

proachable God, not to destroy his human victims altogether. Missionaries found in their language no adequate terms to express divine and spiritual conceptions. The idea of God had dropped out of their native tongue. A new matrix was needed in which to cast the forms for conveying spiritual ideas. And yet this is the people who have been setting, even to Christian England and America, an example of intelligent piety, discriminating insight into spiritual truth, loyalty to Christ, passion for souls, and self-sacrifice in giving !

It was but a few years ago when in Zululand, Dingaan, a cruel chief, caused one hundred innocent maidens to be slaughtered, who bore propitiatory offerings from a tribe which had offended him. For that offense the penalty exacted was a thousand head of cattle, and in the arithmetic of those savages one girl was equal to ten cattle ; hence to slay one hundred girls was the equivalent of the thousand oxen or heifers. This same Dingaan gouged out the eyes of the scouts, who being sent out to search for cattle, mistook tame herds for game. "Dig out their eyes," said the monster. "Of what use are eyes to such men?" Go now to Zululand, visit the Christian homes where every amenity of Christian civilization sheds its lustrous light. Hear those eloquent native preachers with tearful eyes illustrate love, by love's stupendous sacrifice ; go into those churches, sit with those converted savages at the Lord's table ; see them bring their weekly offerings, saved by such self-denial as we have never known, to send the gospel to others still in the habitations of cruelty ; behold those churches, self-governing, self-supporting, self-propagating, and then pronounce missions a failure if you can or dare.

In the leading daily paper of Britain* there appeared, during the sessions of the World's Conference of Missions, an editorial, in which, after sundry compliments to the distinguished membership of that grand gathering, we read this closing paragraph :

"One of the conference chairmen congratulated his fellow delegates on the pleasant places in which the lot of modern missionaries is cast. They have no longer, he said, to break the ground. They have not, he might have asserted with still more assurance, to strive against a dead weight of English apathy less penetrable even than Hinduism and Islam. They have their countrymen with them in their endeavors to extend the frontiers of Christendom. Criticism is not hostile to their object because it cannot express itself as altogether contented with the amount of ground which has been annexed. An army of diligent and learned laborers is occupied in missionary work. Two millions sterling are annually subscribed for their maintenance. An appeal is being made for more men and more money. It is declared that the income of missions should be nearer eleven millions than two. Before the promoters of missionary work can expect to have greater resources confided to them they will have to render a satisfactory account of their trust in the past. Their progress, it is to be hoped, is sure ; indisputably it is slow. A congress like the present would be better employed

* *London Times*, June 15, 1888,