

the treasures of knowledge and open the mind to noble aspirations for better conditions. Education is one of the indispensable steps of Mission enterprise, and in some form must precede all successful work.

Who can estimate the value of Foreign Missions to the progress of the nations? Their contribution to the onward and upward march of humanity is beyond all calculation. They have inculcated industry and taught the various trades. They have promoted concord and amity and brought nations closer together. They have made men better. They have increased the regard for home, have strengthened the sacred ties of family, have made the community well ordered, and their work has been a potent influence in the development of law and the establishment of government.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES IN INDIA.

PUBLIC thanksgivings took place in Calcutta last month, because of the British victories in South Africa. The Bishop of Calcutta addressed a letter to the clergy of his diocese, in which he said they would, he was sure, feel it to be right that when the British troops were in possession of Pretoria public thanks should be offered to Almighty God in the churches for the victory of their arms. His Lordship added that the following psalms, lessons, and special prayer were authorized for use either at Matins or Evensong on the day: Psalms xlvi. and lxxvi.; lessons, 1 Chron. xxix. 9-20; St. Luke iii., 5-15. The special prayer was as follows: "Almighty God, Who art a strong tower of defence unto Thy servants against the face of their enemies, we give Thee hearty thanks that it hath pleased Thee to crown the valor of our sailors and soldiers in South Africa with signal victory and glory. Fill us, O Lord, in this our day, with grateful recognition of Thine eternal Providence. Inspire us with the sense of the high and holy mission into which Thou hast called, and dost ever call, our nation. We have heard with our ears, O Lord, and our fathers have declared unto us Thy noble works of ancient time; but now have we seen them with our eyes. May Thy loving kindness move us to a deeper and purer love of Thee; may the thought of those whom we have lost on earth lift our spirits nearer to heaven; and may we use the peace Thou grantest, after the stress and suffering of war, not for our mere profit or pleasure, but for the building up of justice and righteousness, the strengthening of the bonds of sympathy amongst all classes in the lands that we have conquered, and for the spreading of the Gospel of Thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, Who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. Amen."—*Church Bells.*

THIS PICTURE AND THAT.



HINDU correspondent of the *Madras Mail* properly expresses his indignation regarding an occurrence, of which he was an eye-witness, in a town in that province. The Hindu correspondent referred to writes:

"On the morning of the 19th instant the wife of a Brahman youth employed in the local District Munsiff's court died of fever. Her parents belong to the Saivite sect of the Brahman community, while her husband is a member of the Smartha sect. As she was a Smartha her parents and other relatives would not so much as approach her or touch her in the last moments. None of her Saivite relatives would consent to convey the body to the place of cremation, and had it not been for the timely help rendered by a pleader and a few others, the poor husband would have been put to the worst inconvenience imaginable in the matter of his wife's funeral.

"If we turned our eyes at that moment in another direction, we should have beheld another spectacle—the funeral procession of a dead sacred bull. While the human corpse was comparatively—shall I not also say shamefully?—neglected, hundreds of people might be seen flocking round the cart laden with the remains of the bull. The previous night, on the other side of the main canal, the sacred bull was run over by a train and killed on the spot. So, from early morning, preparations were made to give his holiness—I mean the bull—an honorable burial, and in due time a big procession, with the necessary accompaniments of tomtoms and other music, conducted his body to the grave. . . . Look at this picture and at that."

"Foreign missions are not only foreign missions, they are home missions, purifying the home life with that larger conception of charity, redeeming the home life with that worthier conception of Christ, which they teach and give.

"The greatest charity organization in America in the city of New York for the amelioration of the whole land, is foreign missions. There are still many heathen in America—heathen practices, heathen notions. There is no "American" Christianity as distinguished from any other. There is only one kind of Christianity, that is, a universal Christianity, and the Christianity which is simply "American" can never convert Americans. We are told that the Christian Church is not reaching the working classes—and why? Just because it is trying to reach the working class as the "working class"—*Rev. Dr. Green, at Ecumenical Conference.*