

Sovereign of both Seas." Such is the full title of Turkey's ruler.

—The Christians of Talas, Western Turkey, may well provoke to similar good works their much more highly favored brethren in Europe and America. For they have formed a One-cent-a-week Bible Society. Mr. Fowle, of Cæsarea, gives in the *Missionary Herald* a glowing report of its first year. He says: "Of the 120 members, 81 were from Talas alone. During the year \$8.80 had been sent to each of the following countries: Japan, China, India, and Micronesia, with twice that amount to Africa, making a total of \$52.80. At the close of the anniversary service a thank-offering was made amounting to nearly \$10, and other contributions were forwarded, making the entire income of the society for the first year about \$88." Besides this, Miss McCallum writes of the benevolent work which the girls' school at Smyrna has carried on. They have a flourishing Women's Christian Temperance Union and a King's Daughters' circle, which has visited the sick, contributed Christmas gifts for two mission schools, and provided as far as possible for several poor families. Besides all this the pupils are supporting a little girl in India, and have contributed to the library fund for the Kobé Home; also to Dr. Paton's work in the New Hebrides.

India—According to the last census there are no less than 715,000 villages in this vast and crowded peninsula, with inhabitants varying in number from 10,000 to a few scores, or an average of 370, and separated from each other by about a mile and a half.

—Rev. A. B. Simpson, of the International Missionary Alliance, after an extended journey up and down the land, is deeply impressed by this fact: "God has given us, in India, the most open field in the world. It is a civilized country under an excellent government, with railroads and highways leading in every direction, perfect security for life and property, and enough

English-speaking people to open our way to every place in the land."

—Christian missionaries have already brought countless blessings to India, and there are more to follow. Influenced by the representations of the Madras missionaries, the Government has issued orders putting a stop to the enslavement of pariahs, and giving them the right to hold and cultivate lands.

—Not long ago a man came to Bombay who had loaded himself down with 600 pounds of chains. He had come from North India. It was said that when he travelled by the train he was charged partly as a passenger and partly as freight. He was a Mohammedan, and wished to go as a pilgrim to Mecca. To reach Mecca he must take a steamer. A ticket was bought for him, but when he arrived at the ship the astonished captain declined to allow him to come aboard. In his chains were tied some large iron pegs and a heavy iron mallet. They were used in fixing him firmly down when he wished to stay in any particular spot. When inquired of why he was carrying such a crushing load, he replied that as a young man he was very wicked and wished to give up his wickedness, and so he determined to chain himself to keep from sin. But he still sinned, and so put on another chain, then another, until at last there hung from his limbs the 600 pounds, and he could no longer walk.

—As a startling proof of the growing popularity of the post-office in India, it may be mentioned that the postal authorities lately received a request from a Brahman pundit in Rajputana, suggesting that they should undertake the conveyance of the ashes of dead Hindus by parcels' post to Hurdwar. The Brahman gentleman volunteered the assurance that if the department could guarantee that the ashes would be safely delivered into the waters of the sacred stream by Brahman postmen, a large revenue from the traffic might be anticipated.—*Statesman*.