

of the robbers.' This left them defenceless, except so far as they might hope by their number, or any demonstration of resistance, to intimidate. One of the robbers, dismounting, seized the horses of Mr. Meriam's wagon, which was in the van. Mr. M. drew his revolver, and warned the man, who instantly dropped the bridle, when the driver, an energetic Mussulman, whipped up his horses to escape. They sprang forward, and Mr. M. thinking escape certain, turned and remarked to his wife, 'Thank God, my pistol has saved us.' The robbers, however, very soon commenced firing in quick succession at the wagon. A ball at length struck one of the horses, and he reeled and fell. The brigands still firing, Mr. M., fearing for his wife and family, got up and was in the act of alighting, when he fell pierced with two balls in his right side. If the statement of one who professed to be an eye-witness be true, one of the robbers then sprang forward and stamped on his face and head.

"The other wagons were now stopped, but not until two persons, one a traveller, the other a driver, had been mortally wounded, and one or two others injured. The robbers proceeded to rifle trunks, carpet bags, &c., taking such articles as they chose. We cannot learn that Mrs. M. was injured any further than by a slight flesh wound, from the sword of one of the robbers, to force her to tell where the money and valuables were."

A letter to a brother of Mr. Meriam, from Mr. Clark, his associate at Philippopolis, intimates that his death was almost instantaneous, one ball having probably reached his heart. By the kindly aid of some villagers Mrs. M. was enabled to proceed, with the body of her husband, reaching Philippopolis on Saturday, July 5, where the funeral took place the same evening.

Efforts were at once put in train by the missionaries, the Pasha and the English consul at Adrianople, (Mr. Blunt, formerly vice consul at Philippopolis, and a friend of Mr. Meriam,) as also by the American and English Ambassadors at Constantinople, to secure the apprehension and punishment of the murderers. Mr. Crane writes: "The whole country is infested. Rumors of robbery and violence, on the roads from here to the Balkans, are coming in every day. Men are afraid to venture out except when absolutely needful. I know not how many have remarked to me, that while they lament Mr. M.'s sad fate, his death may prove a public good. If these murderers are apprehended and brought to speedy justice—*executed*—we may hope for immunity in travelling; otherwise we feel it our duty—under instructions from consuls even—not at present to venture far away from the city, with our families."

Mr. Meriam was born at Princeton, Mass., September 15, 1830; but after the death of his father, in 1834, his mother removed, with her children, to Cambridgeport, Mass., where she resided until her death, in 1850. He became hopefully the subject of renewing grace in 1850, and united with the Orthodox Congregational Church at Cambridgeport, the next year. He graduated at Harvard University in 1855, and at Andover Theological Seminary in 1858; was married to Miss Susan Dimond, of Cambridgeport, September 1, 1858; was ordained at the same place November 29, of that year; sailed from Boston, for his mission, with his wife and several other missionary labourers, January 17, 1859; arrived at Smyrna, February 22, and at Adrianople, April 22. After spending some months at the latter place, studying the Turkish language, he went in October, with Mr. Clark, to the new station Philippopolis, which has since been the field of his labor. He was a faithful and eminently promising missionary, and the mysterious dispensation of Providence which has so soon and suddenly taken him from his family and his work, will occasion mourning with many.—*Missionary Herald*.

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#### GENERAL CONVENTION OF VERMONT.

The *Minutes of the General Convention* for 1862 give the number of Churches, 193; pastors, 72; stated supplies, 86; destitute, 33—which leaves two churches