

that he was an American. They replied that no foreigner could speak Arabic as he did, and his life was saved by the timely interference of a native who knew him. The late Mr. Dale entered a cholera smitten village, administered medicine, stopped the plague and restored confidence and escaped harm. Others have been in the midst of raging pestilences, flying bullets and "perils of robbers," and the Lord has protected them.

IV. The good Providence of God was clearly seen in 1857, when the death of Dr. Eli Smith occurred. He was regarded as the prince of Arabic scholars, and was appointed to the work of translating the Bible into Arabic. He died January 11, 1857, after ten years of preparatory work, but he had only printed a few chapters of Genesis. His death was seemingly an irreparable calamity. But in the city of Sidon, God had been preparing a worthy successor to this great oriental scholar in Dr. Cornelius V. A. Van Dyck, whose knowledge of the Arabic was not less than that of Dr. Smith, and his familiarity with Arabic grammar, poetry, literature, proverbs and folk lore was perhaps far greater. He availed himself of the preparatory work done by Dr. Smith, and after eight years of constant labor, completed the marvellous translation now so widely known and so extensively distributed.

V. We see God's hand plainly in the rescue of Beirut from destruction in 1860.

Civil war was raging in Lebanon and Anti-Lebanon. Hundreds of villages had been burned and thousands of Christians massacred by Druzes and Mohammedans. Nearly twenty thousand refugees, Maronites, Greeks and Protestants, had fled to Beirut for refuge. The governor of the city was treacherous, and the garrison could not be trusted. Thousands of armed Druzes had entered the city and were secreted in the Moslem houses. The day had been fixed for the massacre and burning of Beirut, and all native Christians and Europeans were to be destroyed.

But God had long been preparing a man to deliver the city. One of the co patriots of Louis Kossuth in the Hungarian Patriotic Revolution of 1848 was General Kmetty, a Hungarian Protestant, who on the failure of the Revolution fled to Constantinople and entered the Turkish Army, with the rank of General and the title of Ismail Pasha.

When news of the Syrian massacres reached Constantinople, the Sultan sent General Kmetty with 1,800 Turkish regulars to restore order in Syria.

The morning before the day fixed for the destruction of Beirut, he landed his army in the city. He at once called together the foreign consuls, ascertained the state of affairs, summoned his officers, ordered them to distribute their troops over and around the city. Drawing his revolver he said to his officers "If the hair of a Christian's head is harmed in Beirut,