

MISSION FIELD.

THE MULTITUDES NEEDING SALVATION.

The total computation of the inhabitants of the globe is put by some at over 1,400,000,000. Of these, 856,000,000 are heathen, 170,000,000 Mohammedan; and 30,000,000 die every year. These multitudes need salvation, and salvation, I take it, is a right relation to Christ. But how can they hear without a preacher? How can one preach except he be sent? Can any words describe their need better than those of the inspired hymn, "Knowledge of salvation, for the remission of their sins; light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide their feet into the way of peace?"

China—thrifty, industrious, highly educated, infinitely interesting, absorbed in its material life—is now thrown open to the Cross. India is beginning to move and tremble under the sound of the holy feet walking to and fro among the golden candlesticks. Africa shall soon accept the faith which now it destroys. Japan is on the threshold, it may be, of accepting what indeed an eminent English philosopher has not scrupled insolently to call a "ghost worship," but what honest thinking may presently discover to be but another instance of the survival of the fittest, in the best form of truth the world will ever see.—*The Bishop of Rochester.*

THE CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY.

The English Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, one of the most venerable institutions of benevolence now existing, was founded in 1799. It ceased long since to engage in direct missionary work among heathen, and is not now usually included in the list of evangelistic agencies. It, however, renders important service to missionary societies of the Church of England, and only to them. One of the more important methods is by grants-in-aid, particularly in the line of Christian literature. One of the committees has specially in charge the department of "foreign translation," and the number of languages in different parts of the missionary world and the number of valuable translations from the English into those vernaculars show a gratifying diffusion of religious literature within the present century. Missionaries returning to England after years of labor on their several fields, and bringing manuscript treasures, can have them printed without charge under their own superintendence. Very many of the numerous alphabets now employed in different countries are represented on the Society's shelves, where may be found works in five languages of the Pacific islands, fifteen languages of the American continent, eighteen of the European, twenty-one of the African, and twenty-three of the Asiatic continent. The honor and the amount of usefulness resulting from this method of Christian influence

through fourscore of the tongues now spoken by the human family form an enviable heritage.—*Missionary Herald.*

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