

the south, holding classes for inquirers and preaching the gospel to the people who come out to hear.

Syria.—The first volume of Dr. Eddy's Arabic Commentary on the New Testament, including Matthew and Mark, has been published in a book of nearly six hundred pages.

—The Abeih field has a force of 50 workers, 39 being teachers and 8 licensed preachers. There are 4 organized churches, with a membership of 297, 24 having been added during the past year. Regular preaching services are maintained at 18 places. There are 20 Sabbath-schools, with 980 scholars; 43 high and common schools enroll 1,681 scholars. The total contributions for benevolence and education amounted to \$2,308.

—The Death of Dr. Meshaka, of the Jewish mission in Damascus, is a great loss. Says the *Presbyterian Messenger*, London:

"He was, perhaps, the oldest Protestant Christian in Syria, and exerted a powerful influence for good. He was respected by his townsmen of all classes and creeds, and his funeral was the largest ever seen in Damascus. The streets, windows and house-tops were crowded all the way through the city, and even outside the gate vast crowds were assembled."

Turkey.—Government opposition to all evangelical influences is manifested in restrictive legislation towards the mission schools, and in interference with the personal liberty of native teachers, and sometimes of missionaries. Mr. Straus, the American minister at Constantinople, is ably guarding the interests submitted to his care, and his efforts are warmly appreciated by the missions, and are worthy of hearty commendation. . . . Colleges at Aintab, Harpoot, and Marsovan, almost the only schools of this grade in the Turkish Empire, the great number of boarding-schools for boys and girls in all these missions, and the far greater number of day-schools taught by graduates of these higher schools, are far superior to all other schools of the same grade in the land, and are steadily pervading the life of the whole people with the sentiments and examples of the Christian faith. The theological seminaries at Marsovan, Harpoot, and Marash are quietly raising their standards according to the growing needs of the field and the better class of candidates for the ministry furnished by the colleges.—*Report to the American Board.*

United States.—Magnificent Gift for Freedmen. Securities to the amount of \$1,000,-894.25 have been placed in the hands of the treasurer of the American Missionary Association by Mr. Daniel Hand of Clinton, Conn. The interest of this munificent gift is to be spent every year in the education of the colored youth of the South, and is given by one who for many years was in business in the South. He has had a purpose to devote his fortune to this work for a long time, and has fulfilled it in the closing years of his life. He is now in the eighty-ninth year of his age. It is said that

he was for more than thirty years superintendent of the Sabbath-school of the First Presbyterian Church, Augusta, Ga.

—A Gift of Books. The author and publishers of "The Crisis of Missions," Rev. Dr. Pierson and Robert Carter & Brothers, have offered to the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions a second thousand copies for gratuitous distribution. These will be sent promptly by the Board, postpaid to all who will order them with the understanding that they are to be read and loaned to others. A thousand copies have been offered by the same parties to the American Board.

—The M. C. A. The eleventh World's Y. M. C. A. Conference, at Stockholm, in August, showed the American continent at the front of this great work. The United States and Canada, taken together, report 1,240 associations and 152,721 members. Canada organized the first association on the American continent in Montreal on the 9th of December, 1851. The choice is to be between Amsterdam and Paris for the twelfth World's Y. M. C. A. Convention.

—Christian Endeavor. The report of the Seventh Annual Convention of the Society of Christian Endeavor gives the very rapid growth of this movement within two or three years, until it numbers over five thousand societies with over three hundred thousand members (while scores of new societies are being formed every week in all denominations). This indicates a widespread desire and need for that which in some degree at least is met by this organization. The United Society of Christian Endeavor asks no allegiance, exercises no authority, levies no taxes. It simply exists to give information, and to aid the societies, by giving them the best methods by which young people can be trained for usefulness in the Church. Its affairs are managed by representatives of the evangelical denominations.

—Protestant Episcopal Missions. The 20th annual session of the Missionary Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church was recently held in Washington, D. C. About 250 delegates were present. The report of the Board of Managers of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society showed that the society has in foreign lands 41 principal and 145 out stations, an increase of 37 since last year; that it has 133 missionaries and 227 native helpers in the field, an increase of about 60; that it has 91 day and boarding schools, an increase of 12, and 3,364 pupils, an increase of 793. At the hospitals and dispensaries in Japan and China 16,341 individuals were treated during the year. The treasurer's report shows a balance of \$53,000 to the credit of foreign missions. The report of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions showed that the gifts in money and boxes this year amount to \$76,154.

—Inter-Seminary Alliance. The meeting held in Boston this year was the largest of the gatherings of this association ever held. It was the ninth convention. Five hundred young men from the seminaries were reported to be present. The papers presented were valuable. Drs. Herrick Johnson, Phillips Brooks, A. J. Gordon and Joseph Cook stirred the hearts of these young men.