

and moral capital such as no previous generation ever presented. Think what Paul would do if he had the chance which this generation supplies of expending his life for Christ and souls! Here are two nations, excelled by none in the Orient for average capacity and culture, waiting for the right man to take the rudder and guide the coming State. A. T. P.

—The outbreaks of personal violence in missionary fields of late are very significant. An attempt was made to murder Rev. D. W. Frazier, of the Presbyterian Board, in Greenville, West Africa, but baffled by the fact that he and his boys were armed. Rev. Mr. Newby, in Monsterrade County, was shot and killed for the sake of land he had bought and improved. At the same time Mr. Frazier himself bears witness that the missionary spirit has never risen to so high a flood mark!

At the same time the anti-foreign reaction in Japan is creating alarm. On April 4th two armed, masked men entered the house of Rev. T. A. Large, of the Canada Methodist Mission in Tokio, and in attempting to drive out the intruders he received deadly wounds and his wife was wounded in the face and had two fingers cut off. On the 14th of May Rev. J. Summers, of the Church of England, driving out with his wife met the carriage of the Empress Dowager of Japan. Because he did not lift his hat in salute when as yet the carriage was only approaching, an advance guard struck off his hat with the butt of his lance. The "*soshi*," the "young America" of Japanese society, followed this assault by rude and irritating conduct in their zeal to defend the honor of the royal family, and Mr. Summers has resolved to return to England. The insult seems purely gratuitous and inexcusable. Only three days later, at a game of foot ball between the pupils of two native schools, Dr. Imbrie, of the Presbyterian Mission, to avoid a roundabout walk stepped over a low

hedge into the playground. This was signal for a rude assault, in which stones and even knives came into play. But for the fact that it was discovered by the assailants that he was a teacher in one of the schools his life might have been sacrificed.

Meanwhile, in Utsunomiya, the Buddhists had organized a society, supported by the money of citizens not worthy of the highest esteem, hired a theatre and employed a lecturer to abuse Christianity publicly. When a challenge to public discussion was wisely declined by the Christians about 300 men came from the theatre on Sunday evening, and not only interrupted the service of worship but broke the windows and some of the seats, and only the police prevented further violence.

All these are significant signs. We read of the devil as coming down, "having great wrath because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." It would seem that Satan begins to tremble for the stability of his kingdom in this world. Were missions the failure some would make us think he would not trouble himself much about them. Evidently Satan does not agree with some modern critics of missions.

But more than this, we think we see a decided sign of God's providence in permitting these outrages. Missions have been in danger of being invested with a false "romance." On one hand one would suppose from the halo with which heathenism is surrounded that the "Light of Asia" is quite sufficient to illumine the world. And on the other, we fear that the necessity for the martyr spirit has in the eye of some disappeared in the rapid advances of modern civilization and culture. We have heard young men exhorted to go to these far-off lands on the ground that no such self-denials are now required as once were; that they would find all the comforts and luxuries of modern civilization surrounding them in these