

Other Churches and their Work.

Work of the Canadian Methodists.

—Last year the Methodists of Canada expended \$88,842 for "Domestic" or Home Missions, \$42,862 for Indian work; \$26,523 for foreign work in Japan; \$8,643 for French work in and about Montreal, and \$4,323 for work among the Chinese in B.C. In Japan they have 28 missionaries, 62 paid agents, and a church membership of 1819.

Central Africa.—A missionary of the Baptist Congo Mission says that there is an area in Central Africa larger than the whole continent of Europe, by 4,000 square miles, in which there is not a single missionary, and also that the centre of Africa cannot be permanently evangelized by white men, but that the greater part of the work will have to be done by natives themselves, and that they are shewing their fitness for the work.

Death of Rev. Principal Cairns.

—Another of the worlds truly great men has been taken away in the death of the Rev. Principal Cairns, of the U. P. Hall, Edinburgh, which was announced by cable, March 13th. With a huge form, a gigantic intellect, profound learning and massive eloquence, he was a real king among men, and withal, so childlike in the genial simplicity of his great good heart. His old students remember him with nought but admiration and love.

Turkish Intolerance.—It is supposed to be a sign of the uneasiness of Islam that the Turkish authorities have become so impatient of missionary efforts. The embassies at Constantinople have had it intimated to them that the holding of schools in private houses will no longer be tolerated. It remains to be seen whether the Christian Powers will submit to this. There are treaty engagements under which they can demand the continuance of the liberties hitherto enjoyed.—*F. C. Monthly.*

Mohammedanism.—Dr. Schreiber of Bar-men, writing on the prospects of Islam, reckons that of the 175 millions in the world, 100 millions are already subject to Christian powers; and that ere very long the remaining 75 millions will be in the same position. "*The political downfall of the system is thus an accomplished fact, and it is a fact of extreme significance. Rome has not suffered, but the contrary, through the loss of temporal power, but it is otherwise with Mohammedanism.*"

Scottish Work on the Continent.

—All over the Continent, at all its principal centres, for business, for pleasure, for health, for education, &c., are Scotchmen found. In many of these places the Scottish churches are following their people with the gospel. Under the continental Com. of the Free Church are 21 centres of Christian work. Thirteen of these are permanent charges, eight have a succession of preachers during the tourist's or invalid's "season." These springs of water in lands that are in this respect so dry, are very grateful to many a thirsty one, and the good done cannot be estimated.

Berlin Churches.—Berlin has 80,000 Jews with eight synagogues. It has 120,000 Roman Catholics with ten churches. While for its 1,250,000 Protestants, forty-four churches have been provided, of which thirty-six are "parochial" In addition, however, there are thirty-six more places in which Protestant worship is held—a

number of these being occupied by the city mission. The accommodation for the mass of the people is recognized as being too small, and seven more churches are in course of erection; but three of these are to replace others which are to be disused. It is said that the Emperor and Empress concern themselves a good deal about these matters, and that but for their intervention not one of these seven churches would have been begun.—*Free Ch. Monthly.*

Indian Apprehensions.—There are increasing indications in India of misgivings among the natives as to the future of their religion. At a great festival recently held, an impression was widely spread that the efficacy of the Ganges was going, and that it would be useless to visit it any more. To an American missionary who heard this, and who thereupon asked his informant why then he should not receive Christ, the answer was given. "We shall see." Like apprehensions appear in the publications of the Hindu Tract Society. "If we continue to sleep as we have done in the past," says one of these, "not one will be found worshipping in the temples in a very short time. Nay, the temples themselves will be converted into Christian churches. Do you not know that the number of Christians is increasing and the number of Hindu religionists is decreasing every day? How long will water remain in a well which continually lets out but receives none in? If our religion be incessantly drained by Christianity without receiving any accessions, how can it last.—*Free Church Monthly.*

Romish Mission Work in India.

—A Roman Catholic missionary priest laboring in India, gives the following account of his work in one of their missionary papers "Annals of the propagation of the faith."

"At the evening processions, the church is filled as on holidays. Truth to tell, our processions have a somewhat wild character, and I dare say you would be astonished if you heard the cries uttered by my Indians and saw how they dance and gesticulate before the car of the Virgin Mary. Each nation has its own way of honoring God. Did not David dance before the ark of the Covenant? The instrumental band opens the march, half a score of black-skinned individuals belaboring with all their might their battered instruments. We have an old tambour, a big drum which has rolled in many an Orphean course, not without danger to its skin, a wheezy clarinet, and others of a piece. Our performers have not the least suspicion that there are such things as notes and rules to hamper their genius. What an uproar to be sure! Everybody, however, is delighted. After the band, come two dancers, armed with long sticks and having all the airs of a champion armed for a pitched battle. All this may appear absurd enough, but you may well believe that our good mother is pleased with her children who testify their affection in their own particular fashion. Then appears the cross followed by the car of our blessed lady. Last month it was a little Pagan lad who took the cross and right well he carried it. May the good God save him. The car is neither carved nor gilt. Its whole adornment consists of garlands of natural flowers woven by my schoolmaster and some other young men. Four choir boys in short red cassock and surplice carried it on their shoulders. The virgin, about fifty centimeters high, is wood gilt; the head and hands, as well as the head and hands of the infant Jesus, are in ivory. It is an old statue held in great veneration here. They say it came from Manilla. As for myself, I bring up the rear, my heart overflowing with gratitude to our Holy Mother.