

for tenfold effort. The whole world is open and expectant. The facilities are a hundredfold greater, the prospects of success are a thousand times brighter than they were a hundred years ago, if only the Church would awake to the magnitude of her destiny and the majesty of Her leader. Christ seems as if He were about to ride forth "conquering and to conquer." There are lurid signs of the predicted final conflict between the powers of Gospel light and the powers of pagan darkness, and "the time is short." We talk of a second century of missions. We dare not count upon such a long period for the accomplishment of the work to be done. "The night cometh." It may be by judgments on sleeping Protestantism, as well as on an apostate popery that God will accomplish His predicted purpose. There is a revival of zeal in the serrated ranks of the Roman Catholic Church. The Greek Church is stirred up to propagating and persecuting activity : paganism, alarmed at the progress of Christianity, is rousing itself for a struggle, and the false prophet is preparing for an outburst of fanaticism. Is the Protestant Church alone to remain disunited and apathetic ? Is she blind to the signs of the times ? God has given to her children of the Saxon race, through conquest and colonization, a position of strategetic power of unparalleled significance and importance for the spread and triumph of the gospel of peace.

There are two forms of the love of money by which both individuals and nations are tempted to their destruction. The one is the love of money for its own sake—the base sin of the miser. The other is the love of money for the pleasures it can purchase—the brilliant folly of the spendthrift. Against the sin of hoarding the Lord warns us by the parable of the rich man and Lazarus, and by the rich fool. Against the sin of squandering we are warned in the parable of the prodigal son. Are not these the characteristic sins of our day by which the progress of the kingdom of God is hindered, and social and national life is imperiled ? Rich men are piling up great fortunes and creating a great gulf between them and the poor, dangerous to the stability of civilized society. Nations are accumulating capital to an extent unheard of in the history of the world, and at the same time are spending money in enervating pleasures and luxurious vices only paralleled by the licentiousness of Greece and Rome in their decline and ruin. Why all this "heaping up of treasure against the last times" ? Why are Christian men hoarding fortunes far beyond their own needs and the wants of their families, while the work of God is languishing and the heathen are perishing for lack of knowledge ?

It is full time for the ministers of Christ to lift up a warning voice against the abuse of money, and to teach the people the uses for which it has been so abundantly given to the Protestant nations of the world. Let them by their teaching and example raise the standard of giving to the Christian maximum rather than that of Mosaic minimum, that they may realize the truth of the Lord's maxim, "that it is more blessed to give than to receive."