is a walled town or city, overlooked by an im-mense "rock of defence," which supports an ancient castle, and is imbosomed in extended fruitful gardens, which form the summer residence of a large portion of the people. Of these, a large portion are Armenians, who are said to number 40,000 in the district.

The lake abounds in fish, which are made an article of commerce with the surrounding districts. The water of Lake Van is so alkaline that the people use it for making their soan; while the salt from the take of Occomiah is sufficiently pure for culinary use; and yet, the water of that take is so heavy, that a man will sink no lower than the top of his shoulders. Both Van and Ooroomiah are several thousand feet above tide, and the winters are as cold as in New York.

I remained ten days at Ven, and had repeated interviews with my old friend Nooraolah Bey, the Koordish chief whom I had cured during my memerable visit to his castle in Bash-Kelleh. I memerante visit to his eastle in Bash-Kelleh. I had often been pleasantly reminded of him by the wild Koords of his mountains, who uniformly spoke of me as the physician to their chief. Whenever I was introduced to a stranger, the immediate inquiry was made, "What, the physician of our chief?"

It was gratifying to find him still cherishing the friendly feelings with which he welcomed me; but it remains to be seen how valuable his friendship may yet prove. Changes have occurred which have modified his power, and hereafter, the traveller through his heretefore lawless an officer of the Porte, to govern his spirit declars, whom he had found too restless to controll by his single arm. He also foresaw that the extension of European influence, and the consequent changes occurring in the East, might, at no distant day, wrest his impopondence and his country from him. He, therefore, decread it wise to make such voluntary overtures as would enable him to retain his station as the immediate head of the Hakary tribes.

On my way from Van to Erzeroom, I met with pleasing instance of the value of foreign protection to the traveller in these countries. While I tion to the traveller in these countries. was sleeping under the tent of a petty Koordish chief, a horse belonging to my party was stolen in the night. I told the chief that he must see that it was returned, or I should make complaint to the English consul. The horse was soon re-

On my arrival at Erzeroom, I had the pleasure to be surrounded by a circle of Christian friends. Two of my fellow-countrymen were among the number; but in this distant land, where I have experienced the kindest offices of friendship from intelligent and philanthropic gentlemen of the English nation, I can scarcely recognise any na-

tional distinction.

The welcome I received from my English friends was most cordial and gratifying. Among them were the British Consul, James Brent, Esq. Dr. Riach, a tried friend of our mission; and Colonel Sheil, her Britannic M. j sty's charge d'affaires at the court of l'ersia. Through the politices of the latter, I was favoured with letters to his Excellency Lord Ponsonby, the British Ambassador at the Ottomen Porte; and, while I was at Constantinople, I received from his Lordship the warmest assurances of a disposition to afford all necessary countenance and piotection to our labours among the Mountaiar Nestoriaus, in whose condition and prospects he manifested a lively interest. From our American minister, Commodore Porter, I had already experienced many favours.

From Constantinople, I proceeded in one of the numerous steamers which converge at the metropolis to the city of Sinyrna, where I cin-barked in a small merchantman, and, after a possage of seventy days, arrived safely at Boston, October 3, 1840.

Amono the splendid tombs in Agra, is that of the wife of Sha-getian, which employed 20,000 artists and workm n for 22 years. It is of black and white marble, and has three platforms, with four towers, and a magnificent come.

Cacsus, who passed for the wealthiest man on earth, lived 545 years B.C.

## RE-LIGIOUS LIT-ERATURE.

## [FOR THE CHRISTIAN MIRROR.] PROVIDENCE.

BY MRS. J. R. SPOONIER.

IT is obvious to all, that the present like is a plixed state of happiness and misery—that few are so bloom di as to be without some cause for sorrow or vavation; and, on the other hand, that none are so exemple: } wrotched, as to be without some source of corniention and enjoyment. This mingling of impringers and misery-good and evil, as it is commonly termednaturally gives rise to the question, from whence come those circumstances which so powerfully operate upon the destiny of man ! Here, bestowing upon him unlooked for presperity—there, planging him into the depths of poverty. Now, in ding glid the heart, by the possession of the market and dearest she market which obligates to death, when the ties of which our natures are capable; then lacked in a the soul by the sufferings and death of the being a The aged linger out the often weary twill hit of that days, while the young sink into the grave, are full sun has attained its noon. "The rights was name; risheth," and the wicked are in the enough both could —the angodly are frequently "set upon to be place," while murit languishes in obscuring and reglect.

And these circumstances are beyond the controll of man-who, with all the wisdem of which is happacescountry will have less to fear. It is now placed under Turkish jurisdiction. The chief has harterly inexpelle of controlling his acm decling tered his independence for an appointment from the Pasha of Erzeroom; and he was returning the barde to the strengt? For those deviate the sed, and all the experience he may have acquired, in way, but the Lord discricth his feetst year. And dest and gluciny hidred would be our reflections upon this subject, were it not for a belief in the correcting Providence of our heavenly Father! The Scriptures are field of assurances, that the same Abrig by Pewer that upholds the earth open for axis, and governs all pature by immutable laws-who hath given both surand meen their alternate rule-tube "bath set the stars in their courses22-who rideth upon the whichwind, and upon the wings of the wind-also gryerus the ways of man, in every circumstance that befals him-and that nothing which is created, is estremed too triffing or insignificant to escape Ills influence, chor of the soul, both sure and stediest," that can aldispensations to which we are here subject.

> Who has not felt the emptiness o'riches, the vanity of fame-the utter nothingness of all the world. calls glory—when the heart has bled under some thereby and as not allow the highly wronget expects. look to earth for comfort: vain is the help of man. But when we realise that it is God who directeth all things-that He ruleth over the armies of heaven, and the inhabitants of the earth—that he loves us with an work together for good, we are led to acquiesce in his will, and to rejoice that the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.

The ways of Providence are mysterious and inserutible-Ged has not seen fit to reveal them to man; and it is our duty to exercise faith in his government, and to be satisfied with it, without seeking to know what his wisdom and goodness has concealed. Weshort-righted mortals as we are-see but a very small part of the chain which binds the past and the present to the future; and then, "as through a glass darkly;" and, to understand the dispensations of Providence, it would be necessary for us to look at, perhaps, a thousand concutenations of circumstances, which lie hid in the dim pre spective-never intended for mortal eye to behold!

A little reficetion on this subject will lead us to perceive, that such knowledge is witheld from us in morey; as, could we be aware of the afflictions we are to suffer, the anticipation of them would be always before us, and mar the enjoyment of every present blessing! How could we rejoice in the bright sun, and unclouded sky of today, did we know that other to good,

tomorrow a fearful tempera would barse in A boars over our heads? At a next well, know many else, a a tiere, doubt would separate as from our doubt friendly how would our loads while within whom the prospect? This, under such circums one of his call of belong an it now is, threself by a species properly in of hoppiness if in of sorrow, would be one continue ous rectional discontent, and gluony fuch diag--fin maen it of outs the from ability would prove by more than equal the reality. A Villa y is also, and will bureve the leathing a ground of the mid-resented the luvlag-libolacea er dia bond."

Votable distribution of prying late faturity, has ever been average most annietts will a soul and become heart. And when you consider show dependent you are upon external influences, ever which we become new adand that we are so completely harden to the months of our best plans-and that we are early a 11 ced in too and for and applied show to be excellent above not been stronge, that have also do not reflect on dress things, should make an Arts days sold the cartain which wills the facure from above of the Paturity is, with the greater past Cosmidial, it conject an while the doe James in its cheetly couplinged - it is the planet round will be duly draw from the property toke estable so-table ocus as had a only hid , the called to المبار والمناز والمناز وتمارك وأراب المناه والمحافظ فالمتناف وأكساه والمناة the process.

GOD all districts from the median transfer to the sales. And a show the note into the fix a pare size ; Thu, whiled it by we know to survey The provided from of the to unimarized start p We tay Coura artery early the administrative of second Descriptioning comes than all the people and to a c And every form, that family can be observed From dark oblivion, glows divinity thin?

And such is man, that when he has attalmed when he once considered as the senie of harring Effects, 1 - is even then frequently disrippolated and discutiofied in its passerdan-something is wanting. The horo that subdard the then known world, wept that there remained no more for him to empior !

Whale we induly in anticipations of the fature, Let us endravour to be understain our copies stiens; for even to the falling of a sparrow, and the clothing of a the higher cur hopes have mounted, the greater will blade of grass ! This conviction, is the only "an- to our dampediament should they not be accomplished. And these who percell themselves to dwell too ferd us any real consolation, under the mysterious findly upon the future for enjoyment, too often find that they have built up in a surely foundation; while these who are contented to abide the will of God, and, in all desir undertakings, refer the lame to his provideane, and do not allow themestics to be governed tions on the one hand, or, on the other, to be disturbed by doubtful and anxious there of the fature-hat trust in the Lord, making no beast of the merrow; thay well be said to lean upon a rock, which will everlasting love, and that, eventually, all things shall prove a never-failing stay and support through the variously choquered path of hie.

> Let us, then, cherish and cultivate a firm faith in the goodness and providence of God; let us strive to keep his commandments-to walk before him in the land of the living : for thus alone can we be prepared, under all circumstances, to " rejeice evermore."

> > Lord, may we ever trust in thee, Thou only knowest what is good; O'er earth and heaven, o'er sky and sea, Thy rule hath ever wisely steed.

Thy providence is over all Creatien's wide and vest domain t None of thy works are deemed too small, Too mean, to own thy mighty reign,

Shall man alone, dony thy sway, And his own arm his rath defend? Shall man alone refuse to 'obey His God, his Father, and his Friend 1

THE best friends are these that stimulate each