

chiefly in the Southern States, all plans for his transportation to other countries being regarded as impracticable. 2. That the negro is capable of improvement. He may be educated and Christianized. 3. That the negroes are improving in their worldly circumstances; that many of them are becoming land-owners; that others are entering into business, or becoming mechanics or tradesmen. 4. That the negroes as a class have not improved in morals as they have in their material condition. To save this race and to save the nation from their demoralizing influence, Christians of all Evangelical denominations must take hold of the work of their Christianization and the moral and industrial elevation of the race with a strong hand and a firm and persevering faith."

Less than 250,000 Indians are now to be found in the United States (exclusive of Alaska). They are scattered through 20 States and 5 Territories, of which Indian Territory contains the largest number (71,856) and Texas the fewest (290). The Indians are susceptible to religious impressions when they can be protected from contaminating outside influences. They are willing to be civilized and Christianized; they have at least fair industry and capacity for self-support. Over 32,000 Indians are now taxable and self-sustaining citizens. These do not include 5 civilized tribes, numbering 68,871. Educational mission work is being carried on among them by Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists, Congregationalists, Episcopalians, and Friends, in addition to Government and independent schools. The missions are situated chiefly in Arizona, Indian Territory, Oklahoma, the Dakotas, Montana, Washington, and Nebraska. Interesting and successful work is being done by the Methodists and Church of England among the tribes in British America.

South America is for the most part, as usual, in a state of unstable equilibrium. Colombia has experienced civil war. Liberalists in Ecuador seek to

hold the government, of which they have for a time gained the upper hand. Should they succeed, we may hope that the last closed door of the Neglected Continent will be opened to the Gospel. Venezuela is in difficulty with England and Peru, and other republics are by no means at rest.

The whole civilized world is stirred with indignation and horror at the massacre of thousands of Christians in *Asia Minor*. Rumors of a partition of Turkey, the deposition of the Sultan, etc., are occasionally heard; but while it seems that order is being gradually restored in the disturbed districts, the solution of the Armenian problem has by no means been reached. The Turk and the Kurd have not paid the penalty for their active and passive criminality, and judgment will doubtless descend upon them from heavenly powers if not from earth.

As every one knows, the situation is critical in the extreme. The Moslems seem determined upon the destruction of the Christians, and only the providence of God and the fear of the results has prevented the massacre of missionaries and all *en masse*. The limit of Armenian patience seems to have been reached, but they are for the most part powerless. The causes of their dissatisfactions with Turkish rule are many and long standing. Besides personal extortion and outrage, the burden of taxes has brought the Armenians to poverty and famine. A Russian officer, Colonel Lazareff,* gives some facts relative to the "varied and original" system of taxation imposed on Armenia. Here are a few of the assessments:

1. An exemption task paid for relief from military service, amounting to about \$1.50 per year, imposed on every member of the family—children, aged and crippled not exempt. If a head of a large family is unable to pay the tax, he is punished by arrest and flogging, and his household goods or cow

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