



EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANITY IN CONSTANTINOPLE

First Protestant Church Building in old Stamboul

IMPERIAL PERMISSION FOR ITS ERECTION

at last secured after 30 years of patient effort.

Earnest Desire that the Work should begin at once

\$ 13,000 secured: \$ 20,000 still needed.

The Langa (Stamboul) Church appeals to Christian Friends in Turkey, America, England, and elsewhere for the Help so greatly needed.

This Church was organized in 1850, as the fruit of the labors of the early American Missionaries, and their Armenian co-laborers. During all these 61 years it has never had a proper home of its own: and so it has been greatly handicapped in its Christian work, and retarded in its growth.

In 1880 a fine lot was purchased, centrally located, and admirably adapted to the needs of the Church. But Imperial authority had to be obtained for the erection of the building. The history of the effort to secure that authorization is exceedingly interesting but too long to be included in this statement. Suffice it to say that notwithstanding all that was done and after a long series of encouragements and rebuffs the permission had not been given up to the time of the political revolution of 1908.

Of the importance of such a Church Building, no one conversant with the situation in this Empire can have any doubt. It will be of inestimable value to the development of Evangelical Christianity in Constantinople, and will not only serve the Langa Congregation but will furnish a much needed center for general Christian work. Moreover in view of the large numbers flocking to the Capital from the Provinces, and the evil influences to which the younger of them especially are exposed, the importance of such an evangelical center can scarcely be overestimated.

The Langa Church plans for the erection of a Church building and Parsonage estimated at about \$25,000: it hopes to erect a School Building also, estimated at some \$8,000: this makes the total amount needed for the complete fulfillment of its plans some \$33,000. It has in hand \$11,000, proceeds of a gift made 20 years ago by Mr. D. Willis James of New York city. The Church also owns a piece of property from the sale of which it hopes to realize \$2,000 or more.

We are confident that the Church and Congregation will contribute up to the measure of their ability. But financially they are weak, and compelled to look for help to friends of the cause.

We believe that the number is large of those who will rejoice with us that after 31 years of effort, the Imperial permit to build has been secured, and who will join with us in thanksgiving to Him, in whose hands are the hearts of Rulers, and to whose blessing our success is due. To all such friends we send our appeal, begging them to help generously toward the erection of the first Protestant Church Building in the city of Constantine.

Signed by the Committee :

Chairman : Rev. M. BOWEN, D.D., Levant Agent of the American Bible Society.

Secretary : Rev. K. T. DEMIRJIAN, Acting Pastor of Langa Church.

Treasurer : W. W. PEET, Esq., Treas. of the Missions of A.B.C.F.M.

VAHAN EFF. MARTAYAN, Merchant

YERVANT EFF. MARDIGUIAN, Merchant

MIHRAN EFF. MARKARIAN, Merchant

SERKIS EFF. TELFEYAN, Merchant

NISHAN EFF. ANTREASSIAN, Merchant

Rev. H. S. BARNUM, D.D., Missionary of the A.B.C.F.M.

Contributions may be sent to either of the following addresses :

W. W. PEET, ESQ., Treasurer of the Missions of the American Board,
Bible House,
Constantinople, Turkey.

Rev. S. W. GENTLE-CAKETT,
Secretary of the Bible Lands Missions Aid Society,
Alliance House,
7 Adam Street, Strand, London, E.C.

FRANK H. WIGGIN, ESQ., Treasurer of the American Board,
14 Beacon Street,
Boston, Mass., U. S. A.

NOTE. After this Circular had been prepared the Committee learned with great gratitude, that another Contribution of \$5,000 had been made by the family of Mr. James.

