

vocacy of Mr. Constantinides will place the actual circumstances of this Mission more fully and fairly before the Court than any abridged report, which the Board can present. It will be necessary however for the information of the Church at large to give an epitome of the leading facts which pertain to this Mission. In 1858 the attention of the Free Church of Nova Scotia was turned to Turkey, as most urgently demanding at that time the attention of the Christian Church. The Rev. Petros Constantinides, a native Greek, and Licentiate of the Free Church of Scotland was accepted, and ordained by order of Synod. He left for Turkey in November, of the same year, being then the first missionary to the Greeks from any branch of the Christian Church. On his way to Constantinople, he learned that the Free Church in Scotland was not likely to establish a mission in Turkey, and that the idea of co-operation with the agency of that Church must be relinquished. He at once wrote to the Committee in Nova Scotia advising them to abandon the field as too expensive for their resources. Being urged to go forward he did so single-handed. At Constantinople he was disappointed in not receiving from the American Missionaries the accommodation he had before enjoyed, as they had given up their school room. He obtained the use of a room in the Jewish quarter of the city, which Greeks of respectable position would be very reluctant to enter, and at an hour, 12 noon, the very worst in the day. He had here an attendance of from fifteen to thirty persons.

But as the arrangement was not at all satisfactory he was authorized to visit Asia Minor, and select another field, where house rent or the erection of buildings would not be so exorbitant as in Constantinople. Such a field happily presented itself at Demirdesh. There the people shewed great kindness, and much anxiety to hear the Gospel and declared themselves ready to abandon the Greek Church. Here he had a school attended by from eighty to one hundred pupils. The audiences became so numerous, that he was compelled to preach in the open air. He had dispensed the Lord's Supper to fifteen persons, who had never partaken of that sacred ordinance, and who he found reason to think were truly converted. The salary of the Teacher for the male school was £70, and the sister of the Missionary gave her services freely to the female school. These schools were upheld for a time by an association of ladies in Edinburgh, but the temporary aid has been withdrawn. When summer came, the schools had to be closed. Miss Constantinides had to return to Constantinople to nurse her sick and dying parent, while the room for the boys' school was required for the tending of the silk worm, which provides at this season the means of subsistence for a large portion of the inhabitants of that city. Demirdesh too was found to be very damp and swampy, and Mr. Constantinides had the fever almost constantly, and after repeated efforts by change of air to shake off the malignant influence of the climate, he was compelled to abandon the station. Broussa, another city fourteen miles distant was visited, and there an excellent opening was found, and a much more healthful locality. A wide door and effectual was opened, but our missionary found himself painfully excluded from entrance. "With deep sorrow," says he, "I feel that we are utterly unable to do any thing there. Schools, teachers, colporteurs, books, &c., &c., are among the most indispensable means for carrying on this work, but we have not the least of these. How long will you keep me in this painful situation—a soldier unarmed in the minds of a fearful battle?" His desire to return to Nova Scotia was communicated to the Board, and after deliberation they directed their Chairman to intimate their consent to his proposal, under the idea that his health would be recruited, and his presence at this Synod would tend more than any other means to place this mission on a satisfactory basis.

In conference with Mr. Constantinides it has been ascertained that the following estimates of yearly expenditure would alone justify his continuance in the mission. Salary of two Missionaries £600 sterling; two Teachers, £200; two Colporteurs, £150; Contingencies, £50. Besides this annual outlay of not less than £1250 currency, buildings at Demirdesh and Broussa would involve an outlay of £2000 sterling or £2500 currency. At a recent meeting of the Board, Mr. Constantinides intimated his intention to resign all connection with the Mission on the twofold ground of infirm health and inadequate support. He was