

on flimsy inferences and guesses shrewd and otherwise—there can be little doubt that in the aggregate the figure is large. Then, in addition to the magnitude of the need bespoken, the unoccupied fields have an interest and importance and—may we not add, *claim*?—peculiarly their own on the score of difficulty of access. These fields are the enemy's citadels, the high places of his dominion, flaunting defiance in the face of a militant church. They are the Gibraltars of Satan's power, perched, in some instances, in what might be compared to eagles' fastnesses, and in others set, like islands, amid an ocean of unnavigable sand. Are they never to be stormed? Is the reproach that their unoccupied character brings upon Zion never to be rolled away? We are glad that at the present hour this question is receiving more than a verbal answer. Even as we write the army of siege, in more directions than one, is on the way.

As the missionary car moves onward it becomes more and more manifest that the secret of the power to conquer for the Lord lies in the resolution of will to obey Him. Faith is adventurous. Faith waits not the opening of the Red Sea passage, but advancing to the Divine charge, "Forward!" counts on the sea's cleavage by Him "whose biddings," as Rutherford has said, "are enablings." Fichte, a distinguished German metaphysician, defines faith as "the resolution of the will to admit the validity of knowledge." A good missionary definition of it would be to term it "the resolution of the will to admit the reality and all-sufficiency of Christ's lead." What though the way be not macadamized to sense, the course is yet open—*open to faith*—for has He not said "Forward"? What though doors are still closed, and to sense doubly locked and barred, is there not to faith a talisman in the Master's imperative "Go ye," which sets all doors open? Faith lives only as vital in works; it is an inspiring breath which can lead no ghostly life, but must find habitation and name in a body of obedience to the will of the risen Lord. And faith so constituted is charged with apostolic powers; for it is faith indeed, small as the grain of mustard-seed, yet with energy so vast that mountains are overturned, sycamores plucked up by their roots, gates of brass burst open, and the prey of the mighty and terrible ones delivered.

Without further preamble we proceed to the enumeration and succinct treatment of the unoccupied mission fields of the world, taking them as they may be naturally grouped by the associated laws of place and circumstance.

I. THIBET.—Foremost in the Asiatic Continent stands Thibet. Indeed, enlarging the circle, it would be no exaggeration to say that Thibet holds the leading place among the unoccupied mission fields of the world. For one thing, there is an unique fascination in the theosophic mystery that for the moment enshrouds that land. The civilized and most occupied lands—to their shame be it said—are drinking of the cup which the Mahatmas, through their Russian interpreter, are said to have mixed. Nor is that all. Thibet, from one cause and another, is about as