

gift of the Ganges. It would require 350,000 thousand-ton ships to freight the fertilizing material carried down by the Ganges every year, or 7,000,000 railway cars, making a train 67,000 miles long.

Bishop Hurst pays the strongest possible tribute to the beneficial effect, on the whole, to the British Government of India. Notwithstanding its complicity with the opium trade and the drink traffic, and its connivance at idolatrous practices—heavy blots upon its escutcheon—"yet," says the Bishop, "there still remain incalculable advantages to the country which must be placed to the credit and honour of the Anglo-Saxon in India." The suppression of sutteeism, of infanticide, of thugism and many other evils are directly due to British influence. "England," he adds, "has never achieved grander victories on Waterloo or at Quebec than those which belong to her quiet and peaceable administration in India. The day has not yet dawned when it is possible to measure the whole magnitude of England's service to the millions of India. Generations must elapse before this can be done. When the hour comes it will be seen that the English rule has never been wiser or more humane on the Thames or the St. Lawrence than on the Ganges, the Indus and the Godavari. England's conquest has been less by steel and gunpowder than by all the great forces which constitute a Christian civilization."

One of these striking benefits has been the unification of India. The land was one great tangled skein of races, languages and regent governments. Century after century rolled by, and still the war of strife and bloodshed went on. This is all now subdued by the strong, firm hand of England.

Bishop Hurst pays a very high tribute to the influence of Lord and Lady Dufferin in India. Speaking of Lady Dufferin's sympathy with the women of India and her efforts on their behalf, he says, "I little thought when I saw the splendid reception given to Lord and Lady Dufferin on their entrance into Calcutta, what a

burden was resting on Lady Dufferin's heart. The sorrows of the women of India seem to have been constantly in her mind." The outcome of this has been the organization of a Female Medical Aid Association, providing medical instruction, medical relief, medical supplies and trained nurses, with, in 1889, sixty-five female doctors practising in India. To this association two native princes gave the sum of \$190,000.

The Bishop mentions a striking illustration of Lord Dufferin's accomplishments as a scholar and linguist in the fact that Dr. Schliemann showed him an address in modern Greek, delivered by Lord Dufferin in Athens with the greatest correctness and without any help from his manuscript.

In the chapters on English writers in India, we have a striking illustration of the growth of an English literature in that great dependency of the empire. Macaulay and Thackeray can scarcely be said to belong to India, but the English papers, magazines and reviews of that country are of a very high order of merit. One of the most striking features of this book is the admirable coloured maps by which it is illustrated, showing the racial divisions, the missionary districts, the map of the famine regions and of the distribution of forest trees, crops and the like. One of the most interesting sections is that devoted to the Protestant and Roman Catholic missions. The Bishop exclaims with enthusiasm, "India is now open to missionary work; all the Indian gates are down, the bars are shattered into small fragments, the locks are ground into fine dust; every stream sings a welcome to the evangelists of peace! The king of nations is entering! England has learned that the Christian religion is the real and only basis of a permanent tenure of the country."

At least six great famines have swept over India in the historic period, in some of which ten million people perished. In the last famine sixteen million suffered from death, disease and insufficient food. For their relief the Government ex-