

it is annually renounced with the most frightful ceremonies, and by trampling under foot all the Catholic images."

The measure of success attending the exertions of the missionaries in British India, has not yet been very accurately ascertained; people, on this subject, as on many others, being found to speak from their wishes rather than from facts clearly brought to light. It cannot, however, fail to prove a serious obstacle to the progress of Christianity in the meantime, that the missionaries have to feed all they convert, and that even in the schools established by them, they are bound to provide food and clothing, not only for the masters, but for all the pupils likewise, until these last can be settled in the world. This state of things has led, not unnaturally, to the taunting remark, that "rice and cloth are the gods" of the Hindoo Christians; and you will find, by referring to some recent documents from that country, that certain converts to our faith complain loudly, that with regard to the substantial articles now named, the missionaries have not at all times fulfilled their promises. The following petition lately fell into my hands, which, as it throws some light on the facts just referred to, may perhaps appear to you worthy of insertion.

"To the Right Reverend Father in God, Thomas, Lord Bishop of Calcutta,—The humble Petition of Rutton Ghore Kanto Doss, Needy Ramsha, Bhyrobchund Mullich, Rudhee Soha, Bokul Soha, and Gour Dhobee, for themselves and on behalf of One Hundred Christian Converts,

"SHEWETH,

"That your petitioners are by birth Hindoos, and heretofore did, as is the custom of Hindoos, perform the worship and ceremonies of their religion as laid down in the Shastras and other holy books, agreeably to the rites which have been established from time immemorial in these regions.

"That some years since certain people denominated Missionaries arrived from Europe, for the express purpose of converting the natives of this country to the Christian faith. Among these missionaries one named William C—y, better known by the designation of Doctor C—y, did, by the seductive art of persuasion, and by artful representations of the truth and efficacy of the Christian doctrines, as the only sure and certain guides to salvation, at the same time condemning the Shastras, Tantras, and Poorans of the Hindoos to be the works of Satan, and as such would inevitably lead their believers to damnation and eternal punishment,—so operated on the minds of your petitioners, that, led by their fears on the one hand, and seduced on the other hand by the hope of support and protection, which he held out to such as should embrace the Religion of Christ, your petitioners were induced to forsake the religion of their ancestors, and to suffer the ritual of baptism.

"Your petitioners, placing entire reliance and confidence on the word and faith of Dr. C—y, (for how could they suppose that a teacher of Christian morality could be found defective to his promises?) became converts to his doctrines, and were baptized, as they were taught to think into Christ his Church; but what must be the poignancy of their feelings to discover, that these flattering prospects of