

all sides we see great opportunities, yet are powerless to embrace them." It is wonderful that there are nearly half a million Christians in China, but there are 438,000,000 people there. From India comes the cry: "Millions are yet unevangelized in the territories for which our missionaries are responsible, and are totally inadequate." Said another letter of a single station: "Publish it! Shout it from the housetops! 2,500 villages to be visited; in all of them Christians to be shepherded and 6,000 Christian boys and girls to be educated. Open thou, O Lord, the eyes of the young people of America, burden their hearts, till they come over to help us rescue the lovable boys and girls of India from the slough of ignorance and sin in which they are sunk, till they cannot rest for the cries of these children going up before the throne day and night."

What shall be said of the soldiers of the Cross who form the thin red line of the Church of God at the front: little groups of men and women, scantily equipped, in unhealthy climates, often in the midst of war, pestilence or famine, hardly a week in which some of them do not stand face to face with death; but quietly, patiently, month after month and year after year, going on with their work with fortitude undaunted, with devotion superb, witnessing for the Gospel of the Son of God. "Why don't you call those imperilled missionaries home?" people sometimes ask. If we did call them, they would not come. When a British Admiral offered the protection of his ship of war to some beleaguered missionaries years ago, they told him that their stations were their posts of duty and that they could not leave the native Christians to be scattered and their schools and hospitals to be destroyed. The Admiral took off his cap and said: "Ladies and gentlemen, your courage is magnificent. Men have been given the Victoria Cross for less heroism than yours."

As we read letters which come from workers stationed at the ends of the earth, strange scenes rise to our vision. We see missionaries on the teeming plains of China, in the numberless villages of India, by the rivers of Siam, in the jungles of Africa, on the uplands

of Persia, in the valleys of Korea and Japan, in the islands of the Philippines, in the vast spaces of Latin America; using every conveyance known to the non-Christian world—by cart and chair and litter, by canoe and sailboat and launch, by pony and camel and elephant, sometimes by bicycle and automobile, but often on foot, weary and foot-sore; in heat and cold, in dust and mud, in drenching storm and blazing sun, but everywhere and always beseeching men in Christ's stead to be reconciled to God.

The world waits for the Gospel of which such missionaries are ambassadors. Never has it needed it so urgently as now. The race is in commotion. Turkey is again arrogant. India is seething with unrest. China is chaos. Japan has been smitten by appalling calamity. Koreans and Filipinos are demanding independence. In Europe men are talking about the next war and preparing for it. Everywhere peoples are in transition. The old is passing. What is to be the new?

Evil influences are intensifying the danger. Moving picture films that are so unclear that they cannot be profitably shown in America are shipped to Asia, where they are freely exhibited. A single steamship is reported to have taken from San Francisco to Japan 1,150 barrels of wine. Morphine seized in Shanghai was manufactured in Philadelphia. The law forbids shipment from America to China but not to Japan. In two years and nine months New York dealers sent three and a half tons of morphine and five tons of cocaine to Japan, there to be reshipped to China through Japanese post offices over which the Chinese have no jurisdiction. As a traveler in Asia sees the evidences of vices from alleged Christian nations, he wonders whether the closer contacts of the East and the West are further to debauch the East. They surely will unless they are overcome by a more vigorous propagation of Christianity. America and Europe have taught Asiatics to kill one another more scientifically than ever before. They have taught them the use of machine guns, airships and poison gas. Shall they not give them the uplifting and purifying word of God with its Gospel of the Prince of Peace?