

manufacture and trade in whiskey within our Dominion in defiance of our laws ; and that on our authorities attempting to enforce our laws, the American authorities should invade our borders and burn our cities. Would not every one regard it as a cowardly and brutal outrage ? This is exactly what the British Government did, to its eternal disgrace, and what it continues to do under the mercenary plea that the revenue of India requires to be maintained by the sale and export to China of an article which is so injurious to its inhabitants. Is it any wonder that the Chinese regard with suspicion the missionaries of such a people.

It appears to be certain, however, that while the authorities in China were trying to suppress the foreign trade in opium, they did not, or could not, put a stop to the home cultivation of the drug. The increase of production by the Chinese has diminished the consumption of Indian opium in China, and, therefore, "the Indian Government with an inspiration which seems to come from the pit, has been creating a taste for the drug, and extending the area of human misery and utter destruction, by the issue of licences for the sale of opium all over India, and in Burmah." The Government in India advances money for the cultivation of the poppy, receives and manufactures the juice into opium for the market, sells it by public auction in Calcutta, and makes it, in fact, a Government monopoly, from which it derives an immense revenue.

"The opium habit was spread in Burmah by a similar satanic device to that which has been so successful in China. Under native rule the punishment for using opium was death ; but with the introduction of British rule, organized efforts were made by agents to introduce the drug, and to create a taste for it by the rising generation. The general plan was to open a shop with a few cakes of opium, invite the young men, and distribute it to them gratuitously ; then, when the taste was