

paper has been dipped in a certain chemical solution, a stream of electricity passed over it will imprint the paper with beautiful tints and dyes. So, if other things have been like the chemical solution to the paper, preparing her for some high destiny, the introduction and establishment of Christianity has been like the electric stream passing over the nation, covering it with the fair and beautiful colours, which render her the admiration of the world. And while there is still room for improvement; while she is still very far from being what we think she ought to be, and what we hope soon to see her, yet nowhere in the wide, wide world, is Protestant Christianity so influential for good, so free from doctrinal error, so deeply implanted in the people's heart, or so loyally defended, as beneath the Red Cross flag of England. To the various races that acknowledge her authority, she guarantees political equality, religious liberty, a free press, and an open Bible, while they, in their turn, appreciating the benefits of British rule, are wont to regard her as "The model nation of the world."

We may be regarded as conservative and old foggyish in our views, but we rejoice in a national recognition of the Christian religion. While the framers of the American Constitution studiously avoided all reference to the Deity, or to the authority of the Bible,—an omission which has occasioned great grief to many, and which has called forth many an editorial essay under the heading of, "Is this a Christian Nation?" We acknowledge him in public documents and official phrase as the fountain of all authority, and his word as the highest source of appeal. Into that grandest of all ceremonies—the coronation—religion largely enters. The Sovereign goes to the House of God to receive the Crown. The service commences with a solemn act of worship. The Deity is acknowledged, praised, and invoked. The inspiration and authority of the Bible is proclaimed, by the reading of the Scripture lessons. The divine character of the Christian ministry is shown by the important fact, that a sermon suited to the occasion is preached. The oath is administered by the highest ecclesiastic in the realm, from whose hands the crown is received. A Bible is next presented by the same; the gift of God to prince, peer, and peasant, by which the Sovereign is taught so to rule, and the subject so to obey, that His blessing may be secured, and His name glorified in the widespread and permanent prosperity of the land. And in various other ways is it declared that the people put themselves and their Sovereign under the rule and protection of the Almighty, acknowledging his law and revelation, and professing themselves to be his subjects.