

[From the report of the Bible Women's  
Work in the European Turkey mission,  
presented at the Annual Meeting,  
May 19, 1888.]

The twelve Daughters of the King, who occupy more than a dozen outposts in Bulgaria, from which they are proclaiming the messages of their Lord, are manifesting a whole-souled consecration to ~~Christ~~ their work, which proves the closeness of their union with Him. Not for money or position are they doing this service, often involving great privation and self-sacrifice, but to lead souls into the Kingdom of Christ. With such sisters, older or younger, in their several communities, it is not strange to find that other consecrated Christian women have felt themselves called of God, to special

efforts to aid their Bible-women, and also to work directly themselves for the conversion and growth in grace, of other souls. The increase of this spirit among our most consecrated Christian Bulgarian sisters, is one of the encouraging marks of progress in woman's work for woman, in this land.

Another indication of advancement in this work is the spirit of self-forgetfulness and self-denial which some Christian mothers are showing, <sup>in</sup> ~~and~~ anticipating and praying that God will call their daughters too into this branch of the ministry of His word. I said one mother & a widow, in straitened circumstances and in feeble health, "It is my hope and prayer that my daughter may be fitted to go to teach the women in my native

village, if this be God's will." "Then a child, it was my greatest ambition," said this mother, "to go to school and learn something, but this was not permitted to me. Now my daughter is in school, and it may be that God will send her to our village to speak all the words of this life, to those who have not yet heard." Is not this the same spirit of consecration which was breathed by that sweet saint, who was willing to be denied the pleasure of active service for Christ, and to allow another to be his substitute, while he upheld his hands with loving prayer and sympathy? He sang thus:—  
"Now send in my place, Oh Father,  
Some one I dearly love,  
To the people who sit in darkness,  
With a message from above.

+ x x x x x x x x x x

Choose one for the blessed service  
Whom on my heart I bear.

Her toil and her aspiration,  
Her hope, as my own shall be.

x x x x x x x x x x x

When her hands are worn with labor,  
My knees shall be worn with prayer,  
And to one who loves to listen,  
I will tell her every care.

x x x x x x x x x x

If I must be one of the number  
Whose strength is to sit still,  
Dear Father, through my beloveds,  
Oh let me do Thy will."

Because there are fathers and  
mothers in Bulgaria, whose hearts  
breathe this spirit of consecration  
of their children, to the humble  
service of ministering in Christ's  
name, we must acknowledge the

power of the gospel upon their lives.

During the progress of the Training-Class for Bible-workers, which was held, for the second time, in ~~January~~ Samokov, during July of last year, considerable attention was given to the subject of children's meetings, and special endeavors for the conversion of children, and Rev. E. P. Hammond's books upon this subject afforded much inspiration. The workers returned to their several fields, filled with desire to do more than they had hitherto done, to reach the souls of the young. Children's meetings were organized, which have been maintained with much interest throughout the year. Bansko in Macedonia, with

its large Evangelical church and community, is undoubtedly the banner-village, so far as regards the number of children attending the meetings, and perhaps also in the degree of earnestness which they manifest, and the number of child-converts among them. A mid-week prayer-meeting, in addition to the children's meeting upon the Sabbath, has been maintained here, at the children's request. Fathers and mothers bear joyful testimony to the change in their children, which evidences to them that they have indeed entered the service of Christ. From what worldliness and falling and repentance and futures scarred with the marks of early sin, will

not these children, thus early brought into the Master's Kingdom, be loved, - and to what immense heights of grace may not such favored souls attain! May this movement grow and strengthen, until the love of Christ, breathed into these young souls, shall transform the entire nation from a cold, dead formality, to ~~living~~ earnest and true living! God bless the children, the hope of the nation and all the instrumentalities which are need to help them!

Our Bible-women and teachers have also followed loyally the leadings of Mrs. W. E. Locke, the Vice-President for Turkey of the International Woman's Christian Temperance Union, in her endeavours to organize a movement against intem-

perance in this land. The begin-  
ning has been made none too  
early, as it is evident to every thought-  
ful observer that intemperance  
is <sup>yearly</sup> making more and more fearful  
strides in Bulgaria. Notwithstand-  
the fact that the public mind  
of this nation must be educated  
upon this subject, before it will  
realize the enormity of this evil,  
and the untold suffering and  
sorrow which it will increasingly  
entail, - the beginning has been  
made of an organized work  
among the women of the Evan-  
gelical churches and commu-  
nities, and an even more hopeful  
movement, among the children of  
the Sabbath schools. With what steady  
honesty the boys and girls respectively  
wear their badges of blue and

in their blessed service of ministering, helping to fit their nation worthily, to fill the place which awaits it, if it but puts itself among those nations "whose God is the Lord."  
 E. M. E.

Let me quote a few passages from recent letters from <sup>Rev. J. J.</sup> Mr. Richardoff, the lately ordained pastor of the Baneko church. March 24. He wrote: - "I rejoice to tell you that the Lord is pouring abundant blessings upon His work in Kazlog. A whole family in Yakarooda have become followers of the truth. One new follower in Meho-mia is cruelly persecuted by his wife. In Baneko we have one new family, two men, two married, and one unmarried women, as recent new followers. Mrs. Kalou, the Bible woman, is teaching over fifty women, in three different quarters of the village.

In spite of the persecution on the part of the teachers and leading men of the village, the Lord's Kingdom is steadily advancing. Hundreds of hungry souls every Sabbath go to hear the lifeless preaching of the orthodox (Pravoslav) teacher, upon the rites and ceremonies of that church. He dares not preach "Christ and Him crucified." Surely we are in need of a mightier outpouring of God's Spirit, so that these hundreds may not satisfy themselves with husks, but that they may come to know Jesus as their personal Saviour."

In Melonia, the Protestant community has just chosen their Bible-women as their Treasurers, a position which has been made the occasion of much stumbling among the few brethren there.

In Harghey, in the Southern Bulgarian fields, there are always new families coming to the knowledge of the truth. In one quarter of the town, four new families have lately declared themselves upon the Lord's side, and the house of worship is frequently crowded with those who are earnestly seeking to learn: "What is truth?" During the recent meeting of the Bulgarian Evangelical Society, in Pazardjik, in a meeting-house enlarged to one half more than its former capacity, in order to accommodate the meetings, - there was no place for all who wished to attend several of the sessions, and our Bulgarian friends repeatedly gave utterance to their amazement at the change which God hath wrought in Pazardjik. He will work still greater changes, as was evident to me when I attended



last Sabbath evening, at the residence  
 of one of the first families (Pravo-  
 Slav) a wedding, the service  
 being performed by the pastor  
 of the Evangelical church in  
 that city. There were none of  
 the rites or ceremonies of the  
 Orthodox church, by special re-  
 quest of Pastor Bogardjeff, who, only  
 upon this ~~one~~ condition consented  
 to perform the service. There were  
 present the highest civil and mil-  
 itary authorities of the city, the  
 bridegroom being from a wealthy  
 old family, having studied at  
 Robert College, and now holding  
 an important position under the  
 government. — There are some of  
 the cheering signs of the times to  
 light up the ~~murky~~ background  
 of superstition and infidelity, which  
 threaten to engulf the nation in  
 blackness. Let prayer be made for  
 Bulgaria! Prayer, unceasing & ardent.