

seats of Mohammedan population and power.

—In Persia, as elsewhere in the Orient, the missionaries are sorely perplexed over the problem of what to do about the steady stream of promising young men continually setting toward Europe and America for education and other purposes. Many of them are thus lost to their people, though converted and educated in the mission schools; or, if they return full of evangelistic zeal, they bring also so many Occidental ideas and tastes as to be largely unfitted for service. In particular, their demands for salary are altogether beyond the ability of the poverty-stricken population to pay.

—Communications from Persia to English papers credit Miss Bradford, an American missionary, with remarkably faithful service during the recent cholera epidemic. While others fled, she stayed bravely at her post nursing the sick, and by her efforts many lives were spared.

China.—The region of Western China alone, that magnificent new world now fast opening to exploration and commerce, a region comprising the three provinces of Szechuen, Yunnan, and Kweichow, is larger by 20,000 square miles than Great Britain, Ireland, and France, and contains 80,000,000 inhabitants.

—It is two years since a band of missionaries assembled at Shanghai, China, issued a call for "one thousand men for China," to be sent within five years from the issuing of the call. It was a large draft, apparently, upon the forces of the Church at home, but it is likely to be honored. It is said that three hundred and fifty of the recruits called for are already in the field. Fully five hundred young men are preparing to be preachers of the Gospel, and probably one hundred and fifty more getting ready to be medical missionaries. It is a good time to live.

—In Mongolia the missionary is often asked to perform absurd, laughable, or

impossible cures. One man wants to be made clever, another to be made fat; another to be cured of insanity, another of tobacco, another of whiskey, another of hunger, another of tea; another wants to be made strong, so as to conquer in gymnastic exercises; most men want medicine to make their beards grow; while almost every man, woman, and child wants to have his or her skin made as white as that of the foreigner.

—In a Chinese Christian family at Amoy, a little boy, on asking to be baptized, was told that he was too young; that he might fall back if he made a profession when he was only a little boy. To this he made the reply, Jesus has promised to carry the lambs in His arms. I am only a little boy; it will be easier for Jesus to carry me." This logic was too much for the father. He took him with him, and the child was soon baptized.

—Robert Morrison went to China in 1807, and died after twenty-seven years of labor, in 1834. At his death there were only *four converts* and *four Protestant missionaries in the whole empire*. Now we find Morrison's converts replaced by a host numbering 35,000 church-members who last year gave \$44,000 for the spread of the Gospel in their own land. "Behold these shall come from far; and lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim [or China]" (Isa. 49:12).

—Again has the fateful Hoang-ho, or Yellow River, overflowed its banks, spreading destruction far and wide. The number of victims is stated at 50,000.

—Manchuria, though lying outside the limits of China proper, is yet a portion of that vast empire. Its area is about 400,000 square miles, and the population 12,000,000. Rev. John Ross, of the Scottish United Presbyterians, was the pioneer missionary, entering that country in 1872, and was soon followed by others, some of them sent by the Irish Presbyterian Church. And