

## Temperance Column.

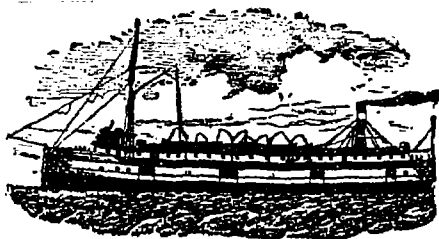
### THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND THE NATIVE RACES.

The Lord Bishop of London, who presided at the National Temperance League's Annual Meeting in Exeter Hall, in the course of his address said:—

I hold that it is a disgrace to this country that go where we will all over the globe, the spread of the British name, and the spread of the British power, and the spread of the British trade, and it is sad to think even the spread of the British teaching of the Gospel, should be attended by the spread of Intemperance among the races that knew not of it before. (Cheers.) I think it a disgrace to this country that it should be possible to say, as some have said, and have shown reason for saying, that in many parts of the world, it would be better that men should turn Mahomedans than that they should turn Christians, because under the Mahomedan system they would have been kept from this dreadful curse, and Christians do not hesitate not only to permit it but to encourage it. I knew well that it is not in accordance with the mind of the great Christian body of this country. I know that Christians here, at home, would rather sacrifice anything than thus demoralize the heathen on all hands with whom we come in contact. But nevertheless, there is the unhappy fact. There is the fact that at this very moment the trade that is going on between this country and the native races of Africa particularly—but not of Africa only—the trade which is going on protected and so far encouraged by the Government in India, is bringing upon these unhappy people a temptation which they are quite unable to resist, and the result of which we know well, and they have yet to learn, in the new degradation that comes with it. (Cheers.) I cannot but look upon this as the saddest revelation that has been made for long, and I desire on my part to express my gratitude to the authorities of the National Temperance League for the part which they took in bringing this question to the front, and insisting upon having it publicly discussed. (Cheers.) We shall gain by the discussion. The Temperance cause will gain because it is, in the first place the plainest proof that we are in real determined earnest. We really mean what we say when we enter upon the battle with the consumption of intoxicating liquors. We really mean what we say and we are prepared to show the world all over that we care for it abroad as we care for it at home—(cheers)—and that if our voice could be heard it would soon be impossible to say that the presence of English men had any tendency whatever to encourage this dreadful evil wherever they were present in foreign lands. But, in the second place, it is excellent because we should make known everywhere, and not here in this country only, the nature of the battle that we are

fighting. It is good for men to see that this mischief, as it covers a larger area than was first supposed, so, too, it should meet with a determined opposition from those who feel that to encourage Intemperance is to do the work of the evil spirit, and to resist the influence of the Gospel of God. (Cheers.) We shall, at any rate, be compelling all those who have the government of our dependencies to listen to our reiterated protests, to hear the arguments that we shall never fail to thunder in their ears; we shall compel them to understand, although they may desire perpetually to close their eyes and to shut their hearts against knowing anything about it; we shall compel them to understand that there are men in England who feel the truth of what they say when they declare that the prevalence of this dreadful evil, and the part which England has taken in spreading it, is a discredit to the British name. (Loud Cheers.)

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