

Central Committee at Berlin, local unions exist in various parts of Germany where teachers meet for discussion of methods and comparison of experience. The first great National Sunday-school Convention ever held on the European Continent was the Jubilee of German Sunday-schools, which was celebrated at Berlin, October 7th-9th, 1888, while commemorative services were held simultaneously in many towns and cities of Germany.

France has more than 1100 schools, with 4500 teachers and 115,000 scholars; Switzerland, 1500 schools, 6522 teachers, and 97,890 scholars; Holland, 1400 schools, 3800 teachers, and 150,000 scholars; Sweden and Denmark in nearly equal proportion. In Roman Catholic countries peculiar difficulties have been encountered; but Italy, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, and the republics of Central and South America have many faithful teachers, who, with the aid of attractive little papers supplied by the Association, have won the hearts of the children about them, and are doing untold good. The Sunday-schools on mission ground, though not originated by the Association, have been largely aided by it in supplies of papers and hymn-books, and its correspondents are found on every continent.

—The Catholic clergy of France number 55,540 men. Among these are found 18 archbishops, 69 bishops, 3420 pastors of various ranks, 182 vicars-general, 31,255 assistants, 7109 vicars, and 700 other ecclesiastics. The Reformed and other Protestant clergy number but 720. The religious budget—the amount the Government appropriates for the benefit of such denominations as are “recognized”—for 1892 is 45,057,157 francs. The foreign clergy who hear mass in any other language than French are not paid out of the State treasury.

—Berlin has for its 80,000 Jews, 8 synagogues; for its 120,000 Catholics, 10 churches and chapels; for its 1,250,000 Protestants, 44 churches and chapels—namely, 32 parochial and 6 “per-

sonal” congregations. In addition there are 36 places where public Protestant services are held each Sunday. Of these 20 are in institutions of various kinds, the remainder are the gathering places of the City Mission Society. In recent months 7 new churches have been begun, of which, however, 3 are to take the places of existing churches. And in this connection the statement, surprising, and almost incredible to American readers, is made that, if it had not been for the personal intervention of the Emperor and the Empress probably not a single one of these 7 new churches would now be in process of erection. Permission to build a new church in Berlin can be secured only when the proposal is passed upon favorably by no fewer than 19 official bodies and persons—an unheard-of amount of red tape! Many of these bodies and persons, that range from the Emperor down to the sanitary police, are antagonistic to the interests of the Church, and, if possible, delay or defeat such projects. In this way, only recently, two of the best building places in the city were lost to the Protestants and secured by the Catholics. The largest of the new churches has a seating capacity of 2000 and cost 400,000 marks.

—The “Encyclopædia of Missions” gives statistics of 8 societies doing missionary work in Mexico. They are these, and arranged in the order of the importance of their work as determined by figures: Methodist Episcopal, South, Methodist Episcopal, North, Presbyterian, South, Southern Baptist Convention, American Board, Associate Reformed Presbyterian Synod, and Cumberland Presbyterian. In all, these societies employ 51 male and 78 female missionaries, with 128 ordained natives and 199 other native helpers. In the 201 churches are found 13,263 members, and 6363 pupils in the 145 schools.

—Rev. M. C. Harris, Methodist Episcopal, San Francisco, writes: “In 1877 the first Japanese knocked at the doors of the Chinese Mission of this city. Dr.