

All are agreed that Hinduism must go. But the decay of Hinduism is not the advance of Christianity. Here is the crying necessity for the persistent activity of the Church. There are four distinct and divergent trends in India: 1. The restoration of pure Vedic Hinduism. 2. Christian reform that accepts the ethics of Jesus but ignores Christ. 3. Agnosticism, which is gaining tremendous force. 4. A growing movement toward true Christianity.—*Dr. Chamberlain.*

#### LIVING LIKE THE NATIVES.

The Rev. J. N. Forman, of the American Presbyterian Mission in India, has been trying to live down to the social condition of the Hindus. He has lived in a room 14 by 8 feet, with a veranda on which his cooking was done. In food and dress he also sought to get as near the people as possible. He meant the self-abasement to be a means to the end of the more successful winning of the people to Christ. He tried the experiment in three different places, fairly and fully.

He now abandons it, asserting that the ordinary way of missionary living is far more successful in winning men to Christ. At present many who are willing that the missionaries should make sacrifices rather than themselves, are demanding that they live as the natives do. Over and over again has this been attempted, and owing to the inability of Westerners to live in Oriental style, health has given way, or it has resulted, as with Mr. Forman, in a downright failure to achieve the end of missions.—*Ex.*

#### THE JEWS AND BABYLON.

Two Jews of Bagdad have lately purchased all the land on which ancient Babylon stood. That Babylon by whose waters the Jews in exile wept and prayed is now the property of those who, in their despair, hanged their harps upon the trees that are therein. All that remains of palaces and "hanging gardens" in that city where Daniel was cast into the den of lions, and "the three children" into the fiery furnace, is now held in fee by Hebrews.

We have here another illustration of the marvelous tenacity of the ancient chosen race. The Jews have survived all the races and civilizations which clustered about the capitol of the mighty Babylonian Empire. Though in their long history the predictions of the prophets have been fulfilled, and the cup of suffering has been drunk to the dregs, their permanence has not been affected.

On the other hand, the powers who became their conquerors and oppressors have fallen one by one. Assyria and Babylon perished ages ago; the Greek power waned and passed away; the Roman Empire is gone; but the Hebrew race is indestructible. In the race itself is fulfilled the old legend of the Wandering Jew doomed to survive the rise and fall of nations till the last great day.—*Ex.*

#### TIME MARRIAGE IN PERSIA.

A missionary in Persia writes to an exchange about what is known in Persia as the *mulata*, "a legal authorized transaction which is among the greatest abominations of any country or any age."

Speaking of the women who work in the rice fields in Maazanderan, she says:—

A man who owns a field, instead of hiring laborers, marries eight or ten, or as many women as he needs to do the work. He marries them for the few months that there is work, and then divorces them.

During the winter, each goes somewhere else and becomes the wife of some other man, or finds work, or begs, and at the beginning of the next rice season they often come back and re-marry the same man. These poor women work all day in the hot sun, in mud two to three feet deep, often with babies strapped to their backs.

In Persia there are two kinds of marriages: one, where the people are married until they grow tired of each other, then they easily get a divorce. The other way, the man takes a wife for three days, a month, a year, or as long as he pleases to contract for, and until this time has expired he can not divorce her."

#### HORRORS IN ARMENIA.

The horrors of many of the massacres in Armenia are far beyond the possibility of pen to describe. Young men were bound, heaped in piles, covered with brushwood, and burned alive. In one case women, from sixty to one hundred and sixty in number, were shut up in a church, the soldiers let loose upon them, and they were all killed, or worse than killed. Children were piled one on the other, and their heads struck off, or they were placed in a row, one behind another, and a bullet fired down the line to see how many could be killed with one bullet.

Groups of the Kurds would tie a man, throw him on the ground, squat around him, and hack him to pieces.

A chain was placed around a priest's neck and pulled several times, the fiends choking him and again reviving him, until finally, planting bayonets upright in the ground, they threw him in the air and let him fall upon them. People were crowded into houses which were set on fire, those who tried to escape being thrust back. Children were pulled apart by their legs. Three or four hundred women were hacked to pieces together in one narrow space. Living bodies were piled in with wood, which was saturated with kerosene, and set on fire.

In one place a soldier took pity on a beautiful baby, and was minded to give it back to its mother, but she had been made insane by the scenes around her, and did not recognize it. And the terrible things that can be told are as nothing to the horrors that it would not be seemly to tell.—*Golden Rule.*