

which is true? With breath almost gone, and eyes darting out of their sockets, he answered over and over again, "Jesus is true though you kill me."

Dr. Bruce, who has been a missionary to Moslems at Julfa in Persia for twenty-five years, told us a short time ago that the translation of the Bible and Prayer Book had been made for them and that about thirty Moslems were attending school with 400 Armenian children, the hatred which formerly existed between Christian and Moslem having largely been done away; but the latest advices tell us of an outbreak of persecution at Julfa, the converts having been thrown into prison.

The Moslems are more converting than converted, they push their own belief on every occasion, never being ashamed of speaking of, and glorying in their religion. Funds are freely supplied for large missionary colleges where students attend by hundreds and "which are the source and mainstay of a vast missionary enterprise of which we know little or nothing." (*Sir Fred Goldsmid.*) The C.M.S. has missions to Moslems in Cairo, Baghdad and Julfa, besides giving great attention to the work in Palestine, Africa and India. Many converts have been gained in India, but as yet only about 300 from other parts. They have been the most obstinate, but now there seems to be an opening for reaching them, who were closed hitherto. Pray for them, that is what we can do.

INDIA.

The consideration of Mohammedanism leads us to concentrate our view on India, where 57,000,000 of this persuasion dwell, one-fifth of the whole population. What a population this is, 287,000,000! In some parts of Bengal having 1000 people to the square mile, the average of the Ganges valley being 500 to the square mile! Surely we must pause here, when it is reckoned that one-fifth of the inhabitants of the whole world *live in India*! The simple *increase* of population in ten years being more than the whole population of England and Wales. Of the 2,600,000 native Christians in India, 1 in 100 heathen, only about 1 in 1,000 belong to the Church of England. What a work there is before us!

Of the Brahman priests alone there are 20,000,000. These, being the learned men, and looked upon as the viceregerents of the Divinities, possess great influence: their system has lasted some 3000 years or since the days that King Saul reigned in Israel.

The Buddhists look back to Guatama, 560 B.C., who claimed to be Buddha—the enlightened one, whom they regard as the Incarnation of Vishnu. That their "enlightenment" has proved to be great darkness may be proved by the failure to raise the lower classes from their

devil worship, and which Sir Wm. Hunter terms their "ignorance and savagery."

Caste is the Hindu's environment which forms the greatest obstacle of the Christian missionary; there are endless subdivisions of the four great castes, and to "loose caste" is equal to rigid excommunication.

To meet all this, and much more which cannot even be touched upon, what have we as a church? 478 ordained English missionaries, 272 ordained native missionaries, 1243 lay readers, and 580 churches, and "What are they among so many?"

We can only say that it is our small offering of faith and obedience to be multiplied a hundred fold we trust before long.

For the *whole Church is awakening*. See the Missionary Conference held in London, when Archbishop Benson in a thrilling opening speech, said, "I do look forward to the great time when the Christian Church will be awakened to a fuller sense of its responsibility. At present the societies are the mission conscience of the Church. They are the only people in the Church who have recognized their responsibility; the work is theirs, and God's great blessing is upon them, because they are the Church's conscience in the matter of Missions. . . They are doing to the utmost of their power the great work of endeavoring to make the whole church feel its responsibility. When that responsibility is felt, and when missions are a *universally felt duty*, then I do not think the candlesticks of the societies will be removed, but to a great extent their work will be changed. Meantime we must work through the societies with all our might. We must support their noble work,—and we may with all faith prepare ourselves for the day when the Church shall be her own mission society."

Bishop Barry, says, "Our duty is clearly marked out for us. What is needed is a more general understanding that for our church, and in this country missionary interest is not a matter of individual taste and choice, which one may take up and another pass by, but a duty which belongs to the church as a church, and therefore to *all* her members, without exception, in virtue of their membership."

Again, Bishop Lightfoot, "Missions of the 19th century have been in no sense a failure. But I seem to see the advent of a still more glorious future, if we only nerve ourselves to renewed efforts. During the past we have only been learning our work as a Missionary Church. At length experience is beginning to tell. India is our special charge as a Christian nation. India is our hardest problem as a Missionary Church. We must make up our minds to this. We must become Indians to the Indians, if we would win India to Christ."

(To be continued.)