

ment on this principle. In general, the officials of the government individually are kindly disposed towards the mission, having an open eye for its political importance, but they keep a strict neutrality in matters religious. Formerly the government showed a kind of fear for Islam, and always retreated, whenever an affair, according to Mohammedan contention, was supposed to touch the Mohammedan religion. Thus the Christian mission often was excluded or difficulties were put in its way for fear of the Mohammedans taking offense. This attitude government has abandoned entirely; the Christian mission is no longer excluded for fear of Islam.

“The effect of this former policy and attitude on Islam was that the government’s neutrality was explained by the Mohammedan natives of the Archipelago as born from fear of Islam. When the officials do not take sides for Christianity, the Mohammedan natives explain this to be proof of the superiority of Islam, which is allowed to proclaim its ideas loudly, whilst Christianity remains dumb. But the Dutch government is aware of this now, and is trying to neutralize the pernicious effects of its former policy.

“What is the government’s attitude now towards mission work? This attitude is one of unlimited good-will, as far as this is conceivable with the policy of neutrality. This attitude is born of the fact that the mission in the Archipelago has hitherto scrupulously abstained from touching political matters of any kind, and is strictly adhering to the carrying out of its self-imposed mission—the evangelization of the non-Christian peoples.”

I think that no comment on this remarkable testimony is needed. *O si sic omnes!*

*Under Germany:*

It is pleasant to have to relate on the strength of information received from German territories that Germany too