

**A BRIEF REVIEW OF TEN YEARS'
MISSIONARY LABOUR IN INDIA
BETWEEN 1852 AND 1861,
PREPARED FROM LOCAL
REPORTS AND ORIGINAL LETTERS**

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A Brief Review of Ten Years' Missionary Labour in India Between 1852 and 1861, Prepared from Local Reports and Original Letters by Joseph Mullens

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BY

JOSEPH MULLENS, D.D.

MISSIONARY OF THE LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY IN CALCUTTA.

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1863.

"Then said I, Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof. And another angel said unto him . . . Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls, for the multitude of men and cattle therein."

"This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts . . . For who hath despised the day of small things?"

A BRIEF REVIEW,

. &c. &c.

I. The material progress of India in the last 10 years,

DURING the last ten years our Indian Empire has made a gigantic stride on the path of real progress. Whether we look to the production of its material wealth, the character and extent of its trade, the machinery of its government, its internal communications, or its intercourse with foreign lands, in each and all of these elements of its position, we find solid and substantial advance. It has added largely to the number of its subjects, has provided increased resources for their material happiness, and fresh endeavours have been made to secure for all the enjoyment of those resources in honour, safety, and freedom.

The year 1832 opened in the midst of the Burmese War. The month of April saw the capture by English soldiers of the great Pagoda-Fort of Rangoon, followed in August by the taking of Prome; the Province of Pegu was annexed to the English Empire: the sea-coast of Burmah in an unbroken line from Chittagong to Mergui was placed in English hands; and the crushed population of the new province, Talaings, Khyens, and Karens, relieved from the cruel oppressions of a hundred years, found in the Chief Commissioner, Colonel Phayre, a friend whose only study has been to make them forget the past, and raise them to the position of free men.

In the following year, by a treaty with the Nizam, the assigned districts of the fertile province of Berar were given to the East India Company in payment of long-standing claims; the valuable province of Nagpore fell into their hands for want of a ruler; and two years later the province of Oude, in consequence of the alleged neglect of its native King, was annexed to the Empire in Upper India. These additions of territory, with the then-recent conquest of the Punjab, and the forfeiture of the principalities of Jhansi and Sattara, in the brief space of seven years added to the Empire four millions of annual revenue, and brought beneath its sway with all the heavy

£ 4,000,000 of annual revenue!^B
22,000,000 of subjects!

*Pegu
annexed*

*Berar
+
Nagpore
+
Oude
annexed
v. v.*

responsibilities of government, more than twenty-two millions of subjects, a population equal to that of the newly constituted kingdom of Italy, and one-third that of the entire Empire of Russia.

*Indian
Government
greatly
improved*

In 1853, Parliamentary inquiry initiated several important changes in the form of the Indian Government. Bengal, so long neglected, obtained a Lieutenant-governor. The small Council of India, with its written minutes and huge despatch-boxes, gave place in legislative matters to a Council of Twelve, including two English judges, with representatives from all the Presidencies of India, holding its debates in the presence of the public, and publishing an official account of its proceedings. To this Council, which sat for six years, the country is indebted for some of the most valuable laws ever passed in India, amongst which, prominent above all others, stand the Penal Code, and the Codes of Civil and Criminal Procedure. The Codes of Procedure, intended to cure in some measure what has been from the first the great reproach of the Company's Government, the utter inefficiency of the Courts of Law, were prepared by the Law Commission appointed in London in 1853, and are one of the valuable fruits of the Parliamentary inquiry of that year. The three Codes are an enduring monument of the wisdom and skill of the able and experienced men by whom they were elaborated; they are a gift of the highest value to our Indian subjects; and would have received far greater praise than was accorded them, had they not come into operation when other measures of the highest importance also claimed public regard.

*Civil, and
Medical
Services
competed for*

During this brief period the internal administration of the Empire has been revolutionised. That the Civil and Medical services, instead of being filled up by nominees, should be supplied by a competition, which sends from home the best men that the universities of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, can supply, is a trifling fact compared with the changes which all departments of government have undergone in the country itself.

*non-regulation
scheme
of Govt.
extended*

The great extension of the non-regulation system of government; the abundant scope given to the energy, self-reliance, and judgment of the able officers, the choicest men of both services, by whom it was carried out; with the vast sums from the Imperial Treasury placed at their command; and the stimulus produced by the personal example and weight of Lord Dalhousie, proved most powerful instruments in supplying to the Presidency of Bengal a larger number of earnest, sagacious, and successful administrators, than had previously been formed by the quiet routine system of other years; and imparted a tone and spirit to the official classes generally which were felt over

the entire range of the Bengal Provinces from Peshawur to Mergui.

Under the same Governor-General all officers of government in civil employ were divided into grades; and a system of examinations was instituted by which the fitness of all might be tested; in order to ensure, so far as knowledge of regulations and of the native tongues can do, that the highest responsibilities in the administration of justice shall be devolved only upon the men most competent to fulfil them. Few things have been so perseveringly pressed upon all officers of government in recent years, as the necessity of knowing well the language of the people over whom they rule. The principle of divided responsibility also was in important cases set aside by the breaking up of the Military Board, and the consolidation of the Boards of Revenue and Opium. With a view to secure privileged enjoyments for the services thus improved, the regulations for leave were adapted to the times, and to the increased facilities furnished by steam-voyages ^{fo.} making brief visits to our native land.

In certain social questions the Government continued to press forward the reforms advocated and commenced in previous years. Systematic murder by the Thuggee system was attacked with great energy in the Punjab, where it extensively prevailed, and, as in former days in Upper India, was successfully put a stop to. Gang-robbery by organised bands; the slavery system in the Hindu kingdom of Travancore; occasional cases of Suttee in native states; the sacrificial murder of children among the Khonds, have all been steadfastly opposed—the last even at the expense of the lives of valued officers, whose visits to the feverish tracts of Orissa, where the evil flourished, were invariably followed by illness, and not seldom by death. No measures of this class were more remarkable than the earnest efforts of the Punjab officers to stay the fearful infanticide prevalent among the Rajpoots; and the great meetings held at Amritsir in 1853, when the chiefs of Rajpoot society, there assembled, engaged to save the lives of their female infants, and to reduce the marriage expenses by which the infanticide was fostered, will long be remembered as an important era in the cause of humanity among that powerful race.

It is specially during this important decade that measures of the largest kind have been taken for drawing all parts of India much nearer to each other, and for bringing the empire within a shorter distance of home. Till recently railways were unknown in India; but the great minute of the Governor-General secured for them an extensive introduction into all the

*Examinations
for Govt. office*

Reforms:
1. Thuggee in the Punjab -
2. Gang-robbery
3. Slavery in Travancore
4. Suttee in the States
5. Sacrifice of children in Orissa
6. Child-murder in Rajpootana

All parts of India brought nearer to each other & India to us by Railroads and Steam &

The 4,600 miles of Trunk lines planned & nearly completed at a cost of \$55,000,000, connecting Bombay with Calcutta, & bringing England nearer by 5 days.