

expect to make our readers familiar, as the authoress of the book referred to\* has, in the most handsome manner, placed them gratuitously at the disposal of the editor, for the entertainment and instruction of his young readers.

We do not suppose our readers generally spend much time on newspapers, but few of them can be ignorant that the native soldiers in India, called sepoys, have lately been in a state of rebellion. In some places they have risen up against the few white people living amongst them, and have remorselessly put them to death. These facts have called the attention of this country to India; and they make thoughtful persons consider how vast and important a country India is, and to how great an extent we are dependent upon it for our outward prosperity as a nation. This sad rebellion also ought to lead all Christians among us, old or young, to consider if Britain, while it exercises such a sway in India, has not provoked God, by its neglect of the spiritual welfare of a people, from whom it has been so long deriving so many temporal advantages.

Let us now give a very condensed statement of facts, showing the importance of that great country. The Portuguese, after discovering the way to India by the Cape of Good Hope, more than three centuries and a-half ago, sent a fleet every year to the Indian coast, which returned to Lisbon laden with riches and with merchandize. About a hundred years after this connection between Portugal and India had been established, a number of English Merchants (in 1599,) applied to Queen Elizabeth for sanction to trade with India. The sanction granted by the Queen was the first foundation on which was afterwards established the well known East India Company. Thirty-three years afterwards (in 1632), the Mogul Emperor of Delhi, a city of great extent and incomparable splendour) with all its British stores in the hands of the rebels), granted to these English merchants license to trade and establish a little factory near Orissa, in Bengal. The Dutch, the French, and the Danes had, meanwhile, acquired similar privileges. In 1707, a little factory, defended by a wall, and garrisoned by 155 soldiers, received the name of a "Presidency." Such was the foundation of our immense Indian empire. We cannot stay to tell how, a hundred years ago, the King of Delhi captured the English factory at Calcutta, and threw into a dungeon, 18 feet

\* The Missionary Guide Book; or a Key to the Protestant Missionary Map of the World. Society: London.