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It has ever been a matter of astonishment to me, that, easy of access as the utmost limits of this vast and all but boundless colonial empire have become, and constant and unintermitting as our intercourse now is with the mother country, so little should be known there of our social, political, or religious condition. And yet the wonder vanishes when we consider that people in England cannot help judging of us by the customs and habits and feelings which prevail in their own country; so that when even the best-informed immigrant first lands upon the shores of this mighty continent, he finds it totally different from what he had been led to expect. The first distant view of the wild interminable forest which clothes, with so forbidding an aspect, that land of promise which he had pictured to his imagination as the very garden of Eden, wakes him at once from his long and fondly cherished fantasies to all the sad realities of life; and when he extends his gaze over the whole face of the country, he sees that the original curse of his nature has reached it; and he reads, in characters which can neither be mistaken nor unfelt, "in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread."

So it is also with those matters which relate to our religious and ecclesiastical condition. When a poor missionary's name and appointment in a far off land are found in the alphabetical list of preferments in the 'Ecclesiastical Gazette,' the impression produced upon the mind of the reader, if he should haply give it a passing thought, would be that it *was* a preferment in the common acceptance of the term.

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