

THE WAR AND THE RACE QUESTION

Christian State is determined by the very anti-Christian principles of national egoism and 'will to power' it is untrue to regard it as a Christian State, even if one can point to a nucleus of real Christianity among its people. Supposing we wished to present a false appearance to the non-Christian world, to cover up the truth for fear of scandal, it would be in vain. The sooner the non-Christian world realizes that Christendom is not yet Christian, the better for the prospects of Christianity. And whilst one has to admit a great mass of paganism, still unleavened, in Christendom, one ought to recognize in all that is morally sound in the non-Christian civilizations something germane to Christianity, something due to the same Spirit who is fully manifested in Christ.

Even apart from the direct action of Christianity upon these races in recent times, that would be true. But we know, as a matter of fact, that just as in England and France and Germany there has been a nucleus of real Christianity for many centuries, influencing in various degrees the national life as a whole, so there is now in India and China and Japan a nucleus of real Christianity, whose influence is already making itself felt far outside the limits of the organized Church. In the case of the individual, it is a part of Christian charity to recognize, even when the Christian name is not assumed, the fruit of the Christian spirit: in the same way, to label the Asiatic peoples of to-day in that absolute way as non-Christians, to shut them out from co-operation in the work of establishing righteousness in the world, where