

ized colonization by non-Mohammedan communities in any part of Syria or Palestine. The Constantinople journals have stated plainly that the Sultan will not allow the germs of a Jewish kingdom to be planted in Palestine. Even were the Sultan willing, there are other insuperable obstacles. The existing population stand in the way. The Jewish model farm near Jaffa is financially a failure. The old and infirm, the pauperised wards of European Israelitish societies, may continue to settle in Jerusalem to be fed out of the Rabbin's fund, and die in the city of David; but the time when the Jews will occupy the cities and towns and till the soil of Palestine seems as far distant now as at any period since the days of Julian the Apostate. None of the Jews at present in Palestine are farmers; and Dr. Jessup seems to incline to the notion that it is part of the Divine plan that they should thus keep aloof from the stable occupation of tilling the soil, in order that they may continue to be strangers and wanderers in every kingdom under heaven.

FRANCE Good News.—It is well known that the credulity of its women has been the great lever, by which the Romish Church has retained its influence over vast numbers of people. At last, this vantage ground seems on the point of giving way. The women of the Romish Church are no longer deterred, by the threats of priests, from attending Protestant meetings. The "Signal" edited by M. Reveillaud, Paris, says: A new and interesting fact to be noted is, the eagerness which women shew in some places at least to hear the gospel. Some years since, men attended most largely—which is still the case somewhat. Women were kept back through fear of displeasing the priest. Now, they have more courage, and are breaking gradually the meshes of the net which held them. Here are some striking examples, cited in the last report of M. Bouillat, agent of the Free Church of France, at Clamecy (Nièvre): "After having instituted at P., the *perpétuel adoration* the priest asked the women, old and young, to come and work at ornamenting the church, they refused point blank, and more than eighty of them attended my meeting."

"We have at O., writes M. Bouillat, more women than men." You must not forsake us; said they, "now that we no longer go to Mass we need a religion."

"Yesterday," writes another, "I conducted a meeting at which there were more women than men. The civil interments, which have taken place here, have not left a favorable impression upon the minds of seriously disposed people. "Catholicism," remarked some of these women "we believe in no longer; but yet we cannot live like beasts, we need a religion, and yours is the good religion. After

the meeting, every woman's hand was extended to me, to thank me; to encourage me, not to despair of the population; thereafter, one woman of some fifty years, said in the name of her little circle: "You must also come to us. We desire to embrace Protestantism. We have done with the Church of Rome, in which we do not believe and we will give you a hall."

S. S. Picnic. the children and teachers, connected with the *Macall Mission* at Paris, lately held a picnic in the splendid Park of Saint Cloud, a few miles from Paris. There were from *twelve to fifteen hundred* present, transported by boats on the river Seine. Each school with its own banner, and leader, marched to a common rendez-vous, where, after singing, they embarked for the Park. There they sang their beautiful hymns, partook of refreshments, played on the sward, heard some suitable addresses, thus filling up the day with happiness. To these poor children, from the crowded suburbs of the great two million people city, such a day is an event in their lives. This gala-day is a great help in the work of saving them from ruin. God bless the messengers in this great field. C. H.

New Hebrides.

LETTER FROM REV. H. ROBERTSON.

To Dr. McGregor.

ERROMANGA, 25th April, 1882.

I EXPECTED the *Day-spring* this morning from Sydney, but she did not appear, but as I am seldom more than 48 hours out in my calculation, I expect her in a day or two more. We heard nothing from the civilized world since November last.

By the "D. S." on the 24th of September last I received your kind note of the 19th May, informing me of the sum of £20, 510, 09 stg., the gift of the Kirk Presbytery of Pictou to me to be used in furthering the mission cause in Erromanga, in the way I may think best, and which I am to draw from Dr. Steel. The gift was as opportune as it was unexpected. As the Pictou brethren did not send it the year before, and as Mr. Herdman, the chairman of their F. M. scheme had been translated to Scotland, and as India and China were clamouring for money, I thought they had decided to turn away from poor, uncivilized and insignificant Erromanga, and help civilized and powerful lands. I am glad to find I was wrong, and that they are not going to withdraw their aid from an island whose small band of Christians have for a quarter of a century held as firmly to the truth amidst the sorest of trials, and have acted as nobly, considering their circumstances and light, as any people in any part of the globe. If their