

Persia.

The Rev. J. L. Potter, a missionary of the Northern Presbyterian Church, writes from Teheran to the *N. Y. Independent* that an industrial revival has begun in Persia which is likely to exert considerable influence on Christian missions. Within two or three years several enterprises have started. A new imperial bank has been established, railroads are being built, mining operations begun and companies formed for electric lights, motors, telephones, etc. An immediate effect is a rise in wages. Educated Christian natives in the employ of the missions are tempted to resign their work as teachers and helpers for positions in banks and offices, where their wages will probably be doubled. Still, with the record of recent revivals, which for the past two years have refreshed the native church, it may well be hoped that the influence of these commercial schemes will have a beneficial rather than an injurious tendency.

The Nestorians and Armenians of Persia, in common with their Mohammedan neighbours, suffer from the evil forms of society and government which prevail. Mr. Labaree, of Oroomiah, relates that a missionary physician was recently given an interview with the Shah. "His Majesty expressed a lively interest in the condition of his Christian subjects, and, among other questions, enquired whether they were not better treated than those across the border in the dominions of the Sultan. Fortunately, for his gratification, he could be answered that they were. Only as Persian justice is compared with that of the unspeakable Turk, can it shine like a superior light. In Persia the different sects of Christians suffer less than their brethren across the border. Rapine and murder are exceptions—not the rule. This superiority may be sufficient to please the vanity of a despot in his remote capital, but it is anything but satisfactory to the poor people."

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