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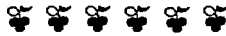
II. SATISFYING VISION: "*Let me be satisfied*" (optative use), Psa. xvii. 15.

1. Satisfaction by spiritual communion here (15 a).
2. Satisfaction by beatific vision hereafter (15 b).
3. Satisfaction by a profound reverence (outcome of both above) "let me" instead of "I shall" (A., 148-150).

III. FULL CONSECRATION: "*Consecrate yourselves*," Ex. xxxii. 29.

True consecration makes us—

1. Soldiers (v. 27).
2. Priests (v. 29). "Fill the hand" is a priestly term; cf. xxix. 9.
3. Intercessors (v. 30-33). (A., 182-183).



The Missionary World.

BY THE REV. C. D. SNELL, M.A.

THIS is the day of opportunity in Persia. In the past, as the *C.M.S. Gazette* points out, the missionaries have had to cope with continual opposition and obstruction on the part of the mullahs, though of late years their power has sensibly diminished. Now that power seems to be rapidly waning. Three of the chief mullahs in Teheran have been publicly executed, and in Ispahan the two chief mullahs have been ordered to leave. Moreover, the Bakhtiari, a tribe who have rapidly come to the front in the Government of the country, have in the past gladly welcomed visits from medical missionaries, and four years ago begged that a lady might be sent out to teach their girls. Although nominally Mohammedans, these people seem to be really destitute of religion—the men rarely engage in prayer; and they have said: "The Gospel will go forward with us; we are not afraid of the mullahs."



The special correspondent of the *Times*, lately in the Far East, has followed up his reference to Christian Missions in China by one to those in Japan. He points out that while Christianity has not made many converts in the latter country, they are to be met with among members of every class of the community. "Christians hold some of the highest offices in the State, and there are ten Christian members of the Imperial Diet, all men of high character, and enjoying the respect of their fellow-countrymen, for there is no constituency in Japan which would elect a Christian *qua* Christian." He proceeds to quote a missionary as saying: "If there are less than 200,000 professing Christians in Japan, there are more than a million educated Japanese who think in terms of Christian ethics, and who try to live up to them more truly than many millions of professing Christians in the West."



In this connection it is interesting to read in the *Mission Field* the translation of portions of an article on "The New Buddhism," from the pen of a

Japanese professor, which lately appeared in a magazine published in Japan. The following passage is worthy of note: "Our friends in Europe, who are given to calculations in comparing the respective number of adherents of Christianity and Buddhism, are greatly impressed by the overwhelming majority of the latter. In their statistics the number of Buddhists in Japan is represented as fifty millions. But what remnant would be left of that fifty millions if you were able to reckon up only the *true* Buddhists—those, I mean, who have tasted the doctrines of the Law and follow it? If the Christians are not very numerous, their faith is at least a reality to them. The professed Buddhists, on the other hand, have, except in a very few cases, no connection with or interest in Buddhism beyond the fact that their names are inscribed somewhere on temple registers."



Among the great changes which have taken place in China of late years is the prohibition here and there of idol processions. The grounds on which they have been forbidden at Fuh-Chow are that they are detrimental to the welfare of the populace, that they only lead to waste of treasure and prodigality, and that they encourage heterodoxy and sorcery. A proclamation which has been issued goes on to say, "Vagabonds who have no regular occupation to pursue and wish to raise money for their own benefit, have very often, under the excuse of idol processions, gone round to every house to collect contributions, gathered crowds of people together to burn incense, and devised street revelry and pageants, beating gongs and drums, and making clamorous noises day and night, during which persons are mingled together idling away their time and neglecting their occupations. Sometimes they have even come to fights, and have carried the outbreak to such an extent as insurrection." While the Christian deplures the processions chiefly on other and higher grounds, he must welcome their prohibition even for the reasons adduced by the Viceroy whose words have been quoted.



The *Foreign Field* is able to record a steady increase in membership of the Wesleyan Church during 1908. All districts register some progress, but the chief advance has taken place in South and West Africa. In the East difficulties are greater; but even there statistics are encouraging. A striking feature of the work is that by means of the missionary contributions of the Foreign District Auxiliaries, gifts of native and English Churches for the support of their own pastorates, Government grants, local subscriptions for buildings, etc., a considerably larger sum is raised annually than that contributed by the home Churches.



In view of Mr. Hall Caine's encomiums of Mohammedanism, special interest attaches to the description of the practical outcome of that religion given at the recent C.M.S. Summer School by Dr. W. R. S. Miller, who for the last ten years has been working in the Hausa States, where Islam is *on top*. After pointing out that Islam "still massacres Christian Churches, oppresses Christian minorities, proscribes Christian books, legally executes

Christian converts, and prays weekly throughout its mosques that 'the wives and children of the infidel Christian may be left widows and fatherless and his property fall into the hands of the true believer,'” he proceeded to affirm that Islam is a “religion which has no new message of life, has taught no new doctrine of hope or life to the human family; . . . has given no inspiration to a new service to mankind; has preached no new great truth; . . . has always tended to decline; has retarded, polluted, destroyed the manhood and corrupted the purer instincts of every nation it has touched; has blasted womanhood and destroyed the innocence of childhood.” Anyone who desires a really authoritative, as distinct from an imaginative, picture of Mohammedanism, should procure “The Reproach of Islam,” by the Rev. W. H. T. Gairdner, a C.M.S. missionary in Egypt. It is written for the use of mission study-circles, but the general reader also will gain profit from its perusal.



The Bible at Work.

BY THE REV. W. FISHER, M.A.

VERY encouraging news comes from the Far East. During the nine months ending September 30 the Bible Society's circulation in China amounted to 1,450,000 copies, showing an increase of 378,000 copies over the corresponding period last year. Korea likewise is manifesting exceptional demands and opportunities for colportage, which, taken in connection with late religious movements, are both significant and encouraging.



In an intensely interesting address given at the Bible House, Mrs. Fisher, of Uganda, made some noteworthy statements. “Uganda,” she said, “is practically the story of the progress of the Bible. It has been called the miracle of modern missions. . . . The reason is that the Word of God has been sent throughout the length and breadth of the country, and has taken root and is bringing forth fruit a hundredfold. . . . The first fifteen years there were only three or four hundred conversions—that is, until the time the people had the Bible in their own language—but since then the numbers have increased to over 70,000, and we might say that Uganda has been converted and is a Christian land. . . . All the little heathen temples which were to be found outside each man's house have been swept away, and now there are about 1,200 churches in their place. The heathen priests have had to go forth into the mountains or remote villages. . . . All the charms have been burned in public, and now in the homes of the people we find the charm of the living God.”



Mrs. Fisher also gave many striking illustrations of the permeation and power of the Scriptures. “Very often in the out-of-the-way villages will be