold Friday was on the 8th of Feb., 1861, the thermometer registering in the morning 20 below zero, and 10 below throughout the day with high wind.

## NEWFOUNDLAND.

St. Johns, Nfld., Dec. 26.—A formidable riot occurred at Harbor Grace this evening. The Orangemen of the city turned out in procession with regalia and flags. They were attacked by the opposite faction and three men were instantly killed and several mortally or severely wounded. The riot is not yet quelled. Detachments of infantry, cavalry and police are being dispatched by train and steamer to the scene of the disturbance.

A reliable agent at Harbor Grace wires (Dec. 28th) that the disturbances originated on Monday evening by threats of the Roman Catholics to obstruct the procession of Orangemen the following Wednesday. Considerable street brawling occurred on Monday, but nothing serious. Tuesday passed peacefully. On Wednesday the Orangemen met at their hall and proceeded in procession to the Westend Church. On their way back from service they were attacked by an armed mob with guns, hatchets, and pickets. The Orangemen halted, whereupon seven sealing guns, loaded with heavy shot, were discharged into their ranks. Four men fell to the ground and expired almost instantly. Eighteen were wounded—five fatally. The Orangemen fled and showed no fight. Two Roman Catholics were accidentally killed by their own party. The city is now quiet, but serious disturbances are expected at the obsequies of the dead Orangemen to-morrow. Thousands of men are arming all around Conception Bay. Six arrests have been made.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

The storm in England, Ireland and Scotland on December 11th, was very severe. Telegraph lines thrown down; huge trees torn up; great destruction of property and loss of life. In Liverpool cabs in the streets were overturned.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—O'Donnell, the murderer of Carey, was hung this morning as the neighboring clocks were striking eight.

EDINBURGH, Dec. 21.—The ten Glasgow dynamiters were found guilty of the charges brought against them. Five were sentenced to penal servitude for life, and five to seven years penal servitude.

Lord Lorne, in a speech delivered in Birmingham paid a high tribute to the Dominion of Canada. He said, among other things,—it was only necessary for Englishmen to know Canada, to feel for her that love, sympathy and friendship which, inherent in all true Britons, binds the Empire into one indivisible brotherhood. He expatiated upon the progress made by various towns, instancing Pictou, N. S., which, he said with its cheaper labor, will soon rival Glasgow, Belfast and London as an iron and shipbuilding port.

## FOREIGN.

A London despatch, dated Dec. 20, says: Steamer "St. Augustine," from Manila for Liverpool, was burned on Sunday last in the Bay of Biscay. The

passengers and crew, numbering eighty souls, took to the four boats belonging to the vessel, and succeeded in leaving the burning steamer without mishap. The fourth boat containing fourteen of the crew, fell in with a passing vessel, and its occupants were taken on board and landed at Dartmouth. The other three boats have not since been heard of.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 23.—The fire at Galata broke out in a German-Israelite school house. The flames spread with such rapidity as to prevent the majority of the children from escaping. Many were thrown or leaped from the upper windows into the blankets held in the street below. Many were in this way injured. Nineteen charred bodies have so far been recovered. Thirty persons altogether are missing. The directress of the school, seized with fright, threw herself from a window and was killed on the spot.

CAIRO, Dec. 27.—A female slave, who was captured by El Madhi after the slaying of the Kababish chief, her master, and who recently escaped from El Obeid, reports that El Madhi is in great fear and has sent his family to a place of safety, and that the neighboring tribes have refused to help him.

An emissary of El Madhi has been arrested at Minieh, which is about 40 miles above Cairo. He declared that it was his intention to proceed to Cairo and Macca,

Dec. 21.—Admiral Poyrou has received the following:—

SONTAY, Dec. 18.—Sontay is ours. The outer enceinte was carried by assault on Sunday at 6 o'clock in the evening. The attack began at 11 o'clock in the morning. An assault was made at 5 o'clock in the evening by the foreign legion, together with the marines, infantry and sailors. The flotilla assisted in the bombardment of the place. The citadel was evacuated, during the night, by its defenders, and was occupied on the morning of the 17th without fighting. We do not yet know whether the Black Flags will rebel. The Annamites and Chinese have fled. It is impossible to learn their losses. We lost about 15 killed, including one officer, and 60 wounded, including five officers.

## UNITED STATES.

Eight persons were killed by the snow-slide at Mendota mine, Col., on the 24th ult.

At Silverton, Col., a terrific wind storm set in on the 19th ult., and raged furiously for six days, proving the most disastrous to life ever known. Of the five persons who were seriously injured at Virginus mine on Friday, three have since died, making a total of nine persons who lost their lives by this accident.

Yesterday a miner was buried in a snow slide at the head of Clement Creek.

Yesterday two men were caught in a snow slide near Ironton; when extracted they were frozen from the waist down, the flesh opening in seams; they cannot recover.

Three thousand employees of the National Tube Works Co., of McKeesport, Pa., have decided to accept a reduction in wages of from  $12\frac{1}{2}$  to 25 per cent. after January 1st.

The officials of the Local Miners' Organization deny the report of an intended strike of 20,000 miners in Westmorland, Blair, Clearfield, Bedford, and Huntingdon Counties. They say that there are not that many miners in the district and that they are too poor to stand a strike.

The Mormon Church is not only rapidly growing in Utah, but in Arizona and Idaho, while missionaries are at work all over Europe and the United States. The Church contains the President, 12 apostles, 15 patriarchs, 3,885 sentinels, 3,153 high priests, 11,000 choirs, 1,500 bishops and 4,400 deacons.

The National Republican Convention for 1884, for the nomination of a Presidential candidate will meet in Chicago on the 3rd of June next. It was in that city that Abraham Lincoln was nominated in 1860, and renominated in 1864; also General Garfield in 1880. In reference to this last nomination, in view of the scenes following, some painful reminiscences will doubtless be recalled.

The toast to the Queen at the New York Chamber of Commerce Dinner on Evacuation Day was as follows:—"The Queen of Great Britain! The many virtues of her life have won the hearts of the English-speaking race, her reign will mark an epoch in history more memorable than that of England's Virgin Queen or that of the illustrious Isabella of Spain, who pledged her jewels to furnish the means by which Columbus gave this continent to the world!" The toast was drunk standing amid cheers.