

certainly preparing the way for the proclamation of the Gospel to all the non-Christian peoples, and we believe that He has kept a seed among the nominal Christians, and is now giving to our Church the opportunity and the inducement to great service. As the Waldensian Church for Italy, so may our Church be for Persia. Certainly, in the four years past, there has been a great increase of faith and a fuller belief in and obedience to the Lord's command to preach the Gospel to every creature, and the promise stands, "He that believeth on Me greater works than these shall he do because I go to My Father." A small church has been gathered from the followers of Islam, organized separately, as they speak a different language, and every year sees new converts and greater interest. An Inner Mission has been formed and for a year past has been at work to carry the Gospel to all nationalities. One of the agents of this mission is the brother in prison for the Gospel's sake. The efficient and economical way of Mission Work is by means of devoted workers who already know the languages and the people. There are many obstacles, but not more than in the days of the Apostles. In Persia far more than Turkey, there is a spirit of inquiry, and our beginnings for missionary work may grow to a large evangelizing agency.

Among the Jews also, we are cheered by a movement that promises much fruit among these children of the Captivities.

In these many ways God is working, and the characteristic of our age is religious discussion and unrest. While our lot is cast in a land slow in its changes and backward in its improvements, while we have not the rapid locomotion of railways nor the might of the steam engine, may God grant us the greater blessing to be a truly missionary church. Pray for us, and help us that the missionary spirit may be truly the life of our Church, and winning souls may be the honour and joy of our members.

In conclusion, let us express our thanks to the Presbyterian Church and Board that support the missionary work in our midst. The College and Female Seminary, the intermediate and village schools, the printing press and hospital and other medical work, the assistance in building churches and supporting preachers and the co-operation of missionaries are all from the liberality of our brethren and sisters in America. All being members of one body in Christ, and we and our Church and land, being the needy members, we thus receive the more abundant honour. We have the greatest confidence that all these institutions of the Gospel will be sustained until God, through His grace and providence, by greatly increasing our Church in members and spiritual power, and by changing the age to one of justice and freedom, shall enable our Church fully to support its own institutions.

Toward this end and for the development of the work in the years before us, we would mention the following aims and hopes:

Greater outpouring of the Spirit to sanctify our Church, to