

place in a divine plan. With the enlarged circulation and the increased excellence for which we both hope and strive, a career of increased increasing usefulness opens before this messenger of the churches, therefore, without hesitation, appeal to all lovers of Christ and His cause give us sympathetic and prayerful aid in our endeavor to furnish and disseminate missionary intelligence and inspiration throughout the wide circle of common Christian brotherhood.

What was said at the outset, one year ago, we now emphatically repeat, that this is with us no mere money-making scheme. Neither of us would have considered that we had any time to give to a mere business venture, however promising. One of us, besides filling the onerous position of literary editor of a large publishing house, was editing *The Homiletic Review*, whose ninety-six pages a month made additional editorial work by no means a sinecure. The other was pastor of a congregation where thousands of people look to him for work in pulpit and pastorate. With such tax already upon tongue and pen, such engrossing and absorbing work as this REVIEW demands would not even have been weighed in the mere balances of worldly gain. We had neither time nor money to invest in a literary enterprise, though it might promise pecuniary rewards. But we weighed the matter in God's scales, over against higher motives and compensations. The leading of God seemed singularly obvious. A network of providences entangled us as in a golden snare. A higher destiny—a divinity—shaped our ends, and we yielded to the pressure of duty, which is always also privilege. We believed strength would be given us, and it has been given.

The impression and conviction with which this enterprise was begun have only become deeper and stronger by the year's experience, viz.: that, in respect of missions, no greater need exists than that of the *universal diffusion of information* as to the facts of past and present missionary history. To know those facts, to be informed and keep informed and fully informed, as to the march of God and His hosts in all the earth, is, in effect, to quicken the pulse of the whole Church of Christ. In missions, Love is the skillful alchemist that turns knowledge into zeal and out of intelligence distills inspiration. If we would have more prayer we must know what to pray about and pray for; if we want more money we must know what open doors God is placing before us for the investment of consecrated capital, and what wondrous results He has wrought and is working with the merchant's millions, and even the widow's mites; if we want more men and women as workers, the mind and heart and conscience of disciples must be awakened from sleep and aroused from sluggishness, by the electric touch of thrilling facts. If we want more zeal, all true zeal is "according to knowledge" and consequent upon it. If we want the spirit of holy enterprise, doing and daring for God, missions must be exhibited as the enterprise of the Church, and it must be shown that no equal or proportionate investment of men, means and money ever brought returns so ample—all of which the logic of events stands ready to prove by the most overwhelming of arguments.

In a word, we believe that, if every true disciple could be continually confronted by a fresh bulletin of news from the world-wide field and kept familiar with the movements of every assaulting column now moving against Satan's citadels, all the workmen and all the money—both the *personnel* and *material* of war—would be voluntarily furnished for prosecuting this colossal campaign!

To do our part of this work well—this is the absorbing question. To mix up the secular spirit with the Lord's work is fatal to a true and large suc-