

forth by representatives and friends of this National Association to obtain women as doctors, hospital assistants, nurses, etc., in India, it is but right that attention should be directed to the nature and objects of the work that no one may enter the service ignorant of its character and of the limitations which will be imposed upon any who may wish to do missionary as well as medical work.

This Indian work is better known as "The Lady Dufferin Medical Movement." Lady Dufferin is the moving spirit in it and therefore it is of special interest to Canadian women. But, for reasons best known to the organizers and best understood by those conversant with Indian affairs, the work is in no sense missionary. It is not distinctively Christian. It will be found, after the most searching examination, simply and purely *humanitarian*. Why it should be so avowedly secular we cannot say; that it is so cannot be questioned.

Now no sensible person will condemn this movement because it is what it professes to be. It has its work, and an important one. Those who listened to the clear, honest presentation of her case by Ramabai, the learned pundita who recently visited Toronto and other Canadian cities, will not depreciate Lady Dufferin's scheme; and if any medical woman, understanding the rules of the National Association, prefers such service to the more truly humanitarian work of the medical missionary, we have none but kind and encouraging words for her. But let no one whose lips are not sealed, never can be sealed on the greater question of spiritual life and death, be misled. The National Association aims at giving medical tuition and medical relief to the women of India—truly a much needed and a blessed work—but plainly as words can speak, the rules of the Association stipulate that "*No employee of the Association will be allowed to proselytize or interfere in any way with the religious beliefs of any section of the people.*" And returned missionaries can testify that this rule is not a dead letter. Christian women, graduated from medical colleges and hospital training schools, who believe that there are diseases deeper than the physical and beyond the reach of the compounds of the apothecary, and whose hearts will not keep silent for Christ's sake, should think twice before entering the service of an association whose regulations prohibit the introduction of the Balm of Gilead among stricken souls.