

ours must need our prayers and sympathies as they go out upon their "cloud-covered path."

Our extremity is our own opportunity as well as God's. Every strait of life is a time for thought, decision, enterprise. There is a time when to do nothing is to be lost. There should be no inconclusive thinking, because to make the most of an extremity is to rise higher than if no extremity had arisen, and to make the least of an extremity is to fall lower than we were before. No extremity in this life leaves us just where it found us. Through every extremity we go up or down, according to the wisdom of our decision. The world situation in relation to God is most urgent. The awakening of the Orient will bring about an extremity in the experience of the human race which will severely test the church and afford her the greatest opportunity with which she has ever been confronted. To tarry or delay is to be lost. To make the great venture is to be saved and to save the world.

The best laid plans will oft miscarry. These sailors were making for a safe bay in the distance, but were caught on a sand-bar in mid-water. But what difference so long as they remained faithful to the general command and were undiscouraged by the happening of the unexpected? The biographer of De Rainy noted this spirit in the hero of his story. "I remember," says he, "a fine phrase of his about life, '*We must succeed as soldiers succeed.*' Soldiers succeed, not by gaining honors or applause, nor, it may be, by gaining victories. Their success is obedience to the call of duty. Their profession is 'the service' of 'the good cause.' This

was the spirit of St. Paul the missionary, and of Livingstone, and of all that noble band of men who gave themselves to the propagation of the faith. None of these things moved them.

We must take care of the weak. The strong swimmers were thrust forth first. Those who were least able to care for themselves were given the advantage of broken wreckage to float upon. There was here no word of that hateful maxim, "Every man for himself." There are those who think it well that the weak individual should perish so that the community may be more and more. There are those who think it well that the weak and inferior races should perish so that the whole human race may be more and more. This is not the gospel of Christ. He would have the unfittest survive. He would have the strong bear the burdens of the weak. He would have the gospel preached to every creature—to the weak and the strong.

All safe at last. What a supreme and happy moment after so many days and nights of perilous toiling on the great deep! What a grateful refuge from the pursuit of the angry seabirds and the maddening billows! Safe, safe at last. This physical life of ours is precious. After another great storm, a young man was brought to shore unconscious. Restoratives were promptly applied to rekindle if possible the fading spark. At length some one ran forward with the news, "He has drawn a breath, he has drawn a breath." The crowd caught the cry and promptly re-echoed it with great joy. How suggestive of that joy which is in the presence of God over one sinner who repenteth—be he white, yellow or black. The salvation of the world is the finest dream that can float in our imagining.

THE LESSON GRADED

This section embraces teaching material for the various grades in the School.

For Teachers of Bible Classes

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As this lesson is to be treated from a missionary standpoint, the teacher may find it profitable to review some of the main facts of Paul's missionary activities, emphasizing particularly: (a) his preparation, intellectually and spiritually, (c) his methods of

work, (c) the extent of his activities, (d) the permanent value of his labors. Then, the teacher might briefly sketch a phase of Paul's character prominent in this lesson which must have contributed to his success. After such an introduction, a study of some Canadian missionaries who have emulated Paul may prove helpful to the class. Two members of the class could be chosen to read papers, one, on the life of one of our home missionaries, another, on the life of a foreign