

their work during the War of 1812. At the time of the American Civil War new foreign missionary organizations sprang into being and the old Boards experienced signal expansion. In the history of the church, widespread disorder and physical suffering and need have incited to greater devotion and sacrifice.

We are also face to face with the startling fact that the work of more than 2,000 Teuton missionaries has become disrupted and is in danger of dissolution whereby some 700,000 followers of Christ in pagan lands may be left as sheep without a shepherd. This throws an immediate and enormous responsibility upon the Christians of England and North America to conserve the devotion and sacrifice which German missionaries have given to building up Christian communities and institutions. England is heroically assuming a large share of the burden; we of America must not hold back.

The Asiatic and African races are undergoing sweeping transformations in their thinking, their relations to the nations of the West, and in their religious conceptions. They have been fighting the white man's war shoulder to shoulder with Europeans and upon a plane of equality. Dependent peoples who are now sharing in this conflict cannot return to former positions of contented subjection.

China and Japan have held the balance of power in Eastern Asia, constituting a new and significant relation to the Western nations. Already the Far East is seething with a new national and international life for which she is seeking a substantial religious foundation.

These conditions demand, while the situation is plastic, the concentration of the unifying forces of Christendom. Today the great majority of these people are more accessible, and even more eager for Christian instruction, than they have ever been before in all the history of modern missions. These conditions cannot be expected indefinitely to continue.

The foreign missionaries, with their prestige, their institutions already established, and with their message of com-