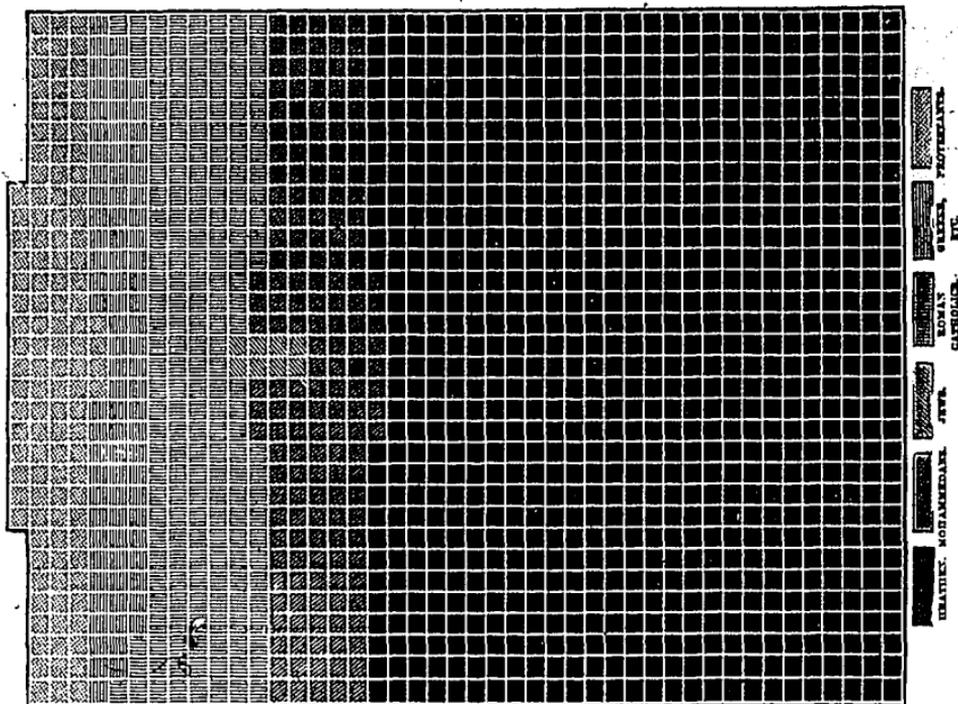


116 Millions of
Protestants.84 Millions of
Greek Church.100 Millions of
Papists.100 Millions of
Moham'edans.836 MILLIONS
OF HEATHEN.

they could look in upon us at the time of our morning worship, and see the earnest attention given by the poor lepers—men and women—to the reading and exposition of God's blessed word; and how they all bow down in prayer, as if they wished to join in the thanksgiving and petitions we offer."

4. It is a *fact*, and a very glorious one, that the lepers are as a class most accessible, and that they readily receive "the glad tidings of great joy," and give bright testimony from time to time to the power of the gospel to heal their sin-sick souls.

In "The Trident, the Crescent, and the Cross," in the chapter on the Native Church, Mr. Vaughan devotes more than eight pages to the "leper Church," from which we quote the following: "We cannot describe, but we can well recollect, the abounding joy with which we saw the work of God advance in that gloomy region of suffering and death. Oh, to see the light of hope, the fire of love, and the courage of calm endurance, with which the gospel inspired many of those leper converts, was truly a rare and a singular privilege. Poor Kumari, whom we accompanied to the brink of Jordan, rejoicingly passed over, supported by the everlasting arms. She was a woman of high caste and good family. The disease had left her *face* untouched, and that was bright and comely. She was not thirty years of age. She had been a devout Hindu, and had for years before we saw her lived a pilgrim's life. Very simple was her faith. After

her conversion she learned to read, and from morning to night the Holy Book was her companion. Beautiful was it to see her 'inner man' growing day by day, whilst the 'outer man,' with awful literality, was *decaying*. For six weeks before her course was run the *worms were feeding upon her*. Such was the condition of that dying saint; yet there was no impatience, no repining. She had light and health and peace within. She calmly reposed on the love and faithfulness of the Saviour, and at length passed away rejoicing in hope of the glory of God."

In the almshouse Asylum, one of the oldest established in India, there has been a great ingathering of converts from the leper community. The asylum now contains about 136 inmates, of whom more than 80 are professed followers of the Lamb. And it must be borne in mind that the Christian lepers are in no way differently treated from the others. They get no greater privileges, except the one precious one of being permitted to partake of the Lord's Supper, so that there is no inducement for them to become Christians other than the right one. In this asylum alone, between the years 1864 and 1879, there were 272 converts baptized, while many more have been added since then.

The late Dr. Newton used to say that almost all the *visible* fruit he had for his labours was from among the lepers, although he was a man who itinerated very largely.

5. It is also a *fact* that from amongst converted lepers