

EDUCATION IN SOUTH AFRICA.

"In October, 1841, it is just forty years since I landed on these shores. Africa was then a wilderness indeed; it is now becoming like the garden of the Lord. In those days the whole Hottentot nation was in perfect ignorance; and the late Dr. Vander Kemp and myself were considered worse than dupes to believe that we ever could teach them either to read or write. However, we commenced, but under great opposition and discouragement; nevertheless we soon showed the world that the Hottentots were not barbarous, as it was said, but as capable of improvement as any other people. Many very soon learned both to read and write. The first people did not mind much; but the writing part gave great alarm to the Dutch colonists, and their clamour influenced the Dutch Governor General Janissen to issue a proclamation forbidding any missionary whatever to teach the Hottentots to write. The proclamation, however, was too late, as the children were quite capable of teaching each other. This was shown him by a letter a little Hottentot girl wrote him, in the name of others, to express their regret at the proclamation being issued, and requesting that it might be rescinded. Soon after this the colony was recaptured, in 1806, by our troops, and we were permitted to instruct the Hottentots as we chose. From that time education gradually advanced among the Hottentots, at our different stations, which were established one after another both within and beyond the colony. Griquas, Namaquas, and Bechuanas, shared in the blessings besides the Hottentots. Perhaps, however, it is not too much to say here, that at no place has the progress been equal to that in this settlement: we were placed in favourable circumstances, and we availed ourselves of them. My eldest son was raised up in Providence to take the lead, and hitherto the Lord has blessed him abundantly: he, in the first place, commenced a kind of Normal School; and as he found the youths at all qualified, we made them school-masters and mistresses: thus we have been enlarging our sphere in the settlement till we have now twenty-two schools, seven of which are infant schools, all superintended by my son, and the whole conducted by native school-masters, Hottentot youths. The children are taught in the English language, the Dutch they get of themselves; they are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, grammar, some history, and some the use of the globes. We have from 100 to 1,000 children daily in the schools. We have some Thingo, Montatee, and Caffre children, and some of the late apprentices, but the most are Hottentot children. Of Hottentot children we suppose 99 out of each 100 are in school daily. Religious instruction is from the Bible, very much of which they commit to memory.

"Besides the Schools in this settlement, we have three stations beyond the colony, two for

Tambookies, and one for Boor Bushmen, and three Schools; we have been applied to by several other chiefs for teachers and school-masters; also by several missionaries, and even Dutch farmers have requested to have from this Hottentot School masters, and if possible we shall try to supply them. This would be a new thing in the history of this country. The Tambookie nation, other tribes to the eastward, have late opened to us; and there will be a great call for native agency, and we only want means to prepare such for the work; we have now plenty of pious youths that could be brought forward.—*J. Reud.*

THE JEWS.—The Rev. T. S. Grimshaw, known to American Christians as the biographer of Leigh Richmond and Cowper, has lately returned from a visit to the East. At a meeting held at Shrewsbury, England, in behalf of the Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews, he said he found in Greece, Turkey and Syria, an extraordinary spirit of inquiry among the Jews. There seemed to be a general impression that the period was at hand when the Jews, as a nation, would return to their own country; that the prophecies mentioned by Daniel and the other prophets were being fulfilled; and that the finger of God was pointed toward Jerusalem, and bidding the Jews to march forward. There was an universality in it that seemed to be of God; he found it prevailing in those two cities, and throughout the whole of the Levant. It existed along the banks of the Danube, and he heard of it as generally diffused among the Jews of Poland. In Egypt also he found a similar impression, and he learned from travellers that it prevailed through Abyssinia; and he discovered that it was also prevalent in Palestine. He had no hesitation in stating that the restoration of the Jews is firmly and universally believed by the Jews themselves, more especially in the East, and presumed to be drawing nigh. A Jew, at Constantinople, told him that all they wanted was freedom of inquiry. "Go, sir," said he, weeping, and moistening his (Mr. Grimshaw's) hands with his tears, "to your own land, go to the land of civil and religious liberty, and intercede for the poor Jews, and obtain for them a participation in those privileges by which you yourselves are so greatly distinguished, and know that there are hundreds of us already secretly convinced of the truth of Christianity, who are prepared openly to embrace it. "Did I say hundreds," he added, "I would rather say there are thousands, who are inwardly convinced that Jesus is the promised Messiah."

FITLY SPOKEN.—It is not the word spoken, but the word *fitly* spoken, that is *so good*. Then again, men will not give heed to us for our much speaking; a single word of the right sort will often reach the heart which would