

exclaimed to the river: "Mother Gunga has claimed her own."

—And yet another has reached this conclusion: "To an Englishman it may seem almost incredible, but nothing is more patent than the fact that, so far as the bulk of India's people is concerned, they are absolutely innocent of any desire for elevation of any kind. We have a striking illustration of this in the most repulsive place of this circuit, a village in the midst of the Bangalore tanneries. For some years past we have labored there among people whose moral depravity finds its only fitting illustration in the indescribable filthiness of everything about them. Studying these people carefully, we are forced to conclude that most of them have sunk so low and become so wedded to their vicious customs as to be almost devoid of desire for improvement or capacity for better things. The old people, and some who could scarcely be described as old, seem to be 'past feeling'; we turn from them with a sense of relief to those who are young enough to be susceptible of impression."

—The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation in "Farther India." For Robert Irwin writes from Lampoon: "The first church of Cheung Mai closes the year with the largest number of accessions in its history—134 have been received on examination, 6 by letter, 78 children baptized, and 65 dismissed to other churches. This is the mother church of the Laos Land. The 2 churches of Lakawn and Lampoon, and the 6 under the care of Cheung Mai station, have all been organized with members dismissed from it. It has now a total adult membership of 719. The year has been one of rich spiritual blessings to the Maa Dawk Dang church also, for 41 adults have been received on confession of faith, 12 by letter, and 38 children baptized. There are now 223 adult members on the roll.

—Dr. W. A. Briggs estimates that

during the past three years 25,000 persons have been brought directly to a knowledge of Christ by means of the medical work in Lakawn.

China.—While in the great and fertile river valleys humanity is fearfully and wonderfully massed, it must not be inferred that the same condition prevails everywhere. "Even if the population amounts to 400,000,000—and some authorities give it as nearer 300,000,000—it means only some 90 persons for each of the 4,400,000 square miles which constitute the Chinese Empire. In other words, the density of the population of China is to the density of the population of England as one is to six; and comes a long way after Scotland, and is not over-much in advance of Norway."

—According to the *New York Tribune*, China is this year to have an exhibition of her art and industry on a scale which might be called a world's fair if it were not that it is entirely of domestic institution and confined to her own productions and people. It is held in honor of the Queen Dowager, who attains this year her sixtieth birthday, and will exceed in cost and splendor any display of like kind ever known in the Middle Kingdom, or perhaps anywhere in the world. It is computed that the expenditure will reach \$300,000,000. Apart from the central display at Peking, celebrations will be held in all the towns and cities of the empire, and the renown of the imperial woman who has really directed Chinese affairs for a score of years will be signalized in every form which the ingenuity and loyalty of that ingenious and loyal people can devise.

—It is announced in the *Chinese Recorder* that work is going on rapidly at the Shanghai Presbyterian mission press with the presentation copy of the New Testament in Chinese for the empress dowager on her sixtieth birthday. The book is to be printed from the largest size movable type, on foreign paper, with border of gold. The size of page will be 9½ × 13 inches, and the utmost