

British Supremacy in India Dependent upon the Evangelization of India.

It was a wonderful providence that committed the great Indian Empire, with its 300,000,000 people, to the care and control of Great Britain. History certainly presents nothing quite parallel to it, and the question may well be asked, how long will British supremacy last? British statesmen have begun to ponder that question and are giving various answers.

There are perhaps few men in England whose opinion on this subject would carry greater weight than that of Professor James Bryce, the distinguished statesman and writer, who has recently been on a visit to America. Mr. Bryce some time ago made a tour through India, and on his return frankly declared that his journey had at least convinced him of this, that "unless England could succeed in Christianizing her Indian subjects, the Empire could not last, that nothing else could hold it together; that at present there are two sets of lives, two civilizations, two races, in juxtaposition; that there could be no real interfusion and no possibility of mutual understanding except on the religious side; and that unless we try to understand men as religious beings, we do not reach them on any other side." The present Earl of Salisbury, too, has recently said the same things more frankly still.

We do not wonder at these conclusions when we read the statements of the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of India, whose experience in helping to rule this great Empire give their words special weight. It is remarkable with what boldness and freedom they attribute the solidity of Britain's hold upon India, and the greatness of her prestige among her Indian subjects, to the enlightening and civilizing influence of the missionaries.

"I take off my hat," says Sir William Mackworth Young, Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, "to the humblest missionary that walks a bazaar in India, because he is leading a grander and higher life and doing a grander work than any other class of persons who are working in India. If the natives of India have any practical knowledge of what is meant by Christian charity, if they know anything of high disinterested motives and self-sacrifice, it is mainly from the missionary that they learn it. The strength of our position in India depends more largely upon the good will of the people than upon the strength and number of our garrisons, and for that good will we are largely indebted to the kindly self-sacrificing efforts of the Christian missionary. It is love that must pave the way for the regeneration of India as well as for the consolidation of England's power."

"In my judgment," says Sir Augustus Rivers Thompson, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, "Christian missionaries have done more real and lasting good to the people of India than all other agencies combined. They have been the salt of the country and the true saviours of the Empire. No less Lord Lawrence, the greatest of the Viceroy's of India, says, 'Notwithstand-

ing all that the English people have done to benefit India, the missionaries have done more than all other agencies combined."

Lord Napier, Governor of Madras, says, "The benefits of missionary enterprise are felt in three directions: in converting, civilizing and teaching the Indian people. It is not easy to overrate the value in this vast empire of a class of Englishmen of pious lives and disinterested labors, living and moving in the most forsaken places, walking between the government and the people, with devotion to both, the friends of right, the adversaries of wrong, the impartial spectators of good and evil."

From the above almost extravagant testimonies to the worth of missionary labor to the highest well-being of the country, it is clear that it is the missionaries that are really remaking India, and that the "New India" will be a Christian India; for it is only in Him in whom the Apostle Paul declares all national and racial distinctions and antipathies disappear, that this great conglomerate of races and languages can ever be welded into a unity. When this is done the great Christian "Mother of Nations" may step aside, having completely fulfilled her duty and mission. Meanwhile under her protection the great enlightening, civilizing, unifying processes are going on, and India's mighty millions are being carried upward into the kingdom of God in which some day all earthly kingdoms are to be merged. Rev. 11: 15.—*Can Baptist.*

THE SUBWAY TAVERN

In the Chicago Tribune of recent date there was a series of remarkable and striking cartoons. The first represents the Subway Tavern room. Its tables are surrounded by drinkers of the ordinary type, interspersed with devout clerical gentlemen, presumably of the Bishop Potter pattern. The walls are decorated with mottoes, such as the following: "Every bottle opened with prayer," "Sing a hymn with each drink," "Our drinks are endorsed by Bishop Potter," "Try our moral cocktail," "The largest moral drink in town," "The Subway Tavern indorsed by the pulpit" etc.

The next cartoon is connected with the following inquiry: "Now that they have started a model and highly moral saloon, indorsed by Bishop Potter, may we not soon expect to see the reform movement carried into other directions?"

Then comes the second cartoon, suggesting directions for the application of the Potter idea. First comes a building bearing a huge sign on the front: "The Moral Poker Club—Moral Cards—Moral Chips." Next comes "The Moral Opium Emporium." A third structure bears the inviting legend: "The Moral Gambling House," with the attractive addition, "Every pot opened with prayer." Adjoining it we have the "Moral Pawn Shop" with a clerical-looking gentleman in front with his hand in the attitude of benediction, while immediately in front of him, in the street, a toper staggers along saying "Mine is a moral jag, indorsed by the pulpit." Still further on the street a banner floats over a huge structure,

which banner bears the inscription, "Moral Dance Hall." The first story of this building is the "Moral Pool Room," the second story is set off as the "Pugilistic Parlor," while at the end of the row of buildings is a lock-up, into which the police are ushering a victim of the Potter saloon. The lock-up is inscribed, "The Moral Jug for Moral Jags."

The whole cartoon is so pointed in its exposure of the absurdity of attempting to render moral that which is essentially immoral that no further application of the sermon is needed.

DO IT NOW.

If you have a flower to give, give it today. One throb of gladness is worth more to the living heart than a wealth of costly blooms laid, however tenderly, above the dead one.

If you have a kindly visit to make, make it today, lest another step in and lay his quiet hand upon the longing heart, and still forever its fret and pain and power of glad response. In the city of the dead, in the silence of the grave, hearts are never lonely any more. They have no heed or need.

If you have kisses to bestow, let the dear, living lips their sweetness know today.

If you have smiles to give give them today. Living eyes are often hungry. Though their gaze be seemingly so calm so quiet and mayhap so proud, the smiles may be a touch of heaven for them. If they are closed in death, tomorrow your fondest smile would matter naught.

If you have a helpful, hopeful, loving word to say, say it today. It may keep some heart from breaking, some soul from falling. No word or cry can break the seal tomorrow—if death whispers then—to ears that hear today.

Dr. John McLaurin, of the India Baptist Mission, writing in the North West Baptist, tells of the great changes he has witnessed in the thirty-five years of his experience amongst the Telgus. He has seen "Baptist Telugu Christians increase from 600 to 60,000 members, missionaries from three to one hundred and two, and stations from three to fifty-three. The distance between the two most distant stations was at that time about eighty miles; it is now at least 600 miles along the coast of the Bay of Bengal. The station farthest from the coast was not over ten miles then, now the farthest is at least 200 miles and yet there is much land to be traversed."

Suggestions

Christmas Gifts!

GENTLEMEN— If you are in doubt what to buy your lady friends, we would suggest

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A Dressing Table
A Music Cabinet
A Jardinier and Pedestal
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