

Two—Messrs. Christie and Macleod, with their wives, have died. Mr. Wright retired from the field. Our two eldest missionaries in the field are still vigorously and successfully prosecuting their work, and they have at present associated with them Messrs. Macrae, Coffin, and Thompson, together with a native pastor, Rev. C. C. Ragbir, an assistant pastor, Rev. Lal Bihari, and a number of esteemed catechists and teachers. There are under Mr. Grant's care, 16 schools with 877 pupils, last year 100 were baptized, Communicants number 261. The native church contributed during the year over £267 sterling. This is an indication of the growth and development of the congregation. Services are conducted at 16 stations every Lord's day, and Mr. Grant hopes to organize *seventeen* congregations outside of the central Church.

During his visit home last summer, Mr. Grant brought before the Church the desirableness of having in Trinidad a seminary for the training of a native ministry. He asked \$4000 for the purpose of such a seminary, which, of course, he received.

ANOTHER MISSIONARY.—Rev. A. W. Thompson was designated to mission work in Trinidad on the last Monday of 1890. A meeting of the Foreign Mission Committee (E. S.) was held at Durham County, the place of Mr. Thompson's birth. Rev. John F. Forbes, the pastor of the congregation presided over the designation services. A Bible was presented to Mr. Thompson as his commission. The designation prayer was offered by Rev. James Thompson, the young missionary's father. Mr. Thompson has been a successful missionary in the home field. His work at Trenton, near New Glasgow, has been of great value. He proceeds to Trinidad well equipped for service in the foreign field.

REV. JOHN MORTON, D.D., our pioneer missionary in Trinidad, and who has been in that field since early in 1878, was offered by the last General Assembly the position of permanent Secretary of the Foreign Mission Committee, Western Section. Dr. Morton had the offer under consideration for some time. We understand that in view of the demands of the field he has made up his mind to decline the offer, and to remain preaching and teaching the East Indians of Trinidad. Dr. Morton has intimated his decision to the F. M. Committee. His decision will be extremely gratifying to the members, the friends and supporters of the Mission in Trinidad.

Sketches from Palestine.

By REV. THOMAS CUMMING, TRURO.
II.—JOPPA.

OF the month which I devoted to sight-seeing in Palestine, part of three days were spent in Joppa and its neighbourhood. It was here that I had my first, and also my last, view of the wonderful land which I had been yearning to see from the days of my youth. And I can never forget the overpowering emotions which I experienced as my eyes first rested on the old storied land of the ten thousand never-dying memories and associations. I anticipated discomfort, and even danger in disembarking at Joppa. But on arriving at the famed old seaport I found no discomfort, and no danger awaiting me and my fellow-passengers. There are sunken rocks, it is true, in the harbour, perhaps the very rocks as Josephus says to which the beautiful Andromeda of ancient fable was bound and exposed to the monster of the deep. Our Egyptian steamer, the "Mahalla," had accordingly to anchor at a distance of about half a mile from the rugged, shelving shore. But the blue waters of the Mediterranean were at the time, the twenty-eighth day of February, as calm and peaceful as the bosom of a sleeping child; and strong, brawny Arab oarsmen, eager to earn a few pennies, soon conveyed us safely in their boats to the landing place. In a few minutes more we complied with the Custom House regulations, and easily found our way to a comfortable little Hotel kept by an enterprising Bostonian, and commanding an excellent view of the city and its surroundings.

Joppa, as our readers well know, is one of the oldest cities on the surface of the globe. Its eventful history, if written out, would fill a volume of respectable dimensions. In the ages gone by, Phoenicians, Egyptians, Assyrians, Greeks, Romans, Crusaders, British, French, have all been here on missions of war or peace. The most inhuman and disgraceful event in the checkered history of the city was perpetrated in 1799 by the First Napoleon. By the order of that merciless warrior, 4000 Albanian soldiers were instantly shot to death at that time after they had given up their arms on the solemn promise of friendly treatment by