

ence, there is more enthusiasm, more real faith in a future world, more hope of an immortality and a proper sense of the awful presence of the Omnipotent. It is the far reaching religion of the earth. The Chinese, with all their faults, as a nation, stand preeminent for goodness among themselves. True filial piety is an attribute that has come down through long centuries, and amiability, hospitality and kindness are distinguishing characteristics of this great people. Dr. Halde pronounces them humane, practicable, innocent, laborious, temperate and modest. Their greed and desire of emassing wealth are their chief vices. Those writers who have described the Chinese as a mendacious people, have never trod the interior of the walled Empire, their prosecutions of the manners and customs of the race have only been made in the slums of Canton and Macao, the abode of the refuse population, the New Jersey of the country. There is no cruelty or sensualities practised in the religion of China as in the Pagan belief of Asia. No human victims have been immolated on its altars and no licentious rites have disgraced its purity. Immoral ceremonies in idol worship are strictly forbidden. One custom, however, which is to be deplored and one, too, strangely at variance with Chinese institutions, and with the Chinese character, is the existence of slavery and concubinage. Woman is here the slave of man; a demoralizing influence. He husband has full and entire control over her every action. No movement, however slight, which she makes is unknown to her lord and master. Lord and master is he to the full extent. There is an exception to be found in the case where a wife becomes a mother. Then she is no longer a slave but an authority; if her children be sons and grown up to manhood's prime, her lot is that of a queen or an empress. Her mandates enforce obedience. She is absolute in the manipulation of her household, and commands universal reverence and appreciation. Her will is law. The study of China and the Chinese is a fine one. There is so much to be learned, so much that is new and strange that the mind never grows weary, for an instant, of the subject, the interest is kept up unflaggingly to the end.

In this brief notice of this great book we have endeavoured to place before the reader the merest "tithe of its intrinsic excellence," and even now we feel that it demands and requires more attention at our hands. This is no narrow, sectarian, theological "hotch potch"; but a broad, fearless, liberal philosophical work; the emanation of a man who does not believe because he preaches the Gospel of a Sabbath morning, that his mind should be stunted and his better judgment warped with contemptible intolerance and prejudice. Mr. Clarke is