

Att. Willever

30 Dec. 88.

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Dear Father,

At church this morning I heard an address from Mr. Willie one of our Presbyterian missionaries at Indore; & he referred to the school question there. The Govt. schools are entirely "secular," & as a consequence destroy former beliefs & serve only to produce a race of infidels. Against this the people themselves are now rebelling. They prefer to send their children to mission schools where there is an hour of religious instruction every day, & where the Bible (in its entirety) is the text-book for learning to read from, rather than run the risk of having their

children brought up without morality
& probably becoming infidels. Even
without believing in Christianity they
regard the Bible as "the best known
system of morals" & wish the adv-
vantage of it. The govt schools
offer scholarships, & the prospect
of State employment; while the
mission schools have no advantages
to offer & have to charge fees!
I think the "Christians" of butaris
had better take a back seat &
let the Hindoo step to the front.

At some public examination
or prize-giving of one of the mission
schools, some Hindoo magnate urged
upon the boys the importance of
attending the Bible class, so great
is their fear of infidelity. I forget
the exact details of this incident.

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I thro^t it might interest you
to hear this account from a man
who has spent the last 9 years in
India & has had a chance to observe
& know ^{in case you may have any conversation} ~~of education~~ is to be
"secular" will with Sir Daniel about it.
Of education is to be "secular" will
they be consistent, and like the
French expunge the name of "God"
from every book that is ever to be
placed in the hands of a school child?

It is three centuries now since
Europe discovered Rome to be the
Antichrist; & yet we seem so ready
to put our hands in the Middle
Age manacles forged on the banks
of the Tiber. I wish we had half
the spirit of our forefathers, and
were willing to face another Spanish
armada rather than give up the

liberties they sacrificed their lives
to get for us.

With love to Mother; & wishing
you a happy New Year, your
affectionate son,

William.

I find the writing case you
have given me, very useful in-
deed & very convenient.