

zenanas, who can never, by any chance, unless through the lady, or the lady medical missionary, be reached by the Gospel.

The life of woman in India is epitomized in the following true statement, made by one of their own nation: "The daughters of India are *unwelcomed* at their birth, *untaught* in childhood, *enslaved* when married, *accursed* as widows, and *unlamented* when they die." Let the women of Bible lands look down from the high plane upon which they stand, and strive, by the introduction of the Gospel of Christ, which is the basis of all liberty, to lift from the degradation of a slave's life the women of heathen lands.

Two great hindrances to mission work in India, are, the early marriages of the women, and enforced widowhood. The attention of the Woman's Missionary Boards, both in the United States and Canada, have this year been directed to these two great evils, and a movement is at present on foot, which we trust will result in memorializing Her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Victoria and Empress of India, on this most important subject. It is highly necessary that, the movement be universal, and the expectation is that the societies of all the Evangelical Churches will move simultaneously in the matter.

The question is often asked, Is missionary enterprise a paying investment? Is the return in any way equal to the amount expended? We reply by asking, What is the value of an immortal soul? One who knew, makes a statement, and from it we infer that one soul is of more value than the whole world. Protestant Christendom expends to-day the sum of \$7,500,000 for missions annually; and what is the *return*? 20,000 converts in Burmah; 20,000 in China; 4,000 in Japan; in South Africa 35,000 communicants, and a Christian population of 180,000; in Fiji the missionaries have won a population of over 100,000, previously cannibals; in India nearly 80,000 female pupils are under Christian instruction. This is but a small part of what is being done, and yet we ask, Does mission work pay? Christian women of the United States are contributing about \$1,000,000—one-tenth of the amount they expend upon kid gloves—annually, to Foreign Missions. Mrs. Murray Mitchell tells us that, in India alone, there are thousands of women who are *hidden* Christians, and yet we ask, Will this work for the women of heathen lands pay?