

the election. The Bishopric of Haarlem is at this moment vacant. And there remains only one man—The Bishop of Deventer—who is believed to possess the needful qualifications for performing the ceremony. It may well be supposed that the Jesuits look upon this critical state of matters as an indication of the divine displeasure, and some of them present to nip the now schism in the bud by making the Bishopric of Deventer vacant likewise. Jansenism in a valid church form would then become extinct; and Dr. Reinkens' orders would for ever after be sneered at as on a level with those of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

SYRIA.—One of the Missionaries at Harpoot writes in the *Harpoot News*:—"The chief direct labour among the Mohammedans in Turkey is by the sale of the Scriptures, which are found in the hands of many. Visiting the pasha of this district a few days since, we were not a little surprised to find him thoroughly at home in opening to chapter and verse in the New Testament, a copy of which was in his possession. We, at his own request, recently furnished the military pasha here with a Bible, and some time since sold copies to the cadi and the chief of the custom-house. Sales of Testaments in the Turkish tongue and character are becoming quite frequent.

"It must be confessed, that few seem to feel any spiritual interest in it as God's Book. Their chief aim seems to be to gratify curiosity somewhat as we should in reading the Koran. They, however, acknowledge the Scriptures to be from God, but say that they have been corrupted.

"They take much satisfaction in turning text against text. Calling recently upon a Turkish goldsmith, to whom I had sold a Testament, he brought it out, with marginal annotations for my explanation. Most of them were on the words of Jesus,—references from passages in which He

declares His divinity to those presenting His humanity, and vice versa.

"But these discussions are spreading light, and many, chiefly the more intelligent among the military class, confess that the truth is with us, and that ere long their own system must give place to ours.

"But it is more encouraging to learn of here and there one who appears really to love the truth. A humble Protestant brother was some time since travelling in the mountainous district to the south of Harpoot, and resting by the wayside, when a Turkish horseman dismounted, and sat down beside him with the question, 'Do you know how to read?' The Turk then drew a Testament from his bosom, and reading a chapter in John's Gospel, led in prayer, pleading the merits of Jesus.

"His story was that he was from a village to the north of Harpoot; that having been enlightened by this Testament he was threatened with violence by his relatives, who had twice employed Kurds to attack him; and that he was fleeing for his life. There surely was no apparent motive for telling an untruth, and may we not hope that among the many into whose hands the Scriptures have fallen there are not a few who, like Joseph of Arimathea, are disciples of Jesus, though secretly for fear of the Turks, and who like him will at length come out boldly on the Lord's side?"

INDIA:—One of the most interesting parts of Mission work in India is the effort to reach the native women. Of this work *Miss Hook* writes:—"The doors in the zenanas are black, heavy wooden ones, often so low that it is a daily process to strike the top of one's head, unless the mind is upon the surroundings. A little chain on the outside is used to fasten and lock the door at the top. When it is fastened on the inner side, we rattle the chain and hear a drawn out oh!—'Mem ashchen'—which is the servant calling to the door."