

in this district who come in to the city to join a church. The reports are coming from all over the field that the way in which the Burmans listen is different from all the past. They have more of interest, read and talk more intelligently and with less of bigotry, and more priests are throwing off the yellow robes than ever before. You wanted to have me tell you what the people are doing and what they are thinking about, and I have told you. Fifty villages in a lump on the frontier, the most degraded of the peoples of the country, are asking for teachers and preachers. The Roman Catholics have tried their best to get teachers into these villages, but have been told most emphatically that they will have Baptist teachers or none. The Catholic villages in this part of the country are not creditable to the name of Christianity. Our native churches are doing more for themselves than ever before, and home and foreign mission circles and societies are being formed among them, and are doing good work. A few years ago a missionary party, a Karen preacher and his family, were going over into Northern Siam, and when past the frontier were simply blotted off the face of the earth. It was many months before a trace of them could be found. They had been murdered for their money, and buried. The local missionary society (Karen) which had sent them out called for volunteers to take up the work to which they had been sent, and had to choose between the volunteers, for there were more volunteers than could be sent.

"This morning I witnessed the baptism of two pupils in our Baptist college here. The spiritual tone of the college is decidedly good, and the proportion of professing Christians in the upper classes probably above that in some American colleges. This is Christian education for a certainty. We are not troubled here, as are the missionaries among the Hindus of India, with organized opposition to bazaar preaching on the part of those who have received all their education in mission schools.

That is something which is almost unknown in Burma.

Every American, irrespective of religious preferences, must have intense interest in the missionary force in Eastern Turkey, and every Christian should be given much to prayer for the preservation of the lives of such noble men and women in peril. We say in peril, not because they will probably be deliberately assaulted, but because the Sultan is unable to keep the police of the empire if he would, and the fleets of the Dardanelles are paralyzed because European Christian powers are incompetent, and we use the word deliberately. They are incompetent to devise a way out of the imbroglio that will not involve their flying at each other's throats. The game of empire from the Grecian Archipelago to the North Pacific shore line is the most extended known in centuries, and it is pretty plain that if the kingdom of Christ is advanced it will be because political powers as usual will be driven along the paths of the Divine purpose despite the lack of moral principle or any other principle dominating them. "It is not by might nor by power" that Christ's kingdom makes advance.

It is a matter of regret that we find our space too limited to present a becoming review of several timely books which will help on the kingdom of our Lord. Revell Company have just issued "Persian Life and Customs," by S. G. Wilson, the best book of general information on the subject within our knowledge. It is lucid in style, comprehensive in the range of topics, and as entertaining as it is instructive. "From far Formosa," by Missionary Mackay, is a revelation of that island by the most eminent authorities, living or dead, on things Formosan as a whole. "Rambles in Japan," by Canon Tristram, is an entertaining account of what this eminent divine saw and learned in the land of the Rising Sun, with the aid of his daughter, a resident missionary of some years in that land. He seeks to compare Buddhism of Japan with that of Ceylon and of China. All these books are well illustrated.

A better book to study at the beginning of the New Year, to get a forceful, fresh and inspiring survey of the past and outlook for the future, than Rev. Dr. D. L. Leonard's "A Hundred Years of Missions" (Funk & Wagnalls Company) it would be difficult to name. It is a thoughtful and unique treatise worthy of permanent place in missionary literature.