

Rioting broke out lately in Wexford, Ireland, and the mob made a bonfire of all the Bibles and hymns-books they could find. One Protestant was carried down to the harbour and was about being drowned, when some respectable Catholics interfered and saved him.

In 1831, when the population of London was a little more than a million and half, there were 31,563 apprehensions for drunkenness and disorderly conduct. In 1882, with a population which has increased to 4,990,952, the apprehensions had fallen to 26,296.

Asia.

Methodist Bible-school children are raising money to pay for a steam Mission yacht to be used on the Yang-tse-kiang river in China.

The revival in Japan is still going on. At Okayama thirteen applied for admission to Mr. Cary's (Congregational) church on the first Sunday in October.

The census of missions to be taken next year will, it is said, show an increase of 200,000 Christians in India, Ceylon and Burma for the last ten years—500,000 in all.

Within two months the inhabitants of three Christian villages in the Telugu country have been deprived of all work by their heathen masters, simply because they would not labour on the Sabbath. These people give the brightest and best of their sons and daughters to the service of Christ.

Oceania.

It is proposed to replace the missionary brig, the *Morning Star*; by a steam vessel if \$50,000 can be raised.

The Hawaiian law prohibiting Chinamen from coming to the islands has been repealed, and 3000 Chinese labourers have recently contracted for their passage there.

The Wesleyans, Primitive Methodists, and Bible Christians of New Zealand are considering a plan of union like that of the Methodists of Canada.

During the year 1882 the native Christians of the Savage Islands have contributed, mostly in produce, 9547*l.*, giving 60 2*ol.* to the London Missionary Society, which has charge of that field. This from a body of less than 6000 adherents—a result which is rarely surpassed.

NOT ALONE.

We do not labor alone. However feeble our hands that Mighty Hand is laid on them to direct their movements and to lend strength to their weakness. It is not our speech which will secure results, but His presence with our words, which shall bring it about that even through them a great number shall believe and turn to the Lord. There is our encouragement when we are despondent. There is our rebuke when we are self-confident. There is our stimulus when we are indolent. There is our quietness when we are impatient. If we are tempted to think our task heavy, let us not forget that He who set it helps us to do it, and from His throne shares in all our toils—the Lord still, as of old working with us. If ever we feel that our strength is nothing, and that we stand solitary against many foes, let us fall back upon the peace-giving thought that one man against the world, with Christ to help him, is always in the majority; and let us leave the issues of our work in His hands, who will guard the seed sown in weakness, and whose smile will bless the springing thereof.—*A. MacLaren.*

CROSSES.

What the woof is to the warp, crosses are to the character. Without the former, the latter is nothing but limp lines of thread without strength, without usefulness, without susceptibility of being made beautiful. But when crossed by the woof it becomes cloth fit for various uses, and capable of receiving a finish and an ornamentation which transforms it into a thing of beauty.

In like manner a man's character is limp, weak, unreliable, and unattractive until it has been subjected to many tests and trials. These, like the woof, cross and re-cross one's natural tendencies until resistance to evil begets strength, endurance, growth and moral beauty.

Why, then, should one fret against one's crosses? They are painful, vexatious, hard to be borne sometimes; but what are these ills, which are but for a moment, when compared with the exceeding and eternal weight of glory with which they are to be rewarded when the last one has been overcome? The brilliants in one's eternal crown will be the crosses of one's present life crystallized in the love and light of Heaven.—*Zion's Herald.*