

mainly through the agency of the American Presbyterian mission. Arabic is the language used by all. Six of the 7,000,000 of inhabitants are Mohammedans, and Bible distribution among them is much less restricted than in Turkey. The following figures show how the work has expanded in the last thirty years. From 1865-74 the number of copies distributed was 6630. From 1875-84 it was 45,586; and from 1885-94 it was 116,474.

—The news of a meeting of Christians, Mohammedans, and pagans at Ibadan, on the West Coast of Africa, for the purpose of condemning the drink traffic, sounds strange but hopeful. The people have taken the matter up themselves, and in the Yoruba language have condemned Europe for its deadly work, and pledged themselves to support every effort which may be made in Europe or Africa to bring it to an end. One of the speakers referred to the love of some of his countrymen for liquor in this language: "In talking to you, countrymen, to give up the liquor traffic, you will not like to hear, because it is as one announcing to you the sad news of the death of your dear father or mother."

—Six guineas were recently sent to Dr. Barnardo, for his homes in London, from the boys and girls of Lovedale Missionary Institution, South Africa. "This sum," said the accompanying letter, "is the amount of their church-door collection for a school session, and the destination of the money was entirely of their own proposing. Many of these Kaffir boys and girls know a good deal about your work, and are interested in it."

—The Witwatersrand gold-bearing formation of Africa, which has attracted great attention, is more than 50 miles long, and the works of the mines extend over 20 miles of this distance. There are employed about the works

50,000 natives and 8000 European miners, and there are 2700 stamps in operation. Moreover, this body of ore, which is more regularly distributed than the ore of any other gold region in the world, shows no signs of decreasing, and experts estimate the value of the gold in the Witwatersrand district at between £300,000,000 and £350,000,000. The profits of working are enormous, especially since the application of what is known as the cyanide process of extraction secures from 80 to 85 per cent of the gold in the ore, instead of the 50 per cent that was the rule under the old system.

—In a recent interview with a press agency, Mr. Pilkington, of the Uganda Mission, said: "Since the proclamation of the protectorate in Uganda, matters have been much more settled—the natives realizing that the British will not now leave the country. A large number of the Mohammedans who left the country after the recent rising are returning from the German territory, and are quietly settling down. The two great factions of the Waganda people—the Protestants and the Roman Catholics—are living amicably together, and there is no prospect of any political strife between them. The Mohammedans in the country are quite friendly, particularly with the Protestants."

—The defeat of the Italians in Abyssinia is a serious reverse; and more serious is the report that the Abyssinians are advancing against the Italians with 100,000 men. These Abyssinians are bitter fighters, and have before now beaten small European armies. It is likely to be a heavier task to conquer Ras Alula than the Italians may relish; but their colonial policy is probably a wise one, and it will have the support of England, which gives permission for the Italian troops to march from Erythrea on Kassala, which is in the English sphere.—*Independent*.