

squandering of the miserable earnings of these people in bloated armaments. We are presented with harrowing pictures of the lives and lodgings of the London poor. The corpse of a child lies by day upon the only bed of a family and at night is put upon their bread shelf. A physician, called in to a poor woman and coming too late, finds her dead body emaciated to the last degree and swarming with vermin. What comfort is it to these people that they are lords of three hundred millions of Hindoos, that they are crushing the independence of the South African Republics, and sending punitive expeditions to reduce the Afridis beneath their sway? What empire do they, or the toilers of the United States either, crave so much as liberty to earn by their toil all the bread they can and to eat the bread they earn? If the white man, American or British, wants a burden, he can find it at his own door.

The example of British Empire in India, however, may be profitably studied by those who think of launching out into a career of Empire in the belief that it is a "new life." They will see what is the effect on the character of the Imperial nation. No other foreign ruler of a conquered country has equalled or even approached the British rulers of India in the benevolence by which, for the last three-quarters of a century at least, they have been actuated towards the conquered. Yet Lord Elgin, an excellent man, says of the relations between the races in India, where he was then sojourning, and of which he was afterwards Governor-General:

"It is a terrible business, however, this living among inferior races. I have seldom from man or woman since I came to the East heard a sentence which was reconcilable with the hypothesis that Christianity had ever come into the world. Detestation, contempt, ferocity, vengeance, whether Chinamen or Indians be the object. There are some three or four hundred servants in