

sterling integrity and honesty, that she will fail to make herself what she seems destined to be. This institution is almost the only one in the land where the Bible is the recognized rule of faith and practice. Under the impulse of the Industrial Department the number of students rose from less than thirty to more than seventy; but that number is constantly diminishing. With a well-equipped printing office ten thousand streams of elevating influence would flow to every part of the land. A crisis is now upon the people of Bulgaria. Infinite social, political, educational, and literary advantages are held out to an eager and expectant nation. The forces of evil are rife; vice and intemperance are rapidly on the gain. In the one city of Samokov, with a diminished population, the arrests are sevenfold more than they were ten years since. Before the people of God we plead our cause. You appreciate the value of good government—help us to secure that public spirit in Bulgaria that will be satisfied with nothing short of righteous and well-executed laws. You appreciate the value of a good literature—help us to attain to something better than the vile translations that are now being sold throughout the country. The worst sort of socialism and infidelity are organizing themselves, and their literary productions are hawked about in the streets of our cities and sold at marvellously cheap prices. You believe in men of stanch integrity and firmness of character that give tone to public morals and support the best institutions. Help us to give work to these needy and worthy young men, by means of which they may elevate their people, and through whose efforts the highest good may be maintained. With slight expense the institute could give accommodation to one hundred and fifty young men. Scores are ready and anxious to work their way through an education by means of which to fit themselves for the highest usefulness. Can anything be nobler than helping such youths to help themselves?

"The need of a hospital is great; nearly a thousand families are debarred from any medical aid or assistance. It has been my painful experience as a doctor to see scores of persons die without any medicine being procurable or without the possibility of such aid. Hundreds of persons are constantly ill in that city who might be aided, but who cannot be for lack of means to purchase medicine. The law of Bulgaria forbids any person dispensing the smallest quantity of medicine unless he has a hospital. If the building above referred to can be purchased, and money

secured sufficient to maintain but six beds, then permission can be secured from the authorities to dispense medicine to the poor. Let this cry of a struggling people come up before God's people, and we believe that the necessary funds will not be denied.

"FREDERICK L. KINGSBURY."

The Open or Institutional Church League.

At their recent conference, held in the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church in this city, the friends of institutional church work formed a League and adopted the following platform as the statement of their conviction:

The open or institutional church depends upon the development of a certain spirit rather than upon the aggregation of special appliances and methods. It is an organism evolved from a germinal principle rather than an organization.

It believes that only as this spirit is developed in the Church universal will the purpose of the kingdom of God among men be realized, and it confidently looks forward to the time when the Church will be understood to stand for the larger view here presented.

As the body of the Christ the open or constitutional church aims to provide the material environment through which His Spirit may be practically expressed. As His representative in the world it seeks to represent Him physically, intellectually, socially, and spiritually to the age in which it exists.

Inasmuch as the Christ came not to be ministered unto but to minister, the open or institutional church, filled and moved by His Spirit of ministrating love, seeks to become the centre and source of all beneficent and philanthropic effort, and to take the leading part in every movement which has for its end the alleviation of human suffering, the elevation of man, and the betterment of the world.

Thus the open or institutional church aims to save all men and all of the man by all means, abolishing so far as possible the distinction between the religious and the secular, and sanctifying all days and means to the great end of saving the world for Christ.

While the open or institutional church is known by its spirit of administration rather than by any special methods of expressing that spirit, it holds for open church doors every day and all day, free seats, a plurality of workers, the personal activity of church-members, a ministry to all the com-