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The Mission Fields of Turkey.

(Continued.)

V. WESTERN TURKEY. This comprises the peninsula of Asia Minor from the Dardanelles to Sivas—a region of great historic interest. It includes the site of ancient Troy, as well as those of “the seven churches.” A heap of ruins marks the site of the magnificent city of Ephesus. The mean village of Isnik—too small even for a mission station—standing amid gardens and corn fields, and surrounded with ruins of splendid edifices, is all that remains of the once famous city of NIOBÆA, where the Nicene Creed was drawn up in A. D. 325, by the Council over which Constantine presided. Constantinople, unsurpassed for beauty of situation and, from a strategic point of view, one of the most important cities in the world, is the great centre of mission operations. Its population is about one million; one-half are Moslems, one-third, Greeks and Armenians, the rest, a motley crowd from all parts of the world. Here is situated the “Robert College,” so called from its founder, the late Mr. Christopher Robert of New-York, who contributed to it since its commencement, in 1863, no less than \$175,000. In this splendid Institution there are now 200 students pursuing their studies in the highest departments of education. While avowedly a Christian College, it has no connexion with the mission, though tributary to it in many ways. The

“Bible House” is also a prominent centre of evangelical work. In it both the British and American Bible Societies have their offices. Here the Scriptures have been translated in the many tongues of the empire and people of all nationalities are engaged in preparing a Christian literature, including four weekly newspapers, to be scattered throughout every part of the country. The Church of Scotland has a well-appointed mission at Smyrna—the old home of Polycarp—where Rev. Mr. Charters and his wife, with a staff of assistants, provide religious instruction to 369 scholars, chiefly Jews and Greeks. In Central Turkey the Americans have seven chief stations; 85 out-stations; 28 churches; 22 ordained missionaries; 42 female missionaries; 19 native pastors; 114 native preachers and catechists, and 69 teachers and helpers. There are three high-schools for young men and seven for girls. The Theological Seminary at Marsovan had twenty-three students in attendance last year. We have already learned how the pioneer missionaries, Pliny Fisk and Levi Parsons landed at Smyrna in 1821, and thence proceeded to Palestine. But Palestine was not to be their field of labour. Jonas King, who went three times to Jerusalem, was destined to spend his days in Athens. William Goodell, who also desired to labour in Palestine, never saw the city of the Great King, but was led to settle in Constantinople. Smith and Dwight, sent out on an exploring expedition, in 1829, may almost be said to have discovered the old