

the purchase and equipment of a steam yacht of 85 tons for the purpose of exploring New Guinea. The "Ellangowan" has already made eight or ten successful trips into the interior of that magnificent Island, which it will be remembered lies immediately north from Australia. It is some twelve hundred miles in length with a mean breadth of about four hundred miles. The missionary expedition under the Rev Samuel McFarlane has brought to light some interesting facts concerning this country and its inhabitants which will doubtless lead to further efforts in the direction of civilization and Christianity.

The natives occupying the banks of the Fly River are represented as very numerous and great warriors. They are found clustered in large villages, some of the houses being between four and five hundred feet long. They paddle their light canoes so swiftly that the "Ellangowan" found it difficult to keep them at a safe distance, and the novel expedient was resorted to of terrifying them with a submarine battery of dynamite which, though harmless, proved very effectual in inspiring a wholesome dread of the white man. One result of the expedition is that a way seems to have been opened up for establishing friendly relations between the natives and future explorers because of the humane way in which this expedition has been conducted. As to their conversion to christianity, Mr. McFarlane sees no way of accomplishing that except through themselves. To kidnap some of their young men, instruct them, and send them back as teachers, appear to him the only way of reaching them.

THE CONVERSION OF THE JEWS TO Christianity has already been a subject of considerable interest to the Christian world. Opinions have greatly varied. Some have no faith in the conversion of this peculiar people, while others believe the time will come when they will all be brought under the influence of the gospel. Just at this time greater interest than usual is manifested, in some sections, in the work among the descendants of Abraham. More than £300,000 were contributed in Great Britain alone the past year for this object. In Jerusalem there are sixty Jewesses meeting daily to hear the Gospel; ministers are now welcomed in every house in Jerusalem. Within the last sixty years, since the establishment of the society, 25,000 people have been converted to the Christian religion.

In the *Allgemeine Missions Zeitschrift* Dr. Grundeman has given a thorough review of the foreign missionary work of Protestant Christendom. According to this careful statistician there are among heathens, Moham-

medans and Oriental Christians 1,559 mission stations, 2,132 missionaries, 420,944 communicants, 1,537,074 native Christians, and 389,059 pupils in schools. The yearly outlay for the support of this work amounts to a little more than five and a half millions of dollars. Those who are acquainted with Dr. Grundeman's researches will not accuse him of overstating the results of missionary labour. If his figures err, it will be because they are too low, rather than too high. Now, if we consider that Protestant missions are, upon the whole, not 100 years old, and that their effective labours do not extend back through more than two generations, the results already attained are very great. The fact that the missionaries have gathered a native Christian community of a million and a half of souls ought to silence the cavils of those who assert that nothing is being accomplished through missionary endeavour. In this vast enterprise Great Britain leads the way, with 1,060 missionaries, 1,116,227 native Christians, and a yearly expenditure of \$3,075,440. Next come the United States, with 460 missionaries, 1,83,571 native Christians, and an annual outlay of \$1,780,199. Germany, including Switzerland, stands third in rank, with 205 missionaries, 127,414 native Christians, and a yearly expenditure of \$435,000. Holland furnishes 43 missionaries, counts up 87,226 native Christians, and annually expends \$93,881. France has 22 missionaries, 14,000 native Christians, and raises \$46,300. Scandinavia stands last on the list, with 45 missionaries, 8,836 native Christians, and an annual outlay of \$8,500. These Scandinavian missions are of very recent origin, and therefore have as yet little to show in the way of the results.—*Independent*.

NOTHING TO GIVE.

So said a member of the—church to one of the appointed collectors for foreign missions, and yet he professed to be a disciple of Jesus Christ—to be governed by the self-denying principles of His gospel.

Nothing to give! And yet he talked of the preciousness of the gospel to his own soul, and of the hopes he entertained of his salvation through its blood-purchased provisions.

LITERATURE.

NORMAN McLEOD'S LIFE, BY HIS BROTHER THE REV. DONALD McLEOD, OF GLASGOW.—TORONTO, BELFORD BROTHERS, p.p. 484. Price, \$2.50. W. DRYSDALE & Co., 232 St. James St., Montreal.