

guage to us is the same—"Ye have not obeyed my voice; why have ye done this?"

Some will ask, perhaps, what have we done? wherein have we disobeyed? where are the proofs of our ingratitude or of our unfaithfulness? They are not far to seek, nor difficult to find. It were easy to draw out a long list of national sins, in the view of which the Indian disaster would appear to be nothing more than a righteous retribution, "a punishment less than our iniquities have deserved." Pride and ambition; immorality in its most revolting phases, and irreligion of the most God-defying type; the love of money and the love of conquest, with their natural and hideous offspring, extortion, oppression, injustice, and cruelty; not to speak of those numerous and flagrant crimes of which human law takes cognizance, and for which earthly judges punish. Look at this black catalogue, and say if there is reason either for complaint or astonishment, when, in the course of his providence, God makes his voice to be heard as it were from the highest heavens; and in tones at once solemn and awe-striking, fitted alike to arrest the attention and impress the heart, asks, "Shall not I visit for these things? Shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?"

But we may come closer still. We think that the British nation may read in the judgment on account of which it has been called by its rulers to humble itself, the punishment of *sins committed against India, and the millions of its population*. Amid much diversity of opinion on collateral points, there is, so far as we have had the means of judging, very considerable harmony on this one, as expressed by the press, and from the pulpit or the platform. Some, indeed, dwell principally on the advantages that India has derived from British connection and influence; but these are constrained to admit that they have been associated with many draw-backs, and neutralized, in but too many cases, by grievous injuries. Others, again, dwell chiefly on the opportunities of doing good that have been neglected by the British in India, the positive and great evils

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