

The missionaries and foreign consuls do all they can to mitigate the oppressions of the Christians, but in spite of his influential friends, it is well known that the Christian has more to bear and suffer than his Moslem neighbour. He is an inferior being, an "infidel," a "Christian dog." The worst Mohammedan is better than he. He may not eat with Moslems. He must not enter their houses when his clothing is wet. If struck by them he dares not strike back. In the law courts he is not their equal. His life and property are not equally secure.

Much valuable testimony to the success of mission work in Persia is borne in the recently published volume of travels in Persia and Kurdistan, by Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop, one of the most distinguished of present day travellers and an unprejudiced observer. Mrs. Bishop says, in reply to the question "What are the results of Protestant Missions in Persia?" :—

"Among those which appear on the surface are the spiritual enlightenment of a number of persons whose minds were blinded by the gross and childish superstitions and the inconceivable ignorance into which the ancient church of S. Gregory, the Illuminator, has fallen; the raising of a higher standard of morals among the Armenians so that a decided stigma is coming to be attached to drunkenness and other vices; the bringing the whole of the rising generation of Armenians under influences which in all respects make for righteousness; the elevation of a large number of women into being the companions and helps rather than the drudges of men; the bestowing upon boys an education which fits them for any position to which they may aspire in Persia or elsewhere, and creates a taste for intellectual pursuits; the introduction of European medicine and surgery, and the bringing them within the reach of the poorest of the people; the breaking down of some Moslem prejudices against Christians; the gradually ameliorating influence exercised by the exhibition of the religion of Jesus Christ in purity of life, in