

Burmah missions are among those which are accounted the most fruitful, those at the contemplation of which all friends of Christ's Kingdom thank God and take courage.

Witness the last annual report:

Communicants	29,952
Baptized during the year	1,912
Number of Churches	521
Self-supporting Churches	377
Total Number of Native Preachers	524
Churches and Chapels	404
Amount of Contributions	\$46,067

This certainly indicates a noble success, even statistically. But could any just measurement be applied to the moral elevation of these Christian people as compared with the superstitious masses around them, the result would seem vastly greater.

A prosperous work is carried on in various parts of Burmah by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The Roman Catholics also claim large results.

The work in Siam and Laos has

been done mainly by the missions of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A. For many years great discouragements were encountered, and among the Laos about twenty years ago a violent persecution was suffered at the hands of the king. But the last ten years have witnessed very encouraging success.

The Government has uniformly been favorable. The young king of Siam has repeatedly uttered words of welcome, and even of commendation, and both he and his governors of provinces have contributed material aid toward schools and hospitals. Missionaries have been called to the highest positions as educators and superintendents of hospitals, and for the medical work especially valuable properties have been given. In the small Laos Mission the last year has been one of great prosperity. Over a thousand communicants are reported and about 700 pupils in schools.

VI.—EDITORIAL NOTES ON CURRENT TOPICS.

Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

The brief article we published in our March issue on Nicaragua as a prospective missionary field of the first importance, has, as we anticipated, attracted wide attention, and awakened no little interest and inquiry. We believe there was never a more promising opening for our great missionary societies to study and prepare for in the near future. The writer of that paper urged the great Presbyterian Church to go up and possess the land, and she will disregard a loud Providential call if she does not. But the call is to the whole American church, and why should not the great Methodist Episcopal Missionary Society, and the great Baptist Missionary Union—both of which have some special facilities and opportunities for it—take hold of this enterprise? The Hon. Warner Miller, an earnest and warm-hearted Methodist brother, who is President of the Nicaragua Canal Construction Company, would doubt-

less specially favor the planting of missions both in Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

Among the responses we have received is the following from "the only Protestant missionary in Costa Rica," which we are sure will deeply interest our readers:

"The March number of THE MISSIONARY REVIEW contained an article on Nicaragua, also referring to Costa Rica. Having visited Nicaragua, and residing in Costa Rica, it occurred to me that a little information respecting the present condition of these republics might be interesting to all Christians, especially those interested in aggressive Christian work. Should a waterway ever be made through Nicaragua, all that the writer predicts would doubtless come to pass. But whether the canal be made or not, one thing is certain: Christian mission work must be taken up in real earnest without further delay. As a result of a missionary tour to several islands and certain ports on the main land, the Jamaica Baptist Missionary Society decided to commence mission work in Costa Rica. Two years have