



The Hindoo God Durga.

Eighteen hundred years ago, Christ said to his disciples, "Say not ye there are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." And so it is now; wherever we turn our eyes—east, west, north, or south—we see the fields are "white already to harvest."

India, the country in which the god Durga is worshipped, contains a population of a hundred millions of idolaters. If the true god were there worshipped instead of idols, what a harvest of souls might be brought to the Redeemer's kingdom! Should we not earnestly pray that the Lord would send forth more laborers into His harvest!

Durga is seen in the above picture. This is her origin. There was a certain demon who had, by the practice of

religious austerities in honor of Vishnu, acquired a degree of merit which gave him a supremacy over India, and he took possession of Swarga. He subsequently made such display of his power and consequence, that all the gods began to tremble for their thrones. It was found upon inquiry that Vishnu, the preserver, had given the demon a pledge, on condition of his service, that no being then existing should be able to deprive him of life. And now all the energies of the indignant gods were concentrated and united in the production of the veritable and horrible Durga. She is, therefore, an incarnation of wrath. Himalaya supplied her with a lion, upon which she mounted and went in pursuit of the demon King of Terrors. To elude the pursuit, he took the form of a buffalo. But this did not succeed. Durga approached him, and with her