

cape; but from the state of the country at the present time, it is not considered prudent for me to go to the south. I shall therefore return, God willing, to my duty in New South Wales. When this country is more settled in its political affairs, something may be done in the south. My eyes are dim with age like Issac's: it is with some difficulty that I can see to write."

EUROPE.

GERMANY.

Of the importance of Germany (said Professor Sears, at the late anniversary of the Baptist General Tract Society) I need hardly speak. It has a common language, spoken from the Baltic to the Alps, and from the borders of Holland almost to the Turkish dominions, and by her colonies so numerous and large in the Russian dominions and America. It is the centre of Europe; and in religion and philosophy is at this moment, exerting a wider power than any other country in Christendom. France has, in this respect, lost the first rank. Her language and literature have lost their magic. Germany, with her universities, frequented by the youth, not only of the northern, but also of the southern and western nations of Europe—universities which are becoming the models to other nations, and in which are trained those who, in ancient learning, are the teachers and guides of their respective countries; Germany, surrounded on every side by those who are drinking in her influences, and who are crossing her territories in visiting other nations, cannot be an unimportant country. Whatever acts upon Germany, acts upon all Europe.

The character of the people is very favorable to religious impressions. They are characterized by simplicity of heart, by honesty, by fidelity, and by a love of religious fervor. They have few prejudices against foreign books and foreign opinions; they have a curiosity to know what others believe, and whether there may not be some truth in it. The present state of theology invites evangelical effort. Rationalism has had its reign; truth and nature are beginning to return, after the impulse which removed them has spent its force. The public mind is in agitation, and while its tendencies are towards sound religion, it is peculiarly open to impression. Revivals under young preachers of the new generation are becoming common in Pomerania, in Silesia, and in the West of Germany. In such a crisis every effort is of great importance.

Furthermore, the character of their religious books leaves to us much unoccupied

ground. Their books are, with the exception of elementary works for their schools, either critical works for the learned, or merely sentimental productions, dealing only in the poetry of religion. Works on practical piety, combining solid argument with warm appeals to the heart, are scarcely known there. Writings of such a cast as these of Andrew Fuller are not to be found at all. There is, therefore, an inviting sphere of action before this Society.

Of the Rev. Mr. Oncken, he says: He was the first Christian I saw in Germany. I have spent weeks in his family: have travelled with him; have been with him to men in power, and in the abodes of poverty; I have heard him lift the voice of ardent prayer in the house of nobility, and in the house of affliction and distress; I have heard him exhorting in private, and preaching with a subduing eloquence and holy fervor in public; and I feel called upon to bear this public testimony to his inestimable worth.

BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

ENGLAND.

The following extracts from Mr. Thomas's letter, to Mr. Pearce (now in England) will shew that the recent steps taken in that country to effect a combination of missionary effort, by our denomination, in India, have been as acceptable to friends on the spot as they have been to those at home:—

Calcutta, March 14th, 1838.

My dear Brother,—After long waiting, with a bitter taste of what the sacred writer meant, when he said, "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick," I had the unspeakable satisfaction of receiving your letters of November and December, on Friday evening last, March 9th. Great delay took place in the transmission of the mail from Bombay. We had Bombay newspaper intelligence of its arrival there on Tuesday, though the express did not reach Calcutta before Friday. Having been disappointed in getting your letters for September and October, I was exceedingly anxious. I leave you to conjecture the relief the mere sight of the letters brought to my mind; their contents were joy and gladness; we were all ready to break forth aloud, and, with David, to "call upon our souls and all within us to bless and praise the holy name of Jehovah." From this time it shall be said, "What hath God wrought!" Thanks, a thousand times over, for the news you have conveyed about the transfer—a transfer made in such a manner! Surely it is the Lord's doing, and marvellous in our