

state attended by numerous followers. He professes to have forsaken the world, but takes the world comfortably enough. Contradictions, either in logic or in practice, raise little difficulty in the Hindu mind.

From Rampura we turned our faces homewards. The most important city on the way is Manasia, a thriving trade centre belonging to the Indore state. Through the interference of the officials we were not allowed to preach there last year, but as there had been a change of ruler since, we hoped to succeed this time. Our hope was vain. The days of the Holi, an indescribably wicked festival, were just upon us. At this season a spirit of uncleanness takes complete possession of the Hindus. Then it is utterly impossible to do any work in the bazar. The filthiest abuse is bandied back and forth, and deeds too vile for mention done, and all in the service of their gods.

Only once were we permitted to speak. Scarcely had the catechist opened his lips on our evening visit when a hubbub arose that ended in the usual hootings and casting of dust and gravel. We made repeated attempts to get a hearing in the bazar, but in vain. The people were in no mood to hear of sacred things, and we had to turn away. Some quiet work, however, was done in the mahallahs or wards, but no public preaching was allowed.

So we hastened home. We had made a circuit of about two hundred miles. We had preached in scores of villages, but had to leave as many more unvisited. When we trace with a red line on the map the places we have visited, and then look at the rest of Central India and see the vast extent of country where no herald of the Cross has yet gone, we say "who is sufficient for these things?"

Possibly some, looking at the apathy of the people, or their opposition, and the many difficulties in the way, may be in danger of losing heart. But we who are in the midst of them and realize them most, are not disheartened. We know that His Word is true who said "It shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and prosper in the thing whereto I sent it," "God shall bless us, and all the ends of the earth shall fear Him."

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*Necmich.*