

## READY TO STAY.

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**R**EADY to stay, my Father,  
If thus it be Thy will,  
Ready to bear the burden,  
To suffer and be still;  
Grant me the gift of patience,  
While on my darkened way.  
Ready to stay, O Father,  
Ready to stay.

Ready to stay, my Father,  
E'en though the heart beat low,  
Ready to bear the trial,  
Ready to face the foe,  
What, though my footsteps falter,  
Shrink from the rugged way,  
Ready to stay, O Father,  
Ready to stay.

Ready to stay, my Father,  
Ready to meet the strife,  
To bear aloft Thy banner,  
On the battle-field of life;  
To aid the weak and weary,  
Sore wounded in the fray,  
Ready to stay, O Father,  
Ready to stay.

THE religion of Christ was launched into a world of unbelievers, atheists, idolaters and scorners. It took nothing for granted. It begged no questions that were at issue. It fought its way inch by inch, by the power of logic and by the power of God; by the convincing arguments of its preachers and the godly lives of its possessors, it won its way, until the old idols were cast to the moles and the bats, and the name of God was honoured and adored.

If we have a religion which will not bear the test of opposition, which will not endure the strain of argument and the light of investigation, then we have not the religion of Christ; and it is time for us to abandon every position which cannot be defended, and form our lines anew, where the apostles and prophets have stood, and then taking to us the whole armour of God, fight the good fight of faith, and overcome the world. This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. A faith that will not overcome the world is useless, is worse than useless in such a world as this. Let Christians gird themselves for warfare, and taking the whole armour of God, go forth to "fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life."—*The Armory*.

THE feeling against the opium trade which causes great misery to thousands of people in Burmah and China, is becoming strong in England as is evidenced by the recent vote in the House of Commons against it, even though the Government voted for it. Vigorous and earnest speeches were made against it, and it was

represented (and fairly enough) as a disgrace to England as a Christian country. The only argument in its favour is that the Indian Government cannot spare the enormous revenue that comes from it. That principle if applied to the business and trades of individuals would not make much for the morals of the people. An injurious trade is to be carried on because it is a prolific source of revenue! Surely such an argument can not stand long in the face of a Christian people.

Although much has been done by England for India, it would seem, from recent disturbances and cruelties at Manipur and other places, that there is much hatred among the natives towards the foreign rule, and that it is a country at present held virtually at the sword's point. The only hope for a better state of things is in the Christian work of the missionaries.

A CLERGYMAN had called a missionary meeting one evening during the recent election campaign at one of his outlying stations. The one hall of this place was used for all meetings of every description. The clergyman was late in starting for his destination, as he had waited some time for a brother clergyman who did not turn up. When he drew near the hall, he was surprised to see the place black with people, who could barely all get in. Thinking this a capital beginning, he started around towards the platform, on which he found, to his great surprise, the retiring member and one of his friends. They also had engaged the hall for a political meeting the same night. What was to be done? The clergyman was equal to the occasion, and requested just ten minutes before the political speeches should begin. On this request being granted he explained to the people the position he was in. Then he told them the story of the two sailors in the open boat during a storm, who knew no prayers and all they could do for themselves was to take up a collection. Now, he was in great need of money for his missions, so, though he would not detain them by a missionary address, as he had no doubt they were anxious to hear the speakers, all he would do would be to take up a collection. This was accordingly done and the readiness of the clergyman rewarded by a liberal response, after which the member and his companions took the floor.—*Trinity University Review*.

OF every six infants in the world, one is born in India; of every six orphan girls, one is wandering in India; of every six widows, one is mourning in India; of every six men that die, one is passing into Eternity from India. Think of it, and give India a part in your prayers.