

EASTERN TURKEY.

In the Eastern Turkey Mission, covering an area as large as all New England, twenty-seven missionaries, including wives and single ladies, have carried on the work. Only nine of these are ordained and only ten are men. In addition to all the burden arising from residence in a country where distress and terror prevail, and where official opposition is constant, they have labored to reorganize the evangelistic work, to train the 8,000 pupils who crowd to the schools, and to shelter, succor, and instruct more than 3,000 destitute orphans whom the Lord has put into their care. Never have men and women more heroically thrown themselves into the service of their Master. There has come during the year no word of fear or discouragement. With the country far from quiet, multitudes of people in despair, and dire uncertainty overhanging all, our missionaries have taxed every resource at their command to keep every department of work in full operation, and at the same time to seize the new opportunities opened to them. Nine new missionaries have gone to this mission during the year, but four have withdrawn, making a net increase of only five, a number far too small to meet the demands of the field. While the number of pupils in the schools have not diminished, about 3,000 destitute orphans have been added, making constant demands upon the strength, care, time, and sympathy of the missionaries. It is a marvel that more of the missionaries have not succumbed under the multiplied burdens. The funds for the support of these orphans come from outside sources, but it is plain to all that the organization and supervision of the orphanages is as distinctly missionary work as anything which can be done. It is equally clear that the other work must not be neglected that these orphans may be cared for. With duties fully doubled, with only a slight increase in the available force, with financial support reduced and the missionaries conscious that they are laboring beyond the wise limit of their physical strength, they are a unit in the declaration that no step backward can be taken; that no daily service for the needy can be neglected so long as God gives strength to perform it.

Euphrates College at Harpoot, with 900 pupils in all departments, has conducted its work largely in hired houses, as no part of the indemnity for the destroyed buildings has yet been paid by the Turkish government. The schools at all of the stations are crowded, and the number might be more than doubled were there room to receive, teachers to teach them, and did they have the money to pay for their support. A limitless opportunity is before us in Turkey. God only knows what the end will be, but that end is in His hands. To-day He opens before us an empire, and it is not ours to question the way He is leading. It is enough to know He is leading.