

AFRICA.

—Unoccupied mission territory to the extent of 4,000,000 square miles still exists in Central Africa, an area larger than the whole of Europe, says Rev. George Grenfell, of the Baptist Congo Mission.

—It must not be supposed that all British commercial companies are wholly without conscience and wholly given to gain. The British East Africa Company, for instance, in its scheme for raising revenue within its territories forbids the growth, sale, and use of opium, *bhany*, or *ganji*. It entirely prohibits the passage of ardent spirits into the interior, and near the coast it places heavy restrictions upon licensing liquor-shops. It recognizes the helpfulness of missionary laborers, and exempts all ministers from taxation. In a similar spirit the African Lakes Company is conducting its operations north of the Zambesi.

—The Belgium Roman Catholics are pushing their work in the Congo Free State. One order has 5 stations occupied by a dozen priests, extending from the coast beyond the last Baptist station. The Bishop of Ghent also has a station at Matadi; and the Sisters of Charity occupy 3 stations on the Lower Congo. A mission steamer of seven tons is being built for use upon the river. The Jesuits and Carthusian friars are also entering the field; and on the eastern coast are found the white Fathers of the congregation of Cardinal Lavignerie. More than 100 priests and novices besides Sisters of Charity have recently entered, or soon will enter, that country as missionaries.

—The Italian expedition to Abyssinia has had at least the one good result of reopening that land to the messengers of a living Christianity. The lowland along the coast has been in possession of the Italians for some three years, and this, the "Erythrean Colony," has been made the basis of further operations on the part of the Gospel workers. The

agents of the British Bible Society have kept step with the Italian soldiers, and Swedish missionaries have been laboring here since 1866. In 1877, with the assistance of General Gordon, they established the station Moncullo, near Massower; and this is the first evangelical congregation in Abyssinia, consisting chiefly of natives. Representatives of the Basle Society have been engaged here for fifty years, but have been expelled several times. The station Moncullo has gradually become a village. Among the 60 pupils in the boys' school, 38 are Abyssinians, 10 heathen Gallas, and the others Mohammedans. The Swedes have advanced to the mountain districts inland, and several Abyssinian priests have been converted. The protection of the Italian army and the medical work of the Swedes have been valuable factors in these successes. Fully 2000 natives come into contact with the mission and the missionaries every week.

—The Ovambo Mission of the Finnish Missionary Society, on the west coast of South Africa, was opened in 1868, but its work has often been hindered, and several times has been nearly broken up by wars among the natives. Nine stations are now maintained. At a single one, Lanomø Harbor, 153 persons were baptized in 1891, making the number of converts 312 at the close of the year. An additional missionary has recently gone to that field, and another will be sent during the coming summer.

ASIA.

China.—The China Inland Mission reports 123 additions to its force the past year, making the whole number now engaged in that work 512, occupying 94 different points.

—Summing up for the year 1891, Secretary Mitchell, of the Presbyterian Foreign Missionary Board, says of the work in China that the presbytery of the province of Shantung, which now embraces 28 churches, 7 of which have