

if this work is to be stopped all round, then not only must Foreign and Home Missions come to an end, but all the pulpits of our land must be silenced, except those in which another Gospel than that of Jesus Christ is preached.

*Objection 2nd.* The people enjoy their present religion and should be left alone.

*Answer.* This is said usually by persons who have never mingled with the people and have no means of ascertaining the correctness or incorrectness of their assertion. It is a pretty widely accepted rule of common sense that men should be silent about what they do not know. The fact is just the opposite of what is asserted. Thousands upon thousands of the people are heartily tired of the religious fetters by which they are bound. Thousands of them have broken these fetters, and have paid the price of their freedom by suffering social ostracism and bitter ecclesiastical persecution in many forms. They have been expatriated on this account.

But are we really to accept the doctrine that contentment in error and darkness is sufficient to make it unnecessary to give men the Gospel? Chinese, Hindus and Africans are so satisfied with their religions that they drive Missionaries from their shores and rob and murder them to prevent them interfering with their old beliefs and practices. But we persist in seeking to evangelize these nations, and we are right in doing so, in spite of their attachment to hoary superstitions. Let us be equally generous to all, to Frenchmen as well as to Chinese.

*Objection 3rd.* This work disturbs the quietness that used to reign, and interferes with business. *Answer.* The apostolic rule is, "first pure then peaceable." A cursory view of the creed we combat should convince fair-minded persons that it is far from possessing such scriptural purity as to justify inaction on our part; and a desire for quietness must not be allowed to veto our right to distribute the word and preach the Gospel of Christ. If the truth disturbs and turns upside down existing institutions, let them be disturbed. It is good for them. The disturbance will only be temporary, and the peace that follows will rest upon a solid and enduring foundation.

Business is interfered with. Suppose we grant it. There is no doubt that when men are enlightened they will claim and exercise their God-given rights, and refuse to be the unresisting tools of others whether for political or money-making purposes. I am not prepared to grant that business is never to be interfered with. There are many forms of business that should be