

with something over \$50,000. A most advantageous site was found, and at last, in 1872, the building was complete. Since then two additions have been made, and it stands now one of the most imposing edifices in Constantinople, exerting an influence over the whole empire. It is owned and managed by a Board of Trustees in New York City, and is entirely independent of any of the Societies. Those that have offices there—the American Bible Society, the American Board of Missions, and the British and Foreign Bible Society—all pay rent. The income, when the property is complete, will go to the general interests of Bible work in the Levant.—J. M. S.

THE protest against the manufacture of opium by the British government in India has been spread through the pages of this REVIEW (see p. 678 of 1888). But the extent of the evil is very little understood. Says the late Dr. Medhurst:

"Those who grow and sell the drug, while they profit by the speculation, would do well to follow the consumer into the haunts of vice, and mark the wretchedness, poverty, disease, and death which follow the indulgence; for did they but know the thousandth part of the evils resulting from it, they would not, they could not, continue to engage in the transaction. It has been told, and it shall be rung in the ears of the British public again and again, that opium is demoralizing China, and becomes the greatest barrier to the introduction of Christianity which can be conceived of. Calculating the shortened lives, the frequent diseases, and the actual starvation which are the results of opium-smoking in China, we may venture to assert that this pernicious drug annually destroys myriads of individuals."

A "Christian Union" has been formed in Britain for the extermination of this opium traffic. The circular gives some reasons for the formation of this union of prayer and protest, and among them are these:

"Because as a nation we are responsible through our Indian government for a trade which is ruining the bodies and souls, and destroying the homes of multitudes of the Chinese.

"Because our national connection with this evil traffic is peculiarly close and revolting. The

poppy is grown in Bengal alone over an extent of more than 500,000 acres, and this growth is carefully fostered by the Indian Government. The opium drug is manufactured under constant government direction and supervision. It is sold at auction by the government, expressly and intentionally for the Chinese market. Including that from the native states, about 85,000 chests, containing over 5,000 tons of opium, are thus exported annually from India to China, and a revenue of five, six, or seven millions sterling is derived by government from it. It is a great government institution, for which England is directly and peculiarly responsible.

"Because through many, many years this traffic has been carried on in spite of the remonstrances of the Chinese Government, and of the thousandfold testimony that it ministered only to debauchery and to moral and social ruin. The Convention of 1855, though it has given to the Chinese the right to put a heavier tax upon imported opium, has not altered in the slightest degree our own relations as a country to the gross immorality of the trade.

"Because while, for very shame's sake, we have done a little (only a little) to restrain the havoc which opium was working among our Burmese fellow-subjects, we have done *nothing* to check the ruin which it is working in China among a people in friendly alliance with us.

The Missionary Year-Book for 1889.

A "HAND-BOOK OF MISSIONS" was published in connection with the World's Missionary Conference in London, in June, 1888. The work was admirable in design and full of information. Its only serious defect related to the missions conducted in the United States and Canada. The account of these was extremely meager and inaccurate. A "Missionary Year-Book" is now in contemplation, the American and Canadian portions thereof to be written and edited by Rev. J. T. Gracey, D. D., who has charge of the international department in this REVIEW. This will be united to a somewhat larger department relating to European missions, and the whole will be published simultaneously on both sides of the Atlantic. It is proposed to give in this work a full presentation of the work of the American societies, as well as historical and statistical accounts of the principal Protestant Missionary Societies in Great Britain, and Continental Europe.

This valuable Missionary Year-Book will be published by Fleming H. Revell, Chicago, and Bible House, New York.