

tribute of goodwill. Already many of the deputies who voted against the Floquet ministry regret its fall. It is quite possible that General Boulanger will yet be called to form a ministry. If so, Boulanger as a minister may be the very personage who will destroy the influence of Boulanger as an agitator.

England is soon to undergo another invasion. Recently Buffalo Bill stormed the cities. Now two American baseball teams are advancing by way of India. They have won laurels in the far-off Australian lands. They propose to play under the shadow of the Pyramids, to have games in the Coliseum, startle Vienna and Paris with their alertness and nimble ways, and then invade England in time to reach the United States in April. The young players will be more than welcome and thousands of the sedate islanders will heartily cheer the antics of the youngsters, for the average Britisher, when he really indulges in sport, does it with a zest which few if any other nation can excel. These games, though they be but trifles, awaken an interest and goodwill between the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon race.

J. H. WARD.

EUROPE, February 23, 1889.

#### FROM SWITZERLAND.

We have just completed the statistical report of the Swiss and German Mission for 1888, which is as follows: Elders, 43; Priests, 17; Teachers, 29; Deacons, 6; members, 635; total officers and members, 730. The baptized new members during the year numbered 80. There are laboring in this mission 18 Seventies, 3 High Priests and 4 Elders from Utah and Idaho, also one native traveling Elder. All are earnestly engaged in their calling.

Our paper, the *Stern*, issued on the 1st and 15th of each month, has a circulation of 800. The publication was commenced by Prof. Karl G. Maeser in 1868. It is now sent to nearly every part of the world and has become a necessity to many of the German-speaking Saints. It is well supported by the Saints at home, but its circulation could still be greatly enlarged if all who should do so would take an active interest in the same.

Brother J. U. Stucki, our faithful and energetic president, is making preparations to bring the principles of the Gospel more fully before the people of these lands, so that they may learn of the doctrines we ourselves believe in and be warned of the judgments which will surely come. The Elders are furnished with tracts from the office, and are requested to go from house to house, visit and tract every village, town and city in Switzerland. For this purpose we had 10,000 tracts printed in December, 1888, and 50,000 of another sort will shortly come from the printer. There are, no doubt, right here in this little country thousands who have never heard the sound of the Gospel of Jesus Christ as revealed anew to Joseph Smith, the great Prophet of God for this dis-

pensation. These we desire to reach, and while we realize that a small tract will not give anyone a complete understanding of the principles of the Gospel, yet it may induce the honest in heart to investigate more fully, and those who seek after truth may thus be found.

Infidelity, religious indifference, ecclesiastical hatred, and the late interference of the civil authorities here may keep some from investigating and others from joining the truth. Still the work of God continues to make slow but steady progress in this mission, and we realize that the same is not completed yet. A great work is still to be done. Good, faithful, energetic Elders who are not afraid to meet the scorn, hatred and abuse of the world, men who love the truth, the cause of Christ and their fellow men, are needed in this mission, and all who may come here to labor as missionaries must prepare to encounter and endure the privations and hardships so common to the Elders of Israel in other lands. Times and conditions have greatly changed here within the last few years. No one should come without a proper passport (not only his certificate of citizenship), which will be needed and may perhaps not be obtained here so long as such narrow-minded men as the United States consul in Bern has proven himself to be represent our great government. Quite a few earnest, careful workers of German birth who are citizens of America could be used to good advantage in Germany. The work of God in this mission is not one of great outward show, but of quiet, earnest, unflinching integrity which will test the patience and enduring qualities of the Elders. It is and will have to be prosecuted in the face of great opposition with seemingly little success.

The great preparations for war which the nations of Europe, and even little Switzerland, have been and are still making are sapping their financial foundations. The poverty of the lower classes is appalling, and the end is not yet. Hence the Elders of Israel, laboring as we do mostly among the poor, are obliged to undergo many hardships, and at times may be permitted to suffer a little; but He in whose service we are will take care of every one who will serve Him in spirit and in truth.

A great deal is still being said about the slavery into which "Mormon" emigrants are led when they arrive in Utah; and the false, baseless and shamefully slanderous reports which originated with a certain professor in Salt Lake City, and so extensively issued against the work of God in this land, are still bearing their evil fruits.

The following are the results of the census taken in Switzerland on November 3, 1888: Total population, 2,934,055—males 1,427,375; females 1,506,680, or 79,305 more females than males. Religiously they divide as follows: 1,725,155 Protestants; 1,189,819 Catholics; 8,386 Jews and 10,695 who profess other or no religion. In regard to language (the mother tongue) the nation

stands thus: German 2,092,562; French 637,940; Italian 158,602; Romanish 38,370; other languages 8,575.

Switzerland has an excellent school system, with compulsory attendance. No religion is to be taught therein. Last week the Roman Catholic Bishop in Basel issued his customary "first mandate" to be read in all the churches of the Roman Catholic faith. It was submitted to the legislative assembly or the "Kantonsrath" of the Kanton Berne. These liberty-loving *solons* issued a decree forbidding the mandate to be read in their Canton, because it contained the following paragraph addressed to the Roman Catholics: "You are aware that in the organization of the public schools there is no room for church authorities. Just at a time when it is highly necessary that diligence should be used in educating the young and tender hearts in the principles of Christianity the precepts of religion are silent. No one can therefore look into the future of the rising generation without fear."

These words of truth were too much. They were construed into an interference in school matters and had to be removed before the "mandate" was allowed to be read. One who reads the daily papers can plainly see that the old hatred between the two great churches here, the Roman-Catholic and its apostate daughter the Protestant Church, is still existing. This hatred will show its ugly head in the pulpit, the press, and the social circle, and in almost all the departments of State. True, Rome is making every effort to regain its former power and position among the nations of Europe. Conversions to its faith are frequent, and the old mother church, as she styles herself, is no doubt gaining ground; but can her aggressions be stemmed by such ridiculous proceedings as the one selected? Will it not rather strengthen her cause? Truly, "the wisdom of the wise shall perish and the understanding of the prudent come to naught." This prophecy is being fulfilled both in the old and new world. The works of men have within them the germ of death.

President Stucki is at present on a tour through East Switzerland and South Germany.

The *DESERET NEWS* is welcomed with joy, and the *DESERET WEEKLY* is, in our humble opinion, "just the thing." We are also grateful for the *Juvenile Instructor*, the *Contributor* and other home papers that reach this office regularly. Through them we are kept informed in regard to home matters and the spirit of Zion, which we are watching with keen interest, notwithstanding that we are over 8000 miles away.

I rejoice in my labors, and feel thankful to our Heavenly Father for His aid and blessing, and, above all, for the testimony of Jesus Christ. My earnest prayer is for the welfare of Zion and the cause of truth in all the world. THEO. BRANDLEY.

POSTGASSE 36, Bern, Switzerland, Feb. 20, 1889.