

State Church. Work is allowed to be undertaken, to grow, and to develop, no fear being felt by the government or the Holy Synod, as to its being sectarian or evangelical. Its way is smooth, the police will not interfere with it, there will be no persecution for the Gospel's sake. The priests, teachers and missionaries are officials of the State Church. In principle, at least, these Church officials may at any time and in any emergency appeal for help and protection to the local authorities, which acknowledge the State Church missions to be politically and dogmatically reliable. Converts from paganism or Islam have enjoyed, and I suppose they enjoy even now in a certain measure, certain privileges, such as material help, three years' freedom from taxes, etc. Then also help in money is more easily to be had : the Holy Synod, the parochial committees, the bulk of the public, both upper and lower classes, so far as they are at all interested in missions, counting it meritorious to help the Orthodox Church in its missionary efforts to propagate the "Holy Orthodox Faith."

(2) Of the hindrances to missionary work done by the State Church, we will mention first those which are external. Though in principle local authorities are bound to aid missionaries and their work, yet practically this aid is not always given. We read in the missionary reports of many cases where high and low officials have failed to aid missionaries. We may mention here also that missionaries, in fact, are not highly esteemed but are regarded as rather a nuisance by a great part of Russian administrators as well as by the public.

Another impediment to successful work in heathen or Moslem parts of the empire is the fact that the local authorities, being themselves heathen or Moslems, are of course opposed to missionary work in their regions and exercise all their power and craft to hinder Christian in-