

Spanish Evangelists, and these raised the ensuing year to aid the missionaries at Nusserabad, and in relieving them from the liabilities they had incurred in consequence of the famine in India.—The Rev. Dr. Turner gave some of the missionary experiences which he had gathered together during his thirty years of missionary work. In combating the argument put forward by Sir Samuel Baker, in giving his account of the discovery of the sources of the Nile, that the philanthropy of the missionaries would waste their energies in trying to elevate the savage till commerce had first worked in his enlightenment, Dr. Turner adduced a few few facts taken from his experience at Samoa. He and his fellow-missionaries had there given the beginnings to mercantile growth, and stimulated its progress. He instanced the sale to the natives of 10,000 Bibles, translated into the native tongue, for 9s. whereby the missionaries had been enabled to reimburse to the London Missionary Society the entire cost of the work, and to instil into the native mind the first principles of commerce, and a taste for their cultivation. At first the Bibles had been paid for in produce, and were now paid for in coin. Between £2000 and £4000 had gone to the Foreign Mission Society, and that sum represented £6000 worth of native produce, which under various designations passed through the hands of the merchants. He thought they would perceive to what an extent the advancement of Christianity tended to the increase of commerce. He believed that there were now some £50,000 expended annually by the Samoans, in order that they might appear like other people in the House of God on the Lord's day, and that represented £100,000 or £150,000 worth of native produce. The missionary press was now engaged multiplying religious literature for the Samoans, and was now turning out, amongst other works, 500 copies, in large type, of the New Testament for the aged; 15,000 hymn-books; 7000 copies of notes on the psalms, extending (each book) to over 100 pages; and elementary works on natural history and natural philosophy. In Samoa they had an institution for the training of native missionaries, and they had now there 86 students. Since it was opened, 1143 students—including their wives, who lived and studied with them. The institution was self-supporting, as each student cultivated a plot of land which was assigned to him during his four years' residence. For the last five years there had been expended about the place £250, or about £50 a year, and that means that each student had cost about 25s. during his four years' course. That was paid by the people, who had moreover given of a voluntary contribution to the London Missionary

Society, during the last ten years, £10,715. The field of labour had been extended for 1500 miles to the west, and about 600 miles to the north-west, and further advance would be made.—Rev. Mr. Martin next detailed a few of his missionary experiences in Rajpootana, and endeavoured to destroy any illusion that might be in the students' minds as to the peculiar difficulty of that mission from the supposed astuteness of the Brahmins.

Free Church.

The Sustentation Fund for the first quarter of the current year shows an increase of £2,723.

Dr. Murray Mitchell writes from India: "I do not think I sent you the prospectus of a new periodical—the *Bengal Christian Herald*—which will be the organ of a large body of educated native Christians. Its object is threefold: First, the promotion of the interests of Indian Christians; secondly, to contribute to the spread of Christianity; thirdly, to support all measures, whether political or social, that tend to the regeneration of India. I have no doubt you will watch with deep interest (as we shall all do) the course of this paper. Certainly the native Christians, connected with different Churches, are already sufficiently numerous and enlightened to render them influential in the community. Each of the sections of the Brahma Somaj has its organ; the educated party, which cares little for religion of any kind, have theirs; the bigoted Hindu party have also theirs; and it is high time that our educated native brethren should speak out clearly and strongly on important questions. May the new paper exercise a mighty power for good amidst the chaos of warring principles that we witness around us!"

Rev. Robert Moffat, the African Pioneer.

This eminent Missionary, one of the oldest, if not the very oldest, in the field, is now in England, after spending more than half a century in Africa. He has met with a most cordial welcome. At a recent meeting in Edinburgh he thus described his African experiences:

The natives would sometimes come up to them shouting and vociferating, and shake their spears at them. The difficulty was solved at last, however. One of their wisacres came to the conclusion and told them that they were runaways from their own country, and that they would bear anything rather than go home and be hung by the neck. But they cared not for this, knowing as they did that they were doing the work of God. They persevered and prayed, and tried by every possible means