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ADDRESS OF THE REV. GEORGE F. HERRICK, OF CON-
 STANTINOPLE, AT THE SIXTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE
 AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The missionary of Christ, in contradistinction to a missionary of the church is, first and midst and last, a preacher of his gospel. The missionary may be an organizer. Very well if he be so; but his mission is not to organize. He may be learned in ecclesiastical politics; but his mission is not ecclesiastical. He may be ingenious. Very well; but his mission is not in the direction of invention. He may make valuable contributions to human knowledge, in ethnology, philology, or in other departments of science or in literature; and with very many he will be praised just in proportion to his achievements in one or other of these directions. But his mission is not in these. He is a herald. He carries a message—a message from the King of kings, a message of glad tidings to men, and to all men. This seems a very simple appointment, but it is not quite so simple as it seems. He must as a messenger make his message understood. He must, therefore, first of all, put it into the vernacular of the people. He must put his message into that language which will represent most accurately the divine communication as originally given, and he must do this in a style level to the common intelligence. He must, so to say, put the message in large capital letters, right before the common eye, that it may reach the common mind, and that the Author of the message may through it speak to the common heart.

The translation of the Bible, therefore, must always be in the idiomatic vernacular of every people. Any language that is foreign to the life of the people is an impossible vehicle by which to communicate to men the saving truth of God. The Koran is an intelligible book, and really reaches only those whose vernacular is Arabic, and the Bible in Arabic reaches the heart of only such people as have Arabic for their mother tongue. I will here say, sir, that the work of the missionary translator demands a scholarship, an accurate knowledge of the original languages of the Bible, a knowledge of the