

The first convert was a *Chinese* teacher, *Qua Kieng*, who was baptized in 1844, and after fifteen years of faithful service died in 1859. Three of his children became disciples and one a minister of the gospel. That year of his death, 1859, saw the *first Siamese convert*, *Nai Chune*—a curious “apostolic succession.” Thirty years before, Gutzlaff had sown the first seed; twelve years before, Dr. House and Rev. Mr. Mattoon had arrived in Bangkok, the mission center; and now the harvest had begun. Nai Chune adorned the gospel. So anxious was he to be unhindered in serving Christ and souls that he steadily adhered to medical practice as the means of self-support and refused all offices, however honorable and lucrative.

But though converts have never multiplied in Siam with rapidity, there have been marked examples of the silent, pervasive work of missions and especially of the *Word of God*. For example Dr. Bradley died in 1873. Four years afterward, in 1877, a venerable patriarch of seventy-three years visited for medical advice the Laos Mission at Chiang Mai. He sought help for deafness, and referred to Christ’s miracles of healing as one who was familiar with the Bible. He was found to be chief officer of the court in the province of Lakawn. How mistaken we are when we judge the gospel’s power by noisy demonstrations. Twenty years before, in 1857, while visiting Bangkok, this old man had, from Dr. Bradley, received religious books in Siamese. Though the *language* is essentially the same, the Laonese *characters* are so different that, in order to read them, he had to learn Siamese. Then in his mind and heart God’s light began to shine, and he came to Chiang Mai for further instruction; he found Christ, and for His sake braved all peril, and to his efforts we owe the opening of a new mission in his native city, Lakawn.

Similarly, at Petchaburi, Rev. Mr. Dunlap found an old disciple, nigh unto death, who had from that same Dr. Bradley got portions of the Word of God, and who by secret study found a Saviour in Christ and put away his idols. Though taught to pray by the Spirit only, he astonished the missionary by his attainments in prayer, and his progress in piety.

Numbers cannot represent results. During the last reported year, the prime minister, who has in Ratbari one of his residences, after repeatedly expressing his wish for a mission there, now offers a large brick house, free, for mission uses; and will aid in securing other necessary buildings for medical mission, school, etc. And a lady in Philadelphia has offered the \$5,000 necessary to support the physician and clergyman who go to occupy this new parish of 50,000 to 75,000 souls.

Siam was not opened by gunpowder or diplomacy, but by missionary influence, and the whole aspect of the nation, and its attitude toward Christianity, are gradually undergoing a change; the preaching, the