

another old laborer in the missionary vineyard, of the Independent Church, bearing around the blessed emblems of the Body and the Blood: and we all, in the "unity of the Spirit," receiving of these and making manifest the Brotherhood.

I would, brethren, that those of you who are alway delighting to say hard things of those who are separated from you only by your own fancies and dislikes, —ever saying "they left us, and let them humbly come back to us," instead of, in the spirit of love, blotting out the past, as we hope God has blotted out *our* past.—I would that for one day you could be isolated from the Christian world, and know what it is to be in the great and dark mountain ranges of heathenism *alone*, face to face with those who know not God, and who blaspheme that Holy Name whereby we are called. I say I would that you could thus be, for back you would go to your Christian fellowship in profound shame and sorrow for your own bitterness which you have been exalting into God's Truth, and your own dislikes and prejudices of childhood which you have been dishonoring God by exalting into "principles" and "zeal for the church," worshipping only the hates of self whilst the pretence has been the worship of the God of Love.

I do not think any of us who were there will ever forget the scene. The everlasting mountains speaking of Divine Power, frowning behind and before us; the memorials of Calvary, speaking of Love higher than the mountains of our sins and deeper than the depths of our sorrow; the Christian Communion of Saints a realized fact; a small army in an enemy's land under a blood-stained flag; we, laying aside every fact save that we all belonged to Him and gloried in being His slaves; the time was one of those in a man's life which gives inspiration, and on which we look back and remember that God came very nigh.

There is a great deal that I should like to write concerning this visit to the Himalayas: the style of natural beauty; the magnificent snow ranges glistening round an arc of some sixty degrees, in the morning sun, like pyramids of sparkling gems; the character of the stalwart hillmen, as unlike the men of the Plains as we are to Laplanders, alike in face, form, and physical endurance; the prospects presented for missionary operations amongst them.—a point of interest, seeing that the Church has resolved to begin a mission amongst them. On all these points and others, I should have liked to say something, but I have only space enough left to give a few words concerning the third topic I suggested at the beginning of this letter, viz.: the arrival, in Calcutta, of the Duke of Edinburgh.

About a fortnight ago, Calcutta began to fill up. The Governors of Bombay and Madras; some of the Parsee Merchant Princes from Bombay; the Maharajahs of Jeypore, Dholepore, Gwalior (the descendant of the Mahratta Chief, the "haughty Scindiah" who contested with us the possession of India at the battle of Assaye, where his power was overthrown by Col. Wellesley), and a host of others; Rajahs from all parts of the country; Zemindars, thick as leaves in autumn, from Bengal; Talookdars, from Oude; Commissioners from Mysore, Burmah, and Assam; and celebrities in "numbers numberless" of all kinds and sizes, from north, south, east and west;—all flocking to do honor to the son of the good Queen of the little Isle of a distant sea. Calcutta blazed and is still blazing with gold cloth and diamonds of the first water. All the chiefs have come with full pockets, and the European jewellers are having a glorious harvest. Presents have to be purchased to be given to the Viceroy and the Duke, and presents have to be purchased to be taken to the Begums and Ranees at home. Each one must pile as much wealth in gold, silver, or jewels, on his fat paunchy person (they are all gross, overfed, self-indulged looking fellows, are these native chiefs), as he possibly can, and each one must outdo the other if money can secure the pre-eminence; and the poor starved Ryots at home have the piper to pay, and must tighten the cummer-bund still an inch