

of his former field, being still restricted by the Vali of Kossova from visiting the northern part of it.

Seefried's last letter speak of a hopeful religious movement at Uscup, the people searching the Scriptures and listening to the reasoning of the Protestants. He says that a Greek, alarmed at this, went to the Caimakam, and asked what was to be done, as everyone was turning Protestant. "If so," replied the other, "I shall be very glad, for no class gives me less trouble than the Protestants."

EGYPT.

In looking to the future of their work in Egypt, your Committee have felt that an increased responsibility lay upon them, and they have decided to make Egypt the centre of a new Agency, which shall also include Syria and Palestine, the Suez Canal and the parts of Arabia and Abyssinia bordering on the Red Sea. Dr. Thomson had for some time felt it impossible for him to pay regular visits to this outlying part of his agency; and the events of last summer seemed to call your Committee to an effective reorganization of this portion of the field.

The work of your Society in Egypt having been carried on to a considerable extent through the American United Presbyterian missionaries in that country, the Committee felt it to be one of their first duties to consult these brethren as to the proposed step. Their letters to Dr. Lansing and Hogg arrived while the annual meeting of the mission was being held at Cairo. This gave an opportunity for laying the matter before the brethren convened from all parts of the land, and their answer was cordially in the affirmative. "We have," they wrote, "for long years done what we could to promote the interests of the Bible Society in this land. We cherish a very warm recollection of all the kindness of your Society to us as a mission. We do not recollect to have ever asked anything from you that has been denied us." Then, after referring to the fifty-five stations throughout the valley of the Nile, and their colporteurs dividing the whole land between them, from Alexandria to Assouan, they justly observe that any Agent sent out by the Society will be able to do comparatively little except with the co-operation of the American missionaries. Having full confidence that a wise selection will be made by the Committee, they express their 'readiness to extend the right hand of fellowship to the new Agent, and welcome him as a true yoke-fellow in the Gospel.'

PORT SAID.—The highest testimony continues to be borne by friends of the Society passing through the Canal to the zeal and other qualifications of Mr. Weinstein. Dr. Thomson says that while he has often been encouraged by the sympathy of travellers, he has needed much courage to bear the painful repulses with which he too often meets on board the ships. Not unfrequently, too, he finds successful competitors in unprincipled persons who go about offering to the crews and passengers of the vessels the vilest productions of the press. One of the friendly voices that cheered Weinstein in his work last summer was that of Bishop Steere, when on his way to his post of duty and of death at Zanzibar.

MADAGASCAR.

Immediately on the arrival in this country of the Malagasy Ambassadors, your Committee waited upon them with an address of welcome, and subsequently, on January 25, their Excellencies met the Committee at the Bible House, and spent an afternoon in inspecting the objects of interest which it contains. Full accounts of these two interviews have appeared in the *Monthly Reporter* for January and March, 1883. It is not needful here to insert the review presented to the Ambassadors of the Society's connection with Christian missions in Madagascar; but it will be of interest to place on record the reply of the first Ambassador Ravoninahitriniarivo.