

MISSIONARY AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

At a recent missionary anniversary the Rev. Mr. Parkhurst said: "In my travels around the world I saw not one single new temple. All the pagan worship I saw was in old dilapidated temples." Not very long ago there were 100,000 idol-gods in Raratonga; but a young man from Raratonga visiting the British Museum, has since seen among the wonders there the first Raratonga idol his eyes ever beheld. He was born, and had lived nineteen years in Raratonga without ever seeing an idol, so clean a sweep had the Gospel made. In India 17,000 persons profess the Christian faith in connection with the Church Missionary Society. Lord Lawrence said: "The missionaries have done more to benefit India than all other agencies combined." Sir Bartle Frere said: "They are working changes more extraordinary than anything ever witnessed in modern Europe." A missionary among 10,000 Fijians said: "I do not know of a single house in which there is not family worship." A recent Turkish newspaper says: "Thirty years ago there were 50,000 Mussulmans on the island of Cyprus; now there are hardly 20,000."

In a contemporary Journal we find the following items of information regarding Brazil, the largest kingdom in South America: "Romanism is the established religion, but all religions are tolerated. A wide spread desire for the Gospel is manifesting itself in the nation. The truth has already taken root. Eighteen years ago, the first Protestant church was organized in Rio Janeiro, when two persons were received into communion. Since that period, more than three hundred have been admitted into this one organization, mostly converts from Rome. In 1865, a second church was established at Sao Paulo; it has had a healthy growth, and has sent out several preachers of the Word. A third church, formed at Brotas, now almost equals in members the one at Rio Janeiro. These and others, numbering about a score, with more than a thousand members, are some of the first fruits of Missionary effort."

According to a statistical table presented before the late Presbyterian Council, at least forty million Protestants adhere to the Presbyterian communion. Another table exhibits the communicants of the fourteen sections of Presbyterians on the American continent. The Presbyterian church of the Northern States claims considerably above five hundred thousand members, while the Presbyterian church of the South has a membership of about one hundred and twenty thousand. The German Reformed church in the States has also fully one hundred and forty thousand members, and the Cumberland Presbyterians more than one hundred thousand. The Presbyterian churches in Canada have one hundred thousand members.