

would not be much the wiser for anything that could be said now respecting it, within the limits of a single discourse.

The few general statements on which we have ventured will serve their purpose, if they leave on our minds the impression that the visitation which we deplore has been widely diffused in its general character, and intensely agonising in particular cases; if they help us to realize more vividly the analogy that we have been tracing between British India and the whole British empire as connected with it at the present time, on the one hand, and the congregation of Israel at the time referred to in the text, on the other; if they lead us to see and constrain us to admit the propriety with which the former may now take to itself the name that the latter gave to the place where they then were, the place of "weepers," "*Bochim*." And,

Why has British India and the British empire been converted into a *Bochim*? For the same reason that the camp of Israel was. "The angel of the Lord," the Lord himself, as we have already explained, comes up to us, charged with the same message that he delivered to them. And in further discoursing from this message, there are *three* points to which your attention shall be briefly directed, viz.. The *sins* committed; the *punishment* inflicted; and the *repentance* exhibited.

*First*—The sins committed. Sepoy treachery, Hindoo superstition, and heathenish cruelty were only the *secondary* causes of the Indian mutiny. Its real, active, and ultimate cause is to be sought for elsewhere—it is to be found in *sin*. All suffering is the result of sin, for "God does not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men." And when special sufferings are inflicted, when signal judgments are experienced, it becomes those who are visited with them to seek out, if haply they may discover, their special cause, the particular sins of which they are sent as the appropriate punishment. In these Indian calamities, God has been applying the rod to us, as he frequently did to his ancient people. Like them, we have been unfaithful to our trust, forgetful of our obligations; and confronting us now, as he did them at *Bochim*, his lan-