

Political power, missionary zeal and material resources are factors capable of creating popularity for anything under the sun, not to speak of a book like the Holy Bible. Christendom has had the benefit of all these three simultaneously. But the position of the Bhagavad Gita is different. The propagators of this book have never exploited extraneous powers for their purpose. The translators of this book were actuated by the noble urge that the great ideals contained in it were highly beneficial to humanity. Propagation of dogma, cult and creed comes under one category and the propagation of ideals and principles under another. That the Bhagavad Gita is an embodiment of life principles which are supremely above all cults and creeds is self-evident. The influence that it leaves in the mind of its student bears ample testimony to this fact. Let us take a striking case for example. The first English rendering of this book was done by the East India Company. Warren Hastings, the then Governor-General, had contributed a foreword to it. Happily his exact words are available to us. "These (writings of the inhabitants of India) will survive when the British Dominion in India shall have long ceased to exist, and when the sources which it once yielded of wealth and power are lost to remembrance." He alone can make this significant utterance, who has known the Law that governs human life. And the Bhagavad Gita teaches just those Laws and principles that govern human life. These Laws and principles require no patron or defender. Even without the aid of