

Brown were authorised to go on a tour of inspection, and to report their impressions as to the most promising districts for a new mission. At Rangoon they obtained much interesting and valuable information from missionaries of the Methodist Episcopal Church who were doing good work in that town. They had also a cordial welcome from the Baptist brethren they met on their tour. In Prome, from which Dr. Judson was driven by the bigoted court of Ava, they spent a Sabbath with a Baptist missionary, and preached,—one to English residents, and the other to the Burman congregation through an interpreter. From Prome they went by steamer to Mandalay, now the capital of Upper Burma. The population of this city is estimated as being over one hundred and seventy thousand. The 'Vatican of Buddhism' as it has been called, it has not less than nine hundred and eighty monastic houses richly carved and lavishly gilded, and affording shelter to nearly six thousand yellow-robed priests, who are all supported by the gifts of the people. It was decided to make this city the headquarters of the mission, and also to include in its operations Meingyan, a town at the junction of the Kyendwen with the Irrawadi. The work, began in faith and prayer, is not without hopeful signs. Already five and a half acres of ground have been secured in Mandalay for mission premises. Aid in the purchase of the land was given by brethren in Calcutta, and also by friends at Thurgoland, in Yorkshire, the beautiful home of Mrs.