

the Punjaub, and the armies of Madras and Bombay have, in the midst of the strongest temptations, been nobly loyal. Wherever the people of India were not overawed by the threats and presence of the armed miscreants, they have relieved the destitution of our poor refugees, and hidden them from the search of the murderer. That kind assistance, rendered when no other earthly help was near, has been the salvation of many from outrage and death. It is also to be taken as a strong evidence that our rule had been just and merciful, and was well appreciated by the people who enjoyed its advantages. It helps to show that our calamities were to a great extent undeserved, and that the rage of our enemies was not influenced by those provocations of cruelty, tyranny and insult, which writers who have had every means of knowing better, have laid to our charge. The whole subject, it is true, has yet to be sifted ; but I don't believe that our present impressions will be materially altered by any future discoveries. When the scene and the story of this tragedy are examined in the light of fuller information and with the power of calmer reason than we can yet command, I have no fear that they will reveal anything that the ablest defenders of the Sepoys would dare to call a justification of their mutiny, much less of their ineffable brutality. When our soldiers have put out the last spark of this lurid conflagration,—have taken down the gibbets and cleared from the field of slaughter all the relics of this avenging war—then it will be well to invite the criticisms and the accusations of those who have said that we provoked this contest, by our own iniquity raised up that spirit of disgusting violence in the land, and therefore have deserved all the calamities by which we were at first overtaken. For such accusers will have to show how a population of one hundred and fifty millions, galled by oppression, and swayed by fanaticism, yet let the hour of revenge go by. We don't want to know why they have borne our yoke so