

when I'd whip him into a gallop there it 'ud come, keepin' time with his steps, 'Cheatin' the Lord! cheatin' the Lord! cheatin' the Lord!' till I couldn't stan' it any longer; so the first day I got out I turned him into the pasture, and went and bought Coley back. I tell ye I wouldn't take a good many times his price for the sense I have leaped. Me a-prayin' for the heathen! Why, I don't believe one of them prayers ever went higher'n my head. When folks is starvin' for the Bread of Life, 'tisn't prayers they want, but bread."

"Yet sure, husband, we ought to pray for the heathen."

"Yes, indeed! yes, indeed! But I've concluded there ain't much use in a prayer you're not willin' to back up by hard work and the last cent you have, if the Lord wants it. Now, Jane, when you git home you'll find a bran new purse in your bureau draw'r, and I'll put as much in it every quarter as is there now. If you want bunnits, you can hev bunnits. If you want it for the Lord, wia there, 'tis. Ye needn't tell me what ye do with it."

"O Deacon Brown!"

"Don't say a word, Jane, and don't thank me. It isn't mine; it isn't yours. It's all the Lord's, and I owe Him a dreadful lot of back interest besides. But if He gives me life I'll square it all up with Him. I feel as if I'd been snatched like a bran' from the burnin', for I was about half converted before, but it has gone clean through now, and even now I feel my soul gittin' a little fatter, and whenever the Lord calls out for help against the mighty, you may reckon that He'll hear me call back. 'Ay, ay, Lord, ready!'"

For many days Mrs. Brown questioned how one could really make a sacrifice for the Lord that would be felt as such in one's life, "for," said she, "whenever He calls me to help Him or give up something for Him, why, He just fills my soul so full of sunshine that I feel sure that He must have forgot, and put His crown on my head instead of His yoke on my shoulders."

I cannot answer her question. Can you?—*Home Mission Monthly.*

Women of India in Slavery.

How many are shut up—To church bareheaded—Bare idolatry debauches womanhood—Still worse—What will you do!

REV. WALLACE J. GLADWIN, MISSIONARY TO INDIA.

1. *A Popular Mistake*—It is commonly thought that all of the women of India are shut up in their houses and never allowed to go abroad. A lady who had been the wife of a minister for the third of a century, asked me, "Did you ever see a woman in India?" Dr. Adam Clarke wrote: "It was a custom both among the Greeks and Romans, and among the Jews an express law, that no woman should be seen abroad without a veil. This was, and is, a common custom through all the East, and none but public prostitutes go without veils."

I had seen it so often stated that all respectable women kept their faces veiled, that I was greatly surprised and shocked on landing in Bombay to see women thronging the streets by the ten thousand with their faces uncovered. But I soon learned that only the rich and aristocratic, with some high caste people, kept their women secluded in harems or closely veiled upon the streets. The mass of the people cannot afford to keep their women shut up; they need them to work. In Egypt the women keep their faces more closely veiled in public. In Ceylon

the Singhalese women wear no covering for the head, not even a veil. I have seen them, by thousands going about in cities, villages, and country places with no head-dress except their nicely oiled and neatly combed hair. Native Christian women follow the custom of their country, and attend church well clad, and sometimes decked out with unscriptural jewelry and other ornaments, yet having no veil, hat, or other head-dress. So the above statement of Dr. Clarke is wrong in saying "all the East;" it is true in only a small part of the East.

2. *The Physical Slavery of Women in India.*—What is it? We cannot tell it out plainly. We can only give intimations which wise and prayerful hearts can use for earnest work in helping us "rescue the perishing." Idolatry is inherently and essentially immoral. The seven nations of Phillistia were out off for the same reason that Sodom was destroyed. Balaam was one of the most enlightened of ancient heathen prophets, yet see what he taught his people! The Spirit tells that manner of heathen lived when Christ was on earth. (Rom. i.) Hinduism is the vilest form of heathenism that now curses the earth. The celebrated historian Macaulay, says: "In no part of the world has a religion ever existed more unfavorable to the moral and intellectual health of our race. This superstition is of all superstitions the most immoral. Emblems of vice are objects of public worship. Acts of vice are acts of public worship. The courtesans are as much a part of the establishment of the temple, as much ministers of the gods, as the priests. Idolatry being a synonym for immorality, what must be the enslavement of women in heathen lands? Hinduism being the vilest heathenism of earth, the slavery of poor India's women is the most deep and damning."

In that remarkable land I have labored for about 18 years. For some years my now glorified wife had charge of a Rescue Home for women and girls. We had to know the truth, and the whole truth, regarding the condition of women in India. How I have wished that consecrated Christian women in America knew the awful facts which I know as to the state of women in India. The Indian Penal Code is the statute British law in India. Sections 272 and 273 are against the selling and buying of children for immoral purposes. In his comment on that code published by government, Barrister Mayno' wrote: "If the above two sections were enforced, you would have half the population of India in jail." That means that the buying and selling of girls is cruelly common all over India. Much of it is done under the guise of marriage. I knew where a wretched Chinaman of about eighty had a Marathi girl of fifteen shut up in his house. He had paid ten dollars for her. The police could do nothing about it, as the abominable slavery was called marriage. The physical suffering, mental anguish, and loathsome degradation of millions of women in India it is impossible to describe. It is definitely worse than the mere "seclusion" of the zenanas over which so much kind sympathy is felt.

3. *The Worst Slavery of India's Women.*—Can there be any worse slavery than the above awful state? The soul slavery. The deep, deadly devilish corruption which possesses souls so long held down in debasing superstitions and vile sins. Who can know it? Who can tell it? Who can hear, understand, and feel the sad, the terrible facts?

Would not American women be moved to do far more for India, if they knew more of the awful condition of their down-trodden sisters in India? Yes, doubtless, a few of them might. But the vast majority of American