

PALM ✨ BRANCH.

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St. JOHN, N. B.

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AFRICA and the Jews are the subjects given us for prayer this month. What can be more interesting to us all than the welfare of "The latest called of nations?"

If Africa was dear to the heart of the brave Livingstone, who endured so much privation and hardship that he might open it up to his own and other missionary effort, is it not still dearer to the heart of the Christ, who suffered to redeem it? And if it be dear to Christ, should it not be dear to us, for is not His cause our cause? Are not His interests our interests?

That missionary effort is not lost, even in Africa, we rejoice to know.

Take the love of Jesus out of your heart," cried a chief on the Niger to his slave, "or die." "I cannot do it," said the Christian negro; "for the Lord Jesus Christ came from heaven and put His love in my heart. He put a padlock on it, and has taken the key with him up to heaven."

Africa has suffered much from the horrors of the slave trade, but noble efforts have recently been made to stop this traffic in human flesh and blood, so that the future of the country will be better than the past, and Christianity will do for it what only Christianity can.

Then we are to pray for the Jews. Surely if any people need our prayers the Jews need them. "He came unto His own and His own received Him not." But we have recently read most encouraging news about them, which we are glad to be able to give you:

THE JEWS.

"A Judicial Murder" is the verdict pronounced by a committee of influential Russian Jews on the crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth. They have been carefully reviewing the character and claims of Jesus, and have come to the conclusion that He was the "Lord's Anointed," and that their forefathers made a mistake in His condemnation. This remarkable decision is but one of the

many indications of a movement of the Jewish people towards the acceptance of Jesus as the Messiah. Their hopes of his coming have been so long deferred, and the power of Jesus as the Christ has become so manifest in the world, that intelligent Jews are more and more impressed with the thought that the rulers at Jerusalem may have been in error, and that Jesus should have been recognized by their people as the Messiah foretold by the prophets. The wide circulation of Hebrew New Testaments, the Gospel tracts of Rabinowitz, and the labors of Rabbi Lichtenstein are having a powerful influence in this direction. Nearly one-half of the ten or twelve million Jews in the world are in Russia. It is necessary to remember that Jews who accept Jesus as the Messiah do not thereby become members of any existing branch of the Christian Church. We watch with absorbing interest to see in what lines the religious life and thought of these Jews who are passing from the old to the new dispensation will run. It takes us back to the beginning of the Christian era, and suggests the question: "Suppose the Jews had accepted Jesus as the Messiah. What would have been the religious history of the world, and what would be its conditions to-day?" —[Baptist Missionary Magazine.]

A very bright young lady, who is soon to sail as missionary to Turkey, says that her interest in missions began with reading "Mission Dayspring" and "Mission Stories in Many Lands." Are there not some of our readers who will sooner or later go as missionaries to foreign lands? That would be almost too good to be true.

And now has come the holiday season, and bees, and birds, and flowers, and sunshine all contribute to make the summer beautiful. But we realize that we must carry the sunshine in our hearts if we would reflect its rays on those around us. Let us be missionaries to that extent, even in our holidays, reflecting the rays of the Sun of Righteousness wherever we go.

We are planing something new for Palm Branch, if it be continued next year—something of more advantage to the Bands, but of this, anon.

FOR YOUNG WORKERS.

Find your work where Christ has put you.
 Seek to make at least one spot of the earth brighter by a deed of yours.

When you begin to worry, do not forget that God still has control of everything.

'It is in loving, not in being loved,
 The heart is blessed;
 It is in giving, not in seeking gifts,
 We find our rest.

Whatever be thy longing or thy need,
 That do thou give;
 So shall thy soul be fed and thou indeed
 Shalt truly live."