

forces these claims of the North-West. For this reason, if for no other, we ought to feel that they stand first on the list. More, however, than one argument may generally be found to support a good cause. The North-West, with its rich mines and fertile soil, is attracting and cannot fail to attract large numbers of emigrants from our Mother Country, and even from our own homes: colonists whose Church is the Church of our Fathers, whose language is not a foreign tongue to be painfully learned without an alphabet or a grammar. Unless they can take with them their Church privileges, the moral standard of their citizenship must degenerate, their practice of the Christian virtues will not be sustained. These settlements stand towards us in the same relative position that we held towards England one hundred years ago. "The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad," and our gratitude may fitly take the form of helping to carry out to its issue this work that the S.P.G. may be said to have begun. We can work in no more fruitful field than this, and having thus practically upheld a good principle, we shall probably find out that the charity which begins at home does not end there. For what about the claim of the Indian, a very strong one? It is intimately bound up with both the political and religious life of the North West. And there is a land of darkness whose inhabitants have ready communication with our brethren in the far West—the Chinese, whom we may hope that they will Christianize. And the study of this important subject of mission work cannot be said to be complete when we consider it only as a matter of prayer and of alms. The workers in the field are the truest missionaries, and we who give and who pray are but humble assistants. A whole section of the Archdeacon's historical pamphlet is devoted to a disquisition on "The Religious Influence of the Mountain Family," and that because for three generations all its members, directly or indirectly, identified themselves with pioneer religious work. It is not for us who remain away from the scene of action to say to any other "Why don't *you* go?" But perhaps we have all been impressed recently by the enthusiasm of a Zenana Missionary, the