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### "Kings Shall Be Your Nursing Fathers"



ONE of the striking facts, noticed and recorded with great satisfaction by all our Missionaries, is the increased respect in which our work in India is held by the native princes and by other men of position and influence. No doubt this is partly due to the attitude of the British Government toward Christianity, but probably still more to the very manifest usefulness of our medical, educational and other philanthropic and moralizing work among the natives. Wherever the British flag goes the Bible goes, and with it "the form of sound words" in a venerable liturgy, a decent respect for Christianity, and protection for those who promulgate it. Especially in India the "King Emperor," as he is there termed, is an influential "Defender of the Faith."

In Hyderabad, a Hindu Maharajah who is a high officer at the Court of the Mohammedan Nizam sent his elephants to take the Missionaries and visitors of the South India Conference on a ride through the city, and to visit him at his palace, where we were all presented to him personally, served with tea and other refreshments, and escorted through the rooms of the palace.

At our next Conference in Baroda, the Gaekwar (or King) of that native State, who, during the past year, had with his queen made an extensive tour through America, from which he had been back only three weeks, showed us distinguished attention. By previous arrangement, the ladies of our party called upon the Maharani (or queen) and were shown through the rooms of the palace, which is the most splendid in India, and which is excelled in architectural beauty and fine adornment by very few palaces in Europe. The next day the four bishops present, with some of the visitors and missionaries, were received by the King and prince at the palace, and on the day following he, with his chief officers of State, and a considerable number of the foremost citizens of Baroda, attended a garden party arranged by our missionary ladies, spent a considerable time in free conversation with us all, and partook of refreshments with us. Bishop Robinson made a brief address to the Gaekwar, most felicitously referring to his good will to our work, which reference he, in a brief reply, most cordially accepted, assuring us of his respect and favor. Among those present were the prime minister, one of the judges of the High Court of Baroda, and the assistant English resident.—*Bishop Foss, of the Methodist Episcopal Church.*