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In this issue the "History of Christian Praise," by Rev. Dr. Ross, is of exceptional interest and value. Rev. Prof. Baird and Mr. Alex. Skene tell of our work among the Indians. All our Foreign fields are represented save Korea and Demarara. Mr. Goforth's letter has a sad interest, as the last for a time from Honan, and it shews how unexpected must have been their enforced flight. In the famine sketches by Revs. Dr. Buchanan and Norman Russell, a lurid light is cast upon the suffering and want in India. Mrs. Morton shews the important place of school work in Trinidad. From the far New Hebrides, Dr. and Mrs. Annand tell of steady progress.

Many hearts were anxious for the safety of our missionaries in Honan. Many were the prayers in their behalf. Many are the heartfelt thanks that all have escaped. Part of them came out one way, reaching Chifu. The others, after a longer overland journey, are also safe. Nothing is yet known of the happenings in their field or on their journey, save that one, at least, of the principal stations, Chu Wang was destroyed, and the overland party plundered, insulted, abused and some of them injured on the way. By the time these lines are read, letters will probably have come with full particulars. A cable from Dr. McClure states that resumption within a year is improbable. But it is cause for great thankfulness that all have escaped with their lives, when, so far as can be learned, many missionaries have been put to death, some of them with great cruelty. Let prayer now be that the wrath (of man) may soon be overpast, and the way

once more opened for that Gospel which alone can uplift China.

"Distress of nations with perplexity" finds wide fulfilment to-day. Famine is scourging India as never before in history, while plague and cholera are following hard after it with like awful results. In South Africa strife still lingers. China is seething with passion and slaughter, and none can foretell the issue. In these is distress. In all other nations is perplexity; as to what is become of friends and representatives, and what the future is to be, and in their perplexity they are hurrying armies to the scene to be ready for emergencies.

But what a contrast when we look upward and remember that God reigns. With Him is no perplexity. From His eternal calm He looks upon the unrest, and makes even that a means of furthering His own grand purposes of wisdom and love toward a sinning, suffering world. We look too constantly at the perplexity, read about it, talk about it and come to partake of it. Better if we would oftener turn to the Supreme, remember that He rules, and the very look will be a "Peace be still."

When a traveller is in the mire, every step out of it is with more or less of difficulty. With a world of sin, every step outward and upward toward firmer ground is toil and pain. In a wider than strictly theological sense, "without the shedding of blood there is no remission." The Southern slave was freed, but the land ran red with blood. There will be freedom for black and white in South Africa under the British flag, such