

spectively, seemed miraculous, has been accomplished. Brahmins have been won for the Cross of Christ; China hears the voice of the colporteur; the native Indian of this continent is followed as he chases the buffalo over the prairies of the West, and to-day, under the shadow of the Vatican, the work goes on. And, assuredly, wherever missions are the Bible is showing its adaptation to human wants, its power to satisfy human needs.

In the smoke and fury of battle, an individual company or soldier may be hurled back, whilst the whole line may be marching on to victory. Let those who are weary with the discouragements that meet them, get occasionally above the din and see the host triumphantly advancing. "I have nowhere seen a new heathen temple. They are all old and dilapidated," writes one who lately made a mission tour of the world. If ever, the Church to-day can sing, "All the ends of the earth see the salvation of our God."

Our report and resolution refer to the coming revision of the old Saxon translation. Speaking on this platform, no opinion can now be given as to the merits of that version, or its subsequent reception, but in view of the great expectation raised by its announced completion, so far as the New Testament is concerned, it may safely be said that a new impetus will be given to Bible-reading. I sympathize deeply with the spirit that cherishes words of hallowed memories, words which, unforgotten, wherever we wander—

"Call back the hearts which once they stirred  
To childhood's happy home."

Some of these memories may receive a start; nevertheless the tense and verbal changes to be met with will compel an attention from which we anticipate blessed results. There is much reading about and around the Bible, even Sunday School helps may keep from the true reading of the book itself: what we need is a face to face acquaintance with the Word: and the comparisons which even curiosity may institute between the old version and the new will loosen from a formalism which becomes fetichism, leading to a more living interest in the truths which underlie the words. Only let the truth, as the truth is in Jesus, be seen with open face, and it will manifest itself as the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. Let it be understood, moreover, that they who are most truly loyal to that truth, court, rather than shun, investigation; only let investigation be thorough. "These things were not done in a corner." Truth, let it stand, heaven will not fall, but shine forth with ever increasing brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth.

Man *must* trust. You remove the Bible and its teachings: what do you get in our midst as the results? Spiritualism and its vagaries, fortune-telling, lucky and unlucky omens, superstitions far beyond any under the Christian name. Undeniably, the Bible may cease to be the object of a living faith and become the object of a superstition. Even so with Christ, and the creeds our fathers forged in the fires of conflict, a cruel shibboleth to some of their children in the hands of others; nevertheless, Christian superstition has never reached more than the penumbra of the darkness found in the total eclipse of God and His truth. Nor do we find a deeper dismay at the harmless ticking of the death-watch, or a more chilling shudder at the midnight howling of some imprisoned cur, than among those to whom the Bible is an idle tale and God a dream; their spirits, at these harmless sounds, are often blanched with fear as at the summons of the Judgment Day.

These considerations should deepen our missionary trust as we seek to spread the Bible; for what are scientific truths but verified experiments, and verified experiments are but corrected observations. What is experience but the knowledge gained by the experiments of life? May we not assert, therefore, some scientific truths regarding the Bible as a whole? truths as well authenticated as any discovered in the laboratory. It is a fact in history which is the record of human experience, that in proportion as the Gospel of Jesus