

licensed native preachers, twenty-one native teachers, and forty-one other helpers; of pupils two thousand and forty-one, and scores of unpaid laborers going forth every Lord's day to tell the story of Christ under the inward impulse of love for souls. The people are very poor, yet so liberal that the faithfully-paid tithes of ten converted families enable their native pastors to live on a level with their people. And all this the outgrowth of a single church, in a single missionary station, in less than twelve years, at a cost not exceeding in all \$150,000—the cost of one modern church edifice! Yes, these little churches on the Euphrates, gathered from native converts in Eastern Turkey, are perhaps the best illustrations in modern times of the three great principles of church life—self-government, self-support, and self-propagation.

Nevertheless, antagonism to missions is in the very air—and many that have never been good for anything else are, like Dr. Guthrie's famous elder, *aye objectin*,—adepts at criticising and faultfinding. We must dare to disregard all these oppositions whether coming from nominal friend or foe, whether resulting from ignorance or from science falsely so called; we must simply in face of all opponents go forward. Here is the authority of our Lord, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." That alone is enough, both as a reason and a vindication. Said a gunner of Waterloo,—when asked afterward by Dr. Cooke of Belfast, what he saw when standing on an exposed knoll in the very thick of the fight,—“Saw? nothing but a cloud of dust and smoke.” “What did you do?” “*Stood by my gun.*” He had been placed there by his commander and there he stayed till a counter-order was given. The command of our Lord is sufficient, even were it all. But it is not all. There is the impulse of humanity, especially when it is fortified by Christianity. The possession of Christ begets a passion for Christ and for souls. “We cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard,” though, as to the apostles, our testimony may bring only the scourging. Philanthropy compels testimony, and endeavor to uplift man; and the gospel is the only adequate lever. The “Ely Volume” is an encyclopedia in which are gathered and catalogued the contributions of missions to science, art, language and literature, everything that raises man to a higher level.

But beyond all these is another, and if possible, higher inducement; our Lord's promise: “Lo! I am with you alway, even unto the end of the age.” And gloriously has that promise been fulfilled, nay it is fulfilling before our eyes. To study the history of missions is not only instructive and stimulating, but thrilling; it is the tracing of the golden footsteps of the Lord Christ. During this century of the formative and preparatory period of modern missionary enterprise, what mighty obstacles He has removed! what a missionary spirit He has created and developed! what a chain of organized effort He has forged and stretched around the globe! what work He has impelled woman to do, and with