

where, last year, a small church has been formed of six native converts. All the agencies—bazaar preaching, personal instruction, itinerating, and day school teaching—have been during the year steadily carried on. The experience, like that in every mission, has been chequered; but the encouragements predominate. Since the mission was opened, about 30 converts have been baptized, 10 having been added to the list during the past year. Several of these converts are persons of high Brahminical rank and good education, and some of them are now preaching the gospel, and are otherwise aiding efficiently in the work of the mission. There are 59 town and village day schools, where religious instruction is carefully given, attended by upwards of 2000 children, and the progress of the scholars is said to be encouraging. Several portions of the New Testament, catechisms, hymns, and tracts, printed in Marwari, Hindi, and Urdu, have been issued from the lithographic press; while the gospel was, in the cool season, widely preached in the districts around the stations, the missions meeting everywhere ready audiences.

We pass over Ningpo, Algiers, and the continent of Europe, on the two last named of which we have expended last year £1400.

It thus appears that, irrespective of what we have done for the spread of the gospel on the continent of Europe, we have had seven separate mission fields, viz., Jamaica, Trinidad, Old Calabar, Caffraria, Algiers, Rajpootana, and Ningpo in China. These missions have been carried on by 35 ordained European missionaries, 6 ordained native missionaries, 2 native preachers, 3 European medical missionaries, 10 European teachers, 16 native evangelists, and 104 native teachers; or, altogether, an educated agency of more than 170 persons. It appears, further, that there are 41 congregations, with an aggregate membership of 5176, of which 243 have been admitted for the first time, and that there are 116 week-day schools, attended by 5600 children.

We state the broad fact that our European agency is less than it was a few years ago,—a position that does not correspond to the progressive and expansive character of the New Testament Church, as drawn in the representations and promises of Scripture. Earnestly do we commend this matter to the consideration and the prayers of the very many in our Church who are waiting and longing for the coming of Christ's kingdom; and finally, do we beseech the Spirit of all grace to render effectual the measures which this synod is adopting for securing a growing supply of willing and gifted agents. The work is the Lord's, and He will accomplish it; but loving our Church as we do, we desire that it may have a large share in this blessed enterprise, and

that when the records of the future are opened and read, it may be found that the United Presbyterian Church took a distinguished part in realizing that joyful time when the exultant cry shall be heard, filling heaven and earth, "Alleluia, the Lord God omnipotent reigneth." (In the course of his address, Dr. Somerville presented to the moderator a copy of the Scriptures in the Esik tongue.)

Free Church Missions in India.

Rev. Mr. Sheshadri a native minister gives the following account of the work at Jalna:—

"The Jalna church has received thirty souls during the year. Twenty-three of these were adults, and the remaining seven children. This makes up our number to 116: eighty-eight of these are in full communion.

"Of the twenty-three adults that were received into the church, some occupy a high position in society. One of them is a commissioned officer in the Third Native Infantry. Two belonged to the native Roman Catholic Church. We have now eleven souls out of that communion. These people are very much annoyed by their former co-religionists; but, I trust, the annoyance and petty persecution to which they are subjected only serve to confirm them in their attachment to the form of faith they have newly embraced. They have all made most creditable progress in the Word of God, and thus shown the truth of the motto, 'The Bible, and the Bible alone, is the religion of Protestants.' The rest belonged to one of the aboriginal races of this vast continent.

They have it in contemplation to establish a Christian village. They are about to obtain a grant of land from Government, rent-free for twenty-five years. They have a number of converts without local interests or attachments, who will be the settlers. The site of the proposed village, which is to be called Bethel, is conspicuous from all sides; and its Sabbath-bell will be heard in many villages around. The Church will watch with no common interest the progress of this experiment.

A Providential Deliverance.

Under this heading *The Spirit of Missions* relates a signal instance of protection in imminent danger granted to the Episcopal mission under the superintendence of Bishop Payne in Africa:—

For some time past the natives in the vicinity of Cape Palmas who have not yet been brought under the power of the Gospel, have meditated an attack upon those