

owing the tardiness of the spread of the kingdom of Christ. However, it is glorious to be working in this the Lord's vineyard in a very special sense, and sincere prayerful effort must be prosperous, for in implicit obedience to the Divine orders these Christians are seeking to carry the Gospel message to every creature, beginning first at Jerusalem. Rich reward also is sure, for was it not said of old concerning this city, "they shall prosper that love thee"?

Whereas six years ago there were but 8000 Jews in the Holy City, they now number over 40,000; let us, therefore, continue to watch and work for the time when Jerusalem shall again be the joy of the whole earth, remembering the word of the Lord to the nations, which message is to be particularly declared to the isles afar off:

"He that scattered Israel will gather him and keep him as a shepherd doth his flock. For the Lord hath redeemed Jacob and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he. Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and they shall not sorrow any more at all."

EVANGELICAL MISSIONS IN SYRIA.*

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Palestine has a sacred history of its own, but that is no reason why, by a mistaken usage, Syria should be robbed of her choicest jewel. "Syria" includes "Palestine" as truly as America, Canada, or England, Wales. Syria is the Land of Promise; Palestine that part of it that became the Land of Possession.

That whole country lying immediately to the east of the Mediterranean was a unit under the Roman Empire. It is, more truly so to-day, welded together: geographically, by river system, mountain-chain, and coast line; ethnically, by the blending of its races; politically, by a common administration; and also popularly by the one grand Arabic language.

We may say "*Northern Syria and Palestine*," but not "*Syria and Palestine*." With good reason do we find this statement in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*: "There is no scientific ground for the practice of speaking of Syria in a narrow sense as distinguished from Palestine."

The entire Syrian field is now occupied by more than 240 foreign missionaries, connected with no fewer than 20 distinct evangelical societies. It is worthy of especial note and profound gratitude that these 240 workers, differing in denomination and race—German, Irish, Scotch, English, and American—have worked these many years not only without friction, but in active co-operation. To a large extent they have so divided the fields and functions as to greatly facilitate harmony.

* I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness for statistics to Dr. H. H. Jessup, Stated Clerk of the American Presbyterian Mission, and also to refer the reader for supplementary information to THE MISSIONARY REVIEW for December, 1881, December, 1882, September, 1883.