

Missionary Intelligence.

From the Colonial Church Chronicle & Miss. Journal.
THE MISSIONARY SOCIETIES.*

Let us turn to its younger sister, the Church Missionary Society—defective, we must think, in its organization, and, in the selection of its Missionaries, practically narrowing the wide limits of doctrinal opinion permitted by the Church of England; but, by the extent and success of its Missionary operations, well entitled to our sympathy and support.

Its total receipts for last year amounted to £137,256 6s. 7d. This gross amount, we should observe, includes a sum of £10,617 12s. 8d. raised and expended in Missionary Stations. The annual subscriptions raised at home, amounted to £95,952 12s. 1d.; of which Scotland contributes £642 7s., and Ireland £2,942 13s. 6d. The whole of this is applicable to the general purposes of the Society, but a very small portion of this Society's income being appropriated to special objects. It is thus able to support as many as 152 European, and 24 Native Clergymen, besides as many as 1,721 lay catechists and teachers. At Sierra Leone, their earliest field of labour, its promoters maintain 10 Missionary Clergymen, at a cost (last year) of £9,496 2s. 3d. At the interesting Yoruba Mission they have 8 Clergy, at a cost of £4,181 14s. 3d. And there are names which it is impossible to mention without a tribute of admiration to the Christian heroism which has sacrificed itself on these fatal shores. Here, at least, the English Church does not want her martyrs—by pestilence, if not by the sword. They have not counted their lives dear, but calmly and deliberately they have sacrificed themselves for the Gospel. In the Indian dioceses the Society employs as many as 104 Missionary Clergymen, and expends from its home funds as much as £52,133 6s. 8d. In China it has but 8 Clergy, and its expenditure is £5,163 0s. 11d. In New Zealand it has 24 Clergy, at an annual expense of £10,200 7s. 10d. In the North American Missions 9 Clergymen are supported, at an expense of £4,002 7s. 11d. In Zululana they have one Mission station. They have none in Melanesia, or the Islands of the Pacific, in Australia, or the Colony of the Cape, which latter form the more natural field of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

In a word, the Church of England, by means of these two Societies, (to omit all mention of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, the Colonial Bishoprics Fund, with other lesser Societies, and private efforts,) is expending upon the propagation of the Gospel in our Colonial possessions and heathen lands, upwards of £279,000 annually; and among the heathen alone, employs more than 220 Missionary Clergymen.

Let us compare the exertions of other Christian bodies around us. The Wesleyan Missionary Society had last year a total income of £114,498 14s. 3d., of which £76,405 arose from annual contributions at home. It has Missions throughout the West Indies, where it expended as much as £16,390; and in our North American provinces, at a cost of £10,723. At Sierra Leone, it almost divides the work with the Church Missionary Society. One of its agents was the first to reach the inland town of Abbeokuta, and the barbarous King of Dahomey has but recently invited its Missionaries into his country. They have settlements on the Ashantee coast, and at the Gambia, where we have none. In the Cape Colony they are most numerous at Graham's Town, where they spent last year £9,260, a far larger sum than our Bishop has at his disposal. In India their Missions are more limited, being confined to Ceylon, Madras, and the Canarese country; and in China they have but recently settled three Missionaries at Canton. Their Mission in New Zealand rivals our own, and is maintained at an annual cost of £5,781. The Australian Societies will not burden much longer the funds of the Parent Society, and are preparing to undertake the charge of the Missions among the Feejee and Friendly Islanders, of which we find such repeated mention in Captain Erskine's and Bishop Selwyn's narratives.

The London Missionary Society stands next in the amount of its resources, which reached last year the sum of £77,482. Upon its West India Missions it expends £16,091. On the East African coast it has no settlement, but makes up for this deficiency by its labours at the Cape, where it spent last year £8,978; where its Missions are far in advance of the Church of England's, and will shortly receive still further extension from the enterprise of Dr. Livingston, who has recently distinguished himself by an exploratory journey

(To be Continued.)

in the service of the Society, from the Cape frontier to the coast of Benguela. Equally honourable are the past exertions of this Society in the island of Madagascar, where their labours for some years past, interrupted by the persecution of the queen, are likely to be resumed with every prospect of success, the heir-apparent to the throne being at the head of the Christian converts. For the renewal of this Mission, a sum of £7,000 was invested last year, and a Missionary at Port Louis watches for an opportunity of penetrating to the interior of the island. In Hindostan the exertions of the Independents fall far short of our own; but this Society expends as much as £25,270 upon its Missions there. In China its Missions are much older, and much more extensive than our own. We have eight Missionaries at Kien-hau, Ningpo, and Shanghai; they have sixteen at Hongkong, Canton, Shanghai, and Amoy. Our first Missionary settled on the coast but ten years back: Dr. Morrison reached Canton in 1808. In their South Sea Missions the Independents have equally preceded us, their stations are scattered over the islands of the Pacific from Tahiti to Samoa, and while we admiringly record the Missionary enterprise of our own Bishop Selwyn among the Melanesian Islanders, we are bound to remember—as the Bishop ever remembers—that his little *Undine* did but follow in the wake of the *John Williams*, and that he is but gathering up the gleanings of a harvest of which other hands have sown the seed, and, in great part, already reaped the fruits.

Selections.

Progress in instruments of war, destructive and preservative, is reported from all quarters. Mr. William Palmer, of Feltwell, Norfolk, has invented a ball suitable both for small guns and cannon, which "cuts, wounds, and lacerates in such a manner that it is scarcely possible that any animal or man should live after having been struck by it. A ball that would fit a common gun—say five-eighths of an inch in diameter—expands on leaving the gun to four inches, and the instant it touches anything cuts in all directions. It does not appear to affect the flight of the ball in the slightest degree." The *Liverpool Journal* announces a new siege-gun, invented by Mr. Williams, the contractor for the fortifications at Milford Haven, the peculiarity of which is that it can be taken to pieces and removed on men's shoulders, and yet, when put together, is stronger than any gun cast whole. Messrs. Reeves and Co., sword cutlers, of Birmingham, have lately constructed and patented a machine for multiplying the production of the bayonet to a very surprising extent. A pair of skilled hands were unable to complete more than five-and-twenty blades per day; the machine, with the same number of men and a boy, has been for some time regularly turning out 300 a day. Mr. Samuel Russell, of Sheffield, has adapted a ball, said to be practically as good as the Minie bullet, to the common gun of the army—the old "Brown Bess," and has in progress cannon balls on the same new principle. The bullet is being tested by a Government commission. A new description of rifle, called the "Pritchett," which nothing is said about, is in course of manufacture at the Government works, Enfield. Should any or all of these projects succeed, there will be plenty of need for a new bullet-extractor, which is announced as the invention of Mr. Ezra Miles, of Stoke Hammond. The contrivance consists of a small air-pump attached to a tube; the tube is passed into the bullet-wound, a vacuum is created, and the shot is thus drawn out without need of the horrible operation of cutting it out. The Medical Board has given directions to Mr. Coxeter, the eminent instrument maker to the University College, to fit up the apparatus. The inventor, who has given the instrument gratuitously to the French and English Governments, has already deserved well of humanity by the invention of the hydrostatic railway break for collision, which he is now applying to the carriages on the Hereford and Shrewsbury Railway. He has been requested by the Medical Board to turn his attention to the construction of cars for the wounded in battle.

Dr. Mitchell, of Trinidad, in an account of the visitation of cholera to that island, communicated to the *Times*, says that the swampy and febrile districts were generally last attacked, and suffered least. The district of La Brea, the "pitch lake," escaped altogether, though inhabited by a poor and unhealthy community. In the town of San Fernando a quantity of asphaltum had been thrown under and around the house—the inmates of that house alone escaped the cholera. The

badly-ventilated cells of the prison of San Fernando are floored with asphaltum—no case of cholera occurred.

The following particulars of the reconnaissance made by the allied troops is given by the Post correspondent under date Constantinople, January 8:—

"The forces which moved towards the Russian position was composed of about 10,600 French and 2,000 English, and the day having been beautifully fine, the men enjoyed the change intensely. The allies advanced, looking mighty, indeed, with their array of cavalry; and the Russians, being very weak, wisely retired from their encampment after some trifling skirmishing. Our movement could have been little expected, as, on reaching the huts of the enemy, every thing indicated the fullest conviction of safety: not only were there flocks of sheep and a herd of cattle, but a goodly number of fowls fell into the hands of our soldiers—no bad discovery these hard times. Every hut was utterly destroyed, the live stock was driven off, a village near at hand burnt to the ground, and wood sufficient for several days carried away. On the retirement of the allied force, the enemy returned to the post from which they had been driven, but their disappointment must have been great, indeed, when they found all their food and shelter utterly lost. A question at once arises, what conclusion must we draw from the number of sheep and oxen, as to the commissariat of the Russians? Are we to suppose that food abounds with them? Undoubtedly, the discovery of provisions proves clearly that, at the moment, the enemy were not in that miserable state of starvation implied by the deserters who have lately come over to us. On the other hand, it is quite possible for the animals captured to have been a few of the last batch, of which the greatest care was being taken: indeed, we may go further, and suppose that they formed the supply sent down specially to cheer the men at Christmas. The fact is, an active imagination may make the picture dark or bright as it pleases, but certainly he who thinks favourably of Russian supplies has the fact in his favour, that when we paid the enemy a visit we found them very well off for food. I don't know any thing more disagreeable than to return worn and hungry from a long and hard day's work, and find our food destroyed and home burnt. Surely the bivouac of the night which followed our reconnaissance must have been a trying one to the Russians. It is not a pleasant thing to lie down in December upon the cold earth, with nothing but the heavens for a covering. I never have had the least doubt about the fall sooner or later of the Russian stronghold; and although I hear the most disgraceful murmurings on the part of some who are bound in honour to bear patiently, whatever the peculiar circumstances of the campaign may require, I am in no way influenced to change my opinion as to the end of our work. At Alma and Inkerman, nay, even at Balaclava, the hand of the Ruler of the universe was with the allies, and that hand will, I believe, aid us throughout in a cause as righteous as it is vast. It is true we have suffered, and we are still suffering. Our dead are carried out in large numbers, but that is the necessary result of hardships which will ere long pass away."

The Berlin correspondent of the *Chronicle*, writing on the 19th Jan'y, mentions that:—"Lord Bloomfield had the honour of being received by the King on Wednesday, in private audience, for the purpose of delivering to his Majesty a letter in reply to that conveyed by M. d'Ussedom to Queen Victoria. This correspondence being autographic, and direct between their Majesties, it would be unbecoming to offer a conjecture on the contents, further than to affirm that no human being can doubt of our patriotic Queen's answer to his Prussian Majesty being fully worthy of the noble mind that dictated, and of the firm and inviolating hand which penned, the royalmissive."

The same authority tells us:—"Persons who imagine that Russian ships can creep out of harbour, and make a dash through the Sound, may tranquillize themselves with the intelligence that we have had from 11 to 13 degrees, black frost, of Reaumur (23 to 24 below freezing point Fahrenheit), for the last three days; and that all rivers, harbours, and so forth, north-east of Memel, are hermetically sealed with ice, and will continue so until the usual spring thaw takes place."

We rejoice to hear that Dhuleep Singh, the young Christian Indian Prince, now sojourning in this country, has given a donation of £100 to the Church Missionary Society.—*Record*.