

learned class, has not to contend with a consolidated system like that of Hindooism; its successes have therefore been more rapid. The Chinese have also shown a singular aptness for organizing themselves into Churches, with regular forms of Church government. A persecution has recently taken place in Yangchow against a mission known as Mr. Taylor's mission, in which many agents are employed who adopt the Chinese dress, method of eating, &c. Suspicions had arisen among the common people, and the foulest calumnies had been circulated, till they were roused to an attack, in which the members of the mission narrowly escaped with their lives. In all the free ports, as well as in Peking and many other ports in the interior, the missions continue to be enlarged and strengthened.

In India the work proceeds quietly but surely. Education and other influences have undermined Hindooism among the intelligent classes. The wisdom of Dr. Duff's mission system has been strikingly vindicated. The reports of Dr. Macleod and Dr. Watson, after their tour of last winter, showed very clearly how much had been accomplished. Still, while Hindooism is tottering to its fall, it is to be lamented that genuine Christian truth is not more rapidly taking its place. There is a very large class who welcome all the infidel productions of England, France and Germany, and who console themselves with the idea that if their own religion has no foundation of truth, it is only in the same position as Christianity itself. The circulation of volumes in defence of Christianity—written expressly by those acquainted with the turn of the Indian educated mind—might prove of great value at the present time. It is evident that men of sterling ability are needed to combat the present tendencies of many of the educated Hindoos. The system of caste and idolatry is giving way; but what is to rise up in its place? The most remarkable successes, as to absolute gains of converts, have been recently among the wild aboriginal tribes of the Kols, the Santals, and others; and who knows but that God may choose these comparatively unlearned and unsophisticated tribes to confound the things that are mighty! One of the great difficulties, as shown by an able missionary, Mr. Miller, of Madras, at present in this country, is to deal with a mere subtle sophistry, where there is scarcely a trace of conscience left. Men have not the moral basis which might lead them to recognize sin, and therefore the great doctrines of the Cross fall powerless on their ears. The position of affairs, especially among the educated, leads us to doubt much whether great judgments and overthrows may not take place, in which this class of subtle conscienceless men shall be degraded, before the full triumph of the kingdom of Christ in India.

On the Continent of Europe, the most remarkable event has been the revolution in Spain. This movement has been hailed by all the friends of religious liberty. The Queen of Spain, under the evil influence of the Court of Rome, had been for years past persecuting those among whom the seed of the Gospel had taken root. The Evangelical movement had been checked by this means; but now the field is again open, and we cannot doubt that a large number will soon proclaim their faith. The Spaniards are thoroughly weary of the rule of priests, though still very superstitious, and a movement, if once begun, might rapidly spread. The Gospel in Italy has been making very considerable progress. The converts gained are, many of them, acting with great consistency, and almost every town of importance has now its evangelical congregation. The recent severity of the Papal Government, in executing popular leaders of the invasion of 1867, is making the common people more than ever impatient with the system, and may tend indirectly to promote much the evangelical work.