

and women in the field, 1734 native pastors, 125,000 in its schools, in its churches almost 100,000 members, and native Christians to the number of nearly 400,000.

—The East London Institute is to open a home for the children of missionaries, where they may be lovingly cared for and educated during the years when separation from their parents is necessary.

—The London Missionary Society has received \$30 from half as many boys of Rarotonga. They wrote with the money, "We want to help them because they have done so much for us. We all went and picked coffee on our holiday afternoons, and dried and sold it, and so we got the money which we now give. We each give \$2 with our love."

—The United Presbyterians of Scotland are adding 7 helpers for their work in Old Calabar, West Africa—2 of them missionary carpenters and 5 young women, 2 being Annanua missionaries, and 3 trained nurses.

The Continent.—Upon the Protestants of France, whose numbers are but few, and whose financial ability is quite limited, is laid a responsibility peculiar both as to kind and degree. They are not left to seek fields for themselves, but full-grown missions are thrust upon them. And mainly on account of the fashion the French Government has of compelling the use of the French tongue in all its colonies. Take Tahiti as an example. About fifty years ago a "protectorate" was set up in that group, and presently the London Missionary Society found it impossible to remain, and so turned over a most flourishing work to the Société des Évangélistes.

—The *Iglesia Española*, or Reformed Church of Spain, arose in 1881. It consisted of 15 congregations, with 3000 members. Its founder is Cabrera, formerly a Roman priest, who entered the service of the Presbyterian Evangelization Society in 1868 as preacher in Seville, and afterward in Madrid.

—Another party of 750 Jews from Bessarabia, Podolia, and Yekateruhoslay recently left the city of Odessa for the Argentine Republic. Baron Hirsch's Jewish colony, to which this party is bound, is proving successful. The wheat crop last year was valued at \$150,000. The baron has already advanced upward of \$2,000,000 for the settlement of this single colony, and hopes to have there within ten years 100,000 persons. Each company sent out numbers 50 families, to each of which is given a tract of land, that they are expected to settle upon in villages. A rabbi and a doctor accompany each band.

ASIA.

Islam.—In the *Church at Home and Abroad* J. G. Wishard, of Teheran, writes thus of "a needy province in Persia :—" "The population, outside of the cities, is largely composed of rice and cotton planters, who depend upon the peasantry to do all their work in the fields. It is simply impossible to give any sort of an accurate description of the condition of this great laboring class, more than half of whom are women. It is not an unusual thing for a planter to marry from six to a dozen wives in the spring to plant his rice for him, and in the autumn, when the harvest is gathered, to divorce them all. Most of them, without any means of support, are turned out into the forest to beg, steal, and take up their abode wherever they can find shelter and food enough to sustain life. And strange as it may seem, with the coming of early spring they find their way back to the man who so unfairly used them the previous year, and are willing to enter again as members of his family. So these poor creatures, more like beasts than human, live on from year to year, in the winter knowing nothing but hunger, cold, and sin, and in the summer the hardest and most menial kind of toil, receiving in return the curses and blows of a cruel master."