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LET US EVANGELIZE THE WORLD IN THIS GENERATION.

[EDITORIAL, A. T. P.]

The supreme question of the hour is the immediate preaching of the Gospel to every creature. When Francis Xavier stood before the Walled Kingdom, and felt the power of its adamantine exclusiveness and proud self-sufficiency, he exclaimed, "O rock! rock! when wilt thou open to my Master?"

Could that heroic Jesuit of Navarre, whose grave was made at Goa in 1552, after these nearly three hundred and forty years, see that "rock" opened to his Master, and the whole world now flinging wide the long-shut doors; and then see the comparative idleness and indifference of the Church, so slow to enter and possess the land, he would turn to the Church itself and cry again, "O rock! rock! when wilt *thou* open to my Master?"

The great question of the hour is, How can the immediate proclamation of the Gospel to every creature be made a fact? Other preliminary questions have been answered by the very movements of God's providence and the developments of human history. We need no longer to ask how we shall get access to the nations, for the barriers are down; nor need we inquire how we are to reach these uttermost parts of the earth, for the steamship and steam-car will bear us to the limits of the globe in less than two months; nor need we search for the implements and instruments for the work of evangelization, for the printing-press offers to make the eye the handmaid of the ear in the rapid dispersion of the Gospel message, and science offers to be the powerful ally of faith in the conquest of the world for Christ. Nor is it a question of adequate force for the field, for the evangelical churches could furnish four hundred thousand missionaries, or one for every two thousand of the unevangelized population, and yet have one hundred at home to support every foreign missionary. It is not even a question of adequate means to support a great army of missionaries, for the aggregate wealth which is at the disposal of disciples is so great that one-tenth of it would amply suffice to sustain half a million workmen in the foreign field and supply all the needed adjuncts and accessories for mission work.