

Japan are filling with mission churches and mission schools."

The fact is that notwithstanding the 34 societies at work in Africa, there are districts measuring thousands of miles without one missionary or missionary station! And were all the missionaries now in Africa, China, India, Turkey, Persia and Japan, equally distributed and proportionately, over all the territory embraced in these countries, they would each have a parish the size of which territorially, and the population of which numerically, would make virtually impossible contact, not to say oversight! The whole missionary force of the world to-day, including native helpers, falls considerably below 40,000. If there are 1,200,000,000 to be reached with the pure gospel in pagan, papal and moslem communities, this would give every man and woman, were there full 40,000, an average parish of 30,000 souls, not to speak of the wide territory over which they would be scattered!

"The harvest is great, but the laborers few."

A. T. P.

DR. A. J. GORDON, of Boston, names the "Life of David Brainerd" as the origin of modern mission literature, and next to it as a pioneer came Buchanan's "Star in the East." He thinks that to these works modern missions owe their inspiration.

A. T. P.

The Cost of War.

According to a computation just issued by an eminent statistician, the cost in human life of the wars of the last 34 years has been 2,250,000 souls. The Crimean war cost 750,000 men; the Italian war (1859) 45,000; the Danish war (1864) 3,000; the American civil war—the Northern States 280,000; the Southern States, 525,000; the Austro-Prussian war 45,000; the Franco-German war—France 155,000, Germany 60,000; the Turco-Russian war 250,000; the South African wars 30,000; the Afghan war 25,000; the Mexican and Cochín-Chinese expeditions 65,000, and the Bulgaro-Servian insurrection 25,000. This list does not include mortality from sickness.

We believe this is an exaggerated estimate. All the actual mortality

of the late American civil war, on the battle field, did not, we are credibly informed, exceed 101,000, including both sides—North and South. But, making most liberal deductions, the total mortality of the wars of the last 35 years, will not fall below 1,500,000 lives, not to speak of the cost in treasure of maintaining standing armies and conducting campaigns. What boundless benefits might accrue to the race of man if this expense of life and wealth might be turned for 35 years to come into the war for the truth and right! What if the coming generation might give 1,500,000 consecrated lives to the mission work and the billions spent for cruel, aggressive, unjust and unjustifiable warfare, to build up the church and all its institutions on pagan, papal, and Mohammedan soil, and introduce the reign of peace on earth, good will to men!

A. T. P.

It is a matter of profound congratulation that attention is now turning more than ever to the evangelization of the Jews. Recently a grand conference was held at Millmay, London, under the conduct of Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Mathieson, where for days this was the sole theme of discussion, prayer and planning.

Lord Beaconsfield anticipated the conversion of the Jews, that "they will accept the whole of their religion, instead of only the half of it, as they gradually grow more familiar with the true history and character of the New Testament." And he laid great stress on the fact that the non-Christian Jews at the present day are for the most part descendants of the earlier exiles, whose ancestors never heard of Christ till centuries after the crucifixion, when His religion approached them in the guise of a persecution.

"It is improbable," he wrote, "that any descendants of the Jews of Palestine exist who disbelieve in