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THE TWOFOLD RELATION OF THE WORLD KINGDOMS TO
THE KINGDOM OF GOD.—I.

BY THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.

When Constantine was tracing the bounds of the new city, Byzantium, and surprise was expressed at the vastness of the area which he was including, his reply was, "I am following One who is leading me."

History without God is a lock without a key. This department of Christian evidences, God's hand in history, is too much neglected, and might be used to reinforce Christian ethics. There is a logic of events. The student of history finds an obvious plan, one unceasing, unfolding purpose, running like a thread of gold through the complexity of events; and by following that mystic cord he avoids perplexity, disentangles the skein, and brings order out of confusion and unity out of variety.

This discussion is mainly concerned with the relation of Christian governments to missions; but, to measure or apprehend the office and function of governments in the *propagation* of the Gospel, we must understand that *preparation* for the Gospel to which all nations have been made contributors.

To see the strange *unity in history*, we need first to view humanity as a unit and all history as a whole. However useful the study of a race or an era, the divine plan demands a divine point of view; we must, as from the lofty eyrie of the eagle or his position in air take a look at the broad landscape. Thus viewed, both Jew and Gentile are seen to be alike needful to the complete solution of the historic problem; and Assyria and Egypt, Greece and Rome, England and America, are but mountain ranges, with predetermined lines and limits, furnishing a watershed whence the great streams of civilization follow diverse courses to one sea. While "the days of history have been man's, the ages have been Christ's, and His the glory of the victory of right over might, of order over anarchy, of liberty over tyranny, of cosmos over chaos."

The cross of Christ was the turning-point of the ages. That is no accident whereby the advent of our Lord was framed into time. It is not too