THE GREAT VALUE AND SUCCESS OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

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The great value and success of foreign missions by John Liggins

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JOHN LIGGINS

THE GREAT VALUE AND SUCCESS OF FOREIGN MISSIONS



THE GREAT

VALUE AND SUCCESS

-or-

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

PROVED BY DISTINGUISHED WITNESSES:

BEING THE TESTIMONY OF DIPLOMATIC MINISTERS, CONSULS, NAVAL OFFICERS, AND SCIENTIFIC AND OTHER TRAVELERS IN HEATHEN AND MO-HAMMEDAN COUNTRIES;

TOGETHER WITH THAT OF

ENGLISH VICEROYS, GOVERNORS, AND MILITARY OFFICERS IN INDIA AND IN THE BRITISH COLONIES:

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LEADING FACTS AND LATE STATISTICS OF THE MISSIONS.

BY REV. JOHN LIGGINS

Author of "One Thousand Phrases in English and Japanese;" "England's Opium Policy," &c., &c.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

REV. ARTHUR T. PIERSON, D. D.

NEW YORK:
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THE BAKER & TAYLOR COMPANY.

INTRODUCTION.

This most timely book fits the need of the day, as ball fits socket, or tenon fits mortise.

To decry, or even deny, the good work done by heroic missionaries does not disprove it; the logic of events will convince any candid mind, and this book is simply a grand massing and marshalling of testimony.

Nehemiah, the model reformer and organizer, met manifold forms of antagonism. but, in face of apathy and lethargy on the part of Jews, and derisive ridicule and malicious enmity on the part of Horonite and Ammonite and Arabian, he held his tongue, kept his temper, minded his own business, and moved right forward, till the wall was built, the gates hung, and law and order were reestablished.

That ancient "repairer of the breach, and restorer of paths to dwell in," was not alone in his experience of opposition in doing his great and good work. "A light word is the Devil's keenest sword." There are many who are "willingly ignorant;" and if all that they do not know were put in print, the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. With a sublime disregard for the pin-point of

ridicule, and even the sharp shaft of sober and serious assault, we must carry on both the work of missions, and the kindred work of informing and enlightening those who do not shut their eyes to the light. Let us give the people the facts in abundance. To some they may become the fingers of God.

In this valuable volume, the high character and grand influence of Christian missions are established beyond a doubt. Hundreds of representative men and women, whose very names carry the weight of authority, from every class in the community, here take the stand as witnesses; and in the high court of the Judgment, command and compel a hearing. They speak what they know and testify what they have seen, and only those whom prejudice blinds, or hostility hardens, will refuse to receive such concordant witness.

Modern missions have nothing to fear from the harsh or hasty words of a few like Dr. Oscar Lenz, Winwood Reade, Sir Lepel Griffin, J. J. Monteiro, Mrs. Scott Stevenson, or even J. A. Froude and Canon Taylor; while such as R. H. Dana and J. P. Donovan, James Russell Lowell and Alfred Russell Wallace, R. N. Cust and James B. Angell, William Elliot Griffis and William Fleming Stevenson, Sir Bartle Frere and Sir Richard Temple, Lords Lawrence and Loftus, Northbrook and Napier, Generals Edwards, and Haig, Wallace and Wilson, Taylor and Gordon, Admirals Wilkes and Sullivan, Foote and Gore; nay, where Darwin no less than Dufferin, and

Keshub Chunder Sen no less than Constance Gordon-Cumming, feel constrained to testify to the priceless value and great success of Christian missions.

The days of supernatural signs have not passed away. God's Word does not return to Him void. Instead of the thorn comes up the fir-tree; instead of the brier comes up the myrtle tree; and this displacement, in the soil of society, of noxious and offensive growths of sin, by useful and fragrant trees of righteousness, is the unanswerable proof and sign of God's Husbandry—the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified. Such individual, social, spiritual tranformation shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off. The Church of Christ has only to go forth and preach everywhere. The Lord will work with and confirm the word with signs following. Amen.

ARTHUR T. PIERSON.

2320 Spruce St., Philadelphia, November, 1888.



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