

were banished for the sake of his people. Afterwards he sent some of his own subjects to other kingdoms to preach Christ. He is himself a mighty spiritual power.

### THE PREVENTION OF FAMINE

Major H. M. Conran, writing from Ixworth, sends the following interesting communication on the irrigation question:—"At the present crisis of famine in India, various schemes are in project for supply of the deficiency of water. Many parts of South India now lying uncultivated from want of water—I speak of my own time fifty years ago—were once well cultivated, being irrigated from reservoirs, which, since our occupation of the country, have been allowed to fall into ruin through neglect. Is it not a wrong principle to look alone to grand enterprises of Government like the Ganges Canal? Should we not rather seek to develop the enterprise of the native by encouraging various means of irrigation, even to digging wells, which have answered so well in Algeria? A missionary in the Central Provinces has experimented in artesian wells with good prospects of success. That the

### COUNTRY IS WELL WATERED

even in failure of the Monsoon is certain, if we only study a good map of India, not merely by magnificent rivers like the Ganges, but by innumerable streamlets running amidst its hills and valleys, which, as the feeders of its rivers, have to be traced back to their sources in the valleys. From twenty-five years' travel through the country, and other sources of information, I have no doubt that India contains abundant stores of water available to render it independent of all failure of monsoons if rightly stored and developed.

"It might be advisable to observe that the quality of the water is also a matter of importance; for some rivers, like the Ganges, deposit a large quantity of fertilizing mud, like the Nile; whilst others, like the Jumna, are nearly destitute of fertilizing matter. Here, therefore, is ample scope for scientific study and research before engaging in any great enterprise for irrigation. If so much effort and finance have been expended in railways, and even in the opium trade, some such efforts might well be expended for the great factor of life—the food of man."

WHAT large oaks from little acorns grow. A poor seamstress persuaded a boy to go to Sunday school. He was converted, became a missionary to India, and it was through the influence of this man, Amos Sutton, that American Baptists started the mission to the Telugus. The old woman died, and never knew the result that sprang from asking that boy to go to Sunday-school. How surprised she will be when she hears the record in the last day.

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