

**CATHOLIC MISSIONS  
IN SOUTHERN INDIA  
TO 1865**

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Catholic missions in southern India to 1865 by W. Strickland & T. W. M Marshall

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**W. STRICKLAND & T. W. M MARSHALL**

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TO 1865**



# CATHOLIC MISSIONS

IN

## SOUTHERN INDIA

TO 1865.

BY

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TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE UP TO THIS TIME GENEROUSLY  
CONTRIBUTED TO ASSIST THE MISSION OF MADURA IN SOUTHERN  
INDIA, IN ORDER TO SHOW THE GOOD FRUIT PRODUCED BY  
THEIR ALMS, AND TO SOLICIT FURTHER CHARITIES FROM ALL  
INTERESTED IN CATHOLIC FOREIGN MISSIONS, THIS LITTLE BOOK  
IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED, BY THEIR OBEDIENT SERVANTS,

LOUIS ST. CYR, S.J.,

*Twenty-three years Missioner, Madura;*

AND

WILLIAM STRICKLAND, S.J.,

*Twelve years Military Chaplain.*





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materials have also been furnished by Mr. Marshall, author of *Christian Missions*, and are incorporated in some of the chapters, which, in compliance with the request made to him, he has been kind enough to write. The time available for the actual writing of the book has been, by unforeseen circumstances, reduced to a very few weeks, so as to secure its appearance before the end of the month of June. It is, therefore, hoped that imperfections of style, which will doubtless appear in some of the chapters, will be kindly pardoned by an indulgent public, more interested in the facts related than in the manner in which they are told.

The respective writers of the various chapters are indicated by their initials in the table of contents.

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# Catholic Missions in Southern India

TO 1865.

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## CHAPTER I.

### THE ENGLISH IN INDIA.

IN looking at the Map of the World, there is something astonishing in the consideration that the small spots called the British Islands should contain a people whose influence is felt all over the universe, and whose empire and possessions extend into every climate and into every part of the known world. By far the most valuable of these possessions, both for wealth and population, is the peninsula of Hindostan, containing at least 150,000,000 inhabitants in its vast plains, forests, and mountains. This immense country is peopled by a number of different races and nations, as distinct in personal appearance and language as the various nations of Europe; yet throughout there is a great similarity in manners and customs induced by the influence of the Brahminical religion, which prevails more or less over the whole continent of Hindostan.

The subdivision of the nation into castes, though under different names, prevails every where, and is every where materially the same. The caste of an individual is determined by his birth, and by birth alone; and it is this system of caste which is, as it were, the keystone of Hindoo social life. It has enabled the Hindoos to preserve their nationality, in spite of re-