

quently endanger life, need to be reminded of the historical fact that outbreaks occurred against foreigners before the missionary appeared on the field, as well as of a further consideration with the mention of which I shall close.

While it would not be the part of an intelligent observer to dismiss all the rioting in China with a wave of the hand as due to pure and simple savagery, there would be at least a certain amount of justification for such an attitude:—this, namely, that all these outbreaks are in a sense so many deliberate exhibitions of the natural enmity of the human heart against God. It is quite pertinent to raise the Psalmist's query, "Why do the nations rage and the peoples imagine a vain thing?" There can be little doubt about it: the kings of the earth herein set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, though often unconsciously, *against the Lord and against His Anointed*. We need not try to minimize it: the revolt in the long run is nothing less than that. Nor, under the discovery, need our spirits quail. It means simply that we must bestir ourselves and put on the whole armor of God that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil; for our wrestling over there in China is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities and powers, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the

spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Not only in pagan lands, but all over Christendom, the times are portentous with mighty social and religious upheavals, and problems calling for solution by the most devoted consideration and choicest efforts of the Church of God; and in facing them, all, it is idle to sweep out of sight the stern, unrelenting fact of original and actual sin. A Bellamy may contrive another Utopia, but sinful nature in Chicago finds it impossible to carry it out. We may lay our fingers on any number of mediate causes of this rioting in China but when it comes to the sum total they are all embraced in the one fearful fact of political and moral corruption. The very rulers of China, pluming themselves on a falsely estimated intellectual superiority, have over and over again illustrated by their conduct the utter insufficiency of Confucianism, lofty as its teachings are, to regenerate sinful human nature; and, indeed, growing ever more and more jealous of the undoubted evidence that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the Power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, they hasten to play upon the passions of those whose baser natures are unrestrained by even such education as Confucianism can afford; and the whole country as a consequence is in a blaze. There is, therefore, a sense in which we would not dare to shift the responsibility for all these