

MISSIONS AND POLITICS IN ASIA. By Robert
Speer, Secretary of the Presbyterian Board
of Foreign Missions Fleming H. Revell
Company. New York: \$1.

In a series of five lectures delivered at Prince-
ton Theological Seminary in February of the
present year, Mr. Speer sets forth the spirit of

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the people of Asia as they have emerged from the turmoils of the past, the forces that are at work in making the history of the present, and the place which Christian Missions have taken among those forces. The material for these lectures was gathered by careful observation and diligent study during an extended tour through Asia, in the years 1896 and 1897. But the book is not an account of his travels. It is more; it is an intelligent, impartial, and, at the present time, much needed discussion of the political questions which are written all over the map of the East, and which particularly condition Christian Missions in each of the five countries of which he treats, viz: Persia, India, China, Japan and Korea. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to obtain elsewhere within the same space as much valuable information about the Orient. The author has studied discriminatingly and written cautiously. He is careful to fortify himself by frequent references to the best authors who have written on the subjects treated. The reader who begins this book with confused ideas about the Eastern peoples, their politics and their religions, will be completely disentangled before he reaches its close. It is written in the clear, terse, strong style which is characteristic of the author.
