

week of war, and in the present lower stage of the world's development, they have their place in keeping the world's ease until it can be attained by better means.

In another way is seen their necessity. So long as mobs are encouraged by China's government to loot and kill the foreigners; or Turkish fanatics are led on by their officials to murder their Christian fellow subjects; or African princes to perpetrate their barbaric practices in violation of treaty rights; so long the stronger and more civilized nations require to be ready to lay upon them a firm restraining hand, and in this way enforce a measure of righteousness and peace.

Some of the world's ills thus seem necessary to prevent greater ills, while Christianity is uplifting humanity to a higher plane.

These ills, however, may be viewed with daily lessening alarm. Christ walks the waves. Amid all the turmoil and unrest God's plans move grandly on. He ruleth in the armies of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. He maketh the wrath of man to praise him and the remainder of wrath He will restrain. And while we see in threatened strife God's present means of lessening strife and keeping human passions in check, let us rest in the assurance that each passing year is surely bringing about the time when by higher motives the world's peace shall be secured, when Christ shall reign in the hearts of men and the councils of nations, and they shall turn their swords into ploughshares, and their battle ships into Bethels and learn war no more.

**"The Eastern Question."** A new phase of it has recently arisen. A few months since the world was shocked by news of massacres of Armenian Christians by the Turks. The powers demanded of the Sultan protection for his Christian subjects. He has trifled and delayed. New massacres are reported, worse, if possible than before. The nations have gathered their fleets and are waiting at his door for an answer.

The strange spectacle is witnessed of the Turkish Empire using its little remaining strength in killing out its Christian population, and the Christian powers not yet decided that it shall cease to be. Their jealousy of each other prevents its immediate dismemberment. Each is afraid some other will get an undue advantage from such an event.

What the ends is to be, what a day may bring forth, none can tell. Their jealousy may lead to the Sultan's continuance for a time, or at any moment his long abused trust may be handed over to some of the smaller powers whose gain in strength will not make them dangerous rivals. Perhaps Austria will be made guardian of the Bosphorus. For this Britain seems inclined. But whatever the issue there need be little fear of widespread strife.

### A WORD TO THE YOUNG.

1. Young people usually take their habits and character through life. As the twig is bent, etc. Train up a child, etc.

2. It follows that if men and women are to be useful helpers in the Church they must begin young. This thought is taking shape in the many young people's societies.

3. The greater part of the Christian work that men and women do in life is in connection with the Church to which they belong. The best workers outside the Church are usually the most faithful in the Church.

4. The year now closing has been an important one to the young people of our Church; for our General Assembly has appointed a special committee to welcome Young People's Societies in the great work that our Church has to do at home and abroad.

Upon these simple facts let there be based a word of caution. Do not allow all your sympathies and work and gifts to be drawn into any one channel of our Church work, but learn to take an intelligent interest in it as a whole.

To train ministers and missionaries, our Colleges are necessary. No Church has prospered without them, and they should have your sympathy, prayers, and help.

Home Mission work must be done or our Church cannot grow. The newer settlements will lapse into home heathenism, and the whole country will suffer.

For the same reasons our Augmentation Scheme is necessary.

French Evangelization must be done, for we cannot be faithful to Christ and leave one-third of the people in our Dominion without the Bible in their own tongue.

Christ said "all the world," therefore Foreign Mission, cannot be left out.

If we allow our interest and efforts to be confined to any one of these works, we are only partial helpers; we leave some work undone.

But a greater evil will be that our minds and hearts will grow smaller and poorer in sympathy and knowledge, and if thus trained in youth, our later years will be the same. A living Church should have full knowledge of the world's need at home and abroad, and a hearty, active sympathy with the work of helping that need.

Young people, as you value the present and future prosperity of our Church and country, and the present and future development of your own characters as Christian workers, do not allow yourselves to be narrowed down to any one part of our Church's work, either at home or abroad, by pledging your givings in one direction, but, according to your means, aid the different Schemes.

Thus you will do more good, and will at the same time grow into more intelligent, more unselfish, more useful, more Christlike workers, in later years; and our Church, made up of such workers, will be a more Christlike Church.

The future of the Presbyterian Church in Canada is, under God, in your hands. What hall that future be?