

year the sum-total of money contributed for Foreign Missions in all Christian nations amounted to only \$11,000,000—much less than was spent for cigars in our country alone! England's opium and rum curse the very lands to which she sends the Gospel! In Cairo, British occupancy has introduced 500 grog-shops! Verily, Christianity needs Christianizing at the core before it will convert the world to Jesus Christ.

10. In spite of these lamentable hindrances from within, the religion of the Cross has more skill in its ten fingers and more strength in its right arm than any religion on the round globe. It moves slowly, but God stands behind it, and God never fails.

THE OLD PROPHETS AS PREACHERS.

Never in the history of nations, so far as appears, has a sacred order anywhere risen, so earnest, so self-sacrificing, so noble in their purity of life, so lofty in their realization of the true and eternal, so bravely faithful in their battle with sin, as the Hebrew prophets. They, in fact, believed what they said, and spoke accordingly. No fear of the great, or of the multitudes, could silence them. Appointed to proclaim the whole truth without circumlocution or mitigation, they did so, however invidious, "vulgar," "censorious," unpopular or perilous the duty. Fashionable preachers of the day there were in abundance; toning down the word of God to suit their audiences; actually careful to let abuses lie undisturbed, to flatter the great, to avoid whatever was disagreeable to their patrons, and, like keen and crafty men of the world, to make sure of as much of this life as they could, lest they should by any chance come short in the other! The fidelity of the two prophets was ill calculated to promote their worldly interests out their names live forever more; their self-sacrifice was the regeneration of their race, and they remain for all ages the ideal of true preachers. Does our nineteenth century realize the lesson of their example? —*Cunningham Geikie.*

The great mistake of my life has been that I have tried to be moral without faith in Christ, but I have learned that true morality can only keep pace with trust in Christ as the only Saviour. —*Gerrit Smith.*

BE COURTEOUS.

There is more danger of being discourteous to an inferior than to a superior. The master is more likely to offend a servant, than a servant is to offend the master. In proportion to one's inferiority in age, rank, or attainments, one is likely to be alighted, misunderstood, and depreciated. Most easy of all, then, is it to be discourteous to a little child. Persons who would not be thought impolite to an adult in any station, will thoughtlessly offend, or even insult, a child. A little boy who was standing innocently by his mother while she was entertaining a visitor, was asked by that visitor whether he went to Sunday school. Being assured that he did, she added: "And what do you learn in Sunday school—to mind your mother?" The spirit of that question was one which the questioner herself or any one of her peers would rightly resent as unjust and insolent, if applied to any but an innocent and helpless child. It is pitiable that a child should be allowed to infer that the most natural and rational way for its elders to address it, is in words which imply that it cannot be supposed to have any right instincts, any right thoughts, any right feelings, or to be ready to do any right deeds. "Take heed that ye offend not one of these little ones"—in any such way. —*S. S. Times.*

YOUR DUTY.

Let us measure your duty in giving, What shall be the measuring rod?

1. Your capacity. "She hath done what she could."
2. Your opportunity. "As ye have opportunity do good unto all men."
3. Your convictions. "That servant which knew his Lord's will and prepared not himself, neither did according to His will, shall be beaten with many stripes."
4. The necessities of others. "If a brother or sister be naked or destitute of daily food," etc.
5. Thy providence. "Let every man lay by him in store as God hath prospered him."
6. Symmetry of character. "Abound in this grace also."
7. Your own happiness. "It is more blessed to give than to receive."
8. God's glory. "Honor God with your substance." —*Sel.*