

From The June Catholic World.

It is sad to think that, outside of their missions, properly so-called, the Jesuit Fathers succeed in converting but a comparatively small number to the Church. In the schools of the cities some Protestant children are converted; this is especially the case in the convent schools. But among the vast numbers of Hindu and Mohammedan students who attend the Jesuit colleges no advance in this direction has been made. All the ingenuity which Jesuit zeal could devise has hitherto proved useless. The Mohammedan is too proud of the superiority of his prophet to become a follower of Christ; the Hindu is too fickle and too much engrossed by the pleasures of life to accept the renunciation of the cross. Yet the Jesuits must keep open their colleges, even at the expense of their missions; for it is necessary to our religion to maintain in the opinion of the European and native in India that prestige which she has acquired, mainly by her educational institutions; it is only by so doing that she can hope to reach those that live in or near cities. It must, however, be said that the effort to convert the city population is of but recent origin. It began with the arrival in Calcutta of the Jesuits, who quickly perceived that the only way to make an impression on the educated classes was to raise the Church in their eyes by making her the channel of an education at least equal to any that could be procured outside her.

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