

truth. Although, in the actual prosecution of missionary labor, not only in Benares, but also in other places in India, there are many difficulties and discouragements to encounter, both in the opposition of idolaters, and in the not unfrequent inconsistency of native christians, yet the results are most extensive and extraordinary. Considering the small amount of money which has been expended, the limited means which have been employed, and the brief space of time which has elapsed since the missionary enterprise was inaugurated in the sacred city, and bearing in mind, likewise, the stern fact that christianity has there met with the fiercest and most determined opponents, that it is the great seat of caste prejudice and priestly domination, that it is the chief and acknowledged bulwark of idolatry and superstition in all India, and that, in short, Hinduism has there sat enthroned in the midst of pomp and power, sustained by the learning and subtlety of the Bramans, and by the wealth and authority of rajas and princes, from all parts of the country, for a period stretching over many ages, it is most surprising that so much has been achieved. India is undergoing an intellectual and also a moral and religious revolution. The past is slowly losing its bewitching influence over the public mind. The Hindu dares to think, and has ever dared—though he lacks the courage to act up to new convictions—yet the inspiration of earnestness has entered his breast; and, as his convictions become fixed and definite, he will, I doubt not, fling away from him the weight of prejudice and custom, which has oppressed him so cruelly and so long. I venture, then, to predict a future for India of great glory and lustre. And why should not Benares still hold a foremost place in her history? Why should she not take the lead of all Indian cities, as she has ever done, and show, by her example, and for their imitation, how she can abolish useless social burthens, can abandon exploded errors, and can accept the truth in all its forms; how she can strive after and attain

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