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OUR CANADIAN FOREIGN MISSIONARY.

The Rev. C. H. Brooks, and wife (sister of the Rev. R. W. Wallace, of London) sailed from Boston, on the 14th October, for Britain, *en route* for Manissa, in Western Turkey, the field to which he has been appointed by the American Board of Foreign Missions. Mr. Brooks, it will be remembered, was present at the meeting of the Union, in Toronto, in June, and set forth, in the eloquence of a personal consecration to the work, the claims of the Foreign field. And the Union, at the instance of Zion Church, Montreal, which generously undertakes one half the cost, "heartily approved the proposal to make his maintenance the special charge of the Congregational churches in Canada," and "commended him, and his prospective work, to the sympathy, liberality, and co-operation of the churches of our denomination throughout the land."

Our readers will therefore be interested in a sketch of the history of the mission to which he has devoted himself, condensed from the pen of Dr. Bartlett, of Chicago. We shall be glad to see the pledge of the Union fully redeemed.—Ed.
"C. I."

In a missionary point of view, Turkey is the key of Asia. Nowhere has the providential guidance of the missionary work been more remarkable. The divine hand has alike prepared the minds of the Armenian people in Turkey for Christian influences, directed attention thither, blessed the missionaries with wisdom, interposed continually for the protection of their work, and led them forward to a success already so broad and deep, as to be silently moulding the destinies of the empire.

The first effort of the American Board in Asia Minor was quite wide of the mark. It was when, in 1826, Messrs. Gridley and Brewer were sent to Smyrna, the ancient home of Polycarp, to labour with the Greeks and Jews. The movement was attended with no great success, and the place became important chiefly as a printing station. The Mohammedans of the country meanwhile seemed inaccessible to all direct Christian labours.

But there was one most interesting people in the country, signally qualified to be the recipients and almoners of the divine grace. It is the old Armenian race, now widely scattered from their native Armenia, and dispersed everywhere in Turkey and Persia, and found even in India, Russia, and Poland. There are supposed to be at least three millions of them, more than half of whom are said to be in Turkey. They are a noble race, and have been called "the Anglo-Saxons of the East." They are the active and enterprising class. Shrewd, industrious, and persevering, they are the bankers of Constantinople, the artisans of Turkey, and the merchants of Western and Central Asia. The nation received Christianity in the fourth century, and had a translation of the Scriptures made in the year 477 A. D., which is still extant and profoundly venerated, though now locked up, with many other religious works of theirs, in a dead language.

The Armenian church is a body as the Roman Catholic or Greek church, strongly resembling them in deadness and formalism. Its head is the Catholicos.