

from the missionaries of the progress of their labours—to afford them opportunities of obtaining encouragement and counsel from their brethren—and, also, to consider various practical questions regarding the best modes of dealing with Jewish unbelief.

Extension of the Mission.—For the occupation of new fields, the services of well-qualified probationers of our own Church are earnestly desired; and in order to incite our students to undertake the work, Mr. Sutter was invited to spend a few weeks in Scotland. He, along with Mr. Laceron, visited our University seats, and both were instrumental in stirring up an earnest zeal for the conversion of the Jews. One student, of high character and attainments, is mentioned as having devoted himself to the cause; and it is believed that others are disposed to follow his example.

Attention has been directed to Paris as an eligible field for the Church of Scotland to occupy for the Mission. In that city there are twenty thousand Jews, nearly all Germans; among whom it is believed that there are peculiar facilities for missionary labour, if the services of a well-qualified agent could be secured. The Rev. Mr. Meyer, minister of the German Evangelical Church at Paris, is most desirous that we should send thither a Jewish missionary; and assures us, that "though Paris has hitherto been strangely overlooked by societies for the conversion of Israel, there are few fields of labour more interesting and important." Equally encouraging accounts have been received from other sources; and it is hoped that the metropolis of France may, ere long, be added to the stations of the Jewish Mission.

Ladies' Association.—There is a highly efficient school supported by this Association in connexion with the Mission at Cochun; and an Orphanage, which, through the zealous exertions of Mr. Laceron, during his residence in this country, and the liberal contributions he has succeeded in obtaining, will be greatly extended and improved. In London, the Ladies' devoted agent, Mrs. Rosenfeldt, and in Germany, their no less devoted missionaries—Miss Muttelbach at Karlsruhe, and Miss Huth at Darmstadt—have, during the past year, been labouring with all their accustomed energy and fidelity, and not without encouraging tokens of success, for the spiritual enlightenment of the much neglected daughters of Israel. This Association is warmly recommended to the support of all who are interested in the cause.

Funds.—The whole income of the Committee during the past year is £3189 0s. 3d., being £315, 12s. 8d. above the income of the previous year.

The expenditure of the Committee during the past year was £2416 3s. 3d., being £61 4s. 8d. less than that of the previous year.

Two thousand pounds of accumulated capital have been laid aside as a reserve fund, to meet extraordinary contingencies.

In urging the desire for a continuance of the support hitherto afforded to the Mission, and an earnest call upon aspirants to the ministry to devote themselves to the work, the Report concludes: "Let it not be forgotten how greatly we are indebted, under God, to Jewish instrumentality for all the spiritual blessings which we ourselves enjoy. The prophets were Israelites. The apostles and other first preachers of the faith were Israelites. And even the adorable Saviour himself was, after the flesh, descended from the tribe of Judah. Let us, then, endeavour to repay this mighty debt. Let us seek, in our turn, to give back to Jews those privileges and advantages which, through Jews, have been conveyed to us, that so, 'through our mercy they may obtain mercy.' Let our resolution be that of the ancient prophet: 'For Zion's sake I will not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth.'"

We have thus given a brief summary of the whole Schemes of the Church in her efforts for the diffusion of the Gospel at home and abroad. As usual, we add a note of the entire voluntary aid extended to them.

Sums collected during the Year 1853-54.	
EDUCATION Scheme	£8105 5 7
Do. East and West India Fund	209 0 6
Do. Agricultural Instruction	19 5 2
Ladies' Gaelic School Society	847 10 1
Elders' Daughters' Association	127 15 11
INDIA Mission	5214 8 0
St. Stephen's Congregation for Ghospata	140 0 0
Ladies' Association for Female Education in India	1650 11 2
HOME Mission	3,415 14 2
COLONIAL Churches	3225 2 5
Jews' Conversion	2961 19 4
Ladies' Association for Jewish Females, for year ending 15th October, 1853	440 12 1
Do. do. Cochun Orphanage Fund,	212 12 2
ENDOWMENT Scheme	5176 5 1
LAY Association	2249 9 11
Ladies' Association for Promoting Female Industrial Education in Scotland,	280 0 0
CENTRAL Protestant Society of France	451 15 3
Collectors for Liquidation of Chapel Debts	556 12 7
	£39,613 19 9

The foregoing is necessarily exclusive of the good deeds of private benevolence and local effort; and we cannot divest ourselves of the belief, that especially in Schemes for Education and Endowment these have been great and praiseworthy. And to all this we must add that noblest wealth of treasury of the Church,—those riches of the poorest—that might of the weakest—the believing prayers of faith.

We do not mean to say that we have now exhibited anything like a full view of the results of the missionary work. We have but traced the courses of its streams. We know little of their fructifying, their blessing and beautifying influences. It is ours to plant and to water. The Lord of the vineyard can alone supply the increase. By our labours of love at home and abroad many a cloud of ignorance may have been dispelled—many a weary soul may have found rest—many a cry of sorrow may have been hushed by the soft music of heavenly

joy. But that record is in heaven. It is enough for the Church to know that her Heavenly Master has proclaimed: "I know thy works." Yet, in the view of that divine assurance, can she regard her efforts with complacency? Have we rendered a full obedience to Him who suffered so much for us? It was a striking reproof of the prophet to the disobedient Saul: "What meaneth, then, the bleating of the sheep in mine ear, and the lowing of the oxen, which I hear?" Ah! well might that reproof have a voice for us. What mean the ignorance and infidelity which surround us, and the outcries of vice and crime which shock our very feelings of humanity? What mean the overshadowings of the gross darkness which covers heathen lands and enshrouds their peoples? What meaneth the unrent veil which still darkens the face of Israel? These are enquiries which the Church cannot too anxiously regard. They convey an appeal to every one of her members. Would that it were answered through redoubled efforts in our prayers and contributions!

The Protestant Church and its Bible and Religious Tract Societies.

The British and Foreign Bible Society may be adduced as forming the most remarkable illustration of the progress made during the last half-century, in leavening the world with the Word of God. Previous to its formation, there was not one society in existence, whose sole object was the distribution of the Bible in all lands. There are now upwards of 9000 Bible Societies. In 1804, as far as can be ascertained, there existed in the world about four millions of Bibles. Now there are between thirty and forty millions. In 1804 the Bible had been published in only forty-eight or forty-nine languages. It now exists in about 140. In 1804 it was accessible to only 200 millions of men. Now it exists in tongues spoken by 600 millions. The Bible Society of London alone sends forth annually upwards of a million of copies of the Word of God. During the last fifty years it has issued about twenty-three millions of Bibles; while upwards of thirty-three millions have been distributed by all the Protestant Bible Societies throughout the world, since the commencement of the present century. We may ask in passing,—on the supposition of Popery being the religion of Christ, as revealed in the Word of God, and Protestantism being a deadly heresy, and opposed to that Word,—how comes it that Protestants should be so zealous in disseminating the Sacred Volume, which, if they are believing a lie, should condemn their denial of the truth, and that Romanists should be so opposed to, and so terrified for, the circulation of the same Word, which must be supposed to establish the claims, the doctrines, and practices of their Church, if it be, as they allege it is, the true and only Church of Christ? Why has not Rome her Bible Society in-