

NAYAH,
THE
LITTLE HINDOO CONVERTY.

RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY ;
56, Paternoster-row ; 164, Piccadilly,
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NAYAH, THE LITTLE HINDOO CONVERT.



INDIA is a sunny land, where many lovely hills, and valleys, and other sights are to be seen. But it is a land of sin and idolatry The Hindoos—which is the

name of the people who live there—have more gods than we could count in a whole day. They make images of these gods—large, ugly, painted blocks of wood. The chief one is called Bramah. He is made with four heads and four arms. In one hand he holds a page of a book; in the second, a spoon; in the third, a string of beads; and in the fourth, a small jug of water. These gods only fill the minds of the people with terror, for it is thought they delight in blood and cruelty. The worship of them leads into the practice of very great sin.

Some Christian men and women have gone to this land, that they may teach these heathen the folly of their ways, and lead them

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to know the true God—who is holy, merciful, and full of love; and schools have been set up, in which thousands of children are taught about the love of the Saviour to poor sinners. But will they listen to the truth? Oh yes, there are many who become “wise to salvation.” About one of these you shall now hear.

A little Hindoo girl, named Nayah, came to the school. Her parents had given her this name after their god Nayah, which is made in the shape of a serpent, and to which they offer sacrifices.

When Nayah had been in the school a short time, her friends took her away; for as the Hindoos do not set much value on teaching girls to read in a book,

they withdraw them from school on any little excuse. After a little while they brought her again, and then once more would not let her be taught. A third time she came to the school, when her mother said that she would place her with the teachers, to live with them always. They might teach her, and feed and clothe her, as their own child. Little Nayah was now very glad to live in the house with her kind friends, and to have them to teach and pray with her every day.

After a little while it was found that Nayah began to think about her sins, and to feel a great concern that Jesus would be her Saviour. She had learned many texts by heart, and was happy in

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being taught so many nice lessons. But one day her mother came to remove her. She wanted to take her away, never again to return to the school. The teachers spoke kindly and wisely to the mother, when she went away, leaving her little girl still with those who wished to see her become a Christian.

About this time a sum of money was sent to India, for the support of a girl in the mission school, who was to be called Maria Devonport. Sixty children in the town of Devonport, in England, agreed to pay a penny a week each; and this money, when it got to be a good sum, was sent to the teachers in India. The name of the scholar was to be that of the town from

whence the money was sent. Little Nayah, now thirteen years old, was the child chosen.

Nayah after this felt more than before that she was a sinner, and needed a new heart. She saw that the idols which her parents worshipped were false, and could not help her. But she knew that the God of her teachers heard prayer, and that all who called upon him should have pardon and grace given to them. She did pray to him, and was led to believe in Jesus as her only hope and her Redeemer. Now she wished to be called a Christian, and to be baptized.

The missionaries told her to wait, that it might be seen if she was truly a believer. Four months

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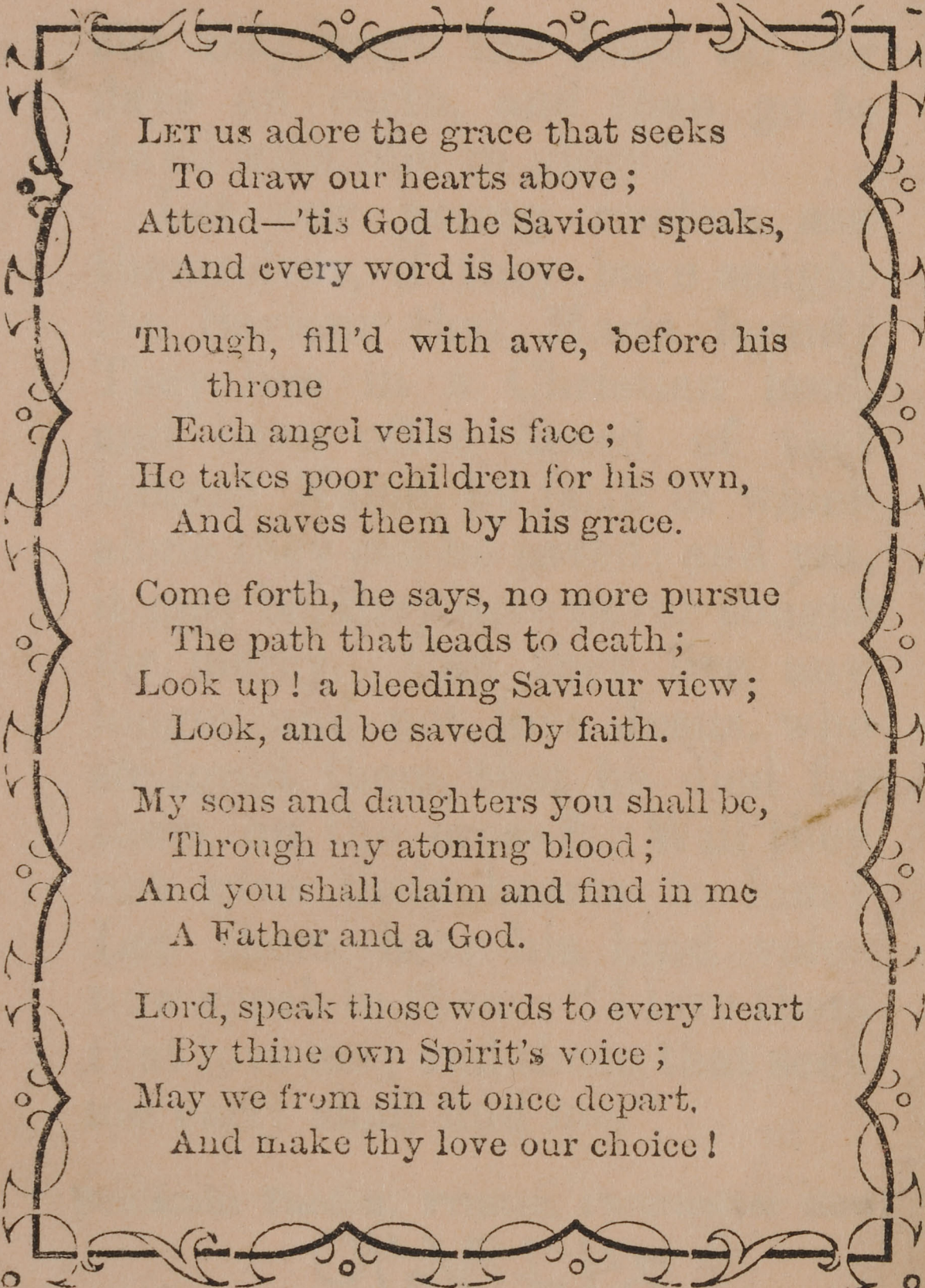
passed away, and then it was agreed that she should be baptized. That was a solemn day when the Hindoos came round the house, because she was going to own herself as one of the people of Christ. There was her mother, who wept over her, as though she were now a lost child; and others were full of anger against her. But she was calm and happy. She loved her mother, and would have obeyed her in almost anything; but she knew she must first obey her Lord, and own his name before all men.

The pious girl from this time went on her way, loving God, and keeping his laws. She is at this time under the care of the teachers; and who will not pray that

she may serve the Lord all her days on earth, and then go to dwell with him in glory?

Let our young readers ask themselves, if they have sought the Saviour that Maria found? They live in a Christian land, and have often heard of that blessed Name, by faith in which alone they can be saved; and yet, it may be, they have never sought for mercy. Can they live any longer, and not love Jesus, who so loved them, that he died for them on the cross? Will they not give their hearts to him? Let them hear his kind voice now speak to them: "I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me."

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LET us adore the grace that seeks
To draw our hearts above ;
Attend—'tis God the Saviour speaks,
And every word is love.

Though, fill'd with awe, before his
throne
Each angel veils his face ;
He takes poor children for his own,
And saves them by his grace.

Come forth, he says, no more pursue
The path that leads to death ;
Look up ! a bleeding Saviour view ;
Look, and be saved by faith.

My sons and daughters you shall be,
Through my atoning blood ;
And you shall claim and find in me
A Father and a God.

Lord, speak those words to every heart
By thine own Spirit's voice ;
May we from sin at once depart,
And make thy love our choice !