

Even the secular press is now presenting the testimony to missions. One of the most intelligent women of our acquaintance, herself both a diligent student and a powerful advocate of missions, writes: "It is just to bring out such glorious 'vindications of missions' that Canon Taylor, and men like him, are allowed to make their assaults. I should not be sorry if another Canon should try his hand, if only to draw out this counterfire again." Since this spirit of antagonism began to be especially manifested, two or three years ago, we have read article after article on missions, and sometimes in their vindication, from quarters where we did not expect a plea in their favor. The *Indian Evangelical Review* says:

"In the higher periodical press, for example *Murray's Magazine* for August, 1887, is an article on the 'Church of the British Empire;' the *Quarterly Review* of July, 1886, gives as many as 36 pages to 'Modern Christian Missions.' *The National Review* of June, 1887, on 'The Foreign Missions of the Church of England,' the *Asiatic Quarterly* of January, 1887, on 'The Wellesleys in India,' the *Contemporary Review* of July, 1886, on 'India Revisited,' the *Nineteenth Century* of November, 1887, on 'British Missions in Africa,' the *Standard* of October 26, 1887, the *Daily Telegraph* of 3rd November, 1887, the *Times* of 29th and 30th October, 1886, and 24th August, 1887, and the *Saturday Review* of 4th December, 1886, all give strong testimony in favor of missions and devote much of their editorial space to their advocacy. In the correspondence of Members of Parliament, as that of Mr. W. S. Caine, M. P. for the Barrow-in-Furness, in the lectures of retired Anglo-Indians, as in Sir W. Hunter's lecture of the 'Religions of India,' and in Government reports and resolutions as in that published in the *Gazette of India* in January, 1888, on education, morals, and religion, will be found conclusive evidence of the growing influence missions have acquired and are exercising over modern thought. Even fault finding, when done in a good spirit, is encouraging."

Of late the appearance of such articles in the secular press is even more frequent, owing to the greater frequency, and we may add malignity, of the assaults made on missions. Perhaps in no one year of the modern Christian era have more vindications of mission work been put before the public eye than during the year just closed. Thoughtful men in every rank and calling of life are beginning to ask and answer such questions as that propounded by J. P. Lesley in the *Forum*: "Shall We Call Him Master?" and on purely scientific grounds Mr. Lesley concludes, "His name is above every name, the most precious legacy of time to the ages." The Rev. E. E. Jenkins says:

"I was thinking the other day whether I could find out one single force, acting for the benefit of the human race, that did not come from the Cross—that had not its origin from the Cross. I can not find one. Who discovered the interior world of Africa, and set in motion the intellect of that people and made them an intelligent people? Missionaries. Who has solved the problem of preaching liberty to the women of India? Missionaries and their wives. Who first brought into modern geography the hidden lands and rivers of China—unsealed for inspection the scholarship and opened for the enrichment of commerce the greatest empire of the East? Missionaries.