VII

THE PRESENT PROBLEM AND PERIL

When Samuel J. Mills and his associates met under the shelter of the Haystack one hundred years ago, they were not unmindful of the difficulties of world-wide evangelization nor of the difficulties of reaching Mohammedan lands. Loomis maintained that "the time was not ripe, and such a movement was premature. If missionaries were sent they would be murdered, and what was needed was a new crusade before the gospel could be sent to the Turks and Arabs." The others replied that God was always willing to have his kingdom advanced, and that if Christian people would only do their part, God could be relied on to do his. "We can do it if we will." We know now that Loomis was wrong and Mills was right. No Christian army has ever subdued Turkey or Arabia, yet both are mission fields. And surely if one hundred years ago the faith of these men of the Haystack did not stagger at the obstacles, but accepted the challenge, we can do it now if we will. The evangelization of the Moham-

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