

This was all the direct fruit of missions ; for that Buddhist priest-king, while a private citizen, had been the pupil of a missionary of the American Board. Rev. J. Caswell, who taught him the languages and the sciences which prepared him for taking the reins of empire into competent hands, and whose personal influence disposed him to be liberal in his governmental policy, and friendly to all Christian missionaries. He ascended the golden steps with a heart full of kindly sentiments toward them ; they were invited to the royal palace, and were made to enjoy the royal bounty and favor. Their letters at this time recount how their society was courted by princes and nobles ; how their exiled teachers and servants returned to their places ; how throngs came to them to get books and talk of their contents ; and how, free to go and come as they would, they spoke in Jesus' name with confidence, no man forbidding, and obtained a respectful hearing. They could now get suitable sites and erect suitable buildings for homes ; and in that same year missionary ladies were admitted to teach in the palace among the women of the royal harem. From that hour to this the missionaries have been sheltered by the favor and protection of the reigning monarchs.

The following document issued under royal sanction may give some conception of the attitude of Chaum Klow toward the servants of God : We quote in full :

"Many years ago the American missionaries came here. They came before any other Europeans, and they taught the Siamese to speak and read the English language. The American missionaries have always been just and upright men. They have never meddled in the affairs of the government, nor created any difficulty with the Siamese. They have lived with the Siamese just as if they belonged to the nation. The Government of Siam has great love and respect for them and has no fear whatever concerning them. When there has been any difficulty of any kind, the missionaries have many times rendered valuable assistance. For this reason the Siamese have loved and respected them for a long time. The Americans have also taught the Siamese many things."

This change in governmental policy proved permanent. The present king, Chulalong Korn, is the most progressive ruler in Asia, a "nursing father" to missions. In 1882 this king bought up the whole exhibit of the girls' mission school in the centennial celebration, and gave to the principals in charge a silver medal. He has made a missionary, Dr. MacFarland, head of the Royal College at Bangkok and Superintendent of Public Instruction. In 1887 he visited Petchaburi, made careful inquiry as to the mission there, gave a silver medal to Dr. Thompson, the medical missionary, and with his queen sent letters of warm congratulation to our laborers, with substantial gifts from himself and his royal-wife, amounting to some \$2,500 !

We turn now to cite a few marked examples of the grace of God manifested in connection with missions in Siam.