THE GOSPEL AND THE PLOW: OR, THE OLD GOSPEL AND MODERN FARMING IN ANCIENT INDIA

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The Gospel and the Plow: Or, the Old Gospel and Modern Farming in Ancient India by Sam Higginbottom

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SAM HIGGINBOTTOM, M.A.

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1921

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THE ONE WITHOUT WHOSE UNFAILING COUR-AGE, GOOD-TEMPER, FAITH IN GOD AND IN ME, THIS BOOK COULD NEVER HAVE BEEN WEIT TEN: TO THE HELF-MEET AND PARTNER IN ALL THE STRUGGLES REPRESENTED HEREIN "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left." Isaiah 30:21.

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"Neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways." Isaiah 55: 8-9.

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PREFACE

This book is written at the request of the publishers who asked me to put into book form some lectures delivered at Princeton Theological Seminary. There is more in the book than the lectures. However, I feel that so little has been accomplished in India of all I set out to do, that this book is little more than a report of progress and there is really little justification for such a volume. There is a growing interest in the non-theological aspects of Foreign Missions and this production may serve some purpose in drawing attention to the need for other than the ordained missionary to help the backward peoples of the far countries. Those who are intimately acquainted with my work in India may feel that I have ignored altogether or slurred over some of the greatest difficulties to be faced in the establishment of such an institution as is contemplated at Allahabad.

It is said that I speak only of the high spots, tell only of the successes, write as though there were no humiliating failures to record. This is largely true. But any one familiar with the practical conduct of affairs knows that there are difficulties and lions in the way, that there is friction and clash of will, that there are sharp differences of opinion before any worthwhile program is carried out. So much so has this been my experience that I have come to see that the only place on earth where men are gathered together without friction is the ceme-

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PREFACE

tery. It is not altogether loss to be blind to some of the "insoluable problems." I have found that some of these with infinite patience, no bitterness of spirit or of jealousy, led by His spirit, can be made most useful. We are told that the mountains shall be a way, the seeming barriers shall be the paths to progress, so that I do not despair of seeing not only a new heaven, but also a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Therefore in hope and great expectancy I daily pray and work that His Kingdom may come here and now.

SAM HIGGINBOTTOM.

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Radnor Road Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Dec. 27, 1920.

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