

422,580 marks (\$105,650), and in South Africa, China, Java, Sumatra, and New Guinea had 65 stations, 118 out-stations, 92 missionaries, 213 native helpers with 429 more unpaid assistants, and 43,912 adherents. The additions by baptism were 5525, and 522 were confirmed. The communicants number 11,907, and the catechumens 6869. The additions in Sumatra alone were 3945 from among the heathen and Mohammedans. In New Guinea 1 missionary died, 2 were compelled to leave on account of sickness, and 2 were murdered. This society has a training college at Barmen with about 40 students, mostly from humble spheres of life. The course of study covers six years.

—Between 1870 and 1888 the Russian (Greek) Church baptized 71,272 heathen, 8597 Jews, and 4294 Mohammedans, 84,163 non-Christians in all. In Japan missionary operations are pushed with vigor.

—By the new census of Spain the fact appears that out of a population of 17,500,000, only a little over 5,000,000 can read and write. Six millions can only read, leaving 12,000,000 who can neither read nor write. Bad as this showing is, it is a little better than the figures of 1877, when 72 per cent of the population were found to be unable to read or write.

—The annual report of the European Turkey Mission of the American Board shows that 117 persons were admitted to the churches during the year on profession of faith, an increase of about 14 per cent, and making the whole number 940.

#### ASIA.

—Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop says: "Just think: from Karachi to Bagdad, among the populous cities and villages of the Persian Gulf, of the Tigris and Euphrates, throughout Arabia, throughout south and southwest Persia, not a missionary! From Bagdad to Teheran, almost the most populous district of

Persia, not a missionary! The great oasis of Feraghan, at a height of 7000 feet, with 680 villages craving medical advice, never visited, scarcely mapped! Then Julfa and Hamadan, with their few workers, almost powerless to itinerate, represent the work of the Church for the remainder of Persia! Two million nomads never touched!"

India.—A Hindu and a New Zealander met upon the deck of a missionary ship. They had both been converted from heathenism, and were brothers in Christ, but they could not speak to each other. They pointed to their Bibles, shook hands and smiled in each other's faces; but that was not all. At last a happy thought occurred to the Hindu. With sudden joy he exclaimed, "Hallelujah!" The New Zealander, in delight, cried out "Amen!"

—India's population (almost 300,000,000) constitutes a sort of social, political, and religious Babel. The recent census was taken in 17 different languages. The blanks issued numbered over 80,000,000, and those used weighed 290 tons. If put end to end they would reach more than half-way round the world. There were 950,000 enumerators, and the whole cost of the census was about \$1 000,000.

—This is a strange story to come from a land so populous, and that has been inhabited for thousands of years. "Official returns for 1891 show that no less than 24,841 people in British India were killed by wild animals during that year. By far the larger portion of these (22,134) were killed by snakes; 928 by tigers, and the remainder by wolves, leopards, elephants, and other animals. It appears, too, that the destruction of life from this cause is on the increase."

—It is officially stated that last year in 138,054 public and private educational institutions reported, there were 3,368,930 boys and 413 717 girls, an increase of girls of nearly 20,000 over the previous year. Of these 350,000 were studying English. Of the whole 68 per