

not be safe to conclude it could be done everywhere.

Algiers.—A French missionary in Tunis says that the most shameless drunkenness reigns among all classes of Mussulman society there, notwithstanding the Koran prohibits the use of wine to the followers of Mohammed.

Austria.—The hostility to evangelical work in Austria is growing more intense. The Roman Catholic archbishop has called a conference to consider the question "What means shall the priests employ in the hope of resisting successfully the farther progress of the sects, the Free Reformed Churches and the Baptists?"

Belgium.—Ten years ago the King of Belgium entered upon the development of the Congo region and the establishment of a new African State. An official report of the progress attained has just been rendered, giving these facts: The Lower Congo has been opened up to navigation by large vessels as far as Boma, soundings having been made and the course marked out by buoys; a cadastral survey of the Lower Congo has been made as a step towards the preparation of a general map of the entire region; justice is regularly administered in the Lower Congo, and a trustworthy and cheap postal service has been established. At Banana, Boma, and Leopoldville medical establishments, under the direction of Belgian doctors, have been founded, and a considerable armed force of blacks, officered by Europeans, has been called into existence. The caravan route between Matadi and Leopoldville is as free from danger as a European road, and a complete service of portage by natives has been established. A railway has been projected and the route almost entirely surveyed. The State has established herds of cattle at various stations, and in the very heart of Africa; on the waters of the Upper Congo there is a fleet of steamers every year increasing in number. A loan of 150,000,000 francs has been authorized and the first issue subscribed. Many of the more intelligent natives from the country drained by the Upper Congo have taken service with the State, and numerous trading factories have been established as far up the river as Bangala and Leuebo. In addition several private companies have been formed for developing the country, and finally geographical discoveries of the greatest importance have been made, either by the officers of the State or by travelers who received great assistance in their work from the State.—*Christian Intelligencer*.

Burma.—"The Loyal Karens of Burma," by D. M. Smeaton, M.A., of the Bengal Civil Service, speaks very highly of the work of the American Baptist missionaries among the Karens. It says: "Its success has

been unique in the history of missions because it has at once satisfied a great national religious need, and in doing so has developed a national civilization."

China.—The Chinese Exclusion Bill passed by Congress has excited great hostility among the officials in Canton, China, and the missionaries are suffering much persecution and difficulty in consequence.

—When Dr. S. Wells Williams arrived in Canton in 1833 there was only one Chinese convert, and the penalty for teaching foreigners the Chinese language was death. Now there are 33,000 converts.

—The Chinese Sunday-school, numbering 100 men, connected with Dr. A. J. Gordon's Church in Boston, Mass., has voted to support three native missionaries in China.

—The *Missions Catholiques* of Lyons gives some particulars of the expulsion of the Roman Catholic missionaries from Thibet, which has been several times alluded to by our Shanghai correspondent. The stations, it states, have been utterly destroyed, except the establishment at Tachienlu, on the Chinese side of the great Thibetan declivity. During last autumn the mission houses and buildings were one by one destroyed or thrown down; the houses of the congregations met with the same fate, and priests and people were hunted out of the towns. No massacres took place. The persecution began in June and continued until October, when it ceased, because there was nothing more to destroy, and all those who would not apostatize were in flight. Out of nine mission centres scattered along the border in Yunan and Szechuan two alone remain. It is stated that while the real cause of this persecution is the intense hatred of the Lamas for Christianity, the excuse on this occasion was the British expedition to Sikim to drive out the Thibetan troops; for, although strictly the region where the missions were is Chinese, the people are really Thibetans. The report concludes by stating that the acts of violence took place under the eyes of the Chinese authorities, who took no steps to punish them.—*London and China Express*.

England.—Lay missionaries. The directors of the London Missionary Society have taken a notable step by resolving to avail of the services of lay missionaries who have not undergone a special training. The following is the text of their resolution: "Resolved that, without interfering with the existing rules of the society relative to the training of students for missionary service, in the judgment of the directors it has become desirable also to encourage offers of service from young unmarried men of approved Christian character and good general education, who have not passed through a theological training at college, but have been successfully engaged in Christian