

ever contemplated, much less enforced for an hour. This has been a great obstruction to Christian work in India. And the horrible anomaly of State-procured women to panders to the base passions of British soldiers in State-provided harlot's houses, in juxtaposition with a State-provided Christian Church, is an effrontery of devilry that human history has not often equaled. Thank God! it is to be no more. Missionaries like those of Seetapore, who have been compelled to pass such quarters on their way to preach Christ's gospel to heathen women, must have had the courage of an infinite faith in the discharge of their duty.

Sturdy British moral sentiment has again set an example that will lend new fire and force to all who are struggling with giant iniquities. "Men of thought and men of action" will shout, "Clear the way!" Another "brazen wrong" has "crumbled into clay!"

Rum and the Native Races.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, held in Philadelphia in May, spoke in the following unmistakable way about the drink traffic on the Congo and amongst other uncivilized nations:

Whereas, The exportation of intoxicating liquors to heathen lands has become a most alarming hindrance to the civilization and Christianization of the inhabitants thereof, and as this traffic is assuming such proportions in the great Congo Valley of Africa by virtue of an international treaty in which our own Government is a party; therefore

Resolved, That the Assembly views with shame, horror and apprehension the progress of this traffic by civilized nations with ignorant and heathen lands; that this Assembly unite, as far as possible, with other churches in an effort to induce Christian Governments to abolish and prevent the horrible practice of carrying intoxicants into the uncivilized nations of the world, and that a committee be appointed to lay this whole matter before his Excellency the President of the United States, with the request that he would present the facts to Congress, and ask that such steps may be taken, with the least possible delay, as will free us, as a Christian nation, from all complicity with this ruinous traffic, especially as regards the treaty concerning the Free Congo State.

We do make some headway. The Royal Niger Steamship Company has for some time been increasing the

stringency of its regulations against the importation of liquors. In April, 1887, they prohibited their importation entirely into about one-third of their territories. In May, 1887, they made a further regulation imposing penalties on the payment of wages in spirits throughout the whole of their territories. The matter of the decadence of these native races and the destruction of commerce among them in consequence of the introduction of European intoxicants has at last forced itself upon the British Parliament, and on April 24, when Mr. McArthur moved in the House of Commons, "That this House, having regard to the disastrous physical and moral effects of the liquor traffic among uncivilized races, as well as the injury it inflicts on legitimate commerce, is of opinion that Her Majesty's Government should take steps to suppress the traffic with natives in all native territories under its influence or control, and that whenever self-governing powers are granted to crown colonies, stipulations should be made for the effectual protection of the natives against the sale of strong drink."

In supporting this, he said that England did not alone conduct this trade. During 1885 more than 10,000,000 gallons of the vilest spirits were sent to Africa, of which England sent only 311,384 gallons, Germany 7,823,043 gallons, and others smaller quantities.

He said that they at home had some

"protection in the Adulteration Acts, but in warm countries, inhabited by races unaccustomed to such liquors, the natives had, with the exception of Madagascar, no protection whatever; there was no supervision, no examination, and the drink sold was so bad that it speedily decimated and destroyed them. This traffic was bringing about wholesale murder in the Islands of the Western Pacific over an extent of 3,000 miles of coasts. In Africa the picture was almost as dark. The consumption of strong drink was increasing and leading rapidly to the demoralization and destruction of the native races. No doubt, in parts of South Africa the