

of Isaiah on Rarotonga, from his visit to England, will be an occasion of no small interest to the people of the island. The ship also takes out 5,000 copies of the Bible, and a large supply of other books, in the native language, which have been printed in this country. Sailing from the Hervey Islands, the ship will proceed to the Samoa group, which lie about 900 miles westward of Rarotonga; and amidst their joy, disappointment will arise in the hearts of the brethren there, as they go on board, expecting to receive young missionaries from England, but finding none. From this group in Central Polynesia, a noble company of Rarotonga and Samoan teachers will embark on board the ship for the Islands of Western Polynesia. These will be accompanied by one young missionary, (Mr Gordon,) to enter on the inviting field of Tanna, Lifu, or Erromanga. About this time next year the ship will have reached our extreme stations on these Western Islands, and then it will return through all the groups eastward, visiting every island occupied by missionaries or native teachers and thence back again through the groups, doing entirely missionary work, on its way to Sydney. Thus, during the ship's four years absence from England it makes about two visits a-year to each island, and an annual voyage to Sydney for supplies, which, besides the outward and homeward voyages, gives a working distance of many thousands of miles every year.

THE BURMESE AND THE KARENS.

A missionary who has just returned from Ava, brings some pleasing intelligence from Pegu. He considers the population rapidly reviving. The great emigration which occurred during the war has ceased, and the stream has set in for the south. Night after night Burmese families make their way over the frontier, and announce to the authorities their determination to settle. The Karens, always devoted to the British, are pressing in from all quarters. They are exceedingly well treated, and express their determination, not in units or tens, but in thousands, to become christians. Meanwhile, they are cultivating the jungle, taking contracts, setting up shops, starting fleets of trading boats, and generally enriching themselves and us. It is their industry which has so greatly improved the revenue. The delight of the

Karens at finding themselves equal to the Burmese, and their evidence in courts of law, is said to be most affecting.

CONVERSION OF ROMANISTS IN BELGIUM.

Montauban (Tarn and Garonne.)

July 26, 1856.

This country is distinguished for the efforts of Christians to promote the kingdom of Christ, and successfully. True, many Belgians are plunged in gross superstition, and listen to the priests as to angels from heaven. But others, and in great numbers, disgusted with the puerile practices of Popery, or revolted by the insatiable cupidity of the clergy, are eager to hear the Word of God; and when they have received it into their hearts, they join openly the Reformed communion.

The proof of this progress was furnished abundantly at the last annual Meeting of the Society for the Evangelization of Romanists in Belgium. I will quote, abridging some of the facts mentioned by the speakers.

M. Van Maesdyck, ex-Popish priest, converted to the faith of the Gospel for seventeen years, and pastor among the Flemish population of Brussels, has a flourishing congregation. "This flock," he said, "reckons now 1,300 members, most of whom were born in the errors of Romanism. At Vilvorde, near Brussels, a small congregation of Papists meet every Sunday, and an evangelist visits from house to house, during the week, those who dare not attend public service. So at Bruges—the stronghold of the Romish Church in Belgium—the work of the Lord begins to prosper.

A colporteur, ex-Papist, has there distributed, this year, more than 150 copies of the Scriptures, and 800 to 1,000 religious tracts. Further, he gathers every Sunday twenty to thirty hearers, eager to hear the truth. One of them has died in the faith, saying to the priest who exhorted him to confess, "I have found the only true Mediator, Jesus Christ, and I die in peace."

The Baron de Botzelaer next read the report on the Flemish school opened at Brussels two years ago. It has eighty pupils, of whom twenty belong to Romanist families.

M. Prader, pastor at Liege, gave some account of the state of religion in that great city. Liege contains about 80,000 inhabitants, of whom three-fourths are