

X.—RUSSIA.

The people of Russia, who are of the Greek Church, are not allowed by law to join any other. The Reformed Church in Russia consists therefore of congregations of strangers. These are of various nationalities—English, French, Swiss, German, Dutch, and Polish. They are organized into two Synods, forty congregations, and about the same number of ministers.

There is no theological institution for the training of ministers. The greater part of the clergy have been educated abroad. The Polish Presbyterian students go to Dorpat or to Konigsberg to complete their studies.

The Reformed Church in Russia does not support any foreign missions, but in the inner or home mission there is no small activity at St. Petersburg. Nearly every congregation has its own parochial school. At St. Petersburg the German Reformed Church has an orphan asylum; at Sluzk the Lithaoun Presbyterian Synod has an almshouse for twenty; and at St. Petersburg the Presbyterian congregations maintain a large gymnasium.

The institution of deacons and deaconesses in connection with the Reformed Church of St. Petersburg has been followed out most actively, and there have been many very interesting fruits. The vitality of the Church is shown in the earnestness with which the work is prosecuted, and the Christian care bestowed on orphans and the destitute generally.

XI.—SPAIN.

THE SPANISH CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

“The story of the smallest and youngest Presbyterian church is interesting because so recent. Good men, who endeavoured to infuse the light which in their own land they had enjoyed, were expelled the country, and scarcely any foothold was obtained for the glad news until a private effort, initiated in Edinburgh in 1852, meeting with some success, was developed into the Spanish Evangelization Society, which, with great prudence and secret activity, did valiant service for the Lord in that land of darkness. The Word of God distributed, and secretly studied and explained, as was to be expected, produced good fruit, and groups of Christians were formed in many parts who braved the terrors of the Spanish law that they might secretly enjoy the communion of the saints. This handful of corn on the mountain-tops is destined yet to shake its fruit like Lebanon, and already the reapers are bearing some of their precious sheaves with joy. It was impossible that the prayers of the faithful few within and the many without should be unanswered.

But the answer was not apparent until a band of preachers was trained and ready, and for this end it was needful that the picked instruments from among the faithful few should be sent out among Christians abroad, to learn foreign languages, and study in them the teachings of the evangelical Churches. Hence in God's providence the despotic persecu-

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