

**ENGLAND'S MISSION TO
INDIA: SOME
IMPRESSIONS
FROM A RECENT VISIT**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649163144

England's mission to India: some impressions from a recent visit by Alfred Barry

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ALFRED BARRY

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ENGLAND'S MISSION TO INDIA

*SOME IMPRESSIONS FROM
A RECENT VISIT.*

BY THE
RIGHT REV.
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PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE TRACT COMMITTEE.

LONDON:
SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE,
NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE, W.C.; 43 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, E.C.
BRIGHTON: 125 NORTH STREET.
NEW YORK: E. & J. B. YOUNG & CO.

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PREFACE.

A CONSIDERABLE portion of the contents of this volume was originally written for the *Guardian*, and is here reprinted by the kind permission of the proprietors and editor of that paper. But the whole has been re-written, and very greatly enlarged.

It will be, of course, understood that it makes no claim to originality or authority; nor does it attempt any judgment whatever as to the various ways in which our Mission to India is now being discharged, more thoughtfully and more earnestly than ever. It is written simply for the information of Churchmen at home, who have little knowledge of the actual facts and opportunities, past and present, and who accordingly fail to realize the critical importance and urgency of the problem before us, which a short visit to India impressed on my own mind, as it had never been impressed before. I have tried

to make it, as far as it goes, an accurate presentation of the subject ; but I write under correction from those who have fuller knowledge.

My one object is to bring home to Churchmen generally, so far as I may, a stronger sense of the extraordinary greatness of our Mission, and of the universal duty and responsibility, which it lays upon us all. If it should stir any readers to serious thought and inquiry on these important subjects—if it should in any degree help to increase the encouragement and support, given from home to those who are labouring in the singularly arduous work of our Church in India—it will be to me a cause of the deepest thankfulness. Never did the old motto of the S. P. G.—“Come over and help us”—address itself more emphatically to the Church of England, than in the cry which comes to us on behalf of the two hundred and eighty millions of our Indian Empire, committed under God’s Providence to our charge.

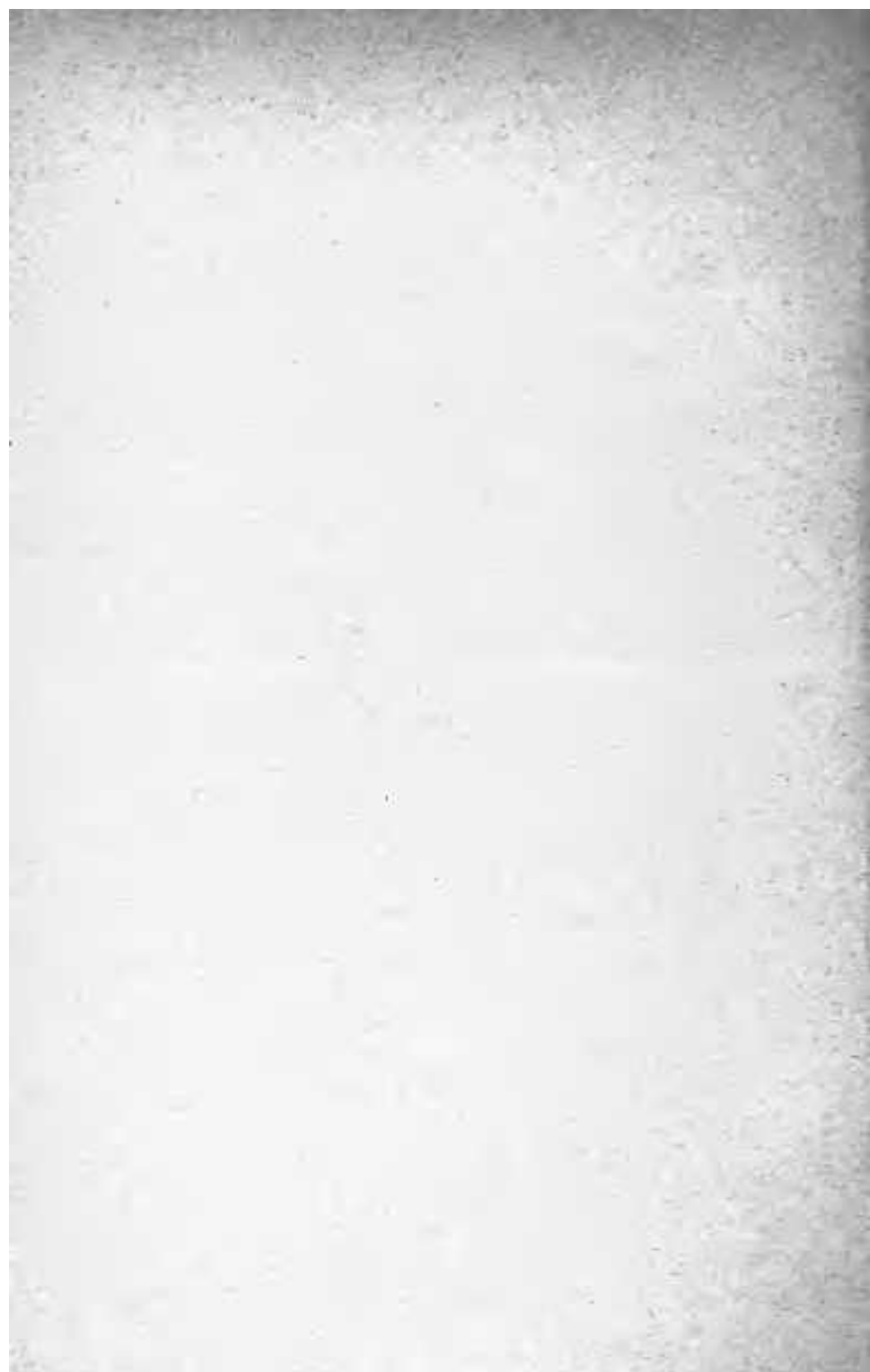
ALFRED BARRY.

THE CLOISTERS, WINDSOR CASTLE.

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ENGLAND'S MISSION TO INDIA.



CHAPTER I.

IMPRESSIONS OF INDIAN LIFE.

The conditions of our Mission to India.—The pervading English influence in the cities and in the villages.—The infinite variety of race and character and civilization in the native races, and the corresponding variety of religions.—The educated minority and the uneducated mass of the people; tendency to agnosticism in the former, and the strong hold of native religions on the latter.—The responsibility and the glory of our Indian Empire.

IN these pages I can only attempt to give some brief account of the impressions derived during a recent tour of about three months in Southern and Northern India, beginning