

represented, and every nation of Asia as well."

—While in Asia Minor the chief language for missionary purposes is the Armenian, in Syria it is the Arabic instead. Aleppo, a city of more than 120,000, is located upon the border between the two, but with Arabic as the speech of the multitude. After long trial it has been found by the American Board impracticable to work this field from the north, and so it has been arranged that the Presbyterians from Beirut shall take possession.

—As a traveller writes: "Whoever wishes to see Palestine in the garb it has worn for unnumbered centuries must visit it soon. The people are adopting European dress and ways. Our inventions are coming. The telegraph is domiciled; and soon the crooked stick will give way to the plough, the camel stand aside or run bellowing to the field, as I have seen him do, while the engine rushes on, and the Palestine of Bible days will be no more."

—The *Evangelist* tells of a Persian who one year ago was such a fanatical Moslem that he would go into a bath every night to wash off the pollution of contact with Christians during the day. Now he has had his property—and he was a man of means—confiscated, and both his ears cut off. But undismayed he yet declared that "Christ is the only Saviour of men."

—Mrs. Bishop, a stanch church-woman, after what she saw *in loco*, and after what she has learned since, concludes that it would have been much more wise and Christian if the Anglican Mission (Archbishop's) had kept out of the Oroomiah region, and left the Nestorians to be cared for by the Americans who follow in the footsteps of Dr. Perkins.

India.—At length the British Government appears to be on excellent terms with the enterprising Ameer of Afghanistan, and so the day may be hastened when the Gospel can have free course

in the region lying beyond the Khyber Pass.

—Mr. Bryce, the historian, expresses the opinion that the only hope of India rising to a consciousness of its own dignity and power as a nation is through the English language and the Christian religion.

—A recent writer exclaims: "Who knows but the mighty caste system which to-day presents such an obstacle to the higher classes confessing Christ may yet prove an instrument for bringing the people *en masse* to the Gospel." That is, they may be constrained to give up their idolatry, and put themselves under Christian teaching.

—The Earl of Northbrook speaks of having been impressed by a conversation held with "one of the very ablest and most distinguished of the Hindus in the whole of India," and who told him that his favorite book was "Thomas à Kempis." Well might the earl conclude that though he called himself a Hindu, he might yet be not far from the kingdom.

—By the census of 1881 there were 13,730,000 Brahmans in the land. These "thrice-born" souls of such lofty pretensions are not, however, a homogeneous body, but are split into "a vast number of classes." Mr. Sherring says there are 1886 tribes of them.

—The Hindu money-lender is the great curse of village life in this country. To borrow seems to be the great temptation for the Hindu Christian, and in cases not a few debt is the chief hindrance to evangelizing activity. The missionary will be met by demands to pay the obligations of the native helpers; and what to do is a perplexing question.

—Rev. J. N. Cushing, American Baptist, writes of the Was, a tribe very ferocious and little known, dwelling in Burma and toward the borders of Western China: "They are a people without the most elementary notions of decency or propriety of any kind. They hab-