

Jacobite becomes, not a Christian Oriental, but a something half way between Asiatic and European—a sort of religious hybrid, utterly incapable of reproduction ; so that the moment the supporting influence of the foreign funds is withdrawn the genus disappear?

The answer to this again will come best from the consideration of the methods in use. These are : Bible Distribution, Evangelistic Preaching, Church Organization, Education, Christian Literature.

BIBLE DISTRIBUTION.

Taking the position that the highest development of character is built up on a personal knowledge of the Bible, it is held to be a prime essential that the Scriptures should be in the hands of every man, woman and child ; should be not merely listened to from the pulpit, but read and studied in the home.

In the countries occupied by American missions in the Levant this fundamental work is done by the American Bible Society, and has three departments : Translation, Publication and Distribution. To the former the best of scholarship is summoned, resulting in versions unexcelled for critical accuracy and fluency of idiom. There are : the Arabic, prepared at Beyroot, but reaching to the farthest bounds of Africa and Asia ; the Turkish, Armenian and Bulgarian, at Constantinople ; the Syriac, at Oroomiah ; the Aherzijan Turkish and Ararat dialect of the Armenian, chiefly at Tiflis ; the Persian, originally the work of Henry Martyn, now revised and much improved ; the Koordish Testament, prepared by a Koordish Armenian pastor in the valley of the Euphrates. In this work America and England have joined hands, now dividing, now sharing ; each desirous of the one end—to reach every man in his own tongue with the story of the cross and the resurrection. Then comes publication. The needs of every class are carefully studied. The peasant of the Nile Valley has his Testament in type especially suited to the eyes blurred and almost blinded with opthalmia. The inquiring Bulgarian, rendered half skeptical by the statement of his priest, that the Protestants have wandered far from the venerated Slavic, has a Testament with both ancient and modern versions in parallel columns, that he may see for himself. On the shelves at the Bible House in Constantinople are the Scriptures in more than thirty languages and four hundred styles of printing and binding, that no one, whether he be officer of the Sultan's household, or villager on the mountains of Kurdistan, may say, "There is no Bible for me." Thus far the preparation. Then comes the direct work of distribution. Over one hundred colporteurs are employed by the American Bible Society, but every teacher, pastor, missionary, is an assistant. These men aim to reach every reader in every city, town, village and hamlet, with the offer of the Bible. The distribution is not, however, gratuitous. A price is set upon every book, often far below its real cost, so as to bring it within reach of the poorest, and that price is demanded and received