



AS-002395  
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HERE AND THERE  
IN INDIA

17  
—  
24  
SECOND SERIES

AS-002395

BY

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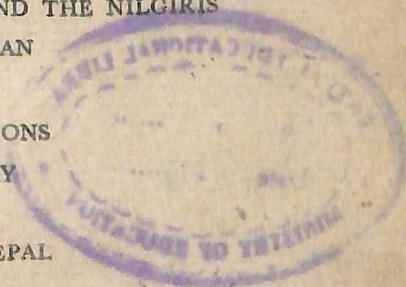




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# MADRAS, THE CITY BY THE SEA

## I

Well, children, let us go on a visit to Madras. It is a city by the sea. I wonder how many of you have seen the sea. Let me try to describe it to those who have not seen it.

The sea is a vast expanse of salt water. It is much bigger than any river or lake that you have ever seen. One can sail on it for days and weeks and see nothing but water, water, water. Except in the north, where



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There are big mountains, the sea is on all sides of India.

The waters of the sea rise and fall twice a day. This is called the tide. The sea is never still. The tide is either coming in or going out. The water moves in waves, which seem to rush in towards the land or fall back from it as the tide rises or ebbs. The land near the sea is known as the beach or shore. In some places the shore is made of small stones and pebbles ; in other places it may be of fine sand or big rocks, or even of coral. At Madras the shore is sandy.

The sea on the east of India is called the Bay of Bengal. That on the west is the Arabian Sea. Madra





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overlooks the Bay of Bengal. It is on the Coromandel Coast. There are many fishermen in Madras. They are brave men, who go out to sea and catch fish. They do not use boats, but some pieces of wood tied together into a kind of raft. These are called catamarans.



A CATAMARAN





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Nearly all boys and girls enjoy bathing in the sea. It is not safe, however, to bathe from the Madras beach by oneself, for the waves are very strong. There are also hungry sharks in the sea. They wait about near the shore, hoping that some little boy or girl will disobey their father and mother and go bathing all alone. Let us hope you will never disobey your parents or teachers.

## II

Madras is the third largest city in India. It was founded in 1639 by Francis Day. He was a merchant of the East India Company. The land



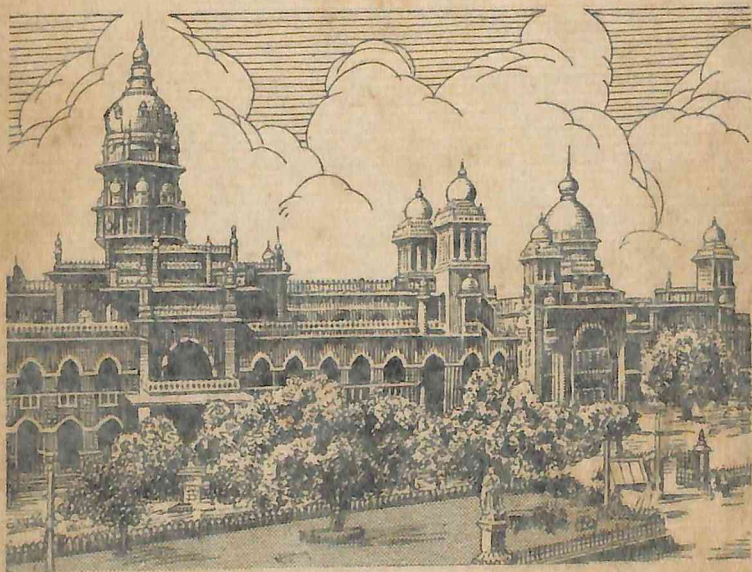
7 GL  
was given to the Company by the Raja of Chandragiri. A few years later, a fort was built on the sea-shore. It was called Fort St. George. Outside the fort a town began to rise. It is now called George Town. In it are the large offices of the merchants, both Indian and European. There are also many banks and Government offices.

The fort has been attacked many times. The French twice surrounded the fort and tried to make the English soldiers give it up. In 1741 the Mahrattas tried to capture it. Hyder Ali, the ruler of Mysore, attacked it two or three times. English soldiers are still on guard in Fort St. George.

There is a church inside the fort, and also the buildings where the Legislative Council meet. This is where the members make laws for the province.

### III

A lighthouse is built on the top of the High Court. It is 160 feet



LIGHTHOUSE AND HIGH COURT





high. The light can be seen twenty miles away. It warns ships that the land is near.

There is no deep river at Madras where ships can anchor in safety, so a harbour had to be built. It is formed by breakwaters, or large walls of concrete and stone stretching out into the sea. Inside the harbour the water is calm. It is safe for ships to load and unload their goods. The steamers go to Calcutta, Colombo, London, and many other places. How would you like a trip on the sea in a big ship?

In Madras there is a lovely road by the seashore. It is more than four miles long and is called the Marina.





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It starts in George Town, and ends at San Thome. Many of the people of Madras go to the Marina in the evenings. They enjoy the sea breezes and the walks by the sea. Down on the beach are two 'loud speakers'. These loud speakers 'broadcast' musical concerts every day. The music is much enjoyed by the people.

#### IV

If I ask you what lives in the sea you will probably say 'fish'. There are many kinds of fish in the sea, and most of them look like the fish you catch in rivers. I mean those with silvery scales.



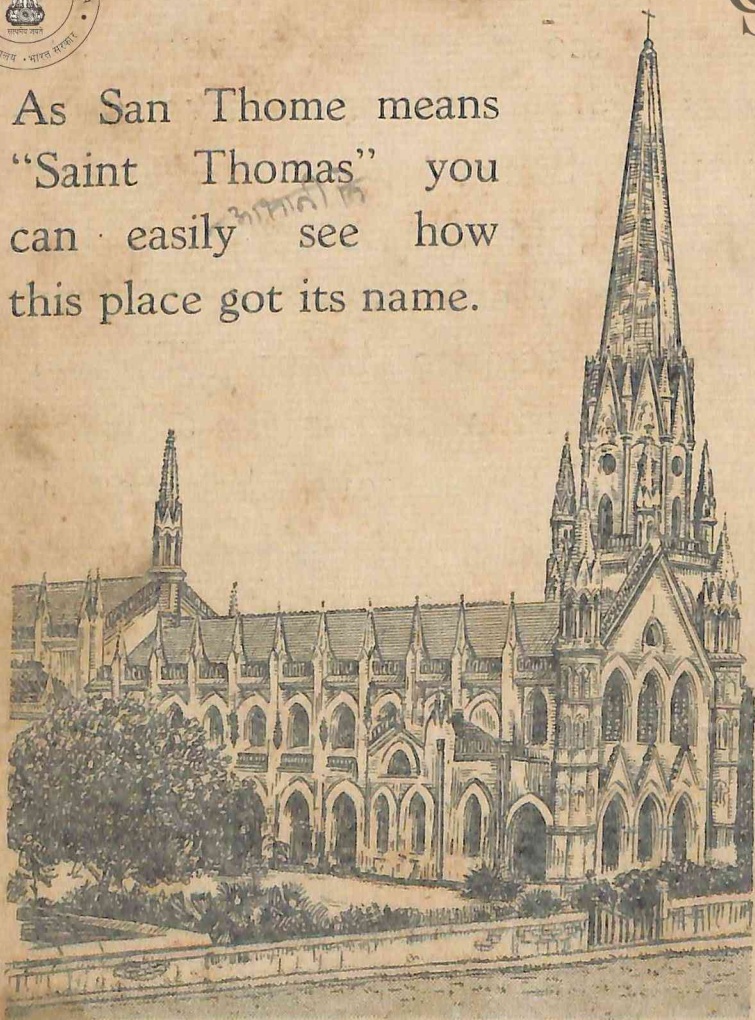
THE SEA-HORSE



But I daresay you would hardly believe me if I told you that many fish in the sea have other colours. Some are golden, yellow, pink, red, brown, blue, in fact of nearly every colour. Some of them have very strange shapes. There is even one fish which is like a horse's head ! All these could be seen in the Aquarium, which is a small building on the Marina, before the war. It is now closed.

San Thome used to belong to the Portuguese. That was over four hundred years ago. There is a beautiful church there which is said to contain the tomb of Saint Thomas the Apostle.

As San Thome means  
“Saint Thomas” you  
can easily see how  
this place got its name.

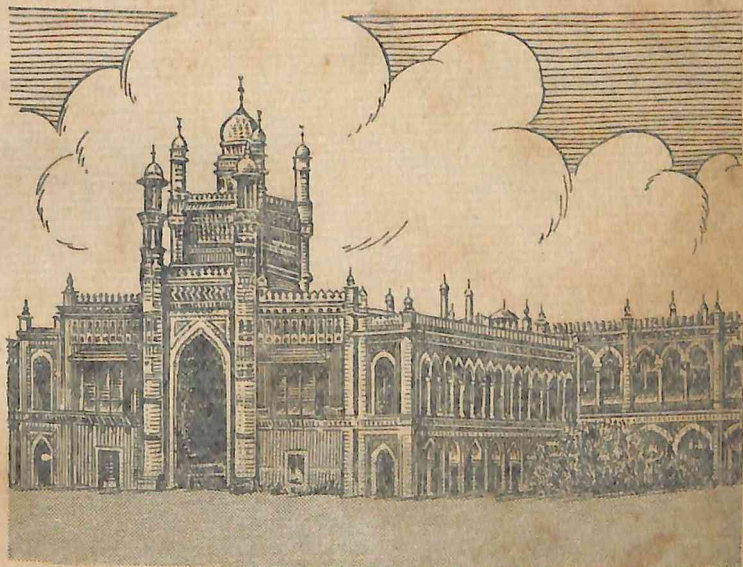


SAN THOME CATHEDRAL



V

There are many fine buildings in Madras. The Chepauk Palace, on the



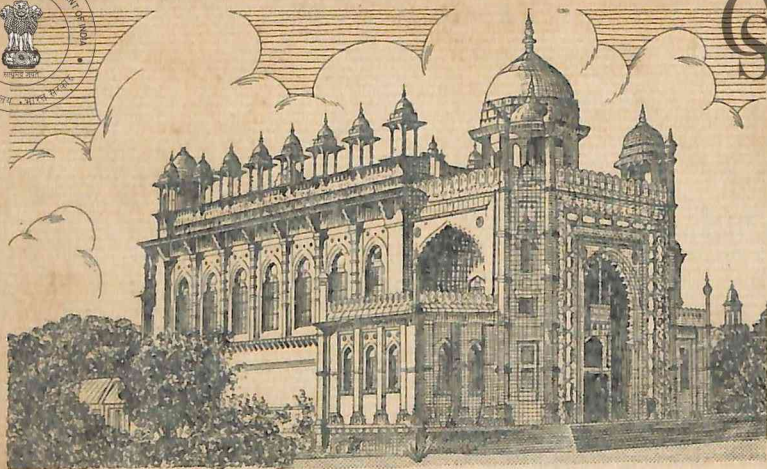
THE CHEPAUK PALACE

Marina, used to belong to the Nawabs of Arcot. Near at hand are the stately buildings of the University,





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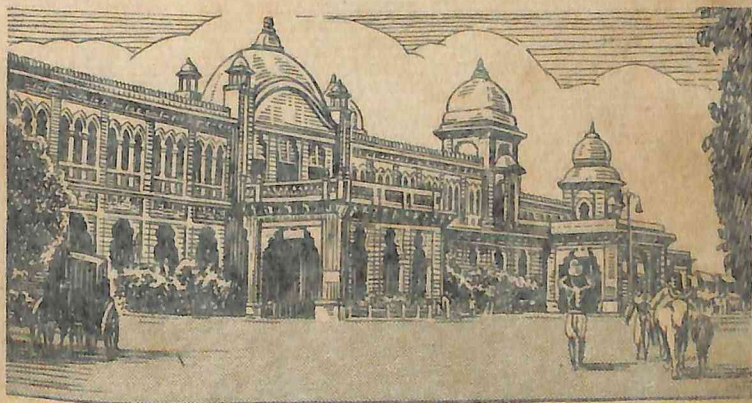
VICTORIA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

including the Library and the Senate House. The High Court, the Law College and Pachiappa's High School are in George Town. The Victoria Technical Institute is a charming building in a very nice garden. In fact it is a "gem in an emerald setting". In it we find many articles for sale. Some of them are carved in ebony, rose-

wood, ivory, and buffalo horn.

There are also lovely sarees, embroidered cloth, and other useful things which find a ready sale.

Madras has two large railway stations. From the Central Station trains go to Bombay and the West Coast, also to Bangalore, Ootacamund, Hyderabad and Northern India. From Egmore Station we can go to

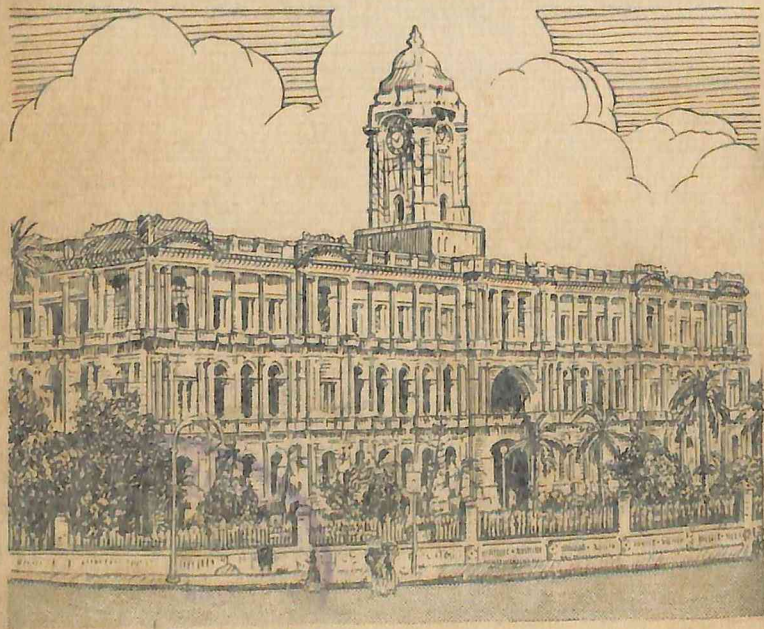


EGMORE STATION

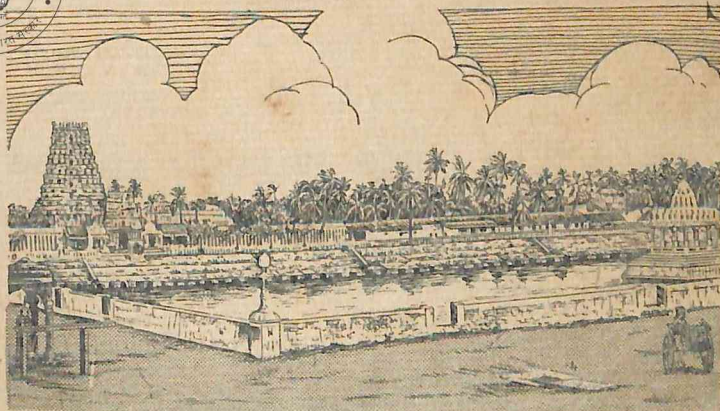


anjore, Trichinopoly, Madura, Travancore and Colombo.

The People's Park is worth a visit. It contains five lakes, a sports ground and a fine Zoo. Near the People's Park is "The Ripon Buildings" where the City Council meet.



THE RIPON BUILDINGS



MYLAPORE TEMPLE AND TANK

We must also visit the Mylapore Temple, sometimes called "The Town of the Peacock". A large tank is attached to the temple. We shall be well rewarded if we are in time to see the sun-set. The lovely coloured rays of the sun shine through the palm trees on to the water. What a wonderful sight it is !



## VI

There are some interesting places near Madras. Let us visit a few of them.

Near San Thome there is a safe



DR. ANNIE BESANT

place on the sea-shore where we can bathe. It is called Elliott's Beach. A little further on is Adyar. Here for years lived an old English lady who was respected by many people. Her

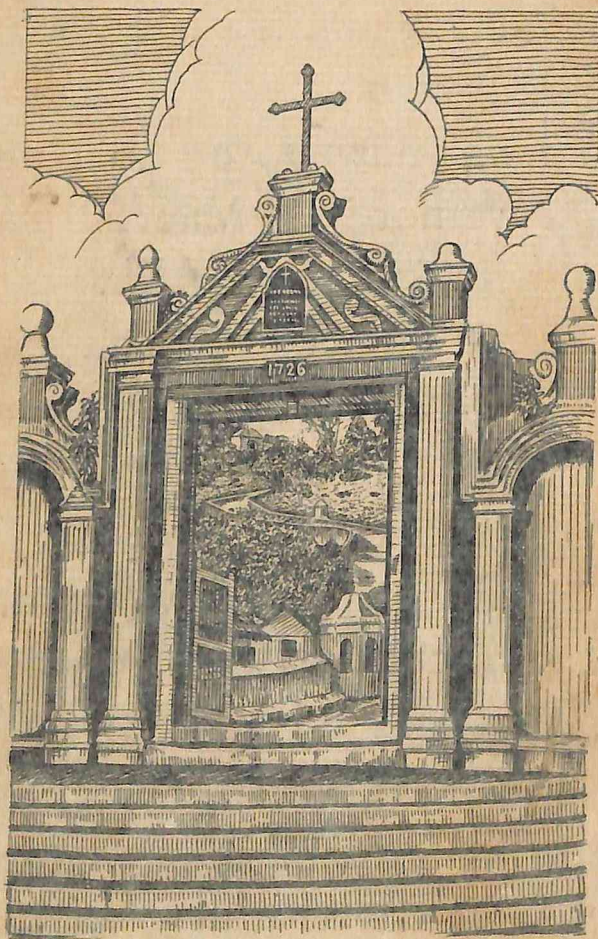
CL<sup>3</sup>SL

name was Mrs. Annie Besant. She is still remembered for her learning and kindness. There are two big schools at Adyar.

We will now go on to Guindy. The Governor of Madras has a house there, in a large park. In the park are a number of deer. How happy they look as they play under the trees ! As soon as they see us watching them, off they go !

A mile or two away is Saint Thomas' Mount. On top of the hill, which is 200 feet high, there is a church 400 years old. In it is a painting which is said to be nearly 2,000 years old. It was painted by Saint Luke. Saint Thomas is thought to have been

SL  
illed on the Little Mount, which is  
another small hill not far away.



ENTRANCE TO ST. THOMAS' MOUNT

*By kind permission of Rt. Revd. Mgr. Guerreiro, Bishop of Mylapore*



Four miles from the Mount and twelve miles from Madras is Pallavaram. Here there is a hill 500 feet



PAINTING BY ST. LUKE

*By kind permission of Rt. Revd. Mgr. Guerreiro, Bishop of Mylapore*

high. On the top is a Mohammedan shrine, which is visited by thousands of people. Nearby are some Hindu



Carvings cut out of the rock. They were made 1,200 years ago. SL

Much trade is done in Madras. The most important articles are hides and skins, which are made into leather ; ground-nuts, from which we get valuable oils ; raw cotton and ores. There are large cotton mills in the city.

I hope you have enjoyed your visit to Madras. With the lovely sea beach within their reach, what more could the boys and girls of Madras wish for ?



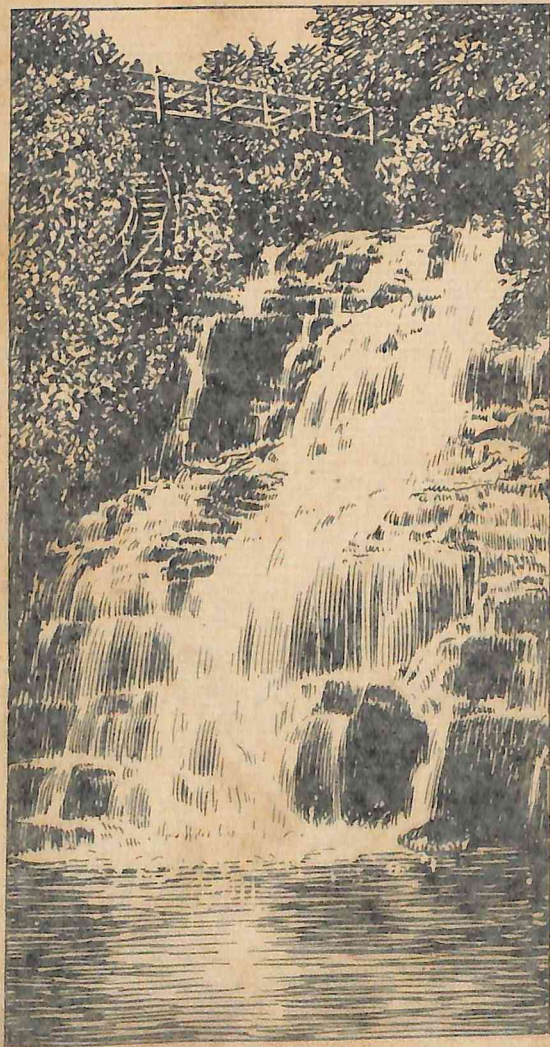
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# ASSAM, THE LAND OF TEA AND WATERFALLS

## 1

In the far north-east corner of India is the land of the tea plant. It is called Assam. To the north are the Himalayas and the <sup>मूल</sup>mysterious land of Tibet. On the east lies Burma, and beyond it China. The climate of Assam is so cool and fresh that the tea plant grows quickly. This climate gives to the leaves of the tea plant the special flavour





ELEPHANT FALLS, SHILLONG



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which makes Assam tea very popular everywhere.

Assam is also the land of huge rivers, high mountains and sparkling waterfalls. It is a large province and covers nearly 60,000 square miles. Two broad valleys divide the land. Through one valley flows the River Surma, and in the other valley we shall find the River Brahmaputra.

The Brahmaputra is one of the longest rivers in India. It rises in far-away Tibet and is called the Tsangpo. It flows eastwards for a thousand miles. When it begins to flow southwards it is called the Brahmaputra. Many other rivers flow into it.



There is always plenty of rain in Assam. One little town has become quite famous because it gets over 400 inches of rain in a year. That is an inch of rain a day ! The name of the town is Cherapunji. Rain is good for the tea plant and also for rice. Farmers in Assam are always busy trying to get as many crops as they can from the rich soil.

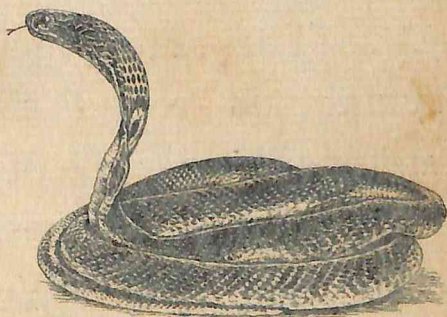
## 2

The lowlands of Assam are covered with elephant grass. This grass grows very thickly and is sometimes ten feet high. In this high grass there are plenty of wild animals.



Elephants, rhinoceroses, wild buffaloes, deer and tigers find a home and shelter there.

You may be sure that where there is plenty of long grass we shall find plenty of snakes. The most



A COBRA

famous snake is the King Cobra. There are more deaths from snake-bite every year than from all the other wild beasts put together. In the dense forests, however, we can



SL  
kind much larger snakes than the cobra. These snakes are called pythons. They are many feet long and twist themselves round the branches of trees. There they wait for their prey and drop on it as it passes below. They love to eat sheep and goats. They curl their great bodies round and round the poor animal and crush the life out of it. They do not often attack men, except to protect themselves. You can easily see that it is best to keep out of the way of both King Cobra and Mr. Python.

One kind of tree found in the forests is very useful. Its wood is very good for the making of tea-boxes.





In a land where so much tea is grown, many boxes are required in which to pack the tea when it is ready for sale.

Most of the

tea gardens are on the slopes of the Brahmaputra valley and the Surma valley. There are over one thousand tea gardens in Assam. What a pleasant







sight it is to see the rows and rows of tea-bushes covering the sides of the hills. The tea-bushes are short and have green leaves. These green leaves are picked by the pickers, and put into baskets.

Here and there can be seen large buildings. These are the factories in which the tea-leaves are sorted and dried. Wonderful machines sort out and dry the leaves as they are brought in the baskets by the pickers. It takes some time before the tea is ready for packing into boxes.

Tea was sent from Assam to Britain for the first time in 1836. At that time it was used only by very rich people. Nowadays nearly everybody in Britain

Drinks tea. About four hundred million pounds are used every year.

Tea is also very popular in India. Most of us look forward to a nice cup of tea. It is so refreshing !

3

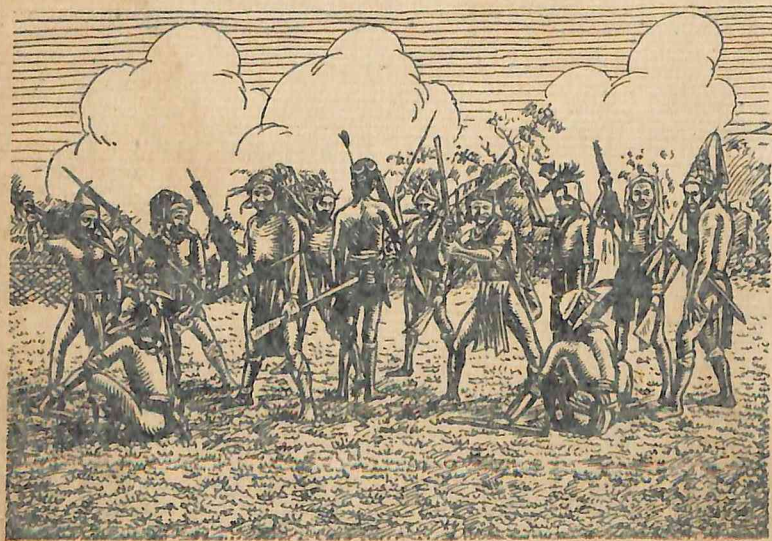
In East Assam the hills are covered with little villages in which many wild tribes live. The most famous of the tribes are the Garos, the Nagas, and the Kukis. Only a few years ago most of these people were head-hunters and very warlike. They used to give much



HEADHUNTER WITH A HEAD-  
DRESS OF BISON HORNS AND  
TIGER CLAWS



trouble by raiding peaceful villages. Nowadays they are engaged in agriculture and live quiet lives, though they still keep their war dresses.



A NAGA WAR DANCE

The hunting of heads is no longer allowed, and some of the tribes feel that they have nothing worth living for. They are sure that the absence



of enemies' heads is the cause of poor crops and many diseases. When heads were brought back to villages by warriors, scenes of rejoicing used to take place. Even now all the Nagas are always well armed. When they work in groups in the fields, young warriors are put to see that the village is not attacked by enemies during their absence. Feathers, bison horns, beads,



A NAGA WARRIOR



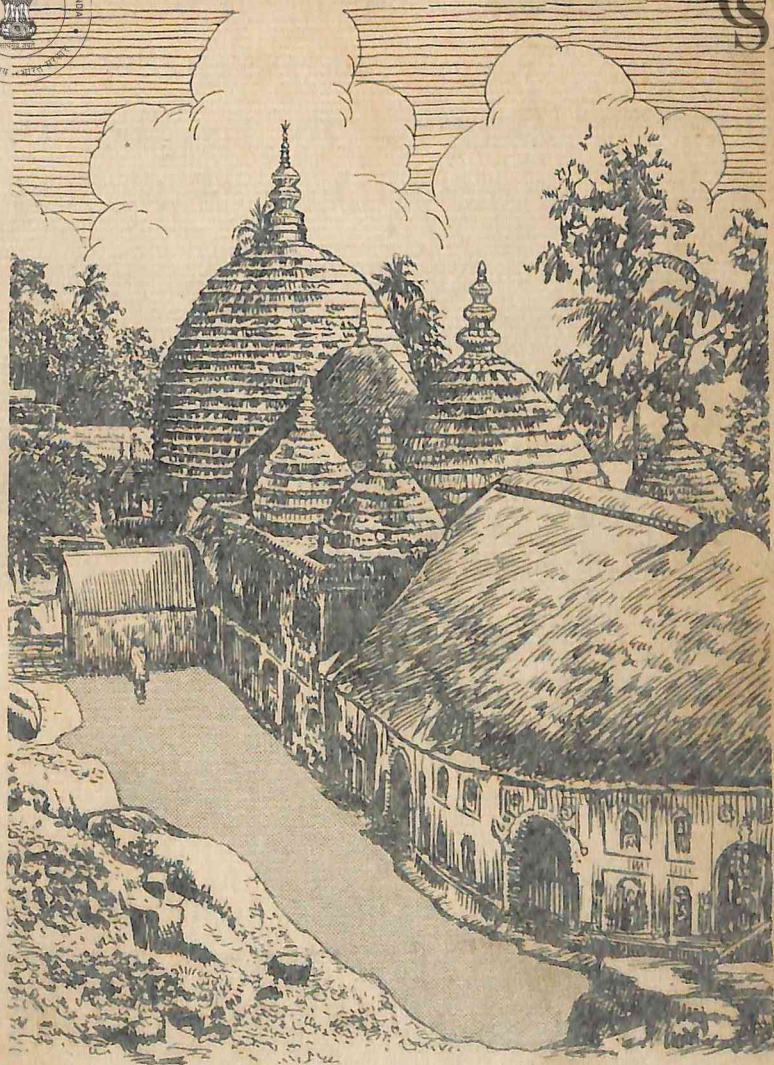
dyed goat's hair and other highly coloured things go towards the making of the head-dress of a Naga. Some of the warriors carry long lances and square shields.

#### 4

Gauhati was the capital of the Ahom kings from 1681-1826. It is now the chief town in the Assam Valley Division. Nearby is the famous temple of Kamakhya, to which come pilgrims from all parts of India.

The capital of Assam is Shillong. The town is built on a hill slope and is nearly 5,000 feet above sea level ; yet the roads are not hilly or





KAMAKHYA TEMPLE



difficult for walking as in other hill stations. Everywhere are the health-giving pine trees. In the hottest months the temperature of Shillong



A SCENE IN SHILLONG

is well below 80 degrees. The Khasis live in this district. They are famous for their dances and colourful dresses.

22  
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At the east end of the Brahmaputra valley there are the important oil wells of Digboi. These wells produce many thousands of gallons of oil every year. It is one of the most important industries in Assam. Another industry is the manufacture of silk which is a cottage industry. This means that the silk is not made in large factories, but in the homes of the workers. Many weavers can be found in Gauhati, Nowgong, and other towns in the Brahmaputra valley. There are large coal-fields in the Margherita district.

Perhaps one day you will visit this land of splendid rivers, grassy plains, fertile rice-fields, villages



SL  
among their bamboos and fruit trees, and dark forests rising to the lofty hills. But there is one thing I hope you will not see, and that is an earthquake. Assam has had some very severe earthquake shocks in the past. May her rich and beautiful country be saved from this and all other calamities in the future !





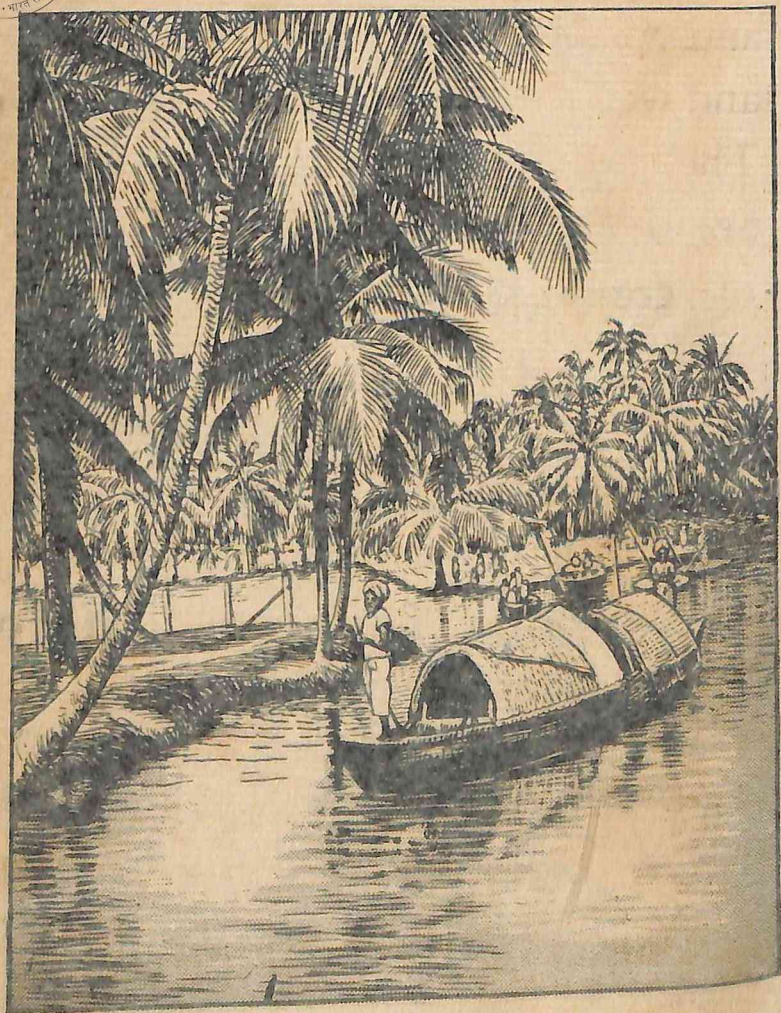


# TRAVANCORE, THE LAND OF PALMS AND CANALS

## 1

Where is Travancore? If you will look at the map of India, you will find it right at the very south. It is separated by the sea from the island of Ceylon.

Travancore was known in olden times as Venad or Vanchrajya.



ON THE BACKWATERS, TRAVANCORE



is a beautiful country. It has many sacred temples, lovely lakes and canals. One can see palm trees and water as far as the eye can reach. The rivers and the canals, which are sometimes called backwaters, are of great use to the people. They enable them to get easily from one village to another so that they may exchange their produce for the articles they require. Although there is a railway from Trivandrum to Shencottah, most of the traffic is borne by the canals. These are lined on either side with beautiful coconut palms, many of which grow right over the water, thus giving shade to the people passing in the boats.



The capital of Travancore is Tri-  
vandrum. His Highness the Maharaja,  
Sir Sri Bala Rama Varma Chitra

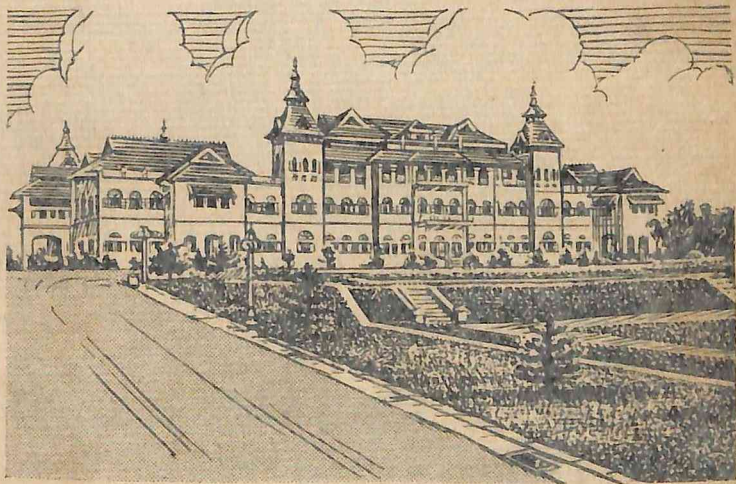


THE MAHARAJA OF TRAVANCORE

Thirunal, is the Ruler of the State.  
He lives in the beautiful Kavudiar



palace in Trivandrum. The Maharaja is a good and wise Prince and does all he can to make his people happy. The mother of His Highness is the Maharani Sethu Parvati Bai. She is



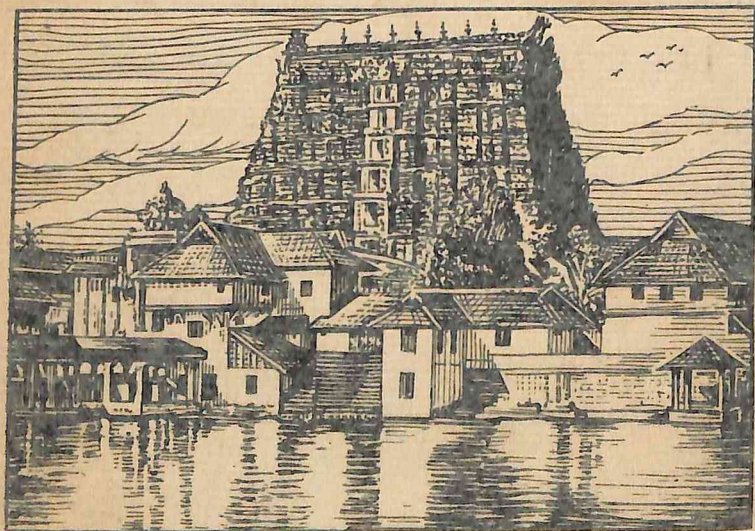
KAVUDIAR PALACE

called the Queen Mother. She is very fond of books and music and does a great deal for the good of Indian women.





Besides granting large sums of money towards education His Highness has given valuable help to the



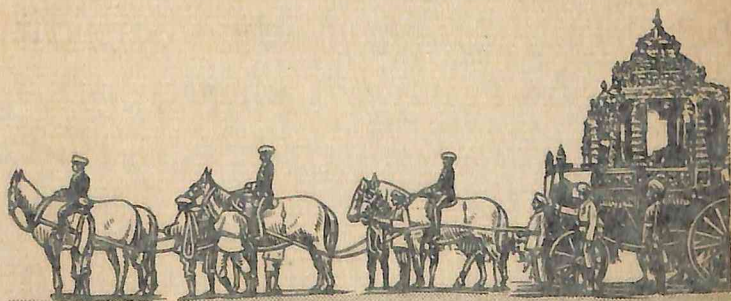
SRI PADMANABHASWAMY TEMPLE

British Government in its war effort. Many of the State forces are on active service and many more are preparing for it. Her Highness the Queen Mother has made generous



Gifts of money for the purchase of ambulances, so that the sick and wounded may receive medical aid quickly.

The most magnificent temple in Travancore is the Sri Padmanabhaswamy Temple in Trivandrum. His Highness is the *dasa* or servant of Sri Padmanabhaswamy, so he worships in the Temple every day. On festival days His Highness goes to the Temple



THE GOLDEN CHARIOT



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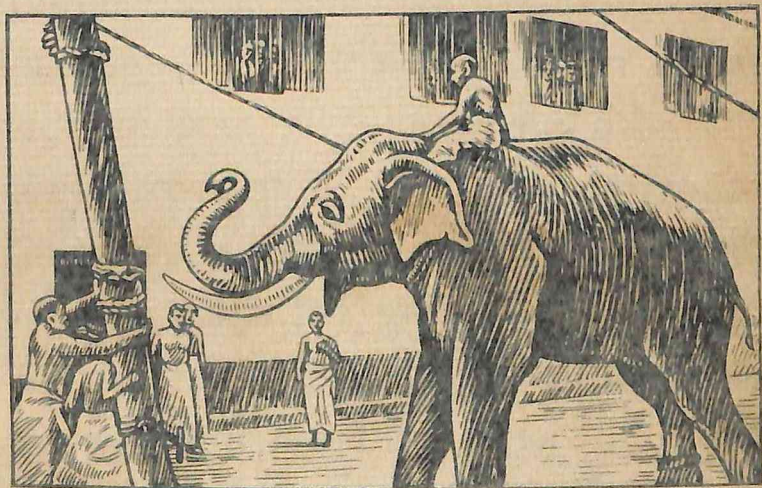
in a golden chariot which is drawn  
by six white horses.

In Trivandrum there are many beautiful buildings, in addition to the palaces and temples : there are the Public Offices, the Museum and the Zoo, the Aquarium, the Observatory, the School of Arts, and the Art Gallery. We can visit the University Buildings, the University Colleges for Men and also for Women, the Engineering College, the Sanskrit College, and the Law College.

3

I am sure that all of you have often heard stories of the wisdom of

animals. Let me tell you what happened in Trivandrum not very long ago. An elephant was helping in placing large poles which were to act



THE ELEPHANT REFUSED TO PLANT THE PILLAR

as supports for a very large pandal or shed. The elephant continued its work of lifting the poles and setting them up in the pits which had been





**SL**  
dug for them. But when it reached a certain pit, it refused to put the pole into it. No amount of coaxing or shouting or beating could make the elephant do what was wanted. After some time someone suggested that the pit should be examined to see what was in it. The men looked down into the pit, and there they saw a cat, shaking with fear. It had fallen into the hole and could not climb out again. The men got it out, and as soon as the elephant saw that the cat was safe, it went on with its work and planted the pole in the pit. Is this not a good instance of an animal's wisdom? Do you know of any similar story?

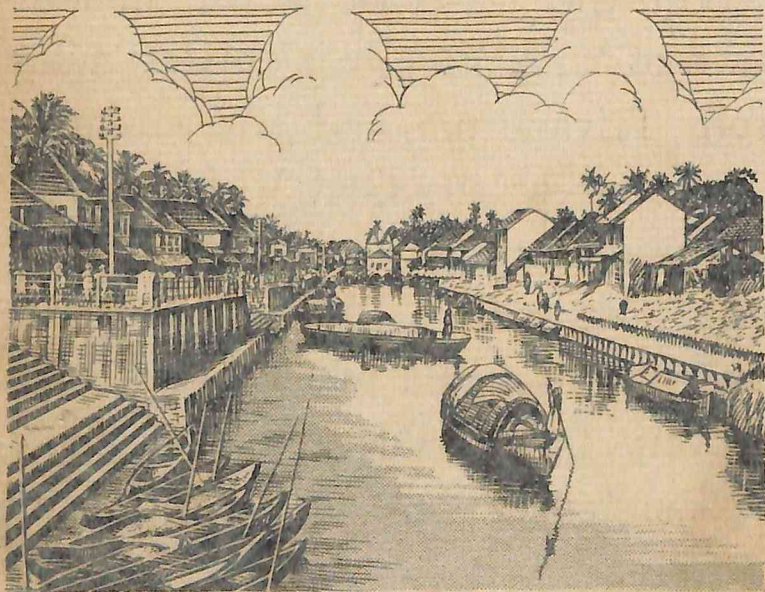


On the sea-coast is the famous town of Varkala. It is only 20 miles from Trivandrum and has a temple in honour of the God Vishnu. Pilgrims come to this temple from all parts of India. There are three springs at Varkala which are said to be very holy. Pilgrims who bathe in the waters are cured of many diseases.

At Varkala there are three long underground passages which connect the lakes. These passages are called tunnels, and boats ply up and down them.



Alleppey is the chief port of Travancore. Most of the people are busy in the preparation of coir and



ALLEPPEY

copra. Do you know what coir is ? It is a brown fibre which is obtained from the outer covering or husk of the coconut. In most parts of





India, after the milk has been taken from the green coconut, the outer covering is generally thrown away ; but this is not so in Travancore. All the husks are gathered together and allowed to soak in water. After three or four months they separate into fibres, and after drying in the sun the coir is ready for sorting. It is then used in making mats, cords, brushes, and many other articles. Coir is also obtained in the same way from the ripe coconuts, the husks of which are usually thrown away when the shell is opened. Now, you know that when the milk is taken from a coconut, that is the end of the coconut, because if the coconut is full of milk

the kernel has had no time to form; but if it is not opened and is allowed to ripen, most of the milk hardens into a white substance which is called the kernel. The shell is split open,



A RIPE COCONUT

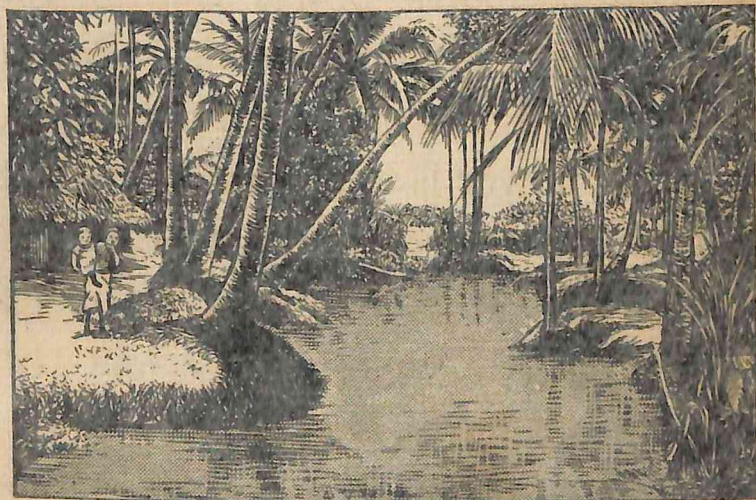
the small quantity of milk is drained off, and the kernel is chopped from the hard shell of the coconut and dried in the sun.

The dried kernel is called copra. Copra is very valuable, because oils and fats are extracted from it. Large quantities of coir and copra are sent to Europe and America from Travancore. Pepper, sugar, tapioca, rubber, and tea are also produced in Travancore.





SL  
In the past Travancore was purely an agricultural country, but under the benevolent rule of His Highness it is slowly developing its own



A TRAVANCORE BACKWATER

industries. The Rubber Factory at Trivandrum, the Sugar Factory at Thuckala, the Plywood Factory and Paper Mills at Punalur, the Sri





Chitra Mills and the Aluminium Factory at Alwaye are some of the industries that have been started in Travancore.

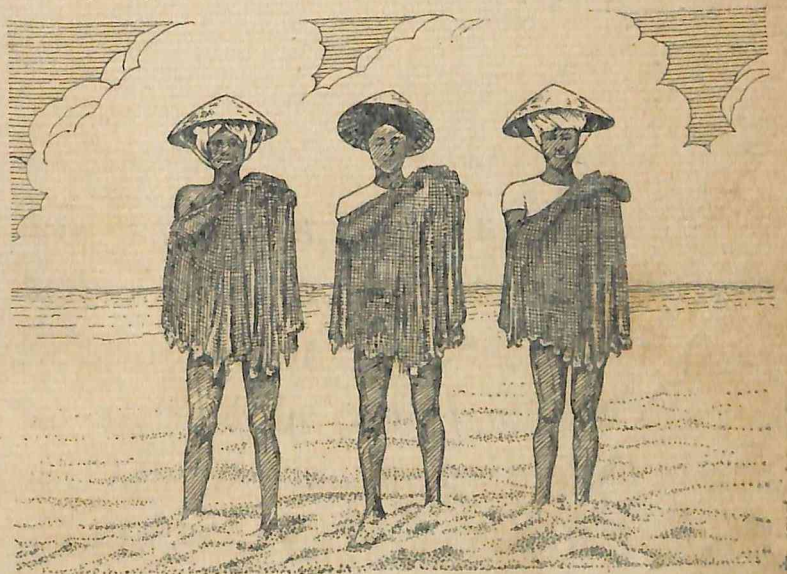
Cheap electric power is available from the Hydro-Electric Power Station at Pallivasal, in Travancore, and this power is being used by some of these factories. 'Hydro-Electric' means that it is obtained by using the force of water in rivers or waterfalls.

Most of the people in Travancore are Hindus ; but there are also Christians and Mahomedans. Many Christians live in Kottayam.

The city of Quilon is very ancient. It is called Koilum by Marco Polo in

is account of his travels. The railway was opened here in 1918.

There are many fishermen in Quilon. They go out to sea in their little



QUILON FISHERMEN

boats or catamarans. How pleased they are when they return with their nets full of fish. Here is a picture of three fishermen ready to start



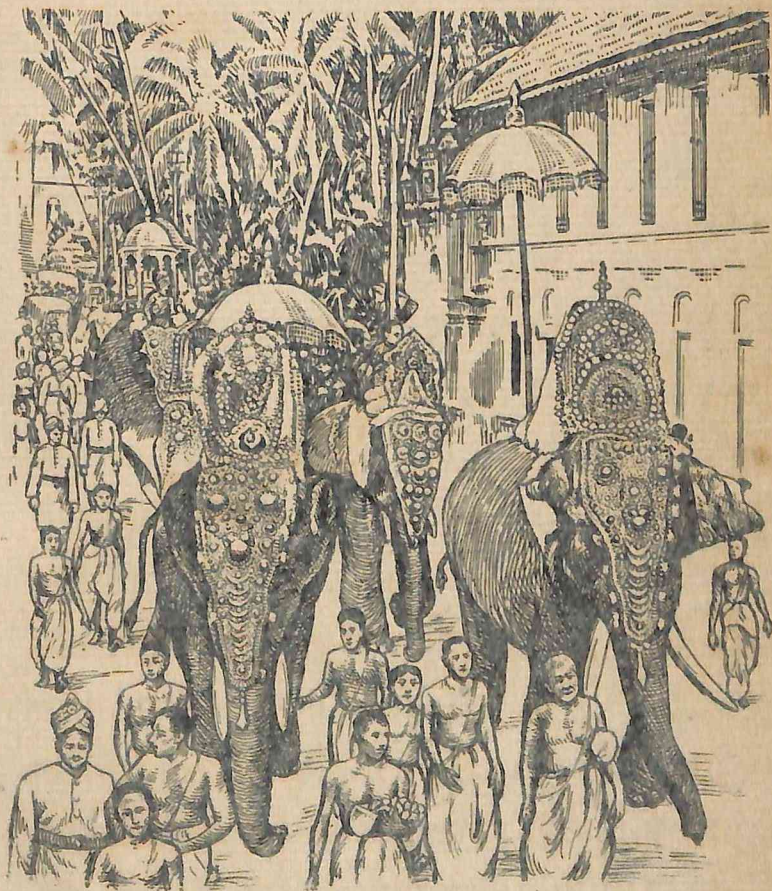
their dangerous work. Near Quilon  
is Tangasseri, a very small British  
possession in the State. It is only  
ninety-six acres in extent.

5

The people of Travancore are very fond of celebrating the many festivals which occur throughout the year. The chief festival is that of Onam, which begins as soon as the rains are finished. For ten whole days the people give themselves up to merrymaking. They all try to wear new clothes if possible. The Maharaja presents new clothes to the important officers of State.



Another important festival is the <sup>32</sup>SL Murajapam which is celebrated once



A PROCESSION

in six years. Over seven thousand

Nambudiri Brahmins take part in the ceremonies, and all their requirements are provided by the state of Travancore. What a sight it must



A DANCER

be to see the huge assembly taking their meals together! Over seven hundred Brahmin cooks are necessary to prepare the meals. At the end of the festival the temples and houses are decorated with lights. It is said that this festival costs nearly

five lacs of rupees, all of which is paid by the Travancore Government.

In some Travancore villages on feast days a very peculiar dance called



CS<sup>33</sup>SL

ela-Kali is performed. It is generally done by the Nairs, who are the military caste. A picture of one of the dancers is given on page 20.

## 6

Whilst we are in Travancore, we must take a trip to Cape Comorin, which is the "Land's End" of India. It lies about fifty miles to the south of Trivandrum, and there is a very good concrete road leading straight to the Cape. The scene changes as we get near the Cape. The green paddy fields give place to dry plains and soon we are passing rocks and sands. Above, the fierce sun sends

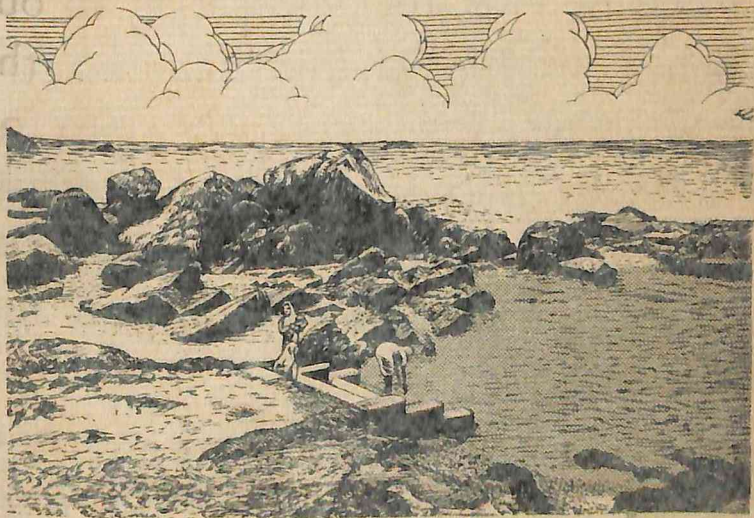




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It rays down on to the yellow sand, the blue waters and the grey-coloured temples and shrines. At this spot three mighty waters meet. What are they? Let us again refer to our map. We shall find that on the west we have the Arabian Sea, on the east the Bay of Bengal, and on the south the Indian Ocean. The sea keeps up an everlasting roaring noise. There is really nothing more exciting in the whole of India than Cape Comorin where the great waters meet. The scene is nearly always bathed in sunshine and in the background are the green palm trees. But when the sun sinks in the west, we can enjoy one of the most beauti-



ful sunsets to be seen anywhere. The wonderful and everchanging colours hold us spell-bound. The scene is so beautiful that even an



CAPE COMORIN

artist would find it difficult to paint. Such is the "Land's End" of India. What a contrast to the other Land's End which we shall find in England !



The Land's End of England is generally covered with a thick mist and it is nearly always raining there. There is no continuous bright sunshine—the black or grey rocky coast is a fine sight, but the land is flat and uninteresting.

With the music of the waves still sounding in our ears let us leave Cape Comorin with its beautiful sunsets.

The kindly and hospitable people of the charming State of Travancore will always find a warm place in our hearts. We shall look forward to welcoming them in due time to our own particular part of Bharata-mata.





CSL

# BEAUTIFUL RAJPUTANA

## 1

Rajputana is a land of sharp contrasts, half of it covered by the sandy plains of the great Thar Desert, the other half rich in fertile lands and forests. One part is divided from the other by the range of the Aravalli Hills. It is a land famous in history—a land of warriors—a land of old-time customs—a land where the present meets the ancient past.



We should never know all we do about Rajputana but for the work of a really great man. His name was



A RAJPUT SOLDIER

Colonel James Tod. He spent most of his life in Rajputana, and came to love the people and their land. He

wrote down every little scrap of their history that came his way. As

a result of his studies he published his famous "History of Rajasthan".

Rajputana is a land of distances, so we shall only have time to visit a

few of the more important States.

We shall have to use the camel, the bullock-cart, the motor car, the train, and perhaps the aeroplane, but

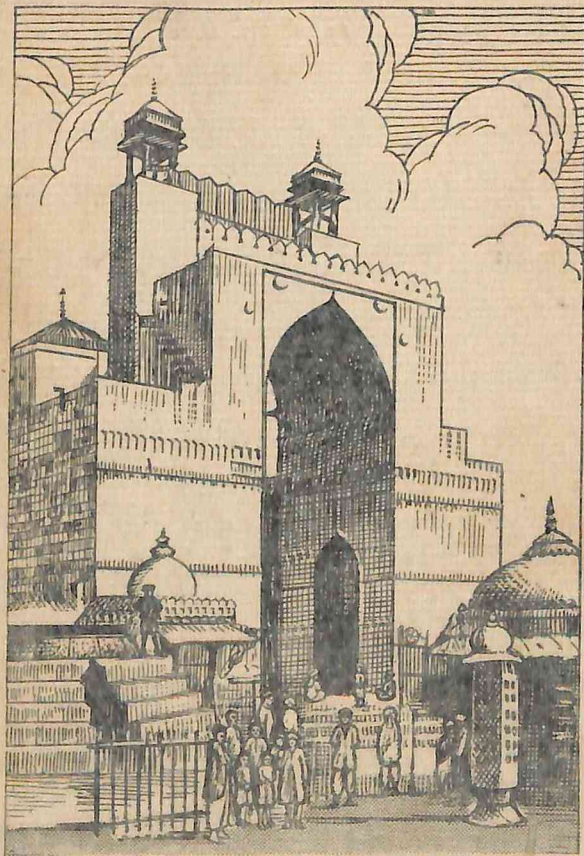


I am sure you will not mind.





feet above sea-level. It is said to



ENTRANCE TO THE DARGAH, AJMER

have been first founded by Jaipal in



A.D. 145. Ajmer has changed hands many times, having been captured by the Mahomedans and recaptured by the Rajputs. Akbar's palace is to be found inside the city.

Another place of interest in Ajmer is the Dargah, commenced by the Emperor Altamash and completed by Humayun. It is the burial-place of Saint Khwaja Muin-ud-din Chishti, who was one of a very famous family of saints. The most celebrated member of this saintly family was Shaikh Salim Chishti, who was buried in Fatehpur Sikri, near Agra.

As we go through the lofty gateway of the Dargah we shall see



Now there are many kinds of animals to be found in Rajputana, the most useful being the camel. Apart from the elephant, the camel is perhaps the most interesting animal to be found in India. It is such a useful beast, especially in sandy places. If you look into the face of one, it seems to say, "Yes, I have much patience. These men torment me with all kinds of loads and give me no peace, but I never complain. I merely keep on chewing the cud."

## 2

Mount Abu is over 5000 feet above sea-level. There is a good



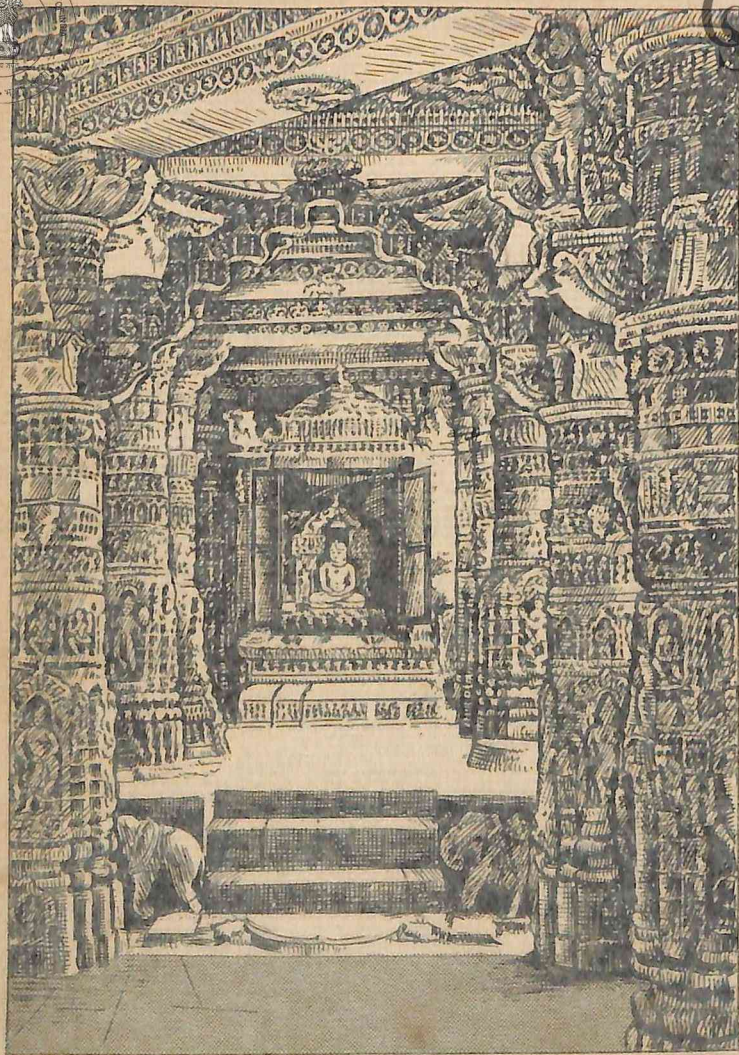


SL

road from Abu Road railway station.

It passes through lovely mountain scenery. When we reach the top, we shall see the vast plains of Rajputana and the distant hills.

Mount Abu is famous for its wonderful Jain temples. The Dilwara Temples should not be missed. They are very beautiful and contain some of the finest marble carvings in India. There are three temples, the Tejapala, the Bhimpala, and the Vastupala, and many other shrines. Marble is the material used to adorn these temples. As there are no marble quarries near at hand, the marble had to be brought from a long



INSIDE A DILWARA TEMPLE





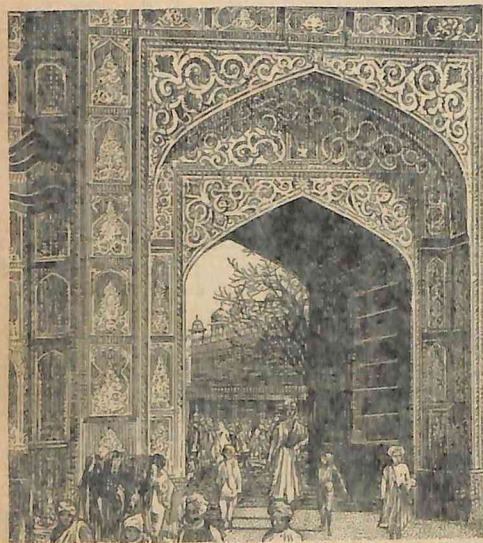
distance by bullock-carts and then pulled up the mountain path. What patience those builders must have had! In one of the temples there is a courtyard containing many beautifully carved pillars. Between the pillars are fifty-two cells, each one having in it a cross-legged image of a Jina. The wonderful carvings will keep you fascinated. You will never forget the Dilwara Temples once you have seen them.

### 3

Ajmer is known as the key to Rajputana. The city is built at the base of a hill which is three thousand



two very large iron pots. Rich Mahomedans who come to Ajmer on pilgrimage for the first time generally buy rice, ghee, almonds, raisins and



A BEAUTIFUL ARCHWAY IN AJMER CITY

spices to be cooked in one of the pots. When the food is ready, it is distributed to the many poor families living near

the Dargah. They rush to the gateway fearing they may be too late to get a tasty morsel.



CSL

Near the city of Ajmer is the famous Mayo College where the sons of Rajput princes are educated and prepared for their princely station.

Seven miles to the west of Ajmer is the sacred lake of Pushkar. It is in fact considered to be the most sacred lake in India. Great *melas* are held there in October and November. As many as 100,000 pilgrims assemble at one time. Although the original temples on the lake side were destroyed in the Middle Ages, five temples have been built to take their places, and they look very picturesque. The temple of Brahma at the further end of the lake is particularly



holy. The lake contains sacred crocodiles, which are fed by the priests in charge. I can imagine you asking me, "Would the sacred crocodiles turn their heads the other way if they saw us bathing in the lake?" I am afraid I should have to say, "Don't trust them. Do not give them the chance to have a meal off one of your legs!"

4

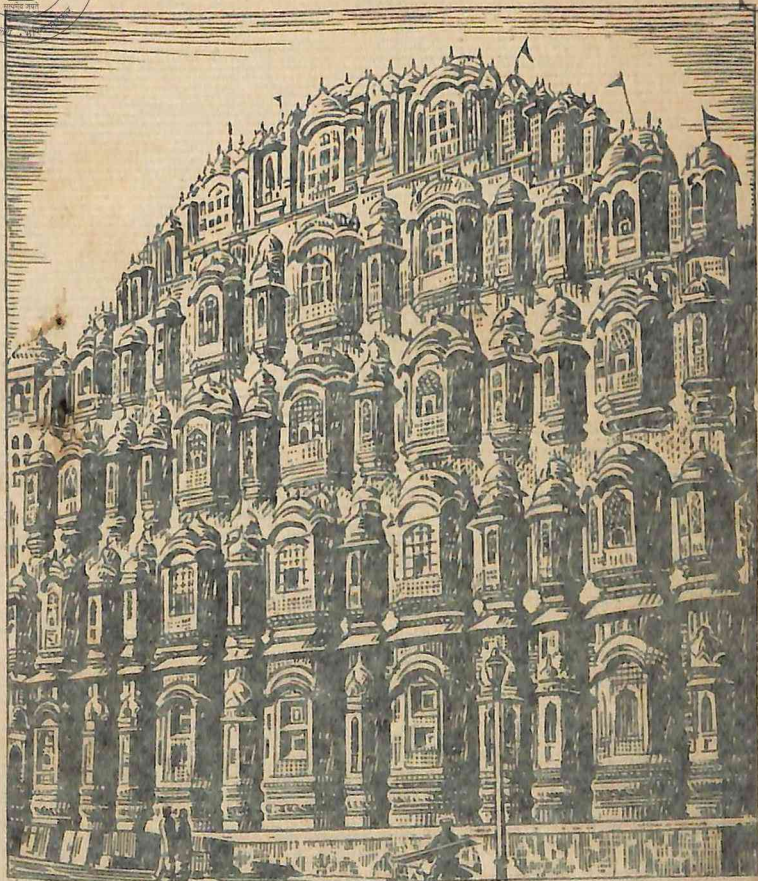
From Ajmer we will make our way to Jaipur. This State covers an area of 15,600 square miles. Jaipur city is the capital. It is enclosed by a wall which has seven gateways. In the





we shall be surprised to see the

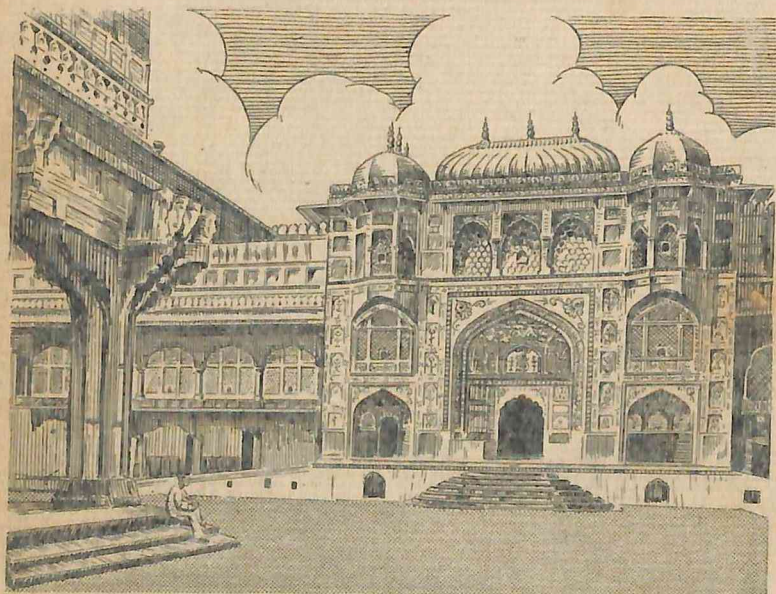
SL



HAWA MAHAL OR HALL OF THE WINDS, JAIPUR

width of most of the streets and the

cleanliness with which they are kept. The principal streets are over one hundred feet wide. The crowded



GATEWAY TO THE PALACE AT AMBER

bazars are picturesque and full of life. One of the chief industries is enamel work on brass. Jaipur enamel work is famous throughout India.





SL2  
It is at Jaipur that we shall find the largest of the five *jantras* or observatories which were built by the celebrated astronomer, Maharaja Jai Singh II, who founded the State in 1728. The courtyard is full of curious-looking instruments built of brick and covered with plaster. I will not bother you with the technical uses of these instruments, but they are certainly wonderful and at the same time accurate. Modern astronomers may smile at some of them, but they speak of the great learning of Raja Jai Singh.

If we have time we can go out to Amber, which is the ancient capital





and is about five miles from Jaipur. Its picturesque palace, begun by Man Singh in 1600, and the temples are well worth a visit.

## 5

From Jaipur we will pass on to Bharatpur. It is the capital of the Jat State of that name. It is nearly 2,000 square miles in area and has an income of thirty lakhs of rupees. The ruler is descended from Churaman, a Zamindar who harassed the rear of Aurangzeb's army when he went on an expedition to the Deccan. How these old warriors must have



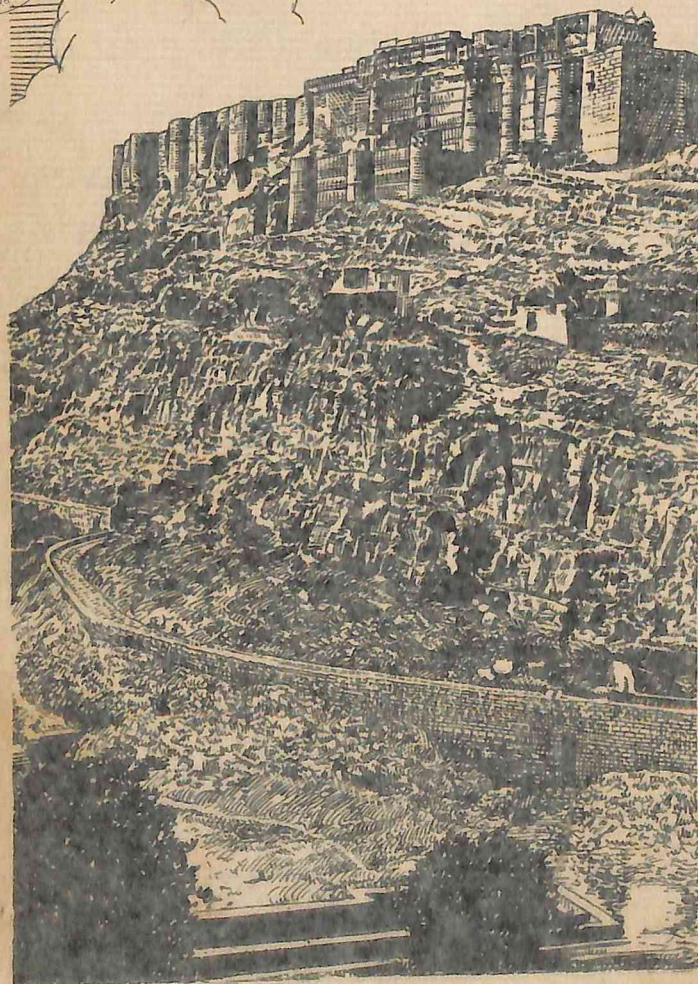
enjoyed such fights ! The city of Bharatpur is surrounded by a wall.

There is an Inner Fort containing three picturesque palaces.

The Maharaja, however, lives in the palace at Golbagh, a mile outside the city. Bharatpur is the chief of the Eastern States of Rajputana, the others being Dholpur, Bundi, Kotah, Jhalawar, and Karauli.

## 6

Our next visit is to Jodhpur. The city is built on a range of sandstone hills and is surrounded by a



THE FORT, JODHPUR



44  
SL

strong wall, six miles long and having seven gates. The Fort, however, is the outstanding sight in Jodhpur. It stands over four hundred feet above the city and looks very majestic, perched as it is on the top of solid rock. Strong walls and towers encircle the top of the hill. Across the zigzag road leading upwards, seven immense barriers have been erected, each barrier having a large gate with separate guards to each. On the wall of the last gate are represented the hands of the fifteen widows of the Maharajas who committed *sati* at the deaths of their husbands. Inside the Fort are palaces



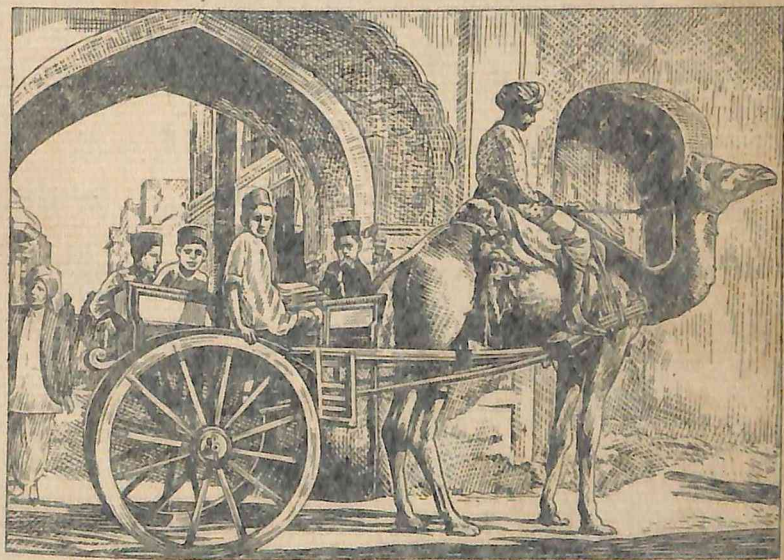
and also priceless collections of jewels and ancient Rajput weapons. But not far away from these relics of a stirring past we shall see something very modern indeed, for there is now an excellent aerodrome at Jodhpur.

## 7

From Jodhpur we make our way to Bikaner, the capital of the State of that name.

Maharaja Sri Ganga Singhji Bahadur, who was born in 1880, died on February 2nd, 1943. He was the twenty-first ruler of the State. He had often been to London where he presented a very noble figure,

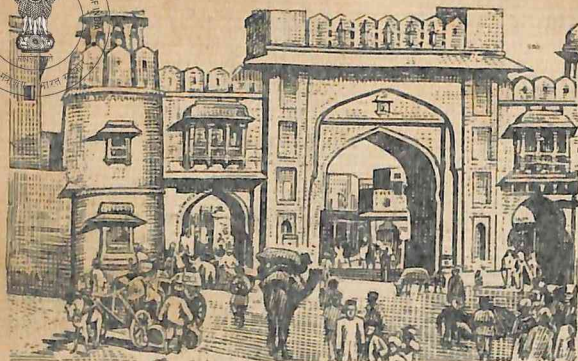
mounted on a white horse, riding near the state coach of the King-Emperor. He managed his horse with perfect skill, and as it pranced along the road



A BIKANER CAMEL CART

the gems in His Highness's turban reflected many beautiful colours. He was the admiration of the vast





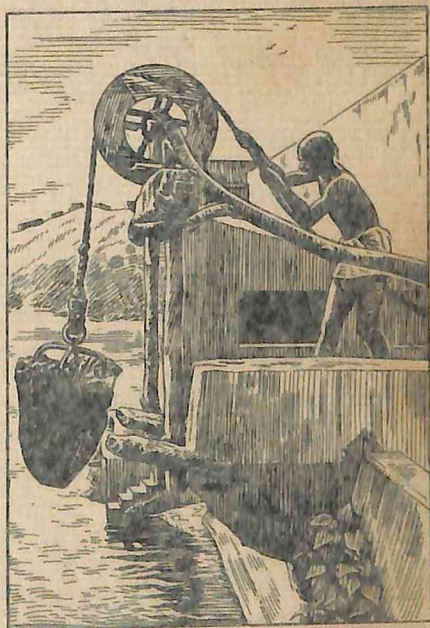
A SIXTEENTH-CENTURY GATEWAY, BIKANER

crowds  
which  
assembled  
on such  
occasions.

The Maharaja represented India at the Peace Conference in 1919. He was the first Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes which sits from time to time in New Delhi. In November 1941, His Highness visited his troops serving in the Middle East. How pleased they were to see their Prince ! Under his able guidance the Bikaner State made great progress.

The new ruler is Maharaja Sri Sadul Singhji Bahadur.

Bikaner contains many fine buildings. These include the Maharaja's new palace called the Lalgah, the Public Offices, the King-Emperor's Hall and the Hospital. Bikaner being in the heart of Rajputana is sandy



A WATERMAN AT WORK

and dry, therefore water is a great necessity. The Bikaner Canal was



opened in 1927. It gives water to 1000 square miles of the Bikaner State. The people are thus enabled to grow their crops where before only hot sand existed and where camels found it more convenient to live than human beings.

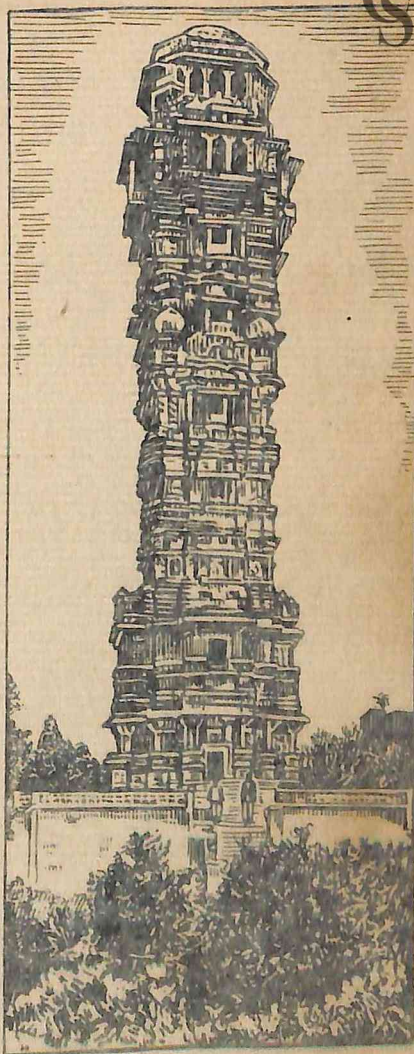
8

No account of Rajputana would be completed without mentioning Chitorgarh. Its history will stand for ever in the annals of Rajasthan. There many brave women and warriors cheerfully gave their lives rather than submit to dishonour at the hands of the invaders. It was besieged three times, and every time



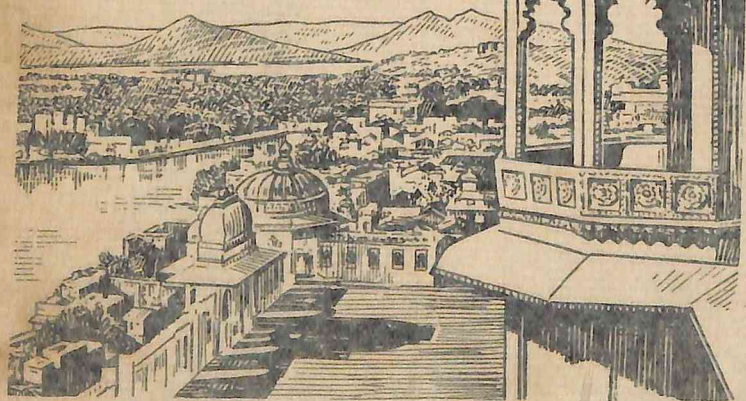
defenders preferred to die rather than surrender. The Tower of Victory was built in 1440; it is 122 feet high and took ten years to build. The capital is now at Udaipur.

Now, Udaipur, you must know, is one of the most beautiful places



THE TOWER OF VICTORY, CHITORGARH

in India. It is the capital of the Mewar State which was founded, soon after the fall of Chitorgarh, by Maharana Udai Singh. This prince is very famous in



A PALACE AT UDAIPUR

history. When he was a baby his enemies decided to kill him. His



nurse, whose name was Panna, was devoted to him, and when she heard of the plot to murder the little innocent baby, her heart was filled with pity for the child and loyalty to the ruling house. What did she do? She hid the baby prince in safety, and then put her own baby in its place. When the murderer, Banabir, arrived in the baby prince's nursery, he saw what he thought to be the prince sleeping peacefully. He then cruelly killed the sleeping baby, not knowing that it was the nurse's own child he had put to death. I am sure you will all agree that Panna's deed was very heroic, and her action deserves



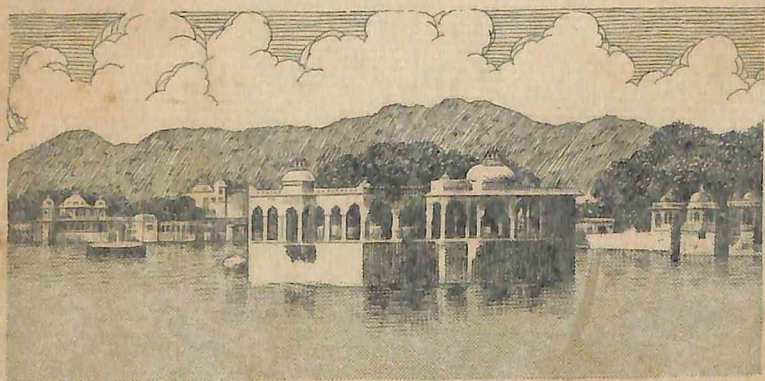


proper place in the history of golden deeds.

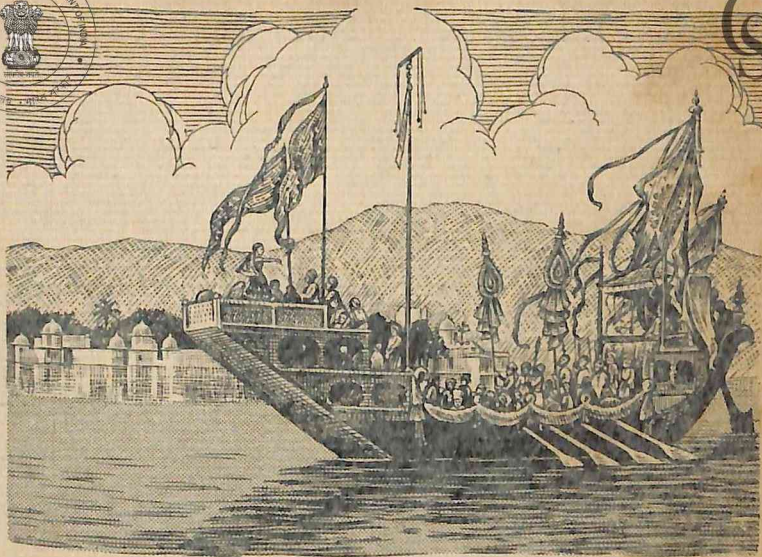
The city of Udaipur is walled and there are five gates into it.

9

One's first impression of the city of Udaipur is the whiteness of everything. Buildings, high and low, buildings perched on the sides of



PALACES ON THE LAKE, UDAIPUR



THE STATE BARGE, UDAIPUR

hills, buildings set in the middle of picturesque lakes—all are white.

Then there is the Pichola Lake. Here and there stands a palm tree with leaves drooping down to the water's edge. Monkeys, with very long tails, jump up and down the



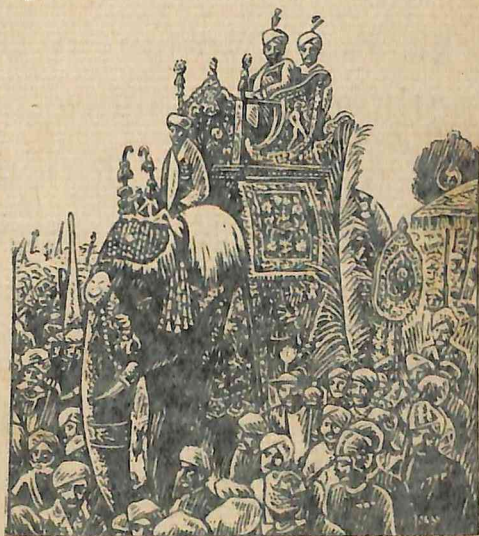
trunks and branches of trees. Camels wander silently in and out of the shade, and everywhere is peace. Wherever we look there are white palaces and the blue waters of the lake.

The crowds in the city are colourful. Most of the women wear yards and yards of the brightest red and yellow cloth, together with many bracelets and anklets. The turbans of the men are also made of the same colourful material.

As evening draws near, we take a boat and are rowed slowly round the lake and near the many palaces. Then, when the rays of the setting



sun strike the palaces and the water  
with myriad colours, we are left in  
no doubt as to the charm and beauty  
of Udaipur.



UDAIPUR STATE PROCESSION

Our thanks to His Highness the  
Maharana and his ancestors for  
building Udaipur and for making it  
the "Venice of India."



CSL

Before we leave let us ask ourselves if we have learnt any lessons from our visit to Rajputana. Its history has given us many examples of courage and devotion in times of trial. Nothing can be more inspiring than such a past of glorious and heroic deeds. The Rajputs have won themselves a place of high honour in the history of India. We too can be proud of Rajputana and of our great and wonderful country of which it is a part.



CSL

# THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER AND THE KHYBER PASS

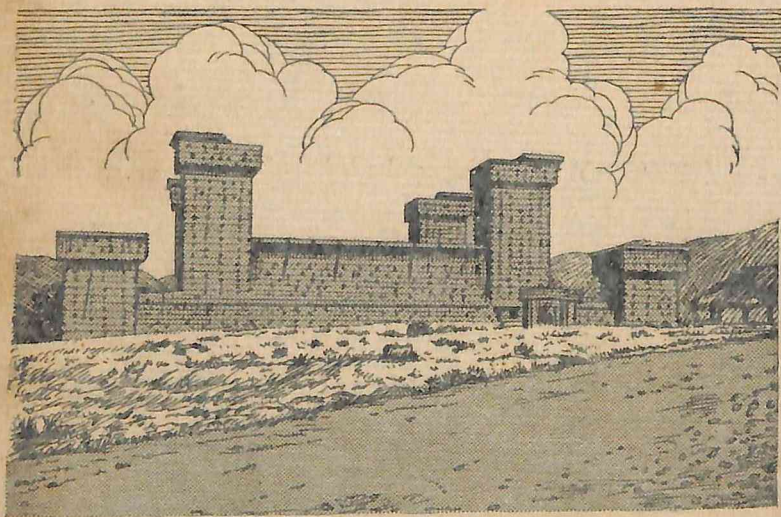
## I

The North-West Frontier is a very important province of India. It includes the mountains which divide India from other countries on the north-west. Nearby is some wild rocky country where warlike tribes live. These tribes do a lot of fighting amongst themselves. When they are not busy fighting each other, it is always possible that they





might join together and try to invade India. That is why our soldiers and aeroplanes must always be on guard along the borders of India.



A TYPICAL FARM-HOUSE FORT IN SWAT

The North-West Frontier Province has an area of 39,000 square miles. About two and a half million



People live there, most of whom are Mahommedans. The province consists of the six districts of Peshawar, Mardan, Bannu, Kohat, Hazara and Dera Ismail Khan. It also includes some tribal land divided into five political Agencies of Khyber, Kurram, Tochi, South Waziristan and Dir, Swat and Chitral.

Look at the map of India. You will find in the top left-hand corner the places I have mentioned. You will then understand how the North-West Frontier Province acts as a barrier to the invader.

## II

This part of India was invaded by Alexander the Great in 327 B.C. Later on followed the invasions of the Sakas and White Huns.



ALEXANDER THE GREAT

Still later there were two great Mahomedan invasions, and last of all the Sikh invasion of 1818. In 1849 the British annexed the frontier territory and placed it under the control of the Punjab Government. The pro-



ence was removed from the control of the Punjab in 1901.

During the summer months the North-West Frontier Province is the hottest part of India, but in winter it is intensely cold. There are plenty of leopards, hyenas,



wolves, jackals and foxes to be found there. Bears, deer and monkeys are sometimes seen. The mountain scenery is wonderful. The highest peaks are Takht-i-Sulaiman (11,292 ft.), Istragh Peak (18,900 ft.), Kachin



Peak (22,641 ft.) and Tirich Mir (24,426 ft.).

CSL

The most important rivers are the Kabul and its tributaries, the Swat, the Kurram and the Gomal, which all flow into the Indus. Peshawar is the capital of the province. Besides the capital, the chief towns are Dera Ismail Khan, Tank, Bannu, Kohat, Thal, Nowshera, Mardan and Abbottabad. The principal language is Pushtu.

### III

In ancient times Peshawar was the chief town of the province of

Gandhara. In 1909 a large Buddhist Stupa was discovered outside the city, and in it was found a bronze relic-casket which used to belong to King Kanishka. It



KANISHKA'S RELIC-CASKET

contained some of the burnt bones of Buddha. The casket is now kept in the Peshawar Museum. The bones, however, in their original glass case, were given to the Buddhists of Burma. They have preserved these relics with great respect at Mandalay. This will give you some idea of





Peshawar's age, because Buddha lived  
in 600 B.C.

SL

In the eighth century the Pathans invaded the city. In 988 Sabuktigin defeated Raja Jaipal there. The city was then known as Parashawar. In the time of the Emperor Akbar its name was changed to Peshawar. The city is surrounded by a high wall and has fifteen gates. The streets are full of tall tribesmen and handsome Pathans. Horse-dealers, camel-drivers, workmen and sellers of fruit push their way through the crowded streets. This is indeed the meeting-place of people from all parts of Central Asia.

The chief bazar is known as the Kissa Khanni. What lovely things are offered for sale there ! Rugs from



THE KISSA KHANNI, PESHAWAR.

Persia and Turkistan, Bokhara silks, Afghan furs, Kashmiri wood-carvings and embroideries, the famous Afridi



SL  
wax-cloth and even articles from Russia and the Caucasus. The Peshawar *chapli*, a very comfortable kind of sandal, can be bought here. We can also buy peaked caps richly decorated



IN THE AFRIDI BAZAR—PESHAWAR.

with gold and silver threads. These are called *kulahs*, and fine turbans are wound round them.

When we leave the Kissa Khanni,



56  
SL  
e. must visit the cloth merchants' bazar, the silk bazar, and the bazars of the goldsmiths and silversmiths.



A STREET SCENE, PESHAWAR.

If we are lucky, we may see some



Caravans entering the city by the **SL** Bajauri Gate. The caravans consist of camels and ponies, and bring rich merchandise from Bokhara, fruit and woollen goods from Afghanistan, and articles from distant Tibet. The caravans quickly divide, and soon the market-places of the city are full of people buying the newly arrived goods.

When they return, the caravans take with them articles which are highly prized in the countries to which they go. They carry salt, tea, sugar, lanterns, china and brass-ware, dye-stuffs, etc.



## IV

Just outside the city is the Bala Hisar. It is a large fort, the walls of which are in some places over ninety feet high. Further on is the Cantonment. Here we shall find the barracks of the Indian and British soldiers. There is also a very large aerodrome. The roads in the Cantonment are wide and are lined with beautiful trees. Here we may see the fine house of the General Officer Commanding the district, the residence of the Governor, the Museum and the





CSL

Sadar Bazar. In the Sadar Bazar are many shops containing rich collections of furs, curios, silks, wood-work and so on.

A wonderful broadcasting station has been opened at Peshawar. Our lonely soldiers will now be able to hear all kinds of music when they can be spared from their duties of watching and guarding the forts. The people of the Province are also enjoying the "radio". Many of them "broadcast". Look at the happy party on page 15.

A very large military outpost is maintained at Razmak, a place which



THE RADIO HUJRA

[By courtesy of All India Radio]



overlooks the Mahsud Waziri country. In order to provide a way to get about quickly, a circular road has been built. It passes from Bannu through Razmak to Sarorogha, then to Jandola and Tank and back to Bannu.





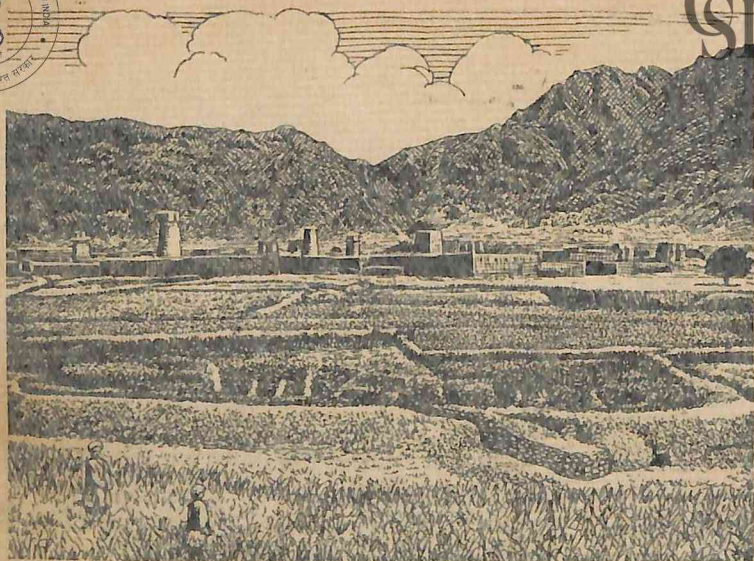
# V

The Khyber Pass is a desolate and wild opening in the mountains. It is very narrow. Many brave soldiers,



A CARAVAN IN THE KHYBER PASS

travellers and caravans, when journeying through the Pass, have had to face attack by fierce tribesmen hidden

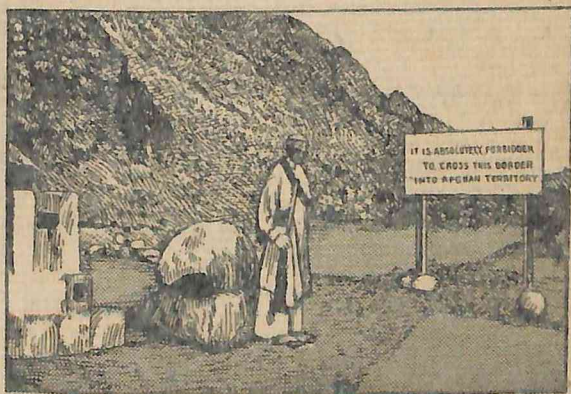


KHYBER PASS—AN AFRIDI VILLAGE, SULTAN KHEL

amongst the rocks which line both sides of it.

The Pass begins about eleven miles from Peshawar at a place called Jamrud. It then twists and turns for over thirty miles till it reaches an

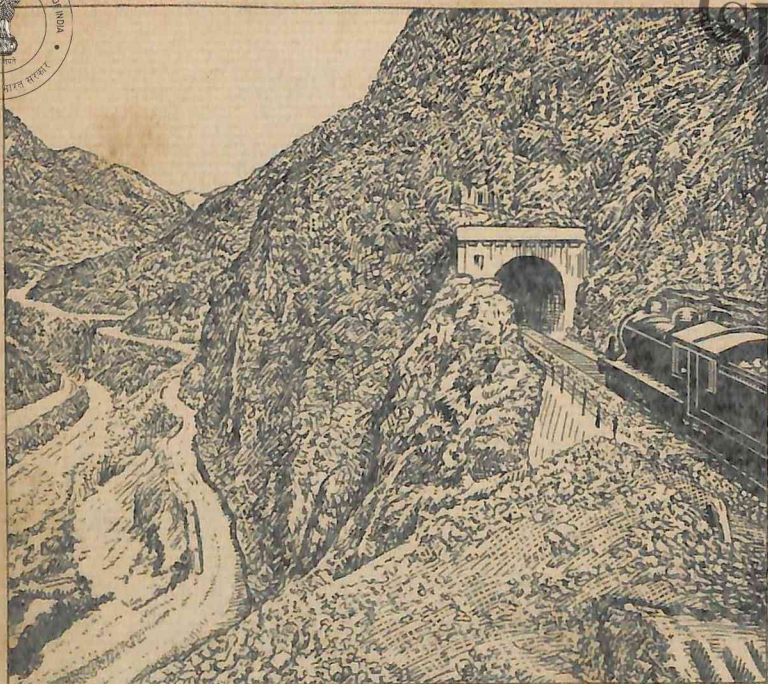
outpost called Dakka. On the journey, we pass the villages and forts of Ali Masjid, Landi Kotal and Tor Kham. Beyond Tor Kham begins Afghan territory.



KHYBER PASS—BORDER BETWEEN INDIA & AFGHANISTAN

A modern railway has been built through the Khyber Pass. It is, therefore, possible to view this famous place in comfort and safety





ALI MASJID GORGE

guarded by British and Indian soldiers. They are assisted by people known as Khassadars, who carry their own rifles and receive salaries and free ammunition from the Politi-



62  
SL  
Agent. These tribesmen and their officers have mostly seen service in the Indian Army, so you see they are very well trained.

Further on through the Pass we come to Ali Masjid Fort. It is built on the top of a high peak. Landi Kotal Fort is over 3,500 feet high. What a lonely life for the soldiers who guard these forts ! How they must look forward to the time when they will be relieved by their comrades ! Very few of us think of these lonely defenders of the outpost of the Indian Empire. May this trip to the North-West Frontier Province



CSL

and in a short space of time. Some people, however, prefer to go up the Pass by car and return by train. In any case, permission to enter the Pass must first be obtained from the authorities in Peshawar. If the tribes are in a state of unrest, the Pass is generally closed to traffic. The railway itself is a wonderful feat of engineering. The line runs through thirty-four tunnels and over ninety bridges in a distance of thirty miles.

The railway cost over two million pounds sterling. It has been much admired by engineers from other lands, many of whom thought that





was impossible to build such a railway. The Khyber Pass is in some places over 3,500 feet high.

## VI

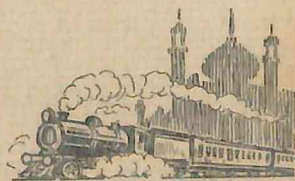
Jamrud Fort is an interesting place. It was built by the Sikhs. Its walls are over ten feet thick, and there are many double gates as an additional protection. Since the Third Afghan War in 1919, the Pass has been



A MALIK OF KABU KHEL



and the Khyber Pass help us to remember them in future. They face a great many dangers for us and we ought to be very proud of them.



63  
CSL

# COCHIN, MALABAR AND THE NILGIRIS

## 1

The parts of India we are now going to visit are famous for their natural beauty. Whether it is the backwaters and canals of Cochin, the spice-producing lands of Malabar, the cool and invigorating climate and splendid scenery of the Nilgiris, or the picturesque sea coast, all that we see will make us very pleased with our visit.



Malabar is the land of pepper, cardamoms, and cloves, a large trade in these spices being carried on ; the Nilgiris produce plenty of coffee, tea and nutmegs, and the homely coconut grows abundantly along the waterways of Cochin.



PEPPER.

Thus these regions are doubly fortunate in possessing natural riches as well as natural beauty. The two things do not always go together. For example, a district with many coal-mines or oil-wells may be very wealthy, but it is usually very ugly. On the other hand, the natural beauty of a country is not only a constant joy to its

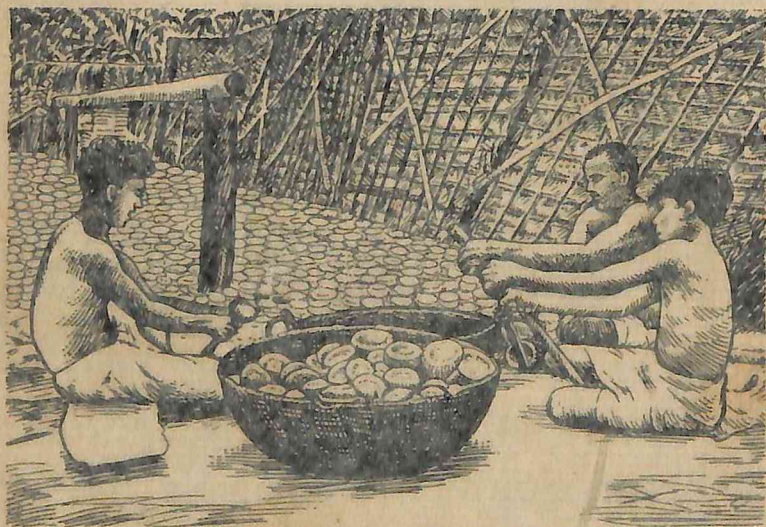
people but often brings them prosperity by attracting large numbers of visitors.



ON THE BACKWATERS, COCHIN

Cochin is one of the important States in Southern India. It has an area of just over 1400 square miles.

Most of the people are Hindus, but twenty-five per cent of the population is Christian. Cochin is a network of canals and backwaters which are very picturesque. These waterways are lined with coconut palms, hence there is a large trade in coir and copra. These things are fully des-



REMOVING KERNELS FROM COCONUTS





SL<sup>5</sup>  
cubed in the little book about Travancore, which I hope you have already read. There are a lot of rubber trees in Malabar and Cochin.

The trees need good soil.

They are generally left alone until they are seven years old.

Then the "tapper" comes along and cuts off

a strip of the tree's bark, and fixes half a coconut shell beneath the cut. The sap, or latex as it is called,



A TAPPER AT WORK



drips into the coconut shell. Some hours later the “tapper” collects the latex and takes it to the factory. There it is mixed with certain chemicals and put into jars. The next morning it looks like cheese. This cheesy-looking mass is called “crepe” rubber. The crepe rubber goes through many processes before it is ready for manufacture into useful articles. The rubber eraser is most necessary for our school work, so when you use it next time, just think for a moment as to how rubber is obtained, and the different stages your eraser went through, from the tree to your desk.



## 2

The history of Cochin is very interesting. In the year 1500 the Portuguese explorer, Cabral, visited Cochin and was well received by the Raja. He returned to Portugal with a large cargo of pepper. Now, the Raja of Cochin was a vassal of the Zamorin of Calicut, and there was bad feeling between the two. In 1503 the Zamorin attacked the Raja of Cochin, and the Raja would have been defeated had not help been near at hand. Just at that time another Portuguese explorer, Albuquerque,



arrived in Cochin to visit the factory which Vasco da Gama had established the previous year. (We shall hear again of all these people when we come to Calicut.)



ALBUQUERQUE

When Albuquerque found fighting in progress he helped the Raja to drive away the Zamorin's forces. He then built a fort at Cochin, and the Zamorin did not dare to attack the Raja. However, as soon as Albuquerque returned to Portugal, the Zamorin attacked Cochin by land and by sea, but was met by the small Portuguese force which had



been left behind. The army from Calicut was then driven back to its own territory. In 1510 Albuquerque returned to Cochin as Portuguese Viceroy. Thereafter the Portuguese, the Dutch and the English vied with each other for possession of the Cochin Factory. In 1776 the town was captured by Hyder Ali, but in 1796 it was taken by the English, who still control parts of Cochin.

### 3

The capital of the Cochin State is Ernakulam. His Highness the Maharaja takes a keen interest in the welfare of his people, and especially

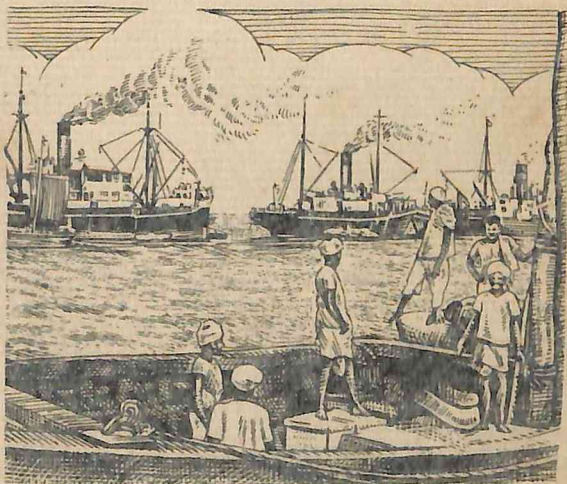


in their education. His palace is at Tripunithura, about five miles from Cochin. The old palace is at Mattancheri and is nearly four hundred years old. It has many beautiful paintings on its walls.

Until a few years ago Cochin, and the backwater on which it is built, were separated from the sea by a bar of sand. Now this sand has been removed and the deep waters of the sea flow into the backwater, thus making a splendid harbour. After much dredging and widening, the harbour is able to take large ocean-going vessels. The passengers on large steamers going to and from Europe are able to embark or disembark



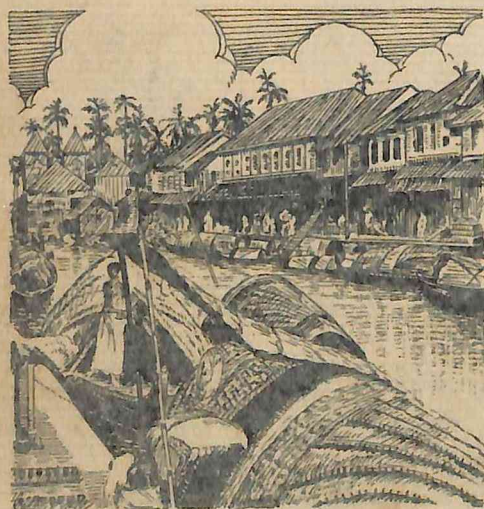
CSL  
at Cochin if they live in Southern India. This saves them the long train journey which they would otherwise have to make to or from Bombay or



COCHIN HARBOUR

Colombo. It also affords an outlet for trade with foreign countries and thus increases the revenues of both the Cochin State and the British

Administration in Southern India. A scheme for enlarging the harbour will soon be completed. Up-to-date hotels are available for visitors and



A CANAL AT COCHIN

passengers on the island that has been reclaimed from the backwater. It is called the Willingdon Island.

We should not leave Cochin without visiting the Jews' quarter. It is in Mattancheri. There are White Jews, who claim to be part of the tribe of Manasseh

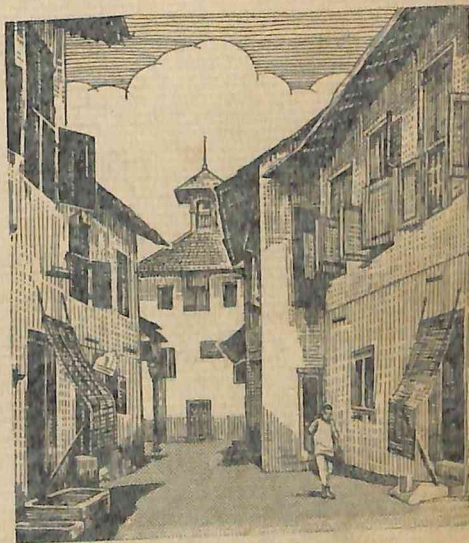
which was driven out of Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar. There are

Black Jews also, who claim to have arrived in

India during the 4th century A. D.

The Black Jews possess a copper plate on which are engraved details of cer-

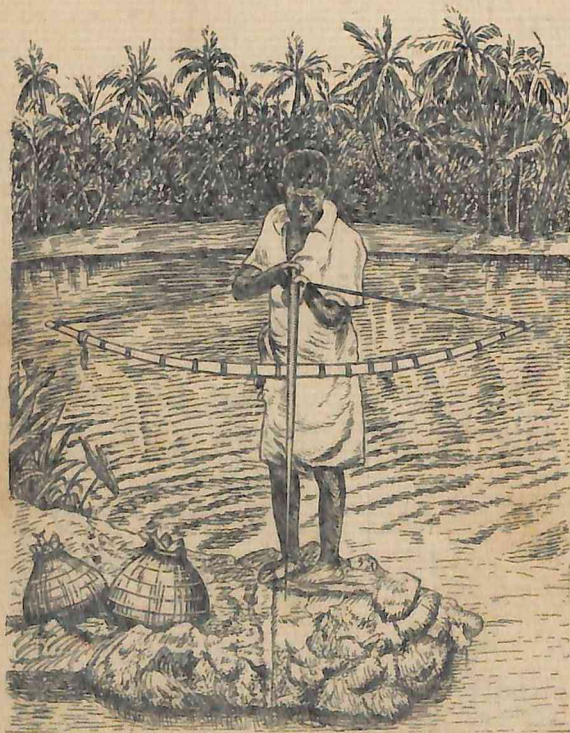
tain favours granted to them by the Brahmin King of Malabar. As this copper plate bears the date A.D. 388 it looks as though their claims are correct.



JEWISH QUARTER, COCHIN



The other important town in Cochin State is Trichur, where there is a very ancient temple. Trichur



A MALABARI FISHING WITH BOW AND ARROW

and Cochin city are connected by a beautiful backwater on which there is



St<sup>o</sup>  
busy traffic. A great deal of fishing is done on the backwaters of Cochin and Malabar. The Malabaris have many different ways of catching fish, but the most curious is the use of the bow and arrow. Here is a picture of a man fishing with a bow and arrow. It is very difficult work, and requires great skill. Many years of practice make him a successful fisherman, as will be seen by the baskets full of fish which are on the ground beside him.

4

We now move on to Calicut by train from Ernakulam. Calicut was for many years the capital of a ruling



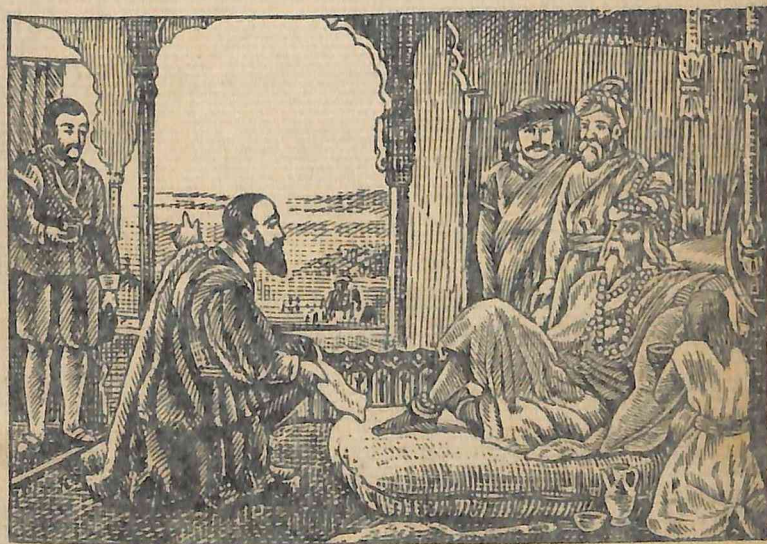
chief called the Zamorin. In the early part of the sixteenth century the Zamorin led many excursions against the Portuguese, as you have already read. His title of Zamorin was derived from the old name Samutiri, or sea-lord. The present Raja of Calicut is still called the Zamorin.

A large portion of the town is occupied by the Moplahs, who are Muslims. They have many mosques and schools. Cotton cloth was formerly sold in large quantities from Calicut, and for this reason it became known as *calico*.

It was on the 20th May, 1498 that Vasco da Gama arrived in Calicut after his famous voyage round the



He took ten months to complete the voyage. You can imagine how pleased he and his crew were to reach their journey's end. Vasco da



VASCO DA GAMA AND THE ZAMORIN

Gama was granted an interview by the Zamorin to whom he gave many presents. He then loaded his vessel with spices and other produce of India

and sailed away home. The Zamorin, however, never liked the Portuguese and there was enmity between his forces and those of the newcomer. In 1510 Albuquerque attacked the town, but was driven off after suffering much loss. At last in 1513 the



HYDER ALI

Zamorin made peace with his enemies and allowed them to build a factory in Calicut. A century later the English Factory was established in the town. In 1766 Hyder Ali besieged the

town. The Zamorin was willing to submit to Hyder Ali, but the latter would not agree. Finding that the



SL 72  
situation was hopeless, the Zamorin set fire to his palace, and himself perished in the flames. Hyder Ali soon left Calicut and went to fight elsewhere. Later on Tippu Sultan nearly demolished the town. He was, however, soon defeated by the English to whom the whole of the Zamorin's territory was ceded. The present Zamorin receives a pension from the British Government.

## 5

As there is a good motor road from Calicut to Ootacamund, we will take advantage of it and pay a visit to the Nilgiris. There are many tea



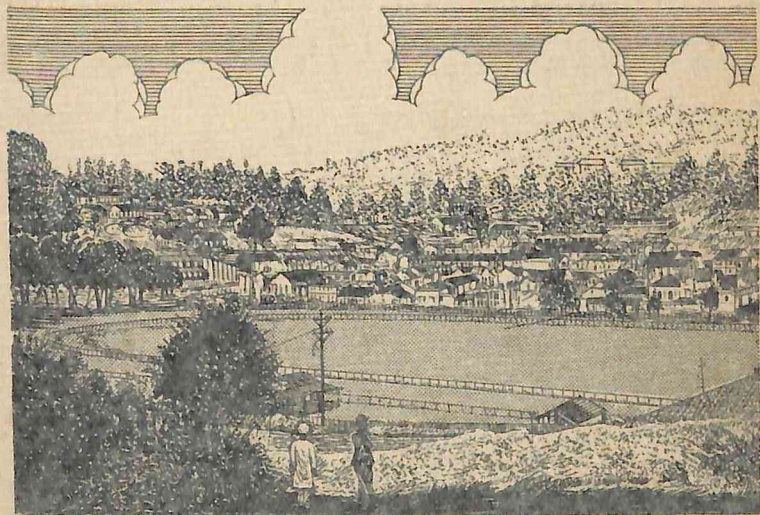
gardens on these picturesque mountains, and the industry provides work for many people. In the mountain jungles, as also on the Wynaad Plateau, there are herds of elephants and bison. Tigers are not scarce and



AN IBEX

black panthers, rare in most parts of India, are frequently seen. This is also the home of the ibex, a species of goat, which can be found on the higher peaks. The ibex is an extremely wary animal and has a very keen sense of smell. Those who stalk it have to be very careful, as it inhabits only slippery precipices.

The chief towns on the Nilgiris are Ootacamund, Coonoor, Wellington and Kotagiri. Kotagiri is the oldest station in the Nilgiris. It has



OOTACAMUND RACE COURSE

a golf course and a small club for the inhabitants. Wellington is a military station three miles from Coonoor, which is about 6000 feet above sea



level. Coonoor has a mild climate being much warmer than Ootacamund. Sim's Park is worth a visit. There are splendid rides to be taken in this district, those to St. Catherine's Waterfall and "Lady Canning's Seat" being popular.

Ootacamund is the summer headquarters of the Madras Government. The town is surrounded by large hills, Dodabetta and Elk's Hill being over 8,000 feet high. The Lake and the Botanical Gardens are the main features of Ootacamund. The climate is delightful, bringing back health to those from Madras and other stations on the plains who are sick or overworked.



In the neighbourhood of Ootacamund are a number of Toda villages.

The Todas are an aboriginal tribe who now live quietly tending their herds of sacred buffaloes and



A TODA HUT

selling their dairy produce. Near every Toda village, or Mand as it is called, is a circle of rough stones, some of them very large. Within



SL

these circles are found images, relics, and other curious articles. Each village has about six huts. The huts are shaped like the top of a covered bullock cart. They are made of bamboo canes firmly tied together. The front and back of the huts are filled in with wooden planks. There is a mud platform on each side of the door, where the owner of the hut can sit and dream of sacred buffaloes and the Toda god, Thakkirsi. The Todas are slowly dying out, their present number being about 500.

I hope none of our party have ever suffered from malaria fever. If there are any they will be interested to know that the quinine which they



CSL

took to cure themselves probably came from these parts. There are large cinchona plantations near Ootacamund. Quinine is manufactured from the bark of the cinchona tree, which was introduced to India from South America in 1860. Nearly twenty tons of quinine are manufactured yearly and sent to all parts of India.



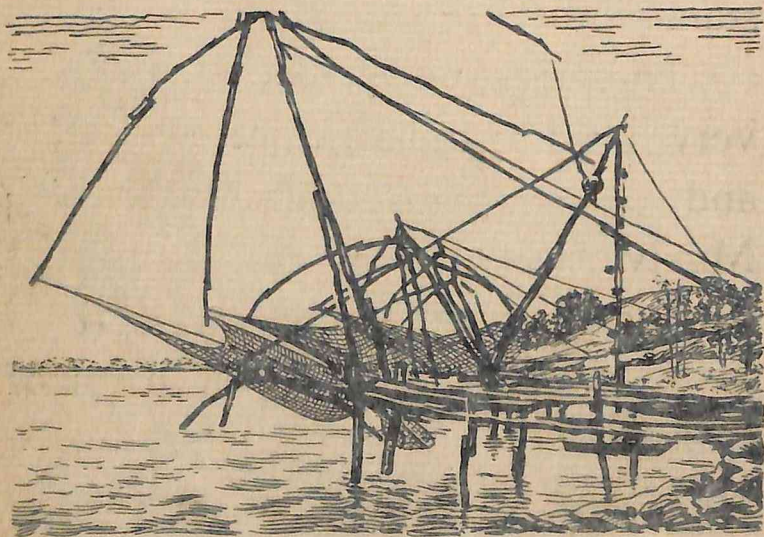
CINCHONA

6

We must not prolong our stay in the Nilgiris so we go back to Calicut by car, admiring the beautiful scenery



on our way down. From Calicut we take the train to Tellicherry, which is a coastal town like Calicut. A reef of rocks in the sea outside the town



“CHINA” FISHING NETS USED IN MALABAR

makes a natural breakwater. A breakwater is a very strong wall built out from the shore with another wall parallel to the shore. These walls



SL<sup>76</sup>  
keep the rough water away and thus make a kind of harbour where the calmer water enables boats and other craft to remain in safety. A fort stands close to the sea.

The main street of Tellicherry is very interesting, most of its houses and shops being owned by the Moplah residents of the place. An English Factory was opened here in 1683. It was used to store the cardamoms and coffee which were brought down from the Wynaad Plateau, as also the pepper which is grown so extensively in Malabar. When the stocks were sufficient they were shipped to England in the old sailing ships which had to weather



many a storm round the Cape and in the Atlantic. GL

The Cantonment of Cannanore is a few miles away. In the Moplah quarter are some old mosques, where one can see the faithful going to and from their prayers. At the beginning of the sixteenth century the old Portuguese fort was sold by the Dutch to the principal Moplah family of Cannanore. The head of this family was known as the Ali Raja. Ali Raja's successors were very friendly to Tippu Sultan in later years, and the war with Tippu led to the capture of the town by the English in 1790. The Ali Raja claimed the Laccadive Islands, and his family ruled over them for





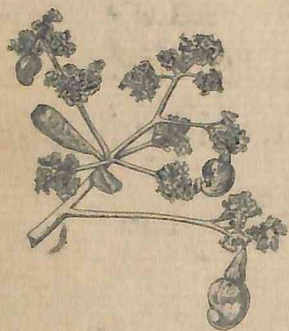
hundreds of years. Finally in 1910 the Islands were ceded to the English and the then Raja was given a pension instead.

We may not enjoy hearing so much of fighting and the storming of forts, but we have unfortunately seen that, even in our own days, the fate of cities and states and whole continents has had to be decided by force of arms. Perhaps the world will one day know better.

## 7

It is a hundred miles by train from Cannanore to Mangalore. Mangalore is a port, but it is not usable during the monsoon months. It used to be

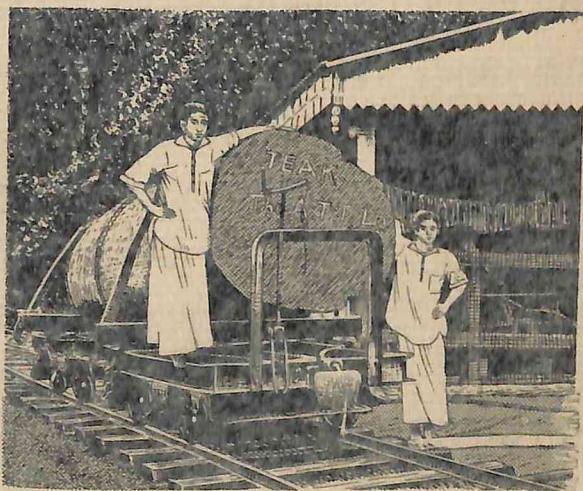
a place of very great importance, as many as four thousand Mohammedan merchants residing there in the fourteenth century. At least Ibn Batuta, the traveller, tells us this. The Sultans of Mysore, both Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan, built their ships at Mangalore. The ships were built



CASHEW NUTS

of teak-wood obtained from the dense forests which cover the slopes of the Western Ghats. The finest forests are on the Annamalai Hills, which are a part of the Ghats. Some trade in coffee is still carried on, but the principal export nowadays is the

cashew nut. Malabar teak is as good as Burma teak. When the teak trees are cut down they are sawn into big logs and then taken by



ANNAMALAI TEAK LOG ON A TROLLEY

elephants and coolies to the Cochin State boundary, where the logs are put on to small trucks. These trucks run on the forest tramway which meets the railway fifty miles away.





MIRS OF TALPURA

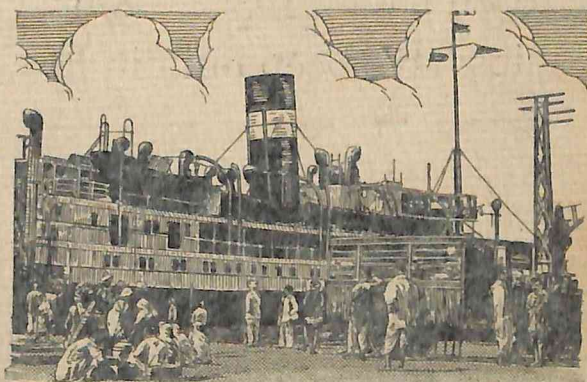
the Mirs. In 1842 Sir Charles Napier annoyed the Mirs by his actions. This led to a war, after which Sind was taken over by the British and attached to the Bombay Presidency. It was made a separate Province in 1936, with Karachi as its capital.

Karachi has a population of about 380,000. It is built on a natural harbour which has been made into a very large seaport. It has fine



SL 80  
docks where ocean-going steamers  
can load and unload their cargoes.

It is the nearest port for the Punjab,



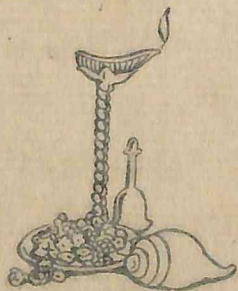
THE MAIL BOAT AT KIAMARI

the North-West Frontier Province  
and Baluchistan.

Karachi is also an important air-  
port, with a large aerodrome at Drigh  
Road. In 1928 a huge airship shed  
was built there. It had been arranged  
to start a service of airships between



The railway, as well as our tour, ends here, so if we are in Mangalore any time between the middle of September and the middle of May it will be very convenient to take one of the small coastal steamers which sail two or three times a week for Bombay. That will be a central place for our party. We have been happy together, sharing the discomforts and pleasures of the journey as a matter of course. May we have many more such trips.







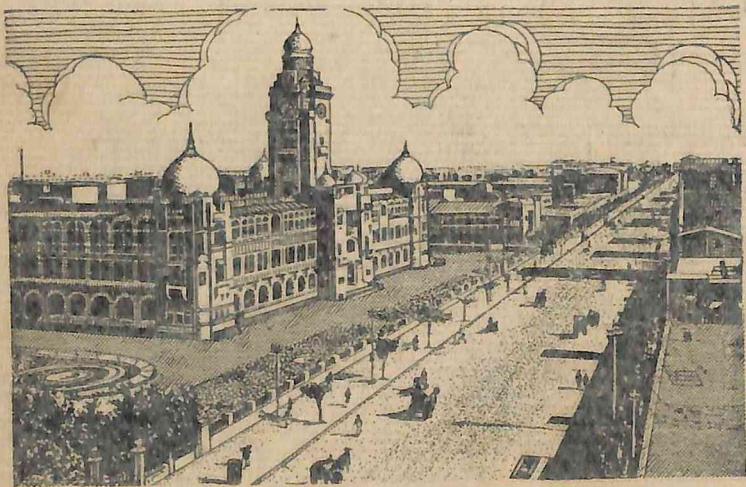
# SIND AND BALUCHISTAN

## 1

Turn to the map of India and you will find Baluchistan and Sind on the west, between latitudes 24° and 32°.

Sind is a desert country, comprising the lower valley of the river Indus. It was once a part of Ahmad Shah Durrani's empire. From the end of the eighteenth century it was governed by the Mirs of the Talpura family. From 1809 onward the British made a series of treaties with

England and Australia. Unfortunately the airship R 101 was destroyed by an accident in France on its first flight to India in 1930. Since then no airships have been built in England,



NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING, KARACHI

so the shed at Drigh Road remains empty.

Karachi is a modern city. The important buildings are Government

House, the Chief Court, the Legislative Assembly, the Victoria Museum, the General Post Office, the Dayaram Jetmal Sind College and the Municipal Offices. There is a Zoo on the outskirts of the town.

Eleven miles to the north of Karachi, near the Baluchistan frontier, is Magar Pir, or Manghopir. This is a little oasis in the surrounding desert. There are two pools of water and a clump of date palms. In the smaller pool is a colony of crocodiles.



Some say that there are as many as two hundred there. Nearby is a





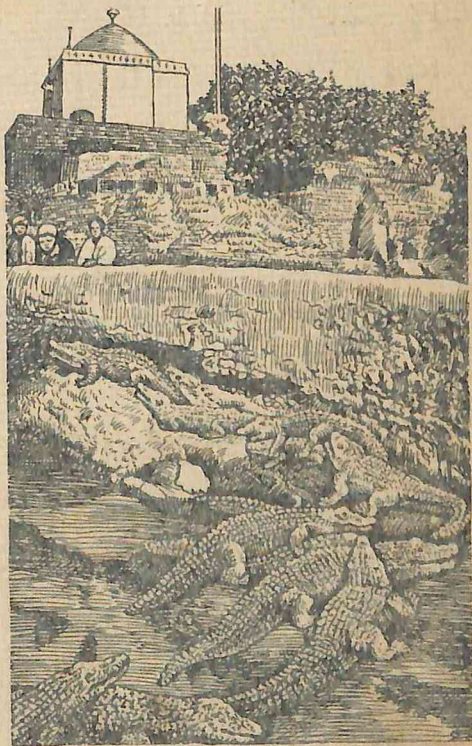
SL  
Pir's tomb and a hot spring which is supposed to have healing powers.

Here is a story about the place.

In the thirteenth century there were many Pirs in Sind. One night four of these holy men sat near the spring and discussed among themselves what they had heard about its healing properties. The four friends were Lal Shahbaz Kalandar, Sheikh Bahawal Haq, Sheikh Farid Ganj, and Lakho Saheb. All four Pirs then bathed in the waters of the spring. Now, the guardian of the spring was a Hindu named Mangho. He made friends with the four Pirs, and the five men sat all night discussing religious questions. The next

city Mangho went with the Pirs to a sacred place about thirty miles

away. As a result of this trip he became a Muslim, and returned to watch over his spring, he now being himself a Pir. The four saintly Pirs were so pleased with



SACRED CROCODILE POOL, MANGHOPIR

Mangho that they made a date palm grow out of the arid sand near the



CSL

house. To-day there is a small oasis of date palms. Lal Shahbaz Kalandar, the most famous of the four Pirs, then filled the small pool with crocodiles. This miracle greatly pleased Mangho Pir, who lived happily for many years and was then buried in the tomb we see near the spring. Many pilgrims still bathe in the waters and bring goats as offerings to be sacrificed to the crocodiles, which are considered to be sacred.

## 2

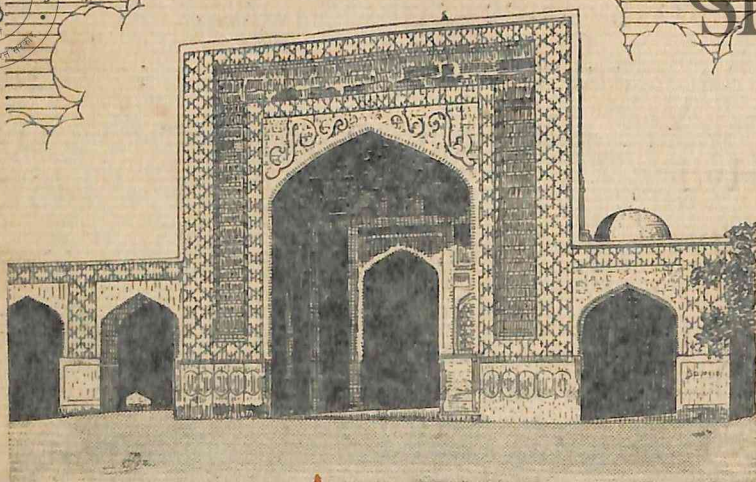
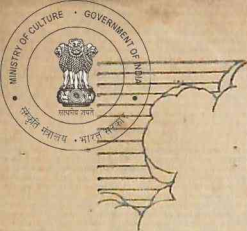
About fifty miles from Karachi by rail is Jungshahi Station. A further thirteen miles by road brings



83  
GL

to a place called Tatta. In 1340 the Samma kings made it their capital. In course of time they became very powerful. By 1461, under the rule of Nizam-ud-din, they had reached the height of their power. This period of power and prosperity is called the "Golden Age" of Sind. The people loved King Nizam-ud-din, and their pet name for him was "Jam Nindo". After his death Sind was invaded by the Turkhans from the north. They ruled until 1612, when Lower Sind became a part of the Moghul Empire.

Tatta has a large mosque which was started by Shahjehan and finished by Aurangzeb. Outside the city,



JAMI MASJID, TATTA

on the Makli Hill, is a vast cemetery of six square miles. It is said to contain over one million graves. A few tombs still stand. To the north of Makli Hill are a number of tombs, including those of Nizam-ud-din (Jam Nindo), the last of the Sammas, and Mirza Jani Beg, the last of the Turkhans.

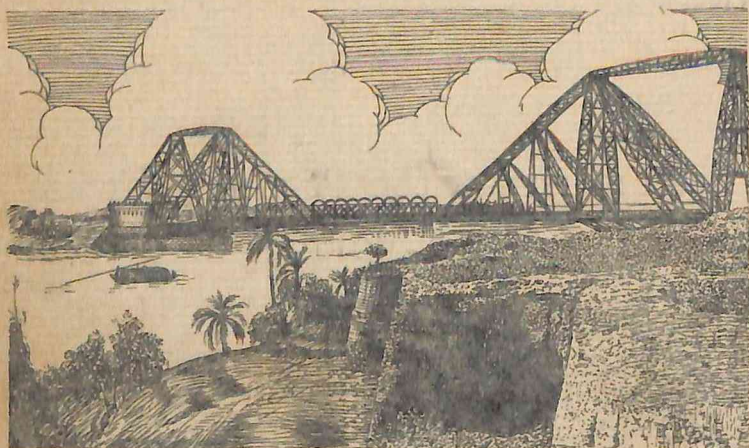
We now make our way to Hyderabad, which used to be the capital of Sind under the Mirs.

Most of the city stands on a hill. The river Indus flows to the west of the city and the Fuleli canal, an offshoot of the Indus, flows to the east. The modern town of Hyderabad was built by Ghulam Shah Kalhora in the eighteenth century. He also built a fort, some parts of which are still standing. The city has considerably outgrown its original limits.

If we climb to the top of the circular tower in the fort, we shall



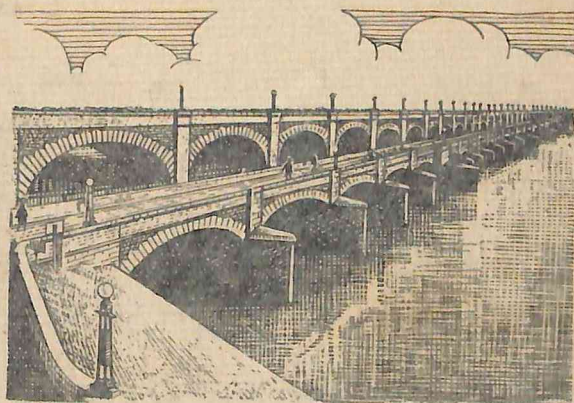
At that time, according to Hiuen Tsang, Sind stretched from Kashmir to the sea, with Alor as its capital.



THE LANSDOWNE BRIDGE OVER THE INDUS NEAR SUKKUR.

Opposite Rohri is the small island of Khwaja Khizr. The shrine of Saint Khizr is venerated by both Hindus and Mohammedans. A little to the south of Khizr Island is the

SL 86  
land of Bukkur. It is at this point that the River Indus is crossed by the Lansdowne Bridge. It connects Rohri with Bukkur Island, then crosses to Sukkur. The bridge takes

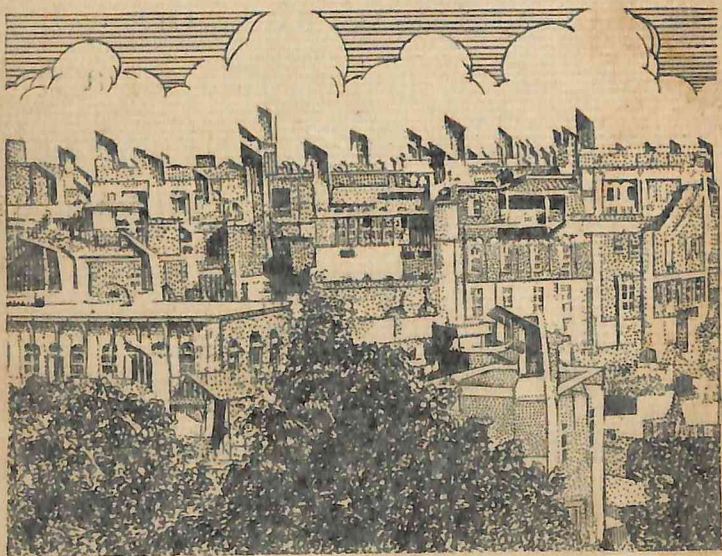


SUKKUR BARRAGE

foot passengers, road traffic and the railway. Sukkur at once brings to mind the wonderful Lloyd Barrage. It was begun in 1923 and opened by Lord Willingdon in 1932. Where the



get a very fine view of the city and its surroundings. The tombs of the Talpuras and Kalhoras are worth a visit.



HYDERABAD, THE CAPITAL OF SIND. EVERY ROOF HAS ITS WIND TOWER TO CATCH THE BREEZE

About seventy miles south-east of Hyderabad is the old Rajput fort of Amarkot. Here was born the child





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vino was destined to be one of the most famous men in history—Akbar, the Great Moghul Emperor.

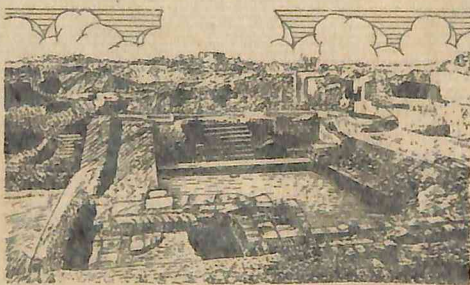
From Hyderabad we take the train to Rohri on the Indus. Rohri is said to have been founded by Rukn-ud-din Shah in 1297. At Rohri is preserved a hair of the Prophet Muhammad. It is in a gold tube covered with rubies and other precious stones. It was brought from Constantinople by Abdul Baki. Some of his descendants still have the privilege of guarding the holy relic.

Five miles from Rohri is the ancient town of Alor, or Arore as it is now called. Hiuen Tsang, the Chinese pilgrim, visited it in A. D.

Barrage crosses the Indus it is one mile long. The water flows into seven canals, totalling 400 miles in length. They spread the life-giving water to six million acres of thirsty land.

4

About seventy miles from Sukkur is the famous Mohenjo-daro, or

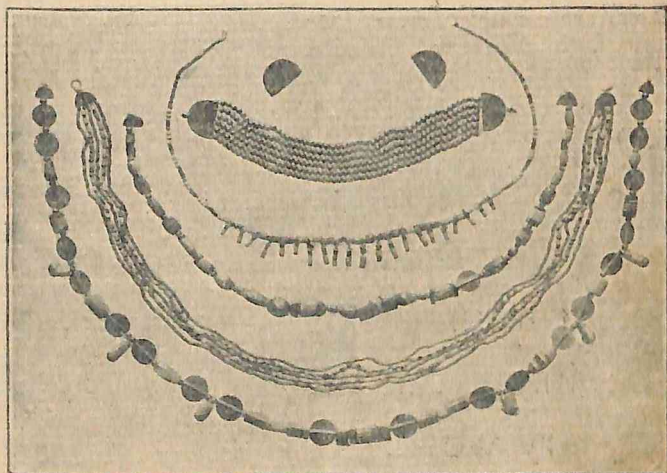


MOHENJO-DARO. VIEW OF THE BATH.

Mound of the Dead. The ruins of five or six cities are below the huge mound



earth, but only one city has been uncovered. That city was flourishing about 5000 B. C. Its people were highly civilised. They knew all about town planning and sanitation. This is



MOHENJO-DARO JEWELLERY.

quite clear from the remains which have been uncovered. The Great Tank or Bath must be visited. There is a drain for emptying the water from



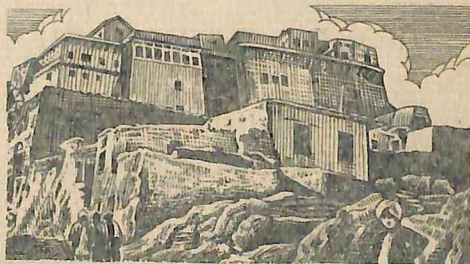


The Tank, and nearby are rows of well-paved dressing-rooms. Most of the places uncovered are houses and shops, which are provided with drains and bathrooms, things unknown to many of our towns and villages in the India of to-day. We should take this lesson to heart and try and help others to get the means of proper sanitation where none exist. This can only be done through our legislators, who must insist on the money for such necessary work.

## 5

We now start on a visit to Baluchistan. Baluchistan is a land of sand-dunes and deserts. Its eastern boun-

SL 38  
ries touch Sind, more than half of Baluchistan consists of the two States of Kalat and Las Bela, and its western frontier lies alongside that of Persia. Fifteen miles from Sukkur is Ruk Junction, and from there we take the



THE CITADEL AT KALAT.

train to Quetta. Our first stop is Shikarpur. A great road to Central Asia passes through Shikarpur, which was for long a busy trading centre.

The next halting-place is Jacobabad. It is modern, having been laid

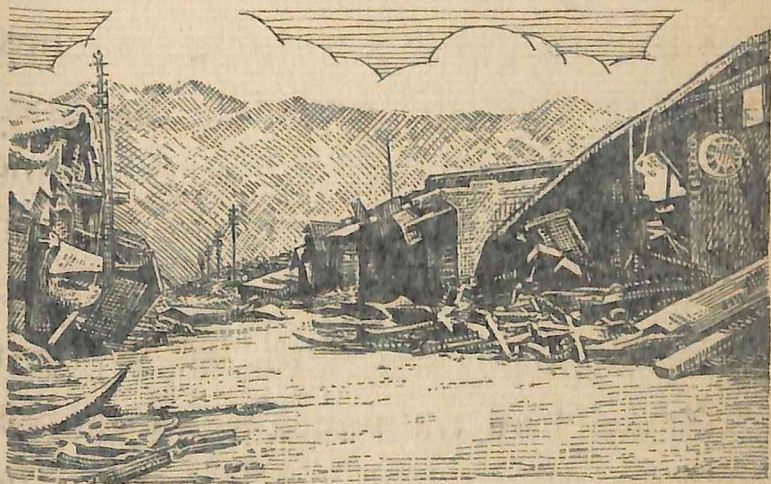


Its population is about 65,000. CLIn winter-time the people have to wear thick clothes, as the cold is very severe. Many beautiful gardens and orchards surround Quetta, so you can guess how the schoolboys look forward to the time when the peaches, water-melons, and grapes will be ripe! You would imagine that these same schoolboys must be very happy in such lovely surroundings. So indeed they are, but there is always one fear at the back of their minds. What is that fear? It is the fear of earthquakes.

In 1935, on May 31st, a terrible earthquake shook the city of Quetta and the surrounding country. Houses



and shops, hospitals and temples, mosques and churches, all tumbled down to the ground like packs of cards. Thousands of people were cast into the yawning earth and were



SWAJ GANJ BAZAR, QUETTA, AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE

never seen again. Others were buried under the ruins and were killed at once or trapped, perhaps with severe



But in 1850 by General John Jacob. At that time the surrounding district was a paradise for robbers and dacoits, who kept the population in a state of unrest. The General's rule, however, soon turned the restless district into a peaceful one. The climate of Jacobabad is terrible in the summer months. The temperature has been known to exceed 125 degrees in the shade ! How its inhabitants must then long for some cool refreshing drinks, and no doubt ice-cream as well ! Perhaps they get it ; let us hope they do.

A hundred miles away is Sibi Junction, near the entrance to the famous Bolan Pass. We cross the



89  
SL  
Pass nine times on our way to Quetta. Three engines are usually attached to the train, as part of the way is very steep. One of the stations we pass is called Mach. It is 3250 feet above sea-level, so you can easily understand why so many engines are required to pull the train.

## 6

Quetta is 5,500 feet above sea-level, and is the headquarters of the Western Command of the army. Both British and Indian soldiers are stationed here. Quetta is a very important frontier post, as it commands both the Khojak and Bolan Passes.





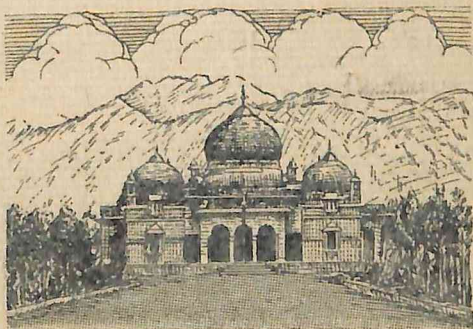
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injuries, until the rescue parties came along. When the earth stopped

quaking, those who survived began to search for their loved ones. Rescue work went on day and night until outside relief came. Our older school-boy friends of Quetta do not wish to see such sights again. The city and parts of the cantonment are still being rebuilt !

Fort Sandeman and Chaman are military outposts a few miles from Quetta. The railway terminates at Chaman where we see the Khojak Pass, which is surmounted by a military road. If we ascend it we shall get a fine view of the country lying between the Pass and Kandahar, an

SL  
Important town in Afghanistan  
Kandahar was called Arachosia by  
Alexander the Great. In ancient  
India it was known as Gandhara. We  
leave this spot wondering what the

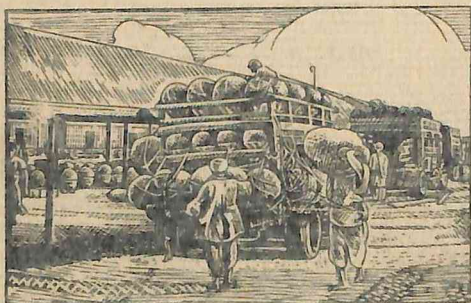


SANDEMAN HALL, FORT SANDEMAN

future has in store. Will the railroad  
ever be continued into Afghanistan?  
Only the future can tell.

Chaman is not only a frontier out-  
post, but is the depot for the valuable

fruit trade with Afghanistan. The main traffic is in grapes, which begin to arrive at Chaman in June and continue till November. In olden days the fruit used to be sent from Kandahar to Chaman by camels, but



LORRIES BEING UNLOADED AT CHAMAN STATION.

nowadays up-to-date motor lorries are used. The baskets of luscious fruit are placed in the waiting railway wagons, which are fitted for cold storage. The trains steam off to





distant parts of India, where the fruit is soon sold. SL

Thus a small station in Baluchistan becomes the link between the distant vineyards of Afghanistan and the fruit bazars of Bombay, Delhi, and Calcutta.

Let us, who enjoy the delicious grapes, remember with gratitude the scores of workers whose labour have helped to bring them to us—the pickers in the vineyards, the packers of the fruit, the lorry drivers rushing along the Afghan roads, the coolies loading the baskets into the train at Chaman, and last but not least, the railway workers who bring the fruit safely to its destination. We are



grateful to them and to the modern  
inventions which make their work  
possible.





## CENTRAL INDIA

Central India—two small words, but with much behind them. The preachers of Buddhism settled in the centre of India to spread the teachings of their Founder, and to build wonderful places to hold his relics. The Hindus covered the centre of India with temples and shrines for the worship of God. The Muslims fought many a battle and built many a mosque in the centre of India for the faith of





Islam. So, through the centuries, Central India has been the scene of the beginning or development of great religions, great dynasties, and great wars. It is a land steeped in history and adventure.

Central India, which includes Malwa and the Central Provinces, has Gujarat on the west, Rajputana and the United Provinces on the north, Bihar and Orissa on the east, and the Nizam's Dominions on the south.

Running through the centre of this land are the Vindhya Mountains and the Satpura Hills. The principal river is the Narbada. In the south there is much black soil which is



valuable for cotton growing. Coal is found in many places. The chief crops are rice, jowar, wheat, pulses and cotton. There is still a large demand for opium, hence poppy fields are a feature of Central India. The people are mostly Hindus, but there is also a large Muslim population. Hindi and Marathi are the chief languages of the people.

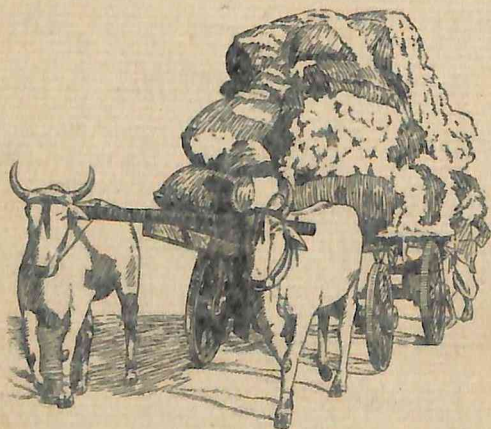
Gwalior, Bhopal, Indore, Rutlam, Rewa, Dhar, Dholpur, Datia, Kotah, Dewas Junior, Dewas Senior, and Barwani are important States ruled by Indian Princes.

Our brief visit can only cover the chief places of interest in this vast stretch of country, and many impor-



ant places must be omitted from our list, because they are far from the railway.

Our tour commences from Bombay, that beautiful city by the sea. We take the Calcutta Mail from the



A CART LOADED WITH COTTON

Victoria Terminus and are soon on our way to Khandwa Junction, which is the first town on our programme. Khandwa is in the heart of the





cotton-growing country and is therefore the centre for the export of that important material. The bullock-carts lumber along the country roads with their burden of raw cotton, which is packed into sacks. When the carts reach Khandwa station they are quickly unloaded, and the cotton-bags are stacked in the sheds till wagons are ready to take them to the mills.

We now leave the broad-gauge line of the G. I. P. Railway and cross over to the metre-gauge line of the B. B. & C. I. Railway. The gauge of a railway is the distance between the two lines or rails. The metre-gauge is narrower than the broad-



SL

gauge. Can you tell me what the difference is ?

Thirty-eight miles from Khandwa we cross the river Narbada. The bridge is 2836 feet long and is very impressive. Onkareshwar, an important place of pilgrimage for Hindus, and Máheshwar lie to the west. It was at Maheshwar that the famous Ahalya Bai built a series of magnificent ghats alongside the river bank. The town was formerly the capital of the Holkars.

The train now wends its way across the Vindhya Mountains which are famous for their very fine scenery. The waterfalls of Patalpani are visited by hundreds of people.

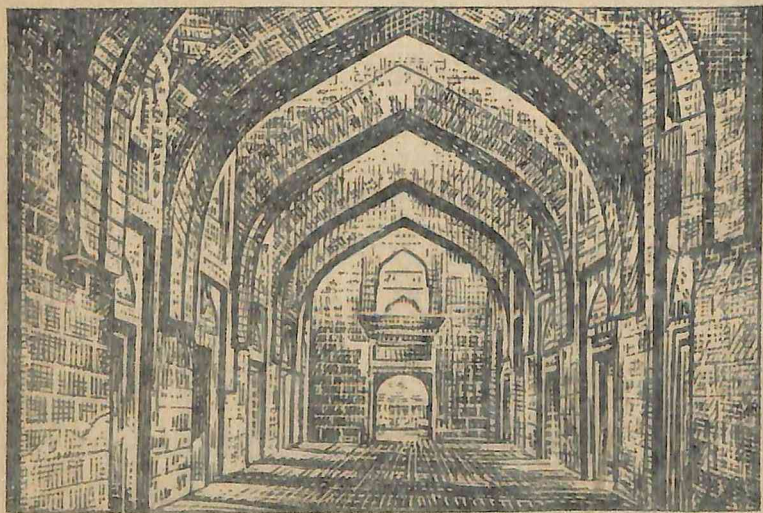
CSL<sup>96</sup>

Our next stopping-place is Mhow which is a military cantonment. It is situated 2000 feet above sea-level and has a very fine climate. There are no places of interest in this town, but we can make an expedition to the ruined city of Mandu fifty-five miles away, which was the ancient capital of Malwa. Mandu is in the State of H. H. the Maharaja of Dhar, a Mahratta prince of the Puar dynasty. The State covers an area of 1800 square miles.

The ruins of Mandu are now surrounded by dense jungle, through which paths have been cut to enable visitors to see what is left of the city. The Jama Masjid is in a fairly good



state of preservation, as are also the two or three tombs near by. Quite a number of ruined palaces are near at hand, including the Hindola Mahal and the Jahaz Mahal. The fortifications round the ruins were built by Hoshang Shah Gori, who reigned at the beginning of the 15th century.



INTERIOR OF THE HINDOLA MAHAL AT MANDU

he city was captured by <sup>311</sup> Akbar in 1570. When the Emperor Jehangir

entered Mandu at the head of a triumphal procession, in which were 500 elephants, he was accompanied by England's Ambassador, Sir Thomas



JEHANGIR

Roé. When the visitors had been taken to their quarters the Ambassador learned that one of his baggage-ponies had been killed by the lions which then roamed about the neighbourhood. I do not know if the baggage on this pony contained Sir Thomas's ceremonial dress, but if it did we can picture him explaining the



SL  
matter to Jehangir. We can also imagine the Emperor “laughing up his sleeve” and enjoying the Ambassador’s discomfiture.

We will leave Mandu before dusk, as we do not want to stay the



SIR THOMAS ROE

night there. It is a very lonely and desolate place, so we will go back to Mhow, where there are a number of good hotels.

From Mhow we proceed by train to Indore. It is the capital of an important State which has an area of nearly ten thousand square miles. The most celebrated Chief in the



History of the Indore State was Malhar Rao Holkar, who founded it. He died in 1766. After his death his daughter-in-law, the famous Ahalya Bai, carried on the affairs of state for more than thirty years. Any of her subjects could speak to her when she sat in open Durbar every day. She listened patiently to their complaints and gave judgement on them. If the cases were too complicated the Queen sent them to her Ministers. The poor were never overtaxed or looked



AHALYA BAI



SL

down upon. Ahalya Bai recognised them as her loyal subjects, and she, in turn, was loved by them all. She was a very charitable lady. She built temples and rest-houses up and down the land—from Badrinath in the Himalayas to Rameswaram in the south, and from Dwarka in the west to Puri in the east. Ahalya Bai died in 1795 at the age of sixty.

Indore has some fine modern buildings, chief of which are the King Edward Hall, the Courts of Justice, the Tukoji Rao Hospital, and the Holkar College. The Lal Bagh Palace stands amidst beautiful gardens south of the town. Near the British Residency are the King Edward



Hospital and the Daly College, where princes and nobles are educated. The city has a population of about two lacs. It is the most important city in Malwa, having nine cotton mills, an up-to-date water-works, three Colleges and number of High Schools.

Thirty miles from Indore are the two States of Dewas Junior and Dewas Senior. Their rulers are enlightened Chiefs and the States are very ably administered. Both rulers belong to the Puar Dynasty.

We now go on to Ujjain, via Fatehabad Junction. Ujjain is one of the seven sacred cities of the Hindus. In olden times it was called

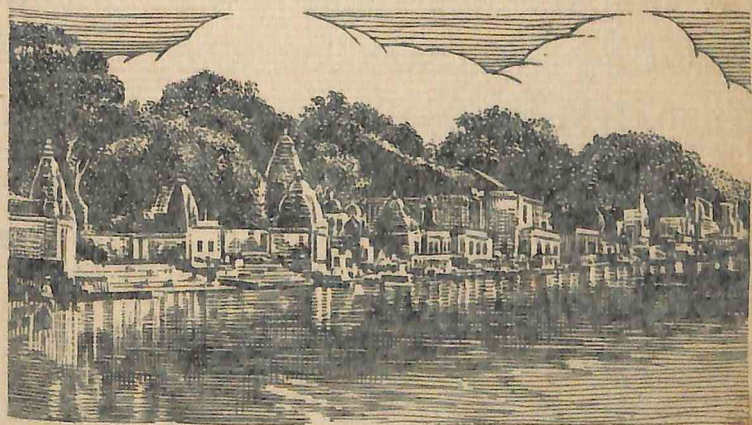




Avanti, and was well known to the SL Greeks. In 175 B.C. Asoka was sent to Avanti as Viceroy for his father, who remained in his capital of Pataliputra (Patna). According to ancient legends Ujjain was also the capital of Vikramaditya, who is said to have been lord of nearly all the north of India. Ujjain was captured in 1235 by Altamsh, and later on Alauddin Khilji conquered the whole of the Province of Malwa. Malwa remained in Muslim hands until 1732, when the Mahrattas conquered it and gave Ujjain and the surrounding country to Maharaja Scindia.

The ruins of ancient Ujjain are

to the north of the city. The modern town is built on the site of the famous Mahakal Temple which was demolished by Altamsh. A great fair, called the "Sinhastha", is held in Ujjain every twelfth year, when Hindu pilgrims gather there from all parts of India. Ujjain belongs to the Gwalior State. South of the town



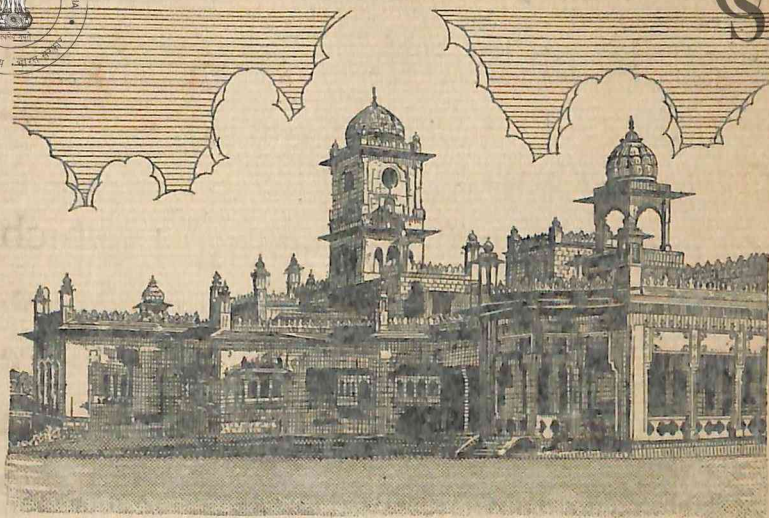
UJJAIN



is an observatory built by Maharaja Jai Singh of Jaipur. There is, as you know, another of Jai Singh's observatories at Delhi.

Our next stop is at Bhopal, which is the capital of the Bhopal State. This is the principal Moslem State in Central India and is next in importance among Moslem States to Hyderabad. The dynasty was founded in 1707 by Sardar Dost Mohammad Khan. From 1868 to 1901 the State was very ably ruled by Shahjehan Begam, who during that time was the only woman ruler of an Indian State. Her Highness started a purdah club for ladies, and opened many schools for boys and girls. His Highness the





THE HOSPITAL, BHOPAL

Nawab maintains a very efficient army, which is doing excellent service in the present war.

The Palace of the Nawab, the Jami Masjid, the Moti Masjid, the Citadel, and the Hospital are all very imposing. The late Sultana started the building of a mosque called the



aj-ul-Masjid. When it is finished it will be one of the largest mosques in India. The Lake is the outstanding feature of Bhopal, and if we have time we can go out on its beautiful waters in one of the many rowing boats which are available.

About twenty-five miles from Bhopal is Sanchi, where we shall see the finest collection of Buddhist remains in India. The monuments, which are sometimes called the Bhilsa Topes, are situated near the site of the ancient city of Vidisa, whose modern name is Bhilsa. The word tope is derived from the word *stupa*. One of Asoka's queens, called Devi, was born at Vidisa, so one can easily understand

102  
SL  
The Emperor's interest in the ancient city. On Sanchi Hill he built a monastery for Mahendra, who afterwards went to Ceylon and converted its peoples to the teachings of Buddha. Most of the remains at Sanchi are connected with Asoka, who is once more shown to be one of the chief disciples of "The Blessed One."

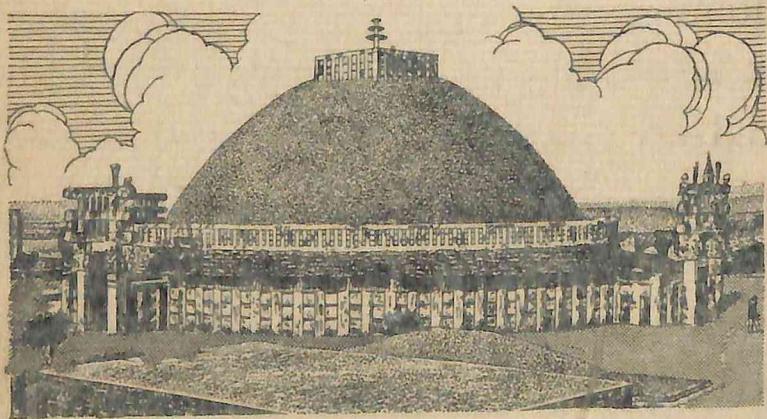


"THE BLESSED ONE"

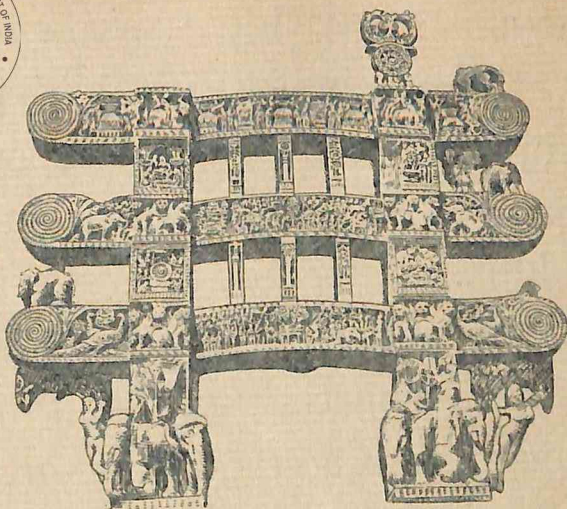
Most of the monuments which can now be seen at Sanchi were excavated in 1914 under the orders of the Government of Bhopal. Thus



SL  
We see a progressive Mohammedan State taking an interest in the Buddhism of Ancient India. The monuments can be divided into four classes : the *stupas* or mounds built over a relic of Buddha or a Buddhist saint, the *chaitya halls* or chapels, the *memorial pillars* of Asoka, and the *monasteries* where the Buddhist monks used to live.



THE GREAT STUPA AT SANCHI



EAST GATEWAY OF SANCHI TOPE

The Great Stupa has an enormous dome. Its diameter is 103 feet and it is 42 feet high. The stupa is built of red stone and is surrounded by two sets of railings within which the monks and the faithful used to walk in procession. The entrance to this pathway is through four huge gates, situated at the four points of the compass. The



gateways are richly carved with many figures which include men, women, horsemen, lions and elephants. They also depict scenes from the life of Buddha.

These relics of Buddhism are so very interesting that it is to our interest to engage a guide who will give us the correct information about each of them. We leave Sanchi deeply impressed by the artistic skill of the ancient Buddhists.

Continuing our journey via Bina and Jhansi Junctions, we come to the ancient town of Mahoba. The Chandel Raja, Chandra Varma, is said to have performed a great sacrifice here in A. D. 800. From Mahoba

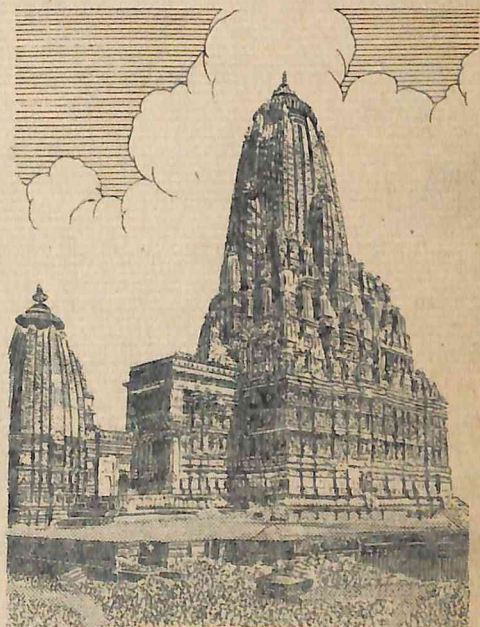




There is a fairly good road to Khajraho, 36 miles away. At Khajraho we shall find a number of magnificent temples.

There are thirty temples in all, and we are told that all of them were built before A.D. 1000.

In the Kandarya Mahadeo Temple there are



KHAJRAHO TEMPLE OF PARASNATH

over eight hundred statues, which must certainly have taken a long time to carve, to say the very least. We



GWALIOR FORT



leave these wonderful temples, via Jhansi, for the very important State of Gwalior, which is one of the most advanced States in India.

The ruler of Gwalior succeeded his father in 1925, and assumed full ruling powers in 1936. The State has an area of nearly 27,000 square miles, and His Highness rules over three and a half million people. On our way to the fort, which is the outstanding feature of Gwalior, we pass the tomb of Mohammed Ghaus, who was Akbar's spiritual guide. The building is impressive and contains some beautiful specimens of *jali* work, for which this State is famous. The word *jali* means a net or something



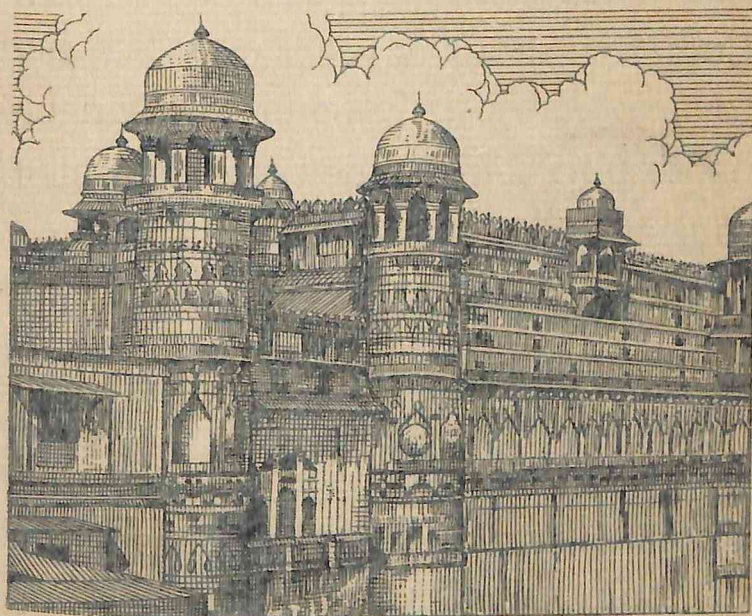


full of holes. Skilled workmen cut out beautiful designs on stone and marble, and these are mostly used as screens for balconies. In modern buildings jali work is moulded in concrete, but the effect is not so pleasing.

Near at hand is the tomb of Tan Sen, the famous musician of Akbar's time. He was the pride of the Emperor's court and was one of Akbar's "Nine Gems". Near the tomb grows a tamarind tree which is visited by singers from all over India. They believe that if they chew the leaves of the tree it will improve their voices by giving them a wonderfully sweet tone.

The Fort stands on a hill which

rises 300 feet from the ground. From the ancient records kept in the Fort we find that in the fifth century Mihirakula erected a temple of the Sun on top of the hill. Many dynasties ruled over Gwalior until it was



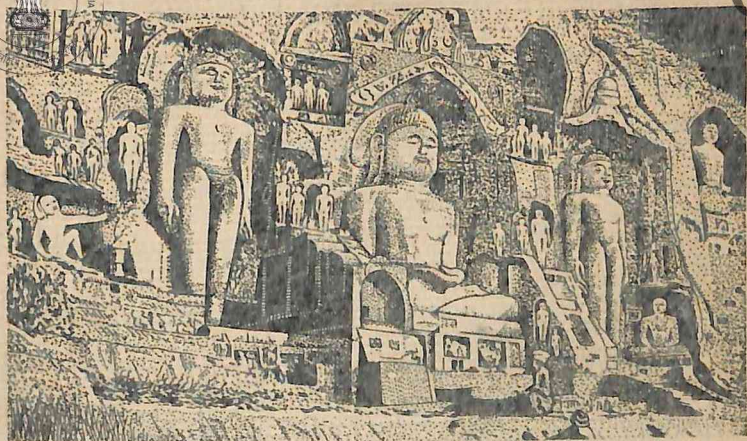
MAN SINGH'S PALACE IN GWALIOR FORT



captured by Altamsh, after which a number of Mohammedan and Hindu rulers held sway in turn. One of the greatest of Gwalior's rulers was Raja Man Singh, and his palace in the Fort is unique. Raja Man Singh's son held the fort against Ibrahim Lodi for about a year and then had to surrender. It remained in Mughal hands until 1754, when the Mahrattas took it.

The Fort is a landmark for miles around, but its heart is Raja Man Singh's Palace. The outside of this gem of architecture is covered with brilliantly coloured tiles and mosaics depicting elephants, peacocks, and other birds and animals. Inside the

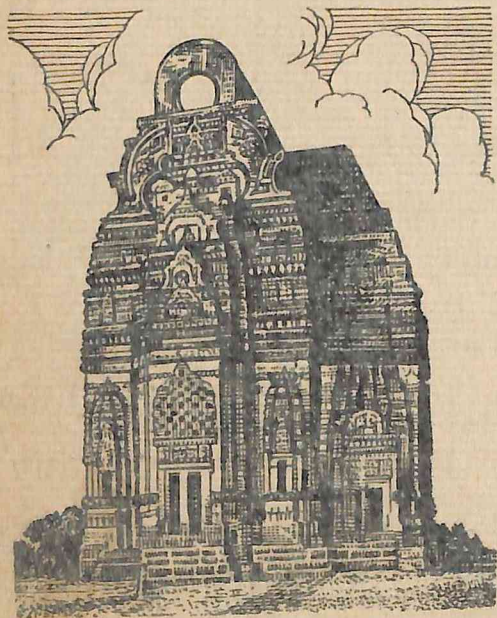




ROCK SCULPTURES IN THE CLIFF BELOW GWALIOR FORT,  
EACH FIGURE IS 57 FT. HIGH

palace are halls which have from time to time been the scene of stately Durbars and historic gatherings. Down below, in the depths of the earth, are the dungeons. The Emperor Aurangzeb kept his brother, Prince Murad, in one of these gloomy cells before he was executed in 1661. On the west side of the Fort is the

Teli-ka-Mandir, which is a temple in honour of Siva. The Rock Sculptures of Gwalior are enormous and are



carved out of the steep cliff below the walls of the Fort.

Under the present Ruler the State of Gwalior has shown remarkable

progress. It maintains an army and has its own postal system. Its leather industry, pottery works and cotton mills are very successful. There is a





seaplane base at Madhav Sagar. It is used by the Imperial Air Line and is a welcome halt on the way to and from Calcutta.

We now take a round-about journey to Jubbulpore. In order to get to Jubbulpore, which is the second city of the Central Provinces, we have to take the train via Jhansi, Bina and Katni Junctions. The important towns of Bilaspur and Raipur lie on the eastern side of the Provinces, whilst to the north is the State of Rewa. The territory of the Maharaja covers 13,000 square miles. His Highness is a great sportsman, and is said to have shot over 500 tigers.



Jubbulpore is a very important military station, the railway dividing the town from the cantonment. The town has a fairly cool climate and houses nearly 125,000 people. When



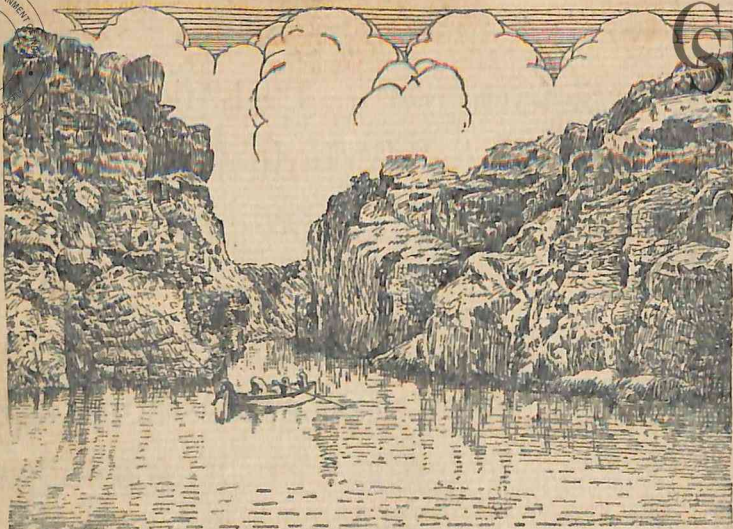
THUGS

the infamous Thugs were near the end of their careers, Colonel Sleeman having been ordered to hunt them down, numbers of these criminals gave themselves up and did not hesitate

SL<sup>109</sup>

reveal many of their secrets. These informers and their families were placed in an Industrial School which was opened in Jubbulpore. At one time there were 2,500 Thugs shut up in the school. If you want to read all about the Thugs and their ways, you should get Philip Meadows Taylor's "Confessions of a Thug". It is intensely interesting and will keep you quiet for hours and hours.

We must not leave Jubbulpore before seeing the famous Marble Rocks. The river Narbada plunges over a gorge near the temple of Madanpur. At the foot of the gorge begin the Marble Rocks, which are really white cliffs of limestone about



MARBLE ROCKS, JUBBULPORE

one hundred feet high. When they gleam in the light of the moon the effect is very picturesque.

Having seen the second city, we go on to the capital of the Central Provinces. This is Nagpur, which we reach by another round-about railway journey via Nainpur and





India. Nagpur is built on the banks of the river Nag, and has a population of about 220,000. There is a fort on top of Sitabaldi Hill, from whence we can obtain a splendid view of the district. Nagpur is famous for the delicious oranges which are grown there. These oranges are in much demand and are exported to Bombay, Calcutta, and other places. There are two colleges and two cotton mills in Nagpur, so that both the intellectual and the material wants of the people are catered for. The G. I. P. Railway terminates at Nagpur, and from this point eastwards the B. N. Railway takes over the "Iron Road".



We end our tour of Central India in the capital of the Central Provinces. What are your impressions? This time we have not had much magnificent scenery to charm us, but we have had a series of forts and ancient ruins to impress us with the chivalrous doings of many kings and princes, and even queens. Perhaps their strivings were leading up to the day, indeed these very days, when it is possible for all communities to live peaceably together.





# THE NIZAM'S DOMINIONS

## 1

India is a very large country. Part of it is ruled by the British Government ; the other part consists of the States which are ruled by Princes. The Princes are the descendants of some of the Kings who ruled over various parts of India before the British came.

Now the largest State in India is that of Hyderabad and Berar. It covers an area of about 83,000 sq. miles and has a population of over





Sixteen million people. It has an annual income of nearly nine crores of rupees.

Hyderabad is first mentioned in some of the famous writings of Asoka, when the State was under the rule of Andhra kings. Various Hindu dynasties followed until 1294. Then the Sultan of Delhi, Ala-ud-din Khilji, conquered Hyderabad. A long line of kings belonging to the Bahmani and the Kutb Shahi dynasties ruled in turn.

The founder of the present ruler's line was Nizam-ul-mulk, who was afterwards given the title of Nawab Asaf Jah Bahadur. He had been appointed viceroy of the Deccan



b the Emperor Aurangzeb. He was afterwards made ruler of a vast territory including not only Hyderabad but the Carnatic as well. What happened after the reign of Asaf Jah Bahadur can be read in your history text-book.

## 2

The ruler of Hyderabad State is the Nizam. He ascended the throne in 1911. He is the most important Ruling Prince in India. The title of "Exalted Highness" was conferred on him by the King-Emperor in 1918. In 1936, he received the additional title of Nizam of Berar. His eldest son and heir is called the Prince of Berar. The Nizam is assisted in the



government of the State by an Executive Council and a Legislative Council. Hyderabad is the only



SOME HYDERABAD POSTAGE STAMPS

State which has its own gold, silver and paper currency. It also has a nice series of postage stamps.

His Exalted Highness is considered to be one of the richest men in the





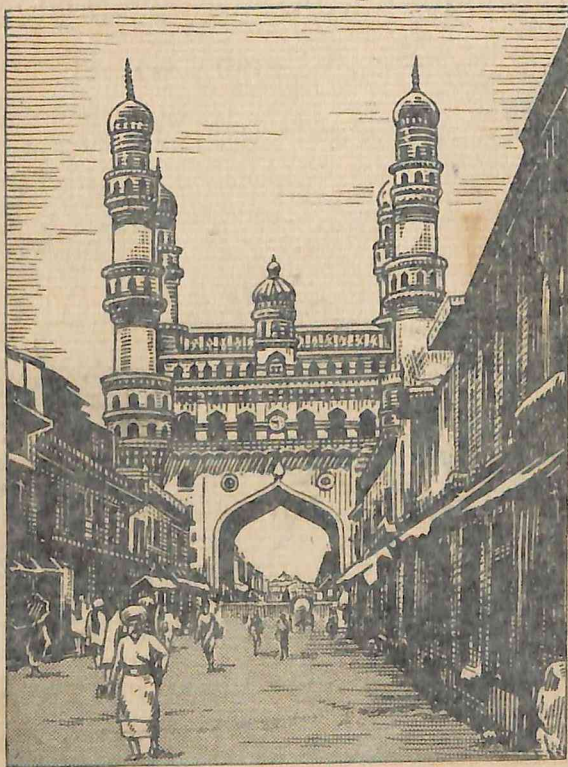
world. The Nizam is a Moslem Prince, and many of his subjects are Moslems, but he gives away large sums of money in charity to deserving persons of any caste or creed.

### 3

Hyderabad City is the fourth largest city in India and is the capital of the State. It was founded in 1589 by Mohammad Kuli, one of the Kings of Golconda. It has twelve gates. It is situated on the banks of the river Musi, over which there are four bridges. As we wander through the bazars we pass people from all parts of India.

One of the features of Hyderabad

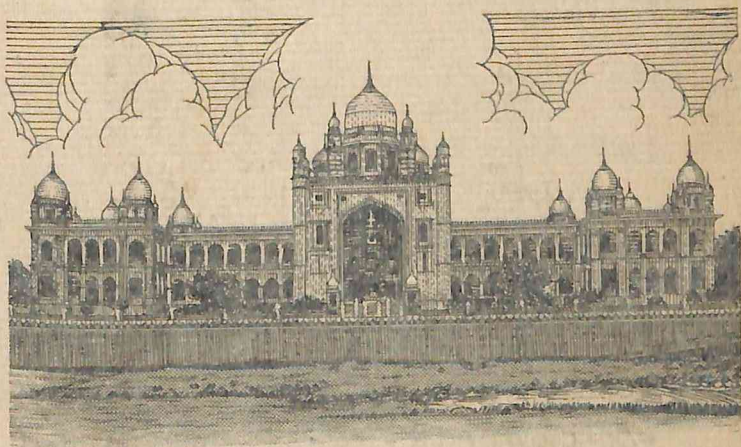
City is the Char Minar. It is a square building 190 ft. high and is 100 ft.



THE CHAR MINAR, HYDERABAD

wide on each side. It has four tall minarets. Near the Char Minar is

the Mecca Masjid, which is the principal mosque. The gateway to the Masjid was completed by Aurangzeb in 1692. In the courtyard will be



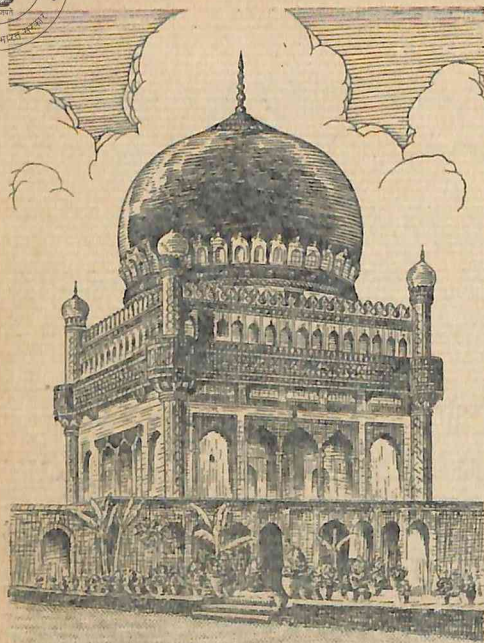
HIGH COURT, HYDERABAD

found the graves of all the Nizams who have died since 1803. To the south of the Char Minar are the Chaumahalla Palace, the palace of Maharaja Chandu Lal, and the palace





is given here. It is the finest of the tombs which remain standing. It rises 170 feet from the ground. Thus we see all that remains of the power of the Kutb Shahis.



TOMB OF MOHAMMAD KULI

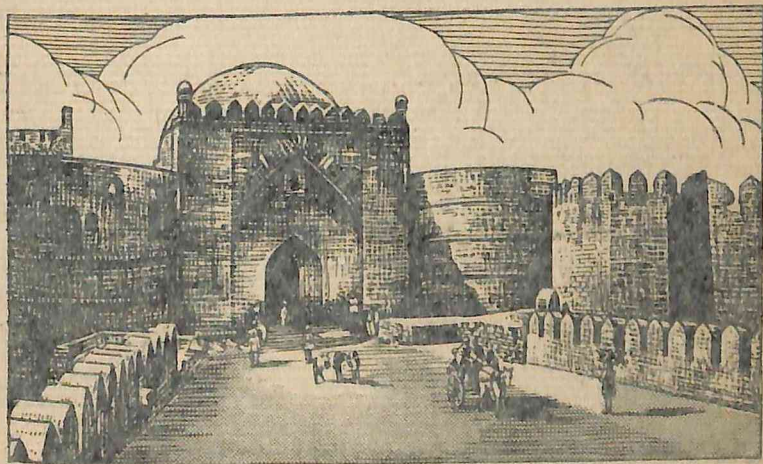
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We will now make our way to Bidar, which is one of the most interesting of the old cities in the Nizam's Dominions. It is situated on



plateau nearly 2,500 feet above sea level. The air is bracing and the scenery is very pretty.

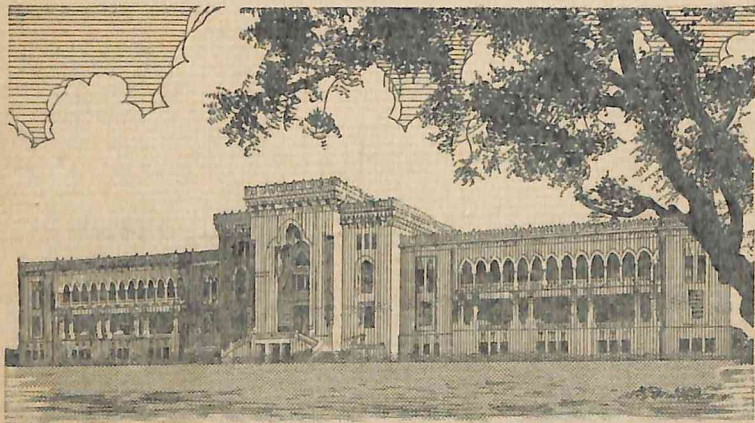
In 1428, Ahmad Shah Wali, the ninth Bahmani King, founded the



ENTRANCE TO BIDAR FORT

city on transferring his capital from Gulbarga. It is said that the reason why the king chose this spot was that whilst out hunting he noticed a dog

of Nawab Tegh Jang. All these palaces are immense and contain priceless works of art. They are well worth a visit.



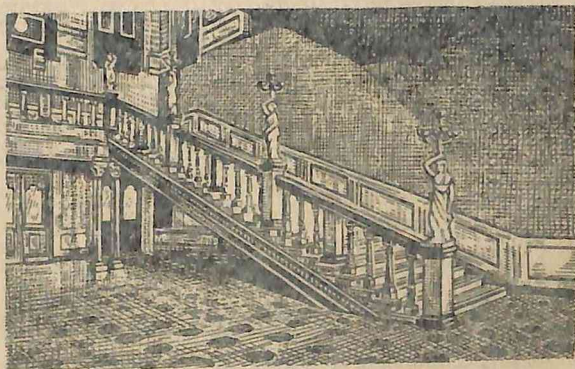
ARTS COLLEGE, OSMANIA UNIVERSITY, HYDERABAD

The High Court is built on the south bank of the river, and on the opposite bank is the Osmania General Hospital. Both are built in the charming style called Indo-Saracenic.

The Osmania University is situated



about six miles from the city and covers an area of 1500 acres. It has nearly two thousand students. Every student has to know Urdu, as the lessons in all subjects are given in that language. The study of English, however, is compulsory.



STAIRCASE IN THE FALAKNUMA PALACE

On a hill to the south of the city stands the Falaknuma Palace of the Nizam. It is not open to public view. It is very beautifully decora-



ted and furnished. It has a handsome staircase built of marble, on which are marble figures holding clusters of lights. Other places which should be visited are the Public Gardens, the Lakes, the Museum, and the Zoo. Before leaving Hyderabad City, we must not fail to see Golconda, which is about five miles to the west.

#### 4

Golconda was the capital of the Kutb Shahi kingdom, which lasted from 1512 to 1687. The name of the city became a symbol for great riches because Europeans believed that diamonds were found there in abundance. A large number of diamond-

116  
SL  
Cutters and polishers lived there, but actually diamonds were not found in Golconda. They came from a place called Purtial, which is in the south-east corner of the Nizam's Dominions.



AURANGZEB

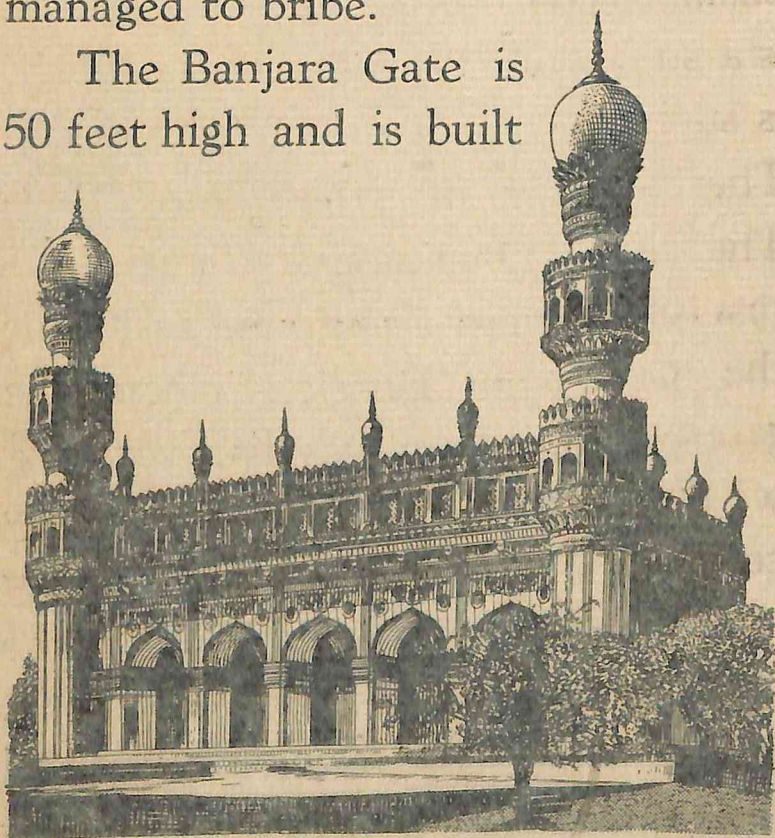
Diamonds were also found at Kollur in the Kristna District, where the famous Koh-i-noor was discovered.

Golconda Fort is surrounded by a wall three miles round, with eighty bastions of solid granite. Many of the blocks of granite weigh over one ton. With plenty of water, food, and munitions, people believed the fort could never be captured. In 1687 it



SL  
as attacked by Aurangzeb, and even he would not have taken it, but for the treachery of a minister, who he managed to bribe.

The Banjara Gate is 50 feet high and is built



JAMIA MASJID, GOLCONDA

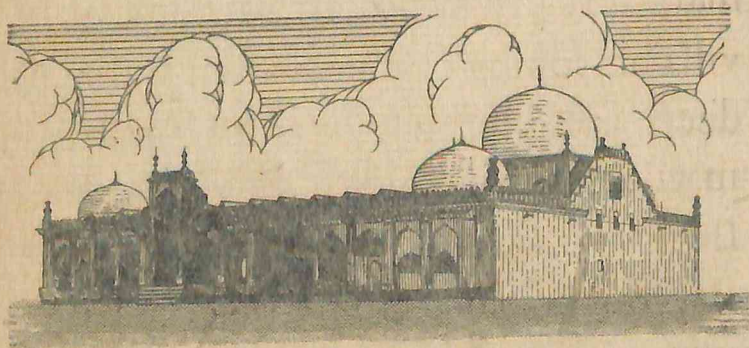


granite. Its two gates of teak-wood are studded with sharp-pointed iron spikes to prevent elephants from pushing them down. The Jami Masjid is a small building the roof of which is supported by five rows of arches. There are two tall minarets in front. The citadel rises 350 feet above the rest of the fort, and if we follow the path leading through various gateways we reach the summit, where we have a splendid view of the country.

About half a mile to the north of the fort are the tombs of the Kutb Shahi Kings, who reigned in Golconda for about 200 years. A picture of the tomb of Mohammad Kuli

Bahmani dynasty (1347-1527), but in 1428 Sultan Ahmad Shah Wali changed the capital to Bidar, as we have already read.

In the fort of Gulbarga we shall find the Jami Masjid or the great Mosque. It has an area of 38,000 sq. ft. and is the only large mosque in India that is completely covered by a roof. It was built in 1367, during the reign of Muhammad Shah Bahmani I. Some



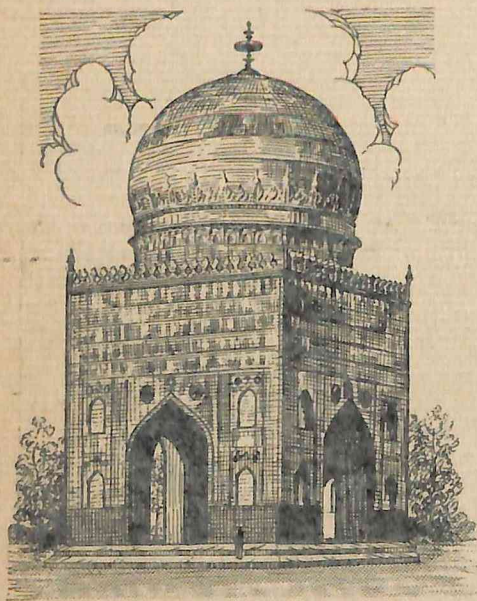
GREAT MOSQUE OR JAMI MASJID, GULBARGA



distance away is the shrine or Dargah of Bandar Nawas, who was a saint belonging to the famous Chishti family. You will read about other members of the Chishti family in the books on Agra and Rajputana. I wonder if we shall come across any more members of this noted family during our tour of India.

The Dargah was built in 1640, and Ahmad Shah Wali gave the saint many valuable presents including large villages. The walls of the tomb are decorated with verses from the Koran in gilt letters. Thousands of pilgrims flock to Gulbarga every year during the month of September, when an *urus*, or offering of prayers and gifts

SL  
pursuing a fox. The chase was long and furious, and when the dog had nearly caught the fox, the fox turned at bay and drove the dog away. The



THE TOMB OF SULTAN BARID SHAH, BIDAR

King, on seeing this, decided that it was owing to the good climate of the place that the fox had been given the courage to

attack its pursuer, and he thereupon decided to build his capital on the spot.

Ahmad Shah Wali died in 1435,



and his successor Ala-ud-din built many palaces and gardens in the capital. Very few now exist, but what we can see shows that Bidar was once a very impressive city.

The Bahmani kingdom gradually broke up into the five kingdoms of Golconda, Bijapur, Ahmadnagar, Bidar, and Berar. The last of these kingdoms to be taken over by others was Golconda, which was captured, as we already know, by Aurangzeb.

The tombs of the twelve Bahmani Kings are in the village of Ashtur, a small distance away.

## 6

Our next stopping-place is Gulbarga. It was the first capital of the

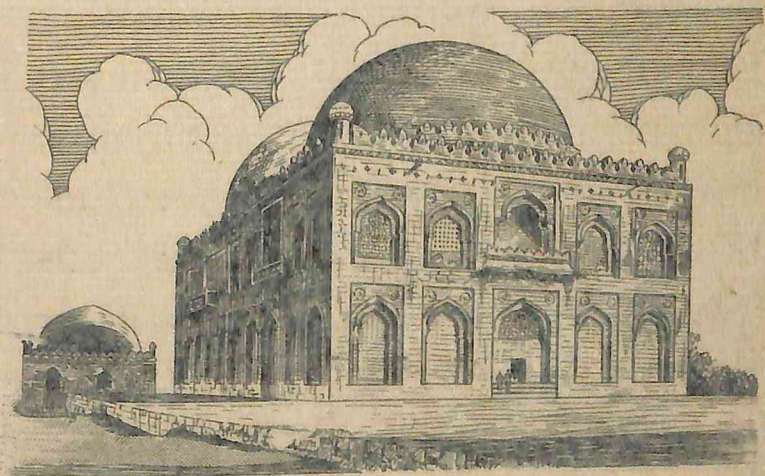




to a saint, is held. It lasts for four-  
teen days. A fair is held at the same  
time. The traders bring many attrac-  
tive things to their stalls. When  
the pilgrims are not saying their  
prayers they enjoy a little hard-fought  
bargaining over some object which  
they will take home for someone who  
could not attend the *urus*.

The first King of Gulbarga  
was Ala-ud-din Bahman Shah. He  
acquired much wealth. Firishta,  
the historian, tells us that Ala-ud-  
din gave away ten thousand rolls  
of cloth of gold, velvet and satin to  
the nobles of his Court. During  
the wedding festivities of his eldest  
son, two hundred sabres set with

Jewels were presented to the nobles. Gulbarga became most famous during the reign of Firoz Shah Bahmani. Firishta tells us that the king had thirteen friends of different nationalities and that he could talk to each in his own language ! The tomb of Firoz Shah is one of the finest in Gulbarga.



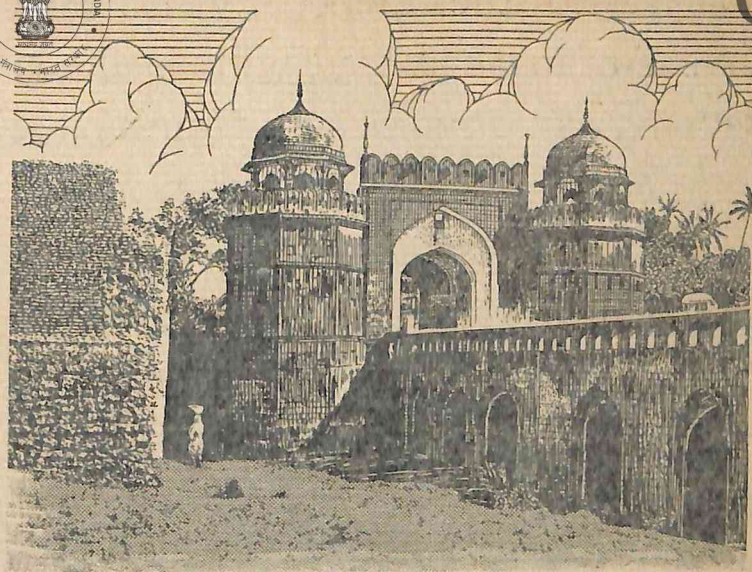
TOMB OF FIROZ SHAH BAHMANI, GULBARGA



SL  
regarding this door. If anybody says he has been to the mausoleum he is immediately asked if he saw the bird. If he says "no", he is accused of not having seen the mausoleum at all ! On passing through the doorway, we enter the beautiful garden surrounding the mausoleum.

Near at hand is the shrine of Baba Shah Muzaffar, a member of the celebrated Chishti family and spiritual adviser of Aurangzeb. It is called the Pan Chakki or Water Mill, probably because one has to pass a number of tanks before reaching the little garden near the mosque where we shall find the beautiful marble tomb of the Saint.





MECCA GATE, AURANGABAD

To the south-east of the Cantonment a large citadel was built by Aurangzeb, but to-day only one gateway remains standing. It was here that the great princes from Rajputana, accompanied by thousands of armed followers, came to pay

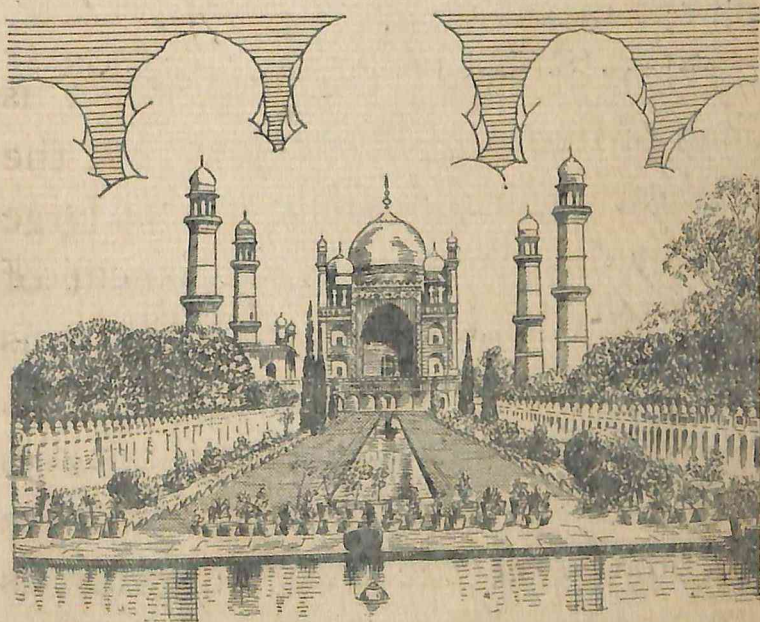


Aurangabad, the ancient capital of the Deccan, is one of the most prosperous cities in the Nizam's Dominions. It has a large trade in wheat and cotton. There are many interesting things to see in or near Aurangabad.

To the north-east of the city is the tomb of Begum Rabia, wife of the Emperor Aurangzeb. It cost a large sum of money because it is built of beautiful white marble which was brought by waggons from Rajputana. Tavernier, in his book of travels, says that on his way to Aurangabad he met more than three hundred waggons laden with this marble, the smallest

which was drawn by twelve oxen.

At the gateway is a door covered with brass, with an inscription along its edge. Near the inscription a small figure has been carved. It is said to represent a bird. The local townsmen have a joke amongst themselves



TOMB OF RABIA BEGUM—AURANGABAD





SL

homage to the Emperor. At that time Aurangabad vied with Delhi in keeping a magnificent Court. As soon as Aurangzeb died, the princes of Rajputana and other places returned home, and the spell of Aurangabad was broken.

The caves of Aurangabad must be visited. They are near Begum Rabia's mausoleum. There are nine important caves, which are of Buddhist origin. They consist of chapels or shrines for worship, and assembly halls, some of which are beautifully carved and decorated. These caves are similar to those at Ellora, which we shall see presently.

Near Aurangabad is the town of



SL<sup>124</sup>  
auza. It is surrounded by a high wall and has seven gates. Aurangzeb is buried there in a very simple tomb. It is hard for us to realise that here, in this quiet place, lie the mortal remains of a great Moghul Emperor.

8

We now go to Daulatabad, which is about five miles from Aurangabad. The old name for Daulatabad was Deogiri. In the year 1293 it was captured by Ala-ud-din who afterwards became Emperor of Delhi. The city held out for a long time, but eventually Ala-ud-din received a ransom of 20,000 lbs. of silver, 15,000 lbs. of pure gold, 50 lbs. of diamonds, and

lbs. of pearls. Compare this wealth with the deserted condition of Daulatabad to-day.

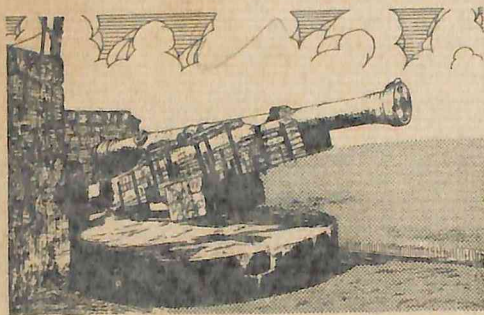
In 1338 Mohammed Tughlaq Shah changed the name of Deogiri to Daulatabad. The fort is built on a

rock 2,500 feet high.

Strong walls, well-protected gateways, and many

bastions are

passed on our way to the summit. A number of guns can still be seen at the bastions. One of the guns is called "The Creator of Storms," and another "The Fort Batterer."



30 FT. CANNON AT DAULATABAD FORT



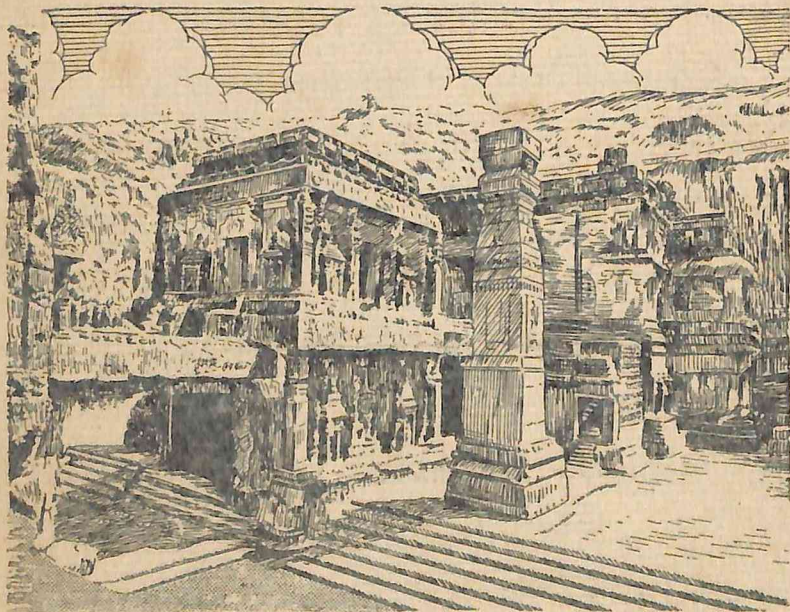


Here is a picture of one 30 feet long, still mounted on its wooden supports. It is a long climb up to the summit, but a splendid view of Aurangabad and Rauza is obtained when we reach it. Daulatabad is near the Ellora Caves. You probably know that the famous Ajanta caves are also in the Nizam's Dominions.

9

Both the Ellora and Ajanta caves are of very great interest to historians as well as to artists. The Ellora caves number thirty-four in all, the Buddhists were responsible for twelve, the Brahmins for seventeen, and the Jains for five. The caves are cut out from the sloping sides of a hill,

to be made. It has been called the noblest Hindu memorial of ancient India.



KAILASH TEMPLE, ELLORA

Passages lead right into the heart of the hillside, in which we find many chapels, galleries, and halls. On one of the temple walls is a carving show-





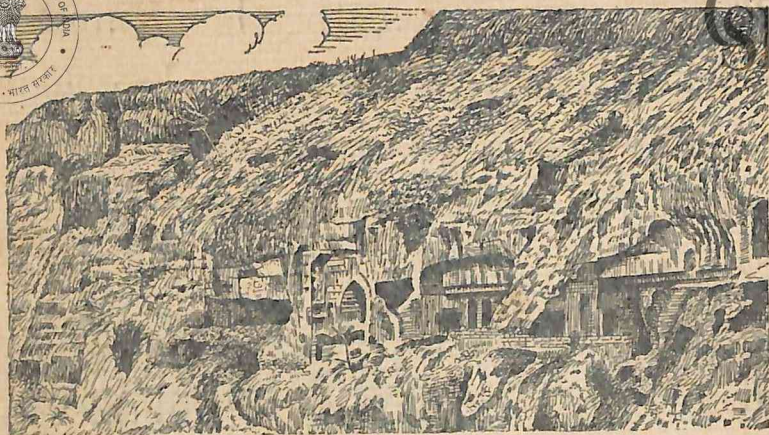
ing Ravana, the ten-headed King of Lanka, shaking Kailasa. One can spend days in this temple examining the interesting things in it.

Of the Jain Caves, No. 33, the Indra Sabha, is believed to be the oldest. Inside there is a central hall supported by twelve pillars and all round the walls are little compartments filled with the statues of Jain saints. From Ellora we hasten to Ajanta.

## 10

Ajanta is fifty-five miles from Aurangabad, and motor-cars run direct. We can finish the tour in a day. The caves are above a lonely gorge about four miles from the town of Ajanta. At the foot of the gorge





ENTRANCES TO SOME OF THE AJANTA CAVES

runs the small river Waghora, and above the river rise the almost perpendicular rocks, about two hundred and fifty feet high, in a semi-circle. In this great mass of rock have been cut the twenty-nine caves we have come to see.

Although these caves were discovered only in the year 1819, they date from about 200 B.C. to A.D. 650.

They were visited by the Chinese traveller, Hiuen Tsang, in A.D. 640.

There are two kinds of caves, the *viharas*, or monasteries, containing the cells for the monks, and the *chaityas*,

or chapels,

in which

God was

worshipped.

Buddhist

monks lived

there in

those old

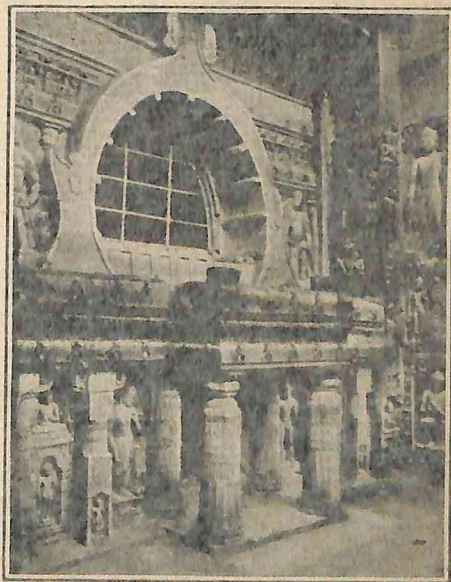
days, and

beautified

the walls of

the caves with lovely paintings and

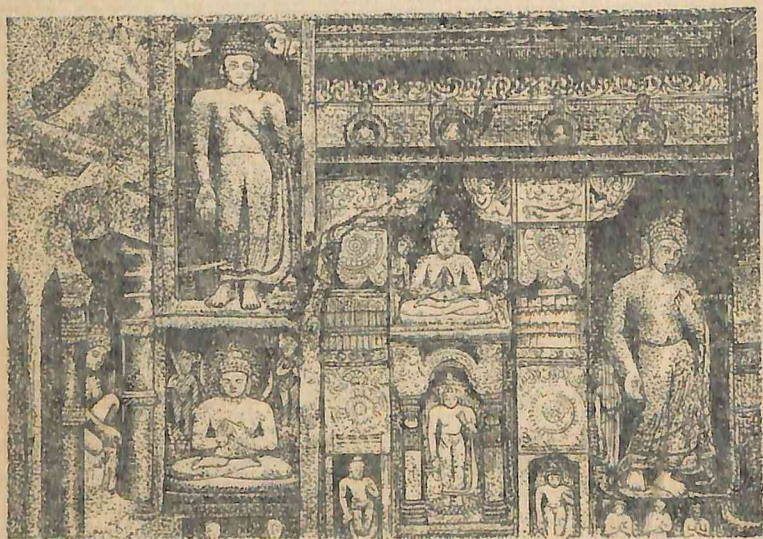
drawings in honour of the great



AJANTA CAVE No. 9.



Gautama Buddha whom they followed. I do not think we should be far wrong if we called Ajanta the birth-place of Indian painting. There were no printed books in those days, therefore the monks sought to teach others by means of the paintbrush and the chisel.



INSIDE CAVE NO. 19, AJANTA





Naturally the followers of the Buddha vied with each other in depicting on the walls of *chaitya* and *vihara* scenes from the Great Teacher's life, the conversion of his brother Nanda, the sufferings of his wife, "the Dying Princess", and other episodes.

In the course of time, other religions obtained ascendancy over Buddhism, and the monks died out, thus allowing the birds and wild beasts to obtain possession of their artistic creations. For many years these treasures lay hidden by the jungle, until they were re-discovered in 1839.

Then it was that the beautiful



Paintings and tracings of lotus flowers, birds, wild animals, men, women, children, etc. were once more revealed to the world. The delicate painting of the frescoes tells the story of Buddhism in a vivid and moving manner. Alas, many of the paintings have been ruined by time and by attempts to restore them.

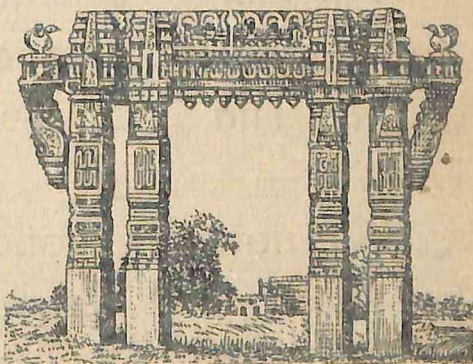
The place is so interesting and so many things have to be explained to us that it is best to engage a guide to help us in our study of a very interesting part of ancient India.

## 11

There are many Hindu temples in the Nizam's Dominions, but none



More ancient than the temple at Hanamkonda. The carvings on the pillars of what remains of the temple are so wonderful that we can hardly find words to describe them. A magnificent hall with one thousand decorated columns was badly damaged by an earthquake, and only a few columns now remain standing. The temple was built by Rudra Deva of the house of Kakatiya. According to the inscriptions carved on the temple walls, Rudra Deva was a very



EASTERN GATEWAY TO THOUSAND  
PILLAR TEMPLE, HANAMKONDA





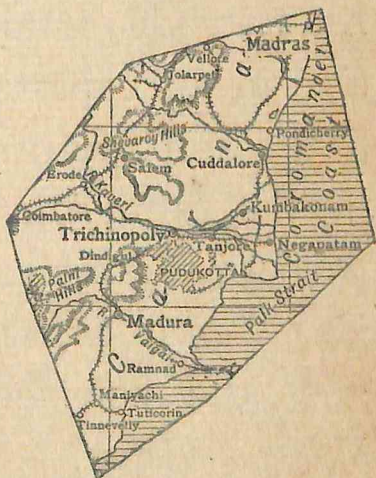
good man. He managed a horse superbly. He was a fine warrior and had never been beaten on the battlefield. His enemies ran away at the very sight of him. His motto was to protect the weak against the strong. His subjects loved him on account of his generosity and good nature. I wonder how many of us will deserve to be spoken of in such terms—not of course, for warlike deeds, but for courage and benevolence like Rudra Deva's.

We now say goodbye to Hyderabad State. May His Exalted Highness the Nizam long reign over the Premier State of India.

# THE TAMIL COUNTRY

## 1

The Tamil Country is that part of South India where the Dravidian language of Tamil is spoken. Roughly, it is almost diamond-shaped, with points at Madras City, Coimbatore, Tinnevely, and Nega-patam. I will show you what I mean with a little map. Here it is.





Perhaps you noticed that in the first sentence I mentioned the “Dravidian” language. There are four Dravidian languages, each language being used in a different part of Southern India. The *Telugu* language is spoken in the country lying to the north and between Madras City and Vizagapatam, and also in some parts of the Hyderabad State and Mysore. *Kanarese* is used in the State of Mysore and some parts of the West Coast. *Malayalam* is spoken in Travancore and Cochin, and the southern portion of the West Coast. *Tamil* is spoken in the parts we are going to visit.



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SL

The Dravidians, as you may already know, came to India thousands of years ago ; perhaps they are the most ancient people of the country. In fact they could boast of lines of kings dating from long before Buddha's time. They were highly civilised. They knew how to rear cattle and make use of the many products obtained from them. They knew how to till the ground, irrigate it, and raise crops. They were skilled in making gold and silver ornaments and in diving for pearls. Stone carving and building was nothing new to them.

The Dravidians were not so fair or so tall as the Aryans who came to



India later from the North. When the Aryans did arrive, however, they began to occupy the whole of Northern India. Then it was that the Dravidians settled more firmly in the southern part of the country.

History tells us that between 200 B.C. and A.D. 1300 three important dynasties ruled in the Tamil Country. They were the *Cholas*, the *Pandayas* and the *Pallavas*.

The Aryans, of course, made their way to the south as well. Even at the present day, a visitor to the Tamil Country can easily distinguish between the fair-featured, well-built Aryan and his smaller-built darker-featured brother.



I have thought it well to tell you the above few facts about this ancient land which is generally known as "Tamilnad". The reason is that in the course of our tour we may find the names of these dynasties appearing and reappearing in our story.

## 2

We will start our tour by taking the train from Madras (Egmore) station for Chingleput. You will notice that rice is being grown nearly everywhere. It tints the landscape with its beautiful green as far as the eye can see. As we get near Chingleput we find the air becomes bracing and cooler. There is not much to see in





Chingleput besides a ruined fort. Its importance to us, however, is that it is the starting-place for our visit to the Seven Pagodas.

Half way there we pass the interesting shrine of Tirukalikunram. The temple is built at the base of a hill whose summit is every day the scene of a wonderful sight.

For hundreds of years past a pair of white vultures have been daily fed at noon by the priest in charge of the temple. The fact is mentioned in the legends and old records of the District and even the Dutch historians have written about it.

At eleven o'clock every morning the priest places a large bowl of



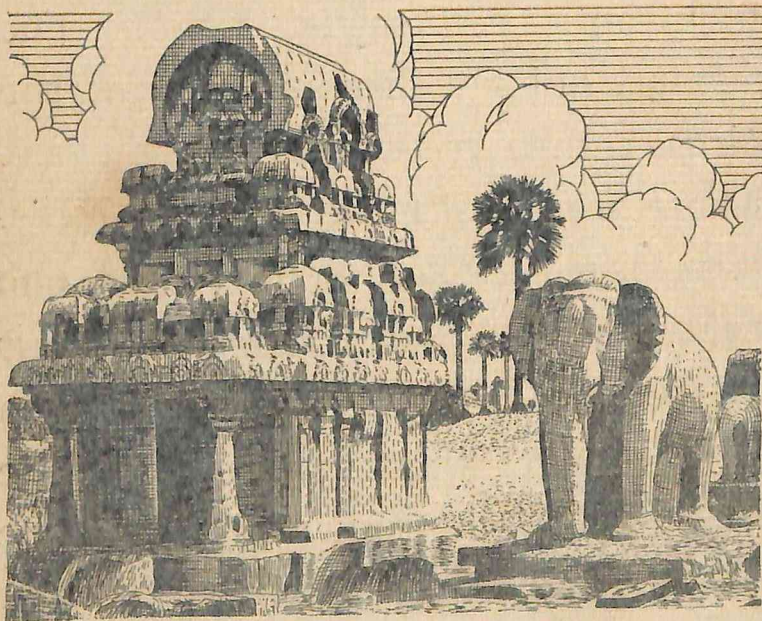
cooked rice out on the rock adjoining the temple. Patiently he waits until the two birds, at first mere specks in in the sky, gradually approach the rock and then settle down. The meal is quickly disposed of, and the birds return to whence they came. There are never more than two birds. It is a matter for wonder how one pair of birds succeeds another, and is able to tell its successors the position of the place where the meal can be had, as also the time when it will be ready. Is it not astonishing ?

### 3

The proper name of the Seven Pagodas is Mamallapuram. The word



means "the city of Mahamalla" (the great wrestlers). Now the name of Mahamalla has, in ancient records, been ascribed to the Pallava king,



RATHAS AT MAMALLAPURAM

Narasimhavarman I. It is, therefore, quite possible that the ground on which we are now standing is part of



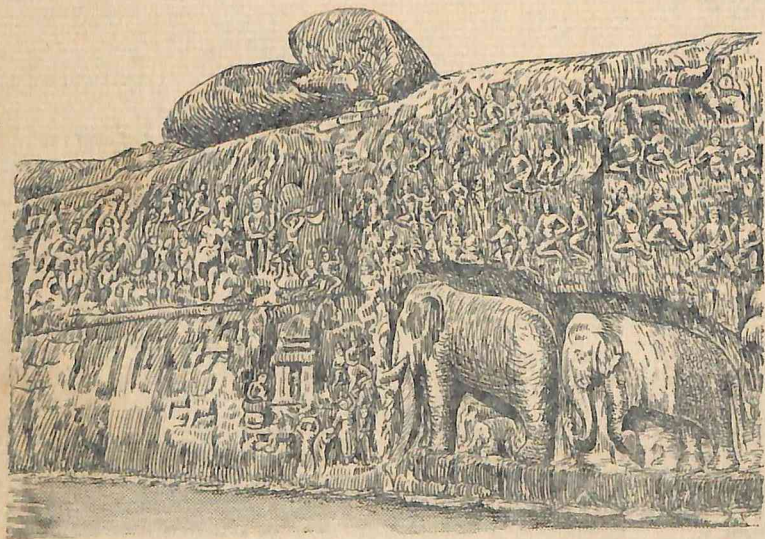


the city of Mahamallapuram, which was the chief port of the Pallava kingdom and was enlarged by the king himself. He reigned from A.D. 625 to 645.

The *rathas* or pagodas are carved out of solid pieces of rock and are of many shapes and sizes. Each *rath* needs more detailed description than we can give in this small booklet, so we will engage one of the many guides who are only too eager to help us.

When we have seen the *rathas* we make our way to the sculpture called Arjuna's Penance, which is a huge rock with its face very elaborately carved. You will easily find the

features of Arjuna standing in holy meditation, and Siva, in hunter's garb, coming to grant the devotee his boon. You will not want to leave



ARJUNA'S PENANCE, MAMALLAPURAM

this interesting place, especially if the day is cool and we and the guide can enjoy a nice cup of tea. Let us try to understand the sculpture.





Some say that the scene represents the descent of the Ganges on to King Bhagiratha as a result of his penance. What do *you* think ?

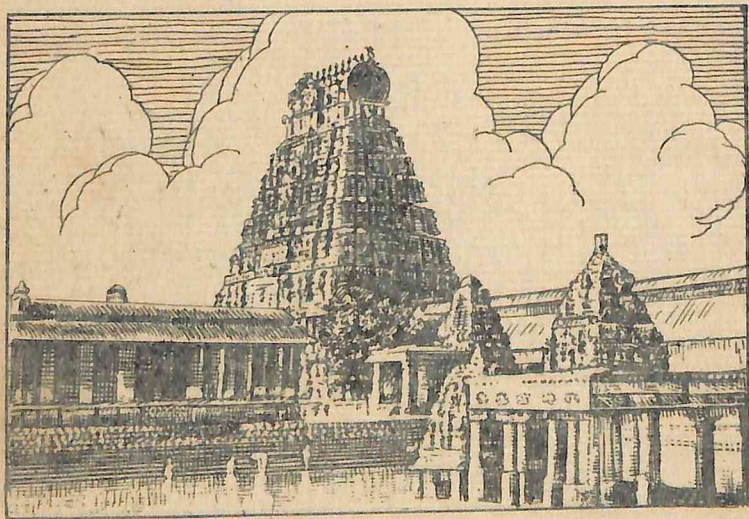
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We will now go back to Chingleput, where there is a branch line to Conjeeveram. Conjeeveram, or Kanchipuram (the Golden City) as it has been called since ancient times, is one of the seven sacred places of India. Do you know the others ? They are Benares, Hardwar, Ujjain, Mathura (Muttra), Ajodhya, and Dwarka.

The followers of Gautama Buddha are said to have visited the town and



converted its people to Buddhism. Probably Asoka's missionaries built many Buddhist topes there, but none are now to be seen. The Pallava



SRI VARADARAJA SWAMI TEMPLE, CONJEEVERAM

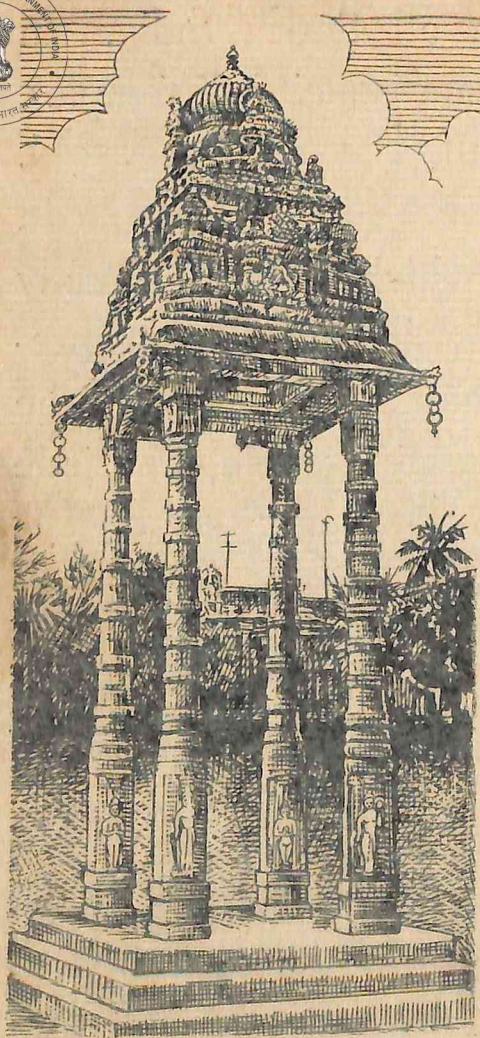
kings ruled here during the seventh and succeeding centuries. Kanchi was their capital. They built many temples and their temples are the



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SL  
oldest ones in all South India. In fact Conjeeveram is a city of temples, large and small, old and very old. As, however, there is one temple in Conjeeveram which I have already seen, we will visit that one in preference to the others. It is the Varadaraja Swami Temple, in Little Conjeeveram. It is not so old as some others, but has been famous for the last four hundred years.

The day my friends and I went to Conjeeveram was very hot, and we had come all the way from Madras by motor car. Thinking we had lost our way we slowed down, but were soon reassured by noticing a drummer, on a magnificent white horse,





MANDAPAM AT VARADARAJA SWAMI TEMPLE

approaching us at top speed. He had been sent by our friends in the temple to meet us. He greeted us and then turned his horse round and showed us the way. As we neared the temple he started to beat





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its kettle-drums with much waving  
of arms. Of course the noise attract-  
ed a crowd, which followed us into  
the Varadaraja Swami Temple.

Our kind hosts first of all showed  
us the beautiful jewels used in the  
temple worship. Among them is a  
necklace worth Rs. 8,000 said to have  
been given to the temple by Lord  
Clive. We were then shown the  
outstanding beauties of the temple.  
It has a tower or *gopuram* 100 feet  
high consisting of seven storeys.  
There are many shrines and pavilions  
with beautiful carvings. One hall  
has ninety-six pillars, the bases of  
which are carved horsemen control-  
ling their steeds. A second hall con-

SL  
tains the large cars or vehicles on which the gods are carried in procession at great festivals. Very large umbrellas are then used, being held over the gods when they are taken from one shrine to another. A pair of these huge umbrellas cost about Rs. 750. Occasionally the Brahmins (Vaishnavites) gather together and recite the *Vedas*. As many as one thousand assemble for this religious rite which is very impressive.

We can use our spare time by seeing some of the other wonderful temples. Those built by the Pallavas are the oldest, as I have already told you.

As we are not far from Madras



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SL  
We will return to that city for a little rest, for we are likely to be very tired after this excursion.

## 5.

When we are refreshed we will take the train direct to Kumbakonam, which is a very large town, two hundred miles from Madras.

It is known as the centre of the Brahmin religion and contains twelve temples dedicated to Siva and four to Vishnu. The Sarangapani Swami (Vishnu) temple is in the centre of the town. We will pay it a visit.

We enter the temple through a large *gopuram* nearly 150 feet high.

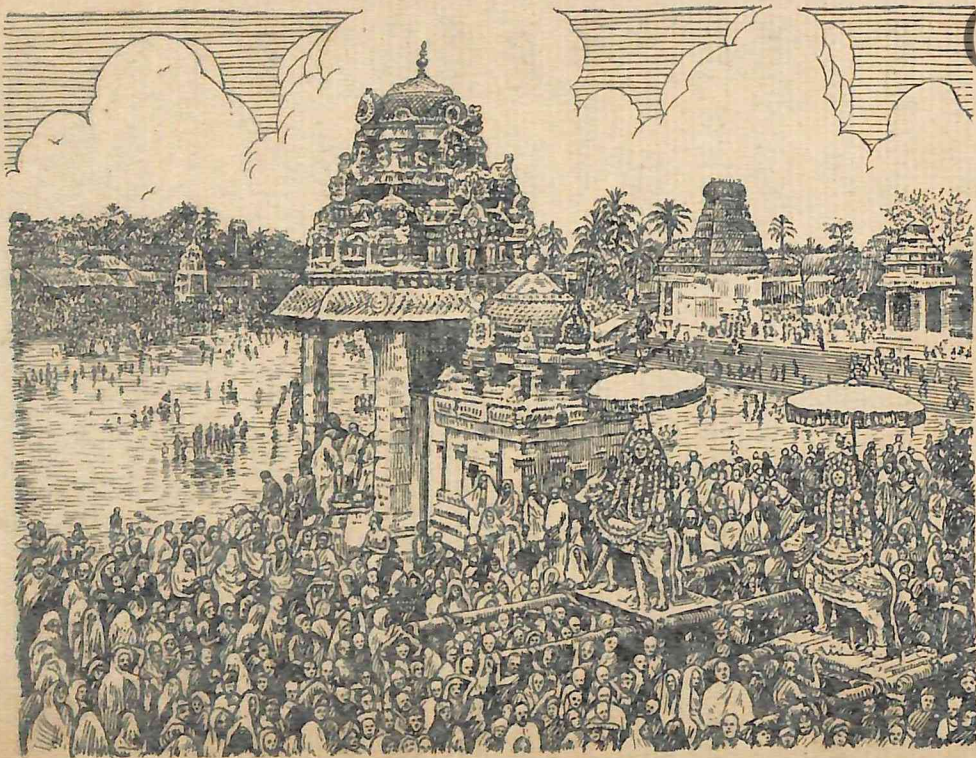




This *gopuram* is covered with many carved figures. Round the walls of the courtyard are five smaller *gopurams* with a huge tank in the middle.

We now go to the important Kumbheswara temple, which is dedicated to Siva. It is approached by a wonderful corridor 350 feet long. In the temple we shall be shown the silver cars on which the gods are carried from place to place.

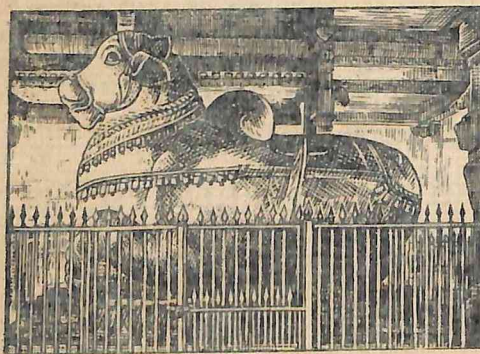
The most interesting feature of Kumbakonam is the Mahamakham tank, which is believed to be the most sacred in Southern India. A special festival is held here once in twelve years, when half a million people are present. As a precaution



MAHAMAKHAM FESTIVAL, KUMBAKONAM.



usual gopurams over the entrances to the several enclosures and the temple. The outer enclosure of the temple is a huge battlemented wall 400 feet by 800 feet, and those of us who are not Hindus will have to keep



THE NANDI OR STONE BULL AT TANJORE

to this enclosure. If we have any Hindu friends in our party, they will be allowed to

visit the different shrines and the temple buildings.

A few yards from the entrance to the temple will be found the famous Nandi, who sits on a high platform



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SL

over which there is a stone canopy.

The Nandi, which is none other than a sacred bull carved out of a single piece of black granite, measures 16 feet long, 12 feet high and 17 feet across. It weighs 25 tons. Some years ago the worshippers thought that the Nandi was growing too much, and that it would soon become so large as to knock down the canopy over its head. So what did they do? They promptly drove a nail into the back of its head, and since then the Nandi has not grown any more.

The main shrine is surmounted by a tower of stone rising to a height of 200 feet.

The Subrahmanya Shrine in the

the water in the tank is lowered to two and a half feet, for when so many thousands of people enter the tank the level of the water naturally rises greatly. At the auspicious moment when it is believed that the tank possesses all the sacredness of the Ganges, the crowds are massed so tightly together in the water that only a sea of heads is visible. During the festival it is said that the waters of the Ganges find their way into the tank and sanctify it.

6

A few miles away is Tanjore. The district of Tanjore, of which this is the headquarters, is very

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fertile and is called the "Garden of Southern India." The country was ruled over by the powerful Cholas from about 900 to 1310. The town got its name from Tanjan, a giant of the neighbourhood, who was slain by the God Vishnu. It is said that when the giant was dying he asked that the place should be named after him, and Vishnu granted his request. There are many sights to see in Tanjore, so after a rest in the waiting-room at the station and a refreshing meal in the dining-room we will start out sight-seeing.

The Rajarajesvara Temple, or the Great Pagoda as it is sometimes called, must not be missed. There are the





temple is a wonderful piece of architecture. It dates from the 16th century A.D. The minute stone carving is still as sharp and clear as when it was first made.

The palace of the later rulers of Tanjore, which is in the Great Fort, is a huge building, five storeys high. Some portions of the palace are occupied by the descendants of the original royal family. The other parts contain Government offices.

The Durbar Hall has a statue of Raja Shivaji. It is of white marble. Other parts of the palace worth visiting are the Serfoji Raja library, containing eighteen thousand manuscripts of which eight thousand are



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SL  
written on palm leaves ; the  
Mahratta Durbar Hall, where we  
shall find a large picture of Shivaji,  
who was the last Raja of Tanjore ;  
and the armoury, where there are  
many curious-looking weapons inclu-  
ding swords with gold and silver  
handles, ancient rifles and pistols,  
battle-axes, etc. We shall also find  
many ornamental howdahs and gold  
caps for dressing elephants on state  
occasions. It is a very interesting  
place.

Tanjore is famous for jewellery,  
carpets, silk, copper-ware, and models  
made from pith. The pith is taken  
from the core of a tree and the  
beautiful models made from it show



great talent and industry. Models of temples, palaces, houses, etc., complete in every detail can be had. They will make fine additions to your school museum, if it does not possess some of them already.

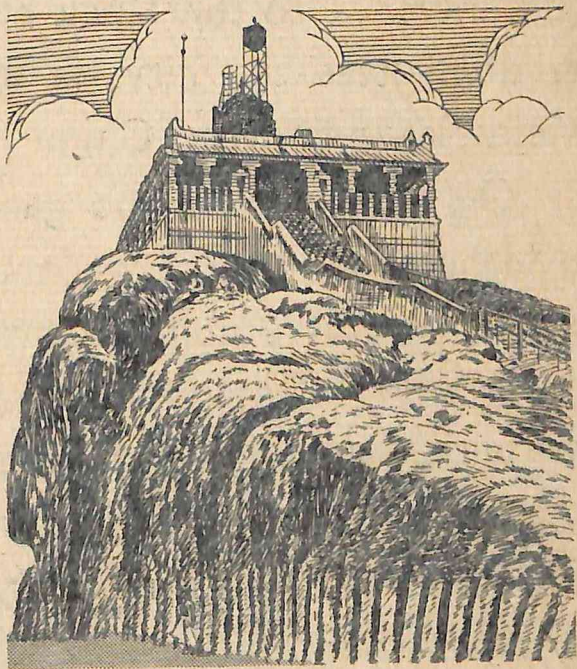
## 7

From Tanjore we take the train to Trichinopoly, which is thirty miles away to the west. The town has a population of a hundred and fifty thousand, and is the headquarters of the South Indian Railway.

In very early times, Trichinopoly, or at least its suburb Woriur, was the capital of the Chola dynasty. Later in the 14th century the Mahom-



medans held the place for about sixty years, and then an army from Vijayanagar captured it. During the years



ROCK TEMPLE, TRICHINOPOLY

that followed, Trichinopoly passed through many hands, including those of the Mahrattas. In 1801, however,



SL  
After years of bloodshed, it passed into British hands by the mere signing of a treaty !

The entrance to the Rock citadel which dominates the city, is where the Main Bazar and the China Bazar meet. On each side of the gateway are stone elephants, but we are met by one or two live elephants richly painted, who offer us respectful *salaams* with their trunks. We ascend the steps until we are quite weary. We are continually encouraged by the guide, but some of us are bound to "fall by the wayside" to recover our breath. The rest of us go on and on, ever upwards ! On the fourth landing is the Great Temple. We may

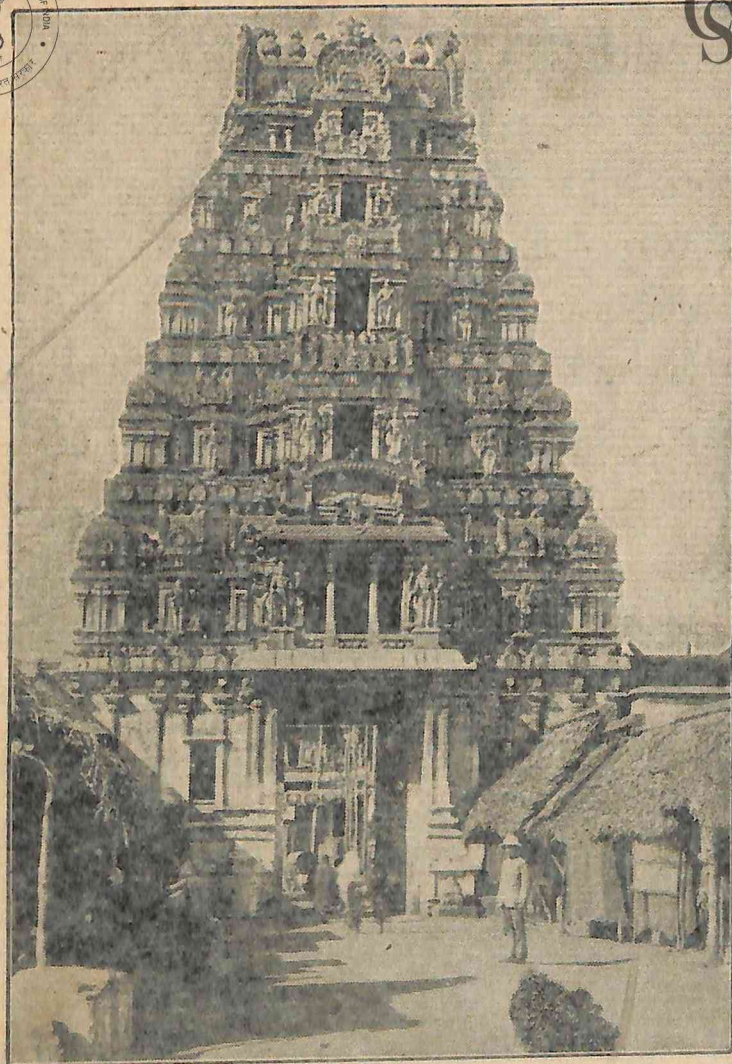




not be allowed inside, but we may peep through the door. A few more steps and we come out into the open air. Still more steps lead higher until the top of the Rock is reached. Here a fine view of the town is obtained.

When we descend to Mother Earth again, we notice the large tank of water at the foot of the Rock. It is called the "Teppakulam". Clive used to live in one of the houses overlooking the south-east corner of the Teppakulam. This was in the time of the Carnatic Wars, in which the British and the French fought with each other and Trichinopoly was a centre of much fighting.



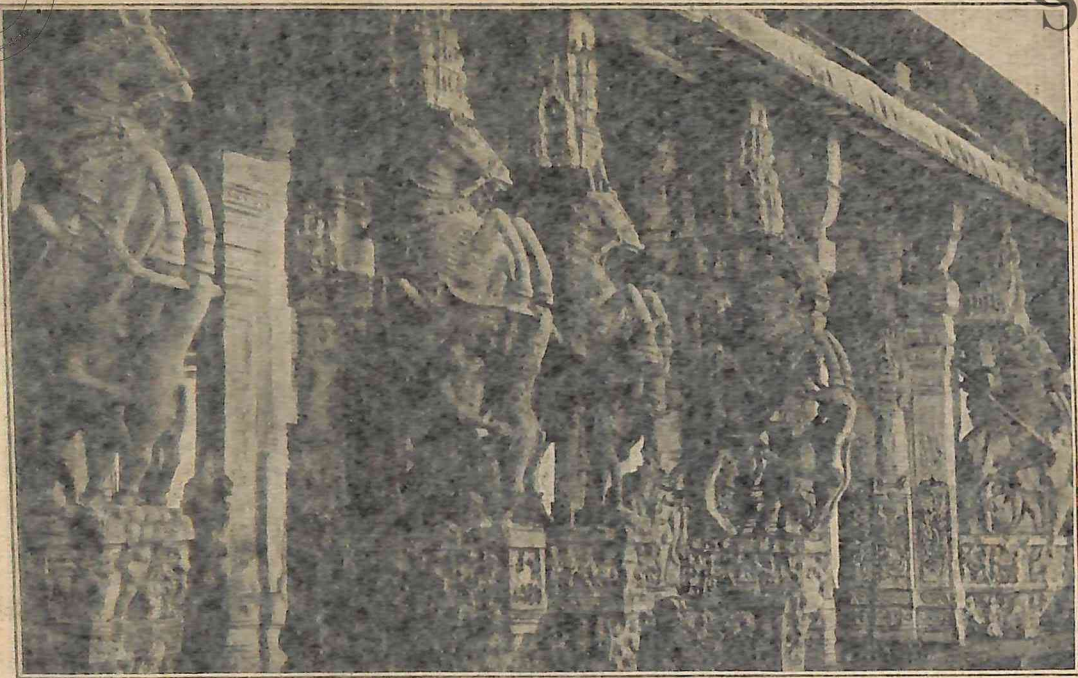


SRIRANGAM TEMPLE



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The chief temple is in the suburb or island of Srirangam. It is dedicated to Vishnu, and is one of the richest temples in the south. It is the opinion of some that this temple was under construction from the 10th century to A.D. 1600. It is the largest temple in India. There are seven square enclosures, the outermost measuring 2475 ft. by 2880 ft. The buildings in each enclosure diminish in size until the innermost enclosure is reached. There are immense *gopurams* which are painted. The court around the central enclosure is called the "Hall of a Thousand Pillars." These pillars are single pieces of granite



SRIRANGAM TEMPLE. HORSE COURT WITH BEAUTIFUL CARVED PILLARS  
DEPICTING WARRIORS ON REARING HORSES





8 ft. high. Some of them are beautifully carved to represent warriors on rearing horses. The carved horses spring out from the pillars and each individual horse is carved from one block of granite. Please see the picture on page 32.

The temple jewels are worth lakhs of rupees and should be seen. When the King-Emperor Edward VII, who was then Prince of Wales, visited the temple in 1875, he presented it with a beautiful golden salver, which is shown along with the jewels. We have to give previous notice if we want to see this valuable collection, as several trustees are in charge of it and all have to be



present when the jewels are shown  
to visitors.

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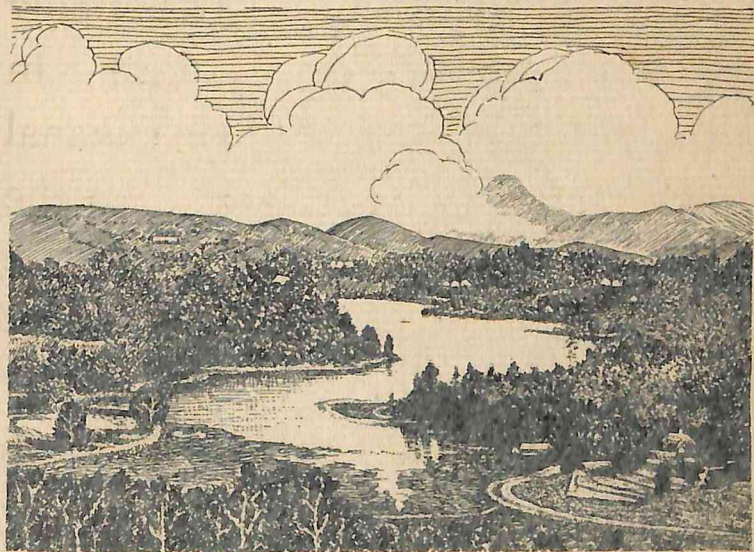
8

We will now leave Trichinopoly and make our way to Madura. In doing so, we pass the Kodaikanal Road Station. Passengers for the hill station of Kodaikanal leave the train here. Kodaikanal is 7000 feet high and is in the Palni Hills. The climate is cool and bracing. Perhaps we may be able to go to this lovely hill station when we get long leave.

Sixty-five miles from the Kodaikanal Road Station is the Periyar Irrigation Works. For years and years the waste waters of the Periyar



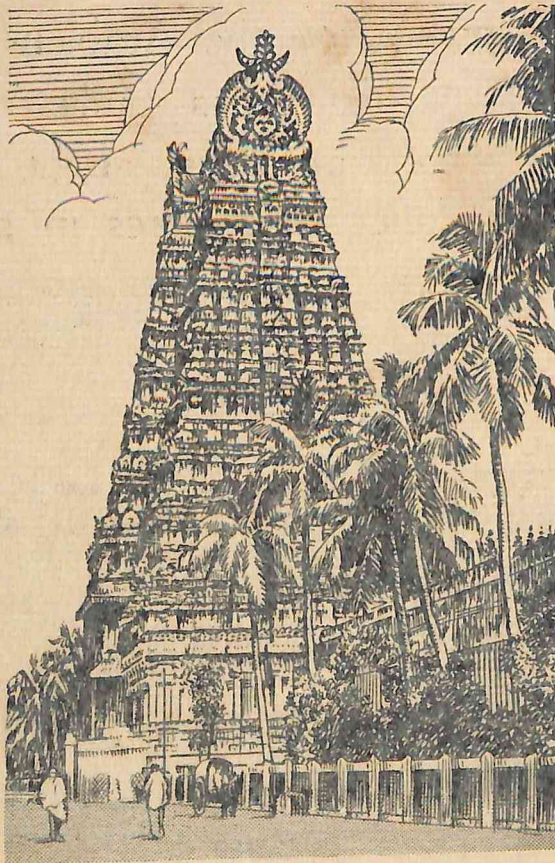
CSL  
River flowed into the Arabian Sea.  
So a large dam was built. The  
Periyar waters are thus caught in a  
huge lake over 8000 acres in area.



KODAIKANAL

By means of channels and tunnels the  
water is led to the canals, which  
distribute it to the districts to the  
east of the hills where there was





MADURA—GOPURAM OF THE GREAT TEMPLE

always a shortage of water for agricultural purposes. It is said that sufficient water for 150,000 acres is



us made available. What a wonderful piece of work it is that can bring such benefits to our fellow-men ?

Leaving Kodaikanal Road, where, by the way, we are besieged by monkeys begging for food, we go on to Madura, which is 350 miles from Madras.

Madura was the ancient capital of the Pandyas for many centuries. It was also an ancient seat of Tamil learning and is mentioned by Greek and Roman writers of the first and second centuries A.D.

The Great Temple has high ornamental towers or *gopurams* at its main gateways and contains two shrines. One is dedicated to the





Goddess Minakshi and the other (to Sundareshwara (Siva), her husband.

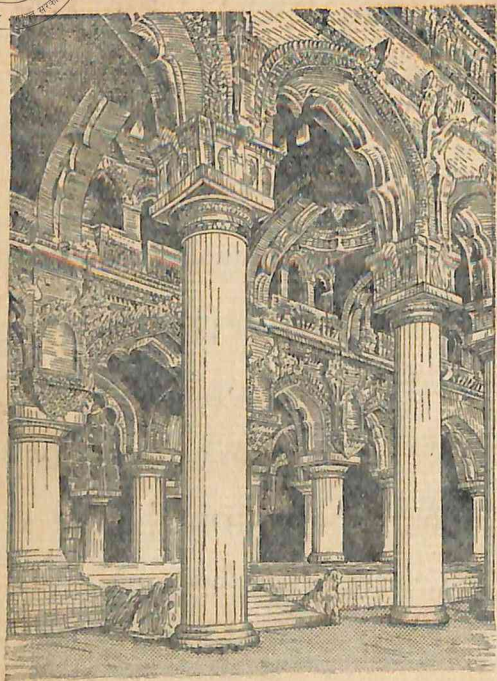
There are many fine sculptures, giving scenes from the life of Minakshi. Entering the east gate we pass through a corridor about 30 feet long. This is called the "Hall of the Eight Saktis". Then we come to a second corridor, 160 feet long, at the end of which is a large door of brass, which holds many lamps. These lamps are lighted at night. A third corridor leads to a big open place in which we shall find the Teppakulam or tank, which is called the "Tank of the Golden Lilies". An arcade runs all round it. On the north and east sides, the walls are painted with





ictures of the most famous temples of India. On the south side, we can get a good view of the various *gopurams*. A corridor leads us into the Sundareshwara temple, where we shall find a large number of statues and shrines. Near at hand are the *vahanas* or cars of Minakshi and Sundareshwara. The *vahanas* are plated with gold. We can also see two *palkis* plated with gold, and cars made of silver and shaped like the goose and the bull. One of the most amazing sights of this temple is the hall of one thousand pillars. It was built about A.D. 1560 by the Nayak rulers of Madura.

Near the temple is the palace of



TIRUMALA NAYAK'S PALACE, MADURA

Tirumala Nayak, one of the powerful rulers of the Nayak dynasty. This vast building is now used for public offices. There are many lofty halls in it. The throneroom,

as it used to be called, has galleries upstairs where the ladies of Tirumala's time could look down and watch the durbars and festivities.

It is said that Tirumala always





CSL

sed to sleep on a *charpoy* which was suspended from the roof, and the crown jewels were kept under his pillow for safety. One day a robber made a large hole in the roof, slid down one of the chains, gathered up the crown jewels and fled before Tirumala knew what had happened. The thief, however, was caught. Tirumala promised to give him a family estate if he would restore the jewels which he had hidden. If he did so, nothing further would be said about the matter. The robber agreed, and brought back the jewels. Tirumala kept his word and settled a family estate upon the robber and his heirs. As soon as all this was done,





CSL

Tirumala cut off the robber's head. What do you think of Tirumala's behaviour ?

It was at Madura that the famous Jesuit missionary, Robert de Nobili, settled down in 1606 and made many converts. He lived the life of a Brahmin, refusing all meat, eggs and other things which must not be touched by Brahmins. He approved of the caste system and wore the dress of a *sanyasi* and called himself a Roman Brahmin.

## 9

From Madura the train takes us to Ramnad, Pamban and Dhanushkodi,

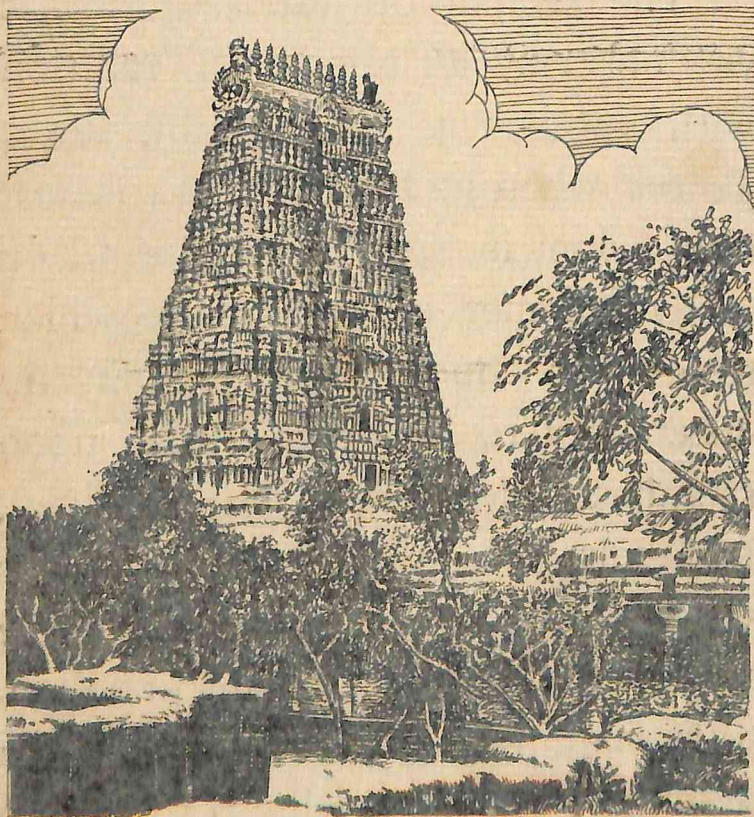


SL<sup>52</sup>  
whence we can take the steamer to Ceylon. From Pamban a short branch line runs to Rameswaram.

The temple of Rameswaram is venerated by all Hindus. Tradition says that it was founded by Rama himself when he was waiting to cross to Ceylon in search of Sita. You will remember the old story which we find in the *Ramayana*. Rama, in his anxiety to find Sita, called upon Hanuman, the king of the monkeys, for help. Hanuman ordered his armies of monkeys to bring huge stones and throw them into the sea, thus making a roadway between India and Ceylon, which was then known as Lanka. When the road



was ready, Rama and his brother  
Lakshman, and Hanuman and his  
monkeys, all marched across to



THE TEMPLE OF RAMESWARAM

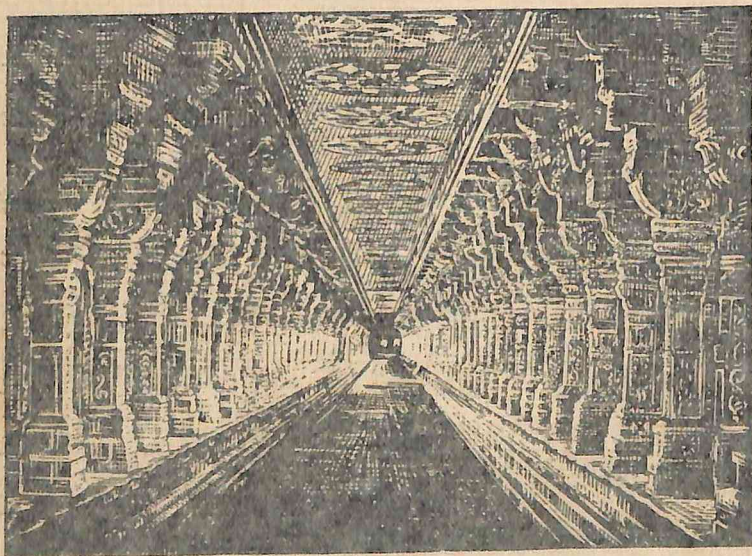




Lanka to fight Ravana, the wicked king of Lanka, who had taken Sita away from Rama.

The temple has tall towers and vast corridors. Its walls are covered with statues of great magnificence. To understand its massiveness, I must tell you that some of the slabs of stone are 40 feet long ! Even some of the corridors of the temple are 4000 feet long and 30 feet high. The temple and its priests are maintained from the rents of 72 villages, which yield about one and a half lakhs of rupees per year. The offerings of pilgrims, of course, help to increase that amount. Thousands of pilgrims are always to be found at Rameswaram.

We have now finished our tour of the more important historical places in Tamilnad. You may, however,



THE GREAT CORRIDOR, RAMESWARAM TEMPLE

say, "We have enjoyed the trip very much, but we find that every place is





154  
SL  
typically Hindu that practically no mention has been made of our Mahommedan friends." I must point out that Southern India is mainly populated by Hindus, who, somehow or other, managed to keep themselves independent of the Muslims for a longer time than in the North. The Muslims of the South did not have much scope for the building of mosques and "Palaces of a Thousand Delights". If you can think of any other reason, write it down and give it to me before we separate.

Many of us come from the North and we are far from our homes. Southern India may have seemed a strange land to us and perhaps we





SL  
have felt out of place now and again; but at such times we should remember always that the people of Tamilnad are our brothers.

Now, before we part, you must see how many Tamil words you can remember. Say them slowly and distinctly so that you may surprise your friends when you get back home.





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CSL

## WESTERN INDIA

### 1

Our visit to Western India will mean two different trips from Bombay and back, and we shall be quite tired of the railway before we are done. However, it will be well worthwhile.

We leave Bombay for Poona on one of the popular G.I.P. Railway's electrified expresses. As our train ascends the Bhor Ghat, we get glimpses of the beautiful scenery of



the Western Ghats. Whilst we are flying along the iron road to Poona, let us refresh our memories with a little history.

Poona is the centre of Mahratta history, whose hero is Shivaji. He



SHIVAJI

was born at Shivner in 1627 and was brought up at Poona. He grew up to be a bold and adventurous soldier. Besides that, he was a strict Hindu,

who wished to found an independent Hindu kingdom amidst the many Mohammedan dynasties and kingdoms that then existed. Shivaji had many fights with the Moghuls, es-





cially Aurangzeb. In 1574 he had himself crowned at Raigad with much pomp. He assumed the title of "Lord of the Umbrella" and "Protector of Brahmins". When he died in 1680 his kingdom was immense.

For the next hundred years the Mahrattas dominated India under the Peshwas, who were originally the prime ministers of the Mahratta Kings. In time they became the actual rulers of the Mahratta kingdom. From the reign of Baji Rao I down to Baji Rao II is a long history of wars, plots and counterplots. The year 1817 saw the end of Mahratta power.

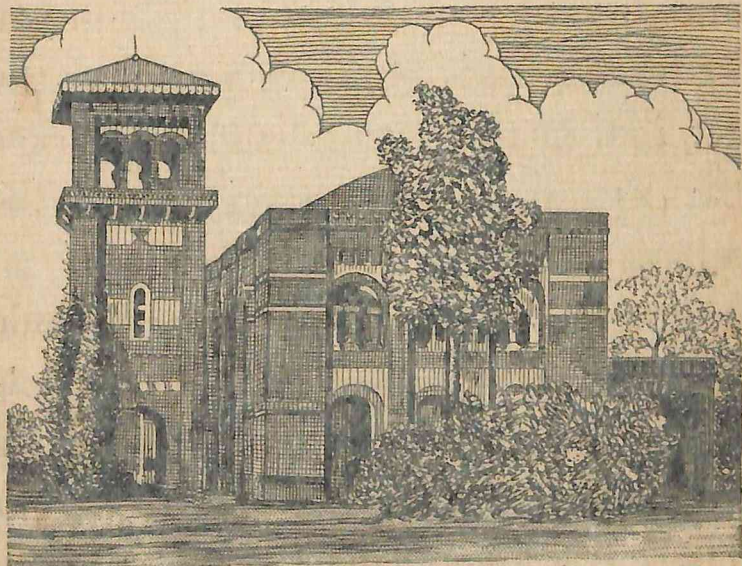


Poona, with its suburb of Kirkee, is a military station of great importance. In 1599 the King of Ahmadnagar made over Poona to Maloji Bhonsle, the grandfather of Shivaji. In 1750 it became the capital of the Mahrattas. After the battle of Kirkee in 1817, the town surrendered to the British.

As the climate of Poona is mild and healthy, many schools and colleges have been opened there in preference to Bombay City. The office of the Director of Public Instruction is in Poona. In the centre



If the town is the Council Hall, containing pictures of many famous men and women. Other places in the Cantonment which should be seen are the Racecourse, the Empress Gardens, St. Patrick's Catholic Cathedral, and the Deccan College.



COUNCIL HALL, POONA

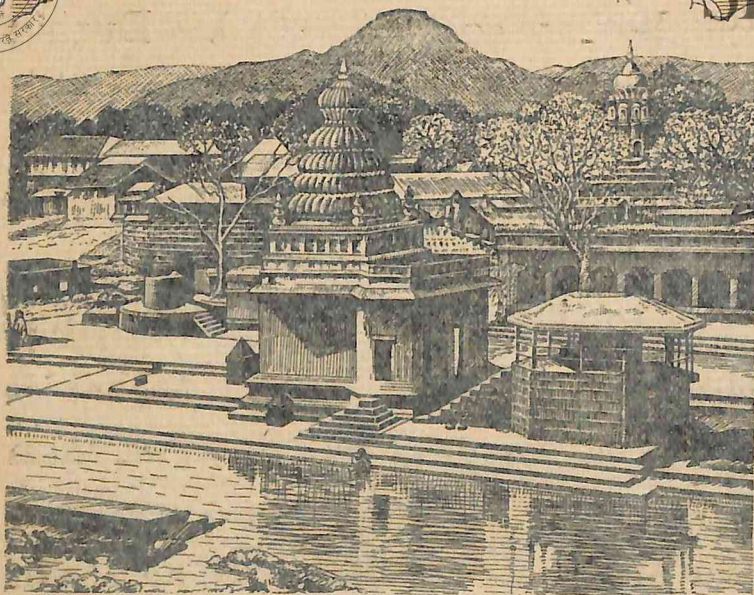




We enter the City of Poona by crossing the Lloyd Bridge. We soon come to the Shivaji Memorial Hall, in front of which is a statue of the great Shivaji seated on his horse. The figures are of bronze and weigh eight and a half tons. The city is divided into nineteen divisions called *peths*. In the Budhwar Peth are a number of old Mahratta palaces. One of them, the Visram Bagh, has very beautiful pillars, and is a splendid example of Mahratta architecture. On Parbat Hill are some interesting temples, the chief of which is dedicated to Durga or Parvati, the wife of Siva. There is a lovely silver image of Siva, with gold images of Parvati and

Ganesh seated on Siva's knees. The temple has cost £100,000. During the feast of Diwali, it is lit up with thousands of lights.

From Poona we take the train to Wathar, which is the halting-place for Mahableshwar, the principal hill station of Western India. Mahableshwar is forty miles by road from Wathar. Half way we pass the sacred town of Wai. The river Kristna runs through it and the river banks are lined with mango and pipal trees. There are many fine temples, and stone steps lead down to the river so that pilgrims can bathe in the sacred waters. Legend says that it was at Wai that the Pandava Princes



TEMPLES AT WAI

spent most of their banishment. You will read all about the Pandavas in the *Mahabharata*.

From October to March the climate of Mahableshwar is delightful, and many overworked people





SL<sup>159</sup>  
from Bombay and other places find rest and recreation there. You may be sure many schoolmasters are numbered among the visitors, for, as my young friends know, a schoolmaster's life is not one of ease and pleasure.

The plateau on which Mahableshwar is situated is about 4,000 feet high. There are many fine walks in and around the town, and plenty of tennis can be had. Besides the human visitors, who are always welcome, there are also animal visitors in the shape of panthers, who very often pay a visit from the surrounding jungles. These visitors are not so welcome, so the human visitors often lie in wait for the



SL

panthers in the hope of getting a shot at them. We will leave them to their sport, and go on to Satara.

Satara is situated between two ranges of hills and has a good climate. The ruling family of the Satara State was descended from Sahu, a grandson of Shivaji. The family died out in 1848 and the State then lapsed to the British Government. Near the centre of the town is the New Palace, built in 1840 for Raja Shahaji. In it is a huge hall supported by sixty-four teak pillars. The descendants of the last Raja live near at hand. They possess the crown jewels of the Satara family and also Shivaji's famous sword, called "Jai Bhawani". The

made of this sword is three feet nine inches long. Shivaji's other arms in the same collection include the "tiger's claws" or *waghnakh* ; a shield of rhinoceros hide studded with four stars of diamonds ; and a handsome dagger, 18 inches long, the handle of which is studded with diamonds, rubies and emeralds.



WAGHNAKH

The Fort at Satara is said to have been built in 1192, and was for a long time used as a state prison. Shivaji captured it in 1673. Its use as a prison was continued by the Peshwas, who shut up in it many of Shivaji's descendants.

We leave Satara for Miraj Junc-





tion, where we change trains for Kolhapur. Kolhapur is the capital of an important Mahratta State. There are some fine buildings in Kolhapur, including the New Palace, the Albert Edward Hospital, the Library and the shrine of Amba Bai. The fortress and caves of Panhala, about twelve miles away, are well worth a visit.

### 3

From Kolhapur we proceed via Miraj Junction to Castle Rock, which is the terminus of the M. & S. M. Railway. Portuguese territory begins here. The chief towns in Portuguese India are Margao, Vasco-da-Gama,



Larmugao, New Goa (Panjim), and Old Goa.

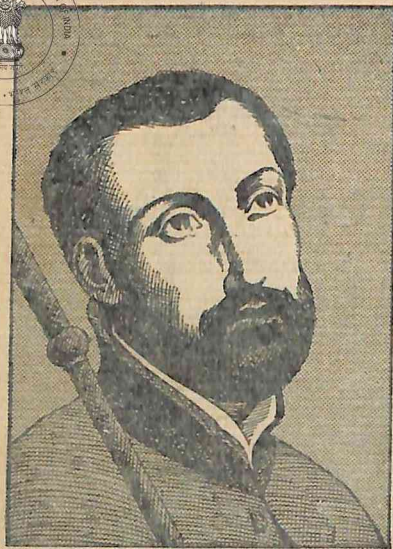
The founder of Goa and the Portuguese possessions in India was the famous Albuquerque. He visited India for the first time in 1503. He died in 1515 and was buried in Lisbon.



ALBUQUERQUE

New Goa is the capital of Portuguese India, and the Governor-General lives there, as also the Archbishop, whose palace contains life-size portraits of many previous archbishops. A good road leads to Old Goa.

In 1510 Albuquerque's expedition of twenty ships and one thousand

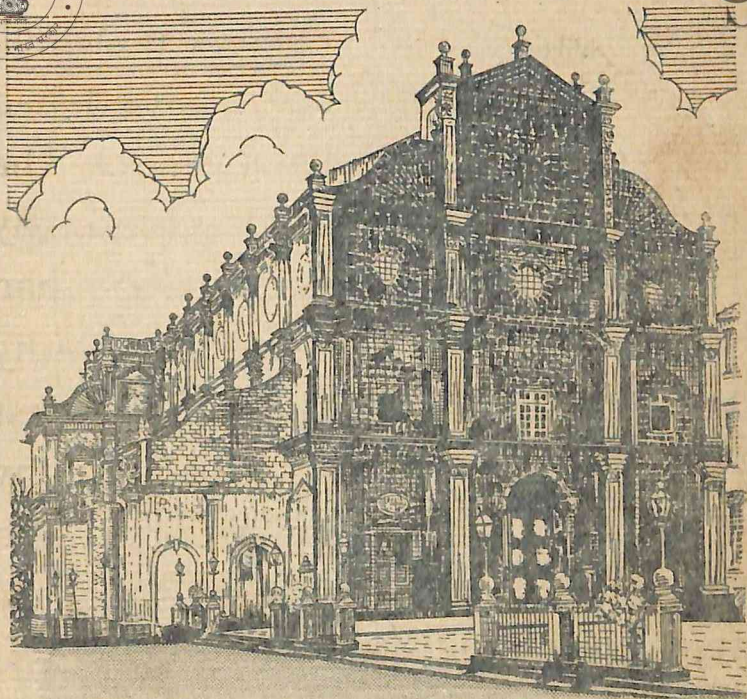


ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

soldiers captured the town, which up till then had belonged to the Bijapur State. By 1525 Goa had become a wealthy city and the first Christian colony in India. St.

Francis Xavier worked there for some time, and converted many of the people to Christianity. When the Empire of Vijayanagar fell, Goa's important trade collapsed and the city was abandoned. Yet amidst the ruins that remain, there are many fine churches still standing.





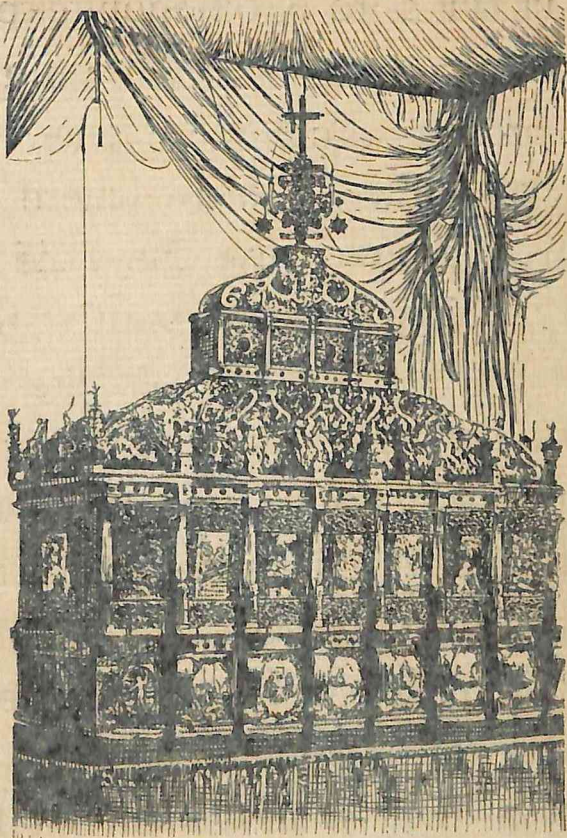
CHURCH OF THE BOM JESUS

The Church of the Bom Jesus is the most important. It contains the body of St. Francis Xavier, which is preserved in a silver coffin. The



body of the saint is generally exposed once in ten years. There are three locks to the coffin, the keys being kept by the Governor-General, the Archbishop, and the head of the Jesuit College. The saint's body, which was well preserved, has now shrunk in size. Scenes of great enthusiasm mark an exposition, hundreds of thousands of pilgrims coming to Goa from all parts of India. They are not all Christians, for the people of India are ready to do honour to any truly holy man, even if his faith was not their own. Many Hindus and Moslems are numbered among the crowds, who are all anxious to touch the body or the coffin with





SILVER TOMB OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

some article which they believe will in future heal the sick or do good in other ways.





This visit to Goa should set us thinking of the past. Why did not the Portuguese complete their conquest of India? Were there any special reasons why they did not do so?

4

Our visit to Goa is now over. Should any of our party have urgent business in Bombay they could return to that city by one of the coasting steamers which ply between Goa and Bombay. This strip of coast is called the Konkan, and its scenery is very beautiful. The first stop is at Malvan. In the middle of the harbour is a strong fort surrounded by the



SL  
sea. An interesting thing about this fort is that it has a number of fresh-water wells in it, the water being particularly fresh and sweet. Is this not very curious ?

The next port of call is Ratnagiri. It also has a fine harbour and an old fort. A short distance away is Vijayadurg, an old stronghold which became famous during the time of Shivaji.

Our next stop is Janjira. This also is a fortress securely built on a rock in the sea. It is owned by an Abyssinian Sidi family of Moslems. Bombay is only about fifty miles away, and is soon reached by our stout little steamer.

Those of us who are continuing the tour from Goa proceed by train to Badami, passing the town of Dharwar on the way. Badami has a very long history. It was once the capital of the Chalukyas, but that is not why we are visiting it. We have come to see the four Cave Temples which date from the sixth century. Three of the temples were made by the Brahmins, the other one is the work of the Jains. All of them are full of sculptures of which those of Vishnu seem to be the most frequent. As we have no time to describe the caves more fully, let us wander round



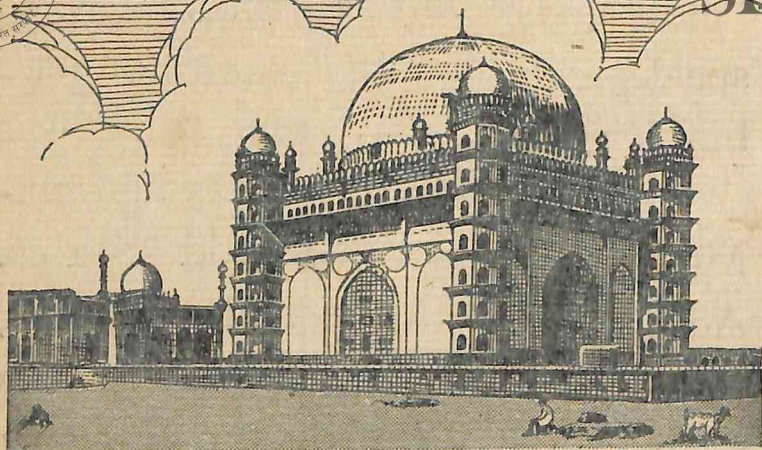


the shrines and admire the sculptures, and then pass on to Bijapur.

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SL

The first king of Bijapur founded a dynasty in 1490. His name was Yusuf Khan and the dynasty he founded was that of the Adil Shahis. The Adil Shahis reigned till 1686, when Bijapur Fort, which has seven gates, was captured by the Emperor Aurangzeb.

The "show-place" of Bijapur is the wonderful tomb of Muhammed Adil Shah, the seventh king of the line. It is popularly known as the Gol Gumbaz, or Round Dome. It is built on a platform 600 feet square. At each corner is a tower seven storeys high. In the centre rises the enormous



THE GOL GUMBAZ, BIJAPUR

dome. It has a diameter of 124 feet, which is nearly as big as the dome of St. Peter's in Rome, the largest in the world. Beneath the dome is a spacious hall, in the centre of which is the grave of the Sultan. The huge size of the tomb amazes us. A great critic of buildings has said



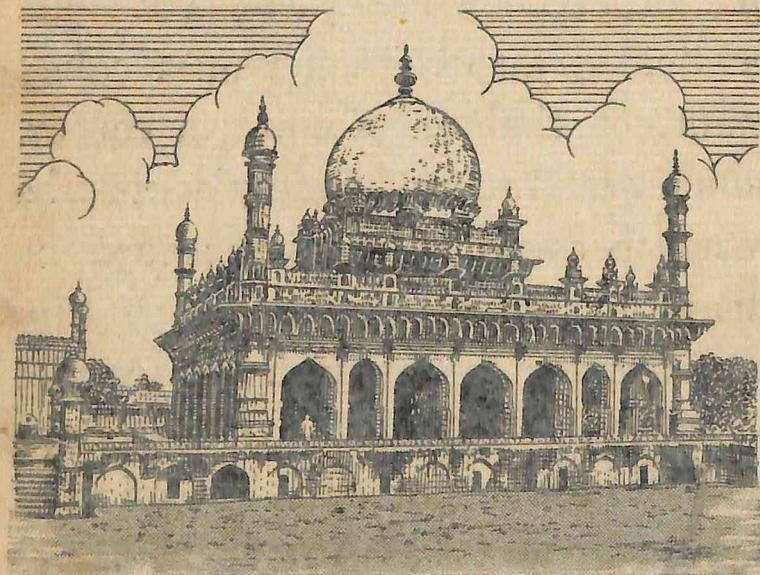
166  
SL  
that the way the tomb is built is most ingenious and novel". This speaks well for India's architects and builders of five hundred years ago.

Half a mile away is the Jami Masjid. It was commenced by Ali Adil Shah I, but was never completely finished. The floor of the mosque is divided into oblong places called *musullahs*, the size of a prayer carpet. Aurangzeb ordered these places to be made because he carried away the beautiful prayer-mats which were there before he arrived. I wonder what he did with them. Let us hope that at least he put them into another mosque, perhaps at Aurangabad.

Other places we should see are



the Citadel, the Old Mosque, the Gagan Mahal, the Sat Manzili, and lastly the Ibrahim Rauza. The Ibrahim Rauza is a group of buildings and tombs enclosed by a wall. In the centre of the courtyard stands the tomb of Ibrahim II Adil Shah.



THE TOMB OF IBRAHIM RAUZA, BIJAPUR



There is a seven-arched verandah on each side of the tomb. The ceilings of these verandahs are divided into compartments, each of which has been beautifully carved with verses from the Holy Koran. The Arabic letters have been gilded, and wreaths of flowers have been cut out between the letters. The ground-work is painted blue. Light is admitted through a lovely lattice which is fixed to the outer edge of the roof of the verandahs. The lattice-work is made up of Arabic sentences. The effect is very beautiful, and is unsurpassed in all India.

When Aurangzeb captured Bijapur, he made the Rauza his residence.



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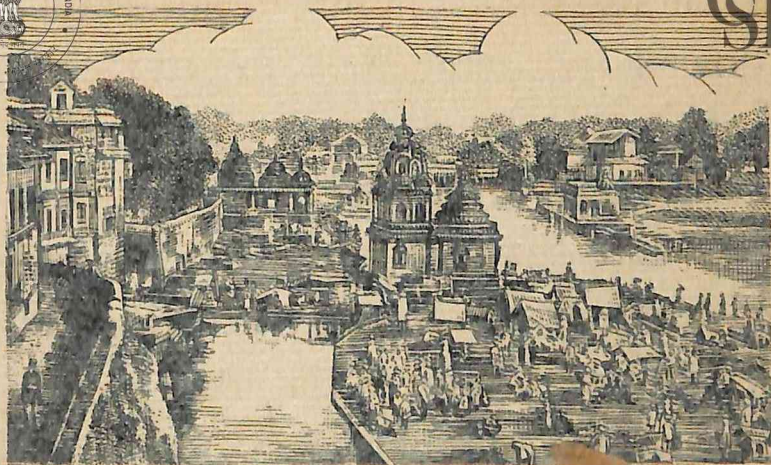
Some parts of this splendid building were badly damaged during the siege.

They were partly repaired by the Raja of Satara, and completely restored by the English. There are several bastions to be visited, as also a number of tanks outside the Fort.

We are now near the end of our first trip and are on our way back to Bombay. But before returning we must call at Nasik via Ahmadnagar.

Nasik is a very holy place for Hindus because it is on the banks of the sacred river Godavari. The families of many hundreds of Brahmin priests are settled in Nasik. When the place is visited by any Hindu of rank he leaves a record of





THE SACRED GODAVARI RIVER AT NASIK

his visit with one or other of the “family priests” or *Upadhyas*. The river is lined with temples and shrines, and any day one can see hundreds of men and women bathing in the sacred waters. The beautiful Sundar Narayan Temple was built in 1750 and cost over ten lakhs of rupees. Half a mile away is the Sita Gupha,



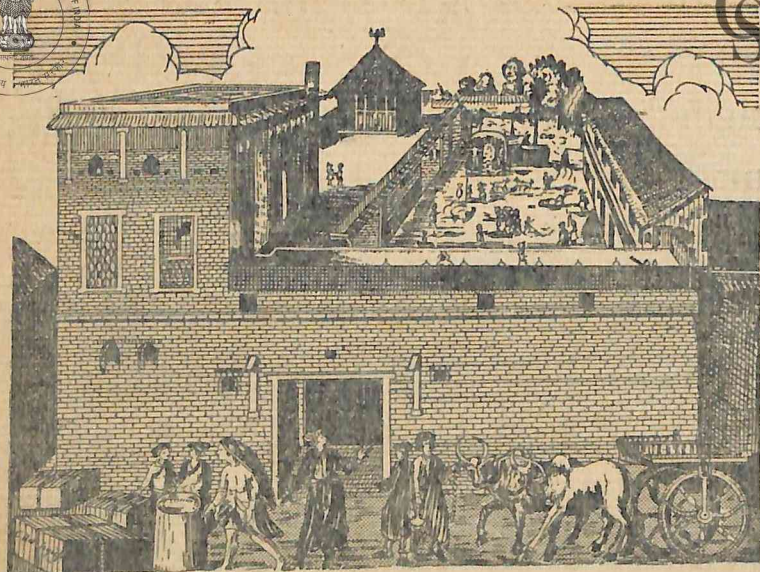
Sita's Cave. Only Hindus are allowed to enter it. Legend says that the cave was used by Sita in her wanderings with Rama, and it was from here that Sita was carried away by Ravana to his island kingdom of Lanka. The Kala Rama and Kapaleswar temples are near the Sita Gupha.

We now go back to Bombay and enjoy a good night's rest. The city of Bombay has already been fully described, so we need not go sight-seeing in Bombay just now. We have agreed to meet the following morning at the Central Station of the B. B. & C. I. Railway, so off to your slumbers !

We all meet next morning at the Central Station and take one of the express trains to Surat, which is 160 miles from Bombay. Surat, or Sourashtra, is mentioned in the *Mahabharata*, and is supposed to be "the land of the Suras". In 1573 the town surrendered to Akbar, and thus became the "Gateway to Mecca". Pilgrims to the holy places of Islam sailed from Surat. Its trade increased, and the townsmen became very wealthy.

About 1610 the English began to visit the port. In 1612 the Moghul Emperor issued an important *firman*,



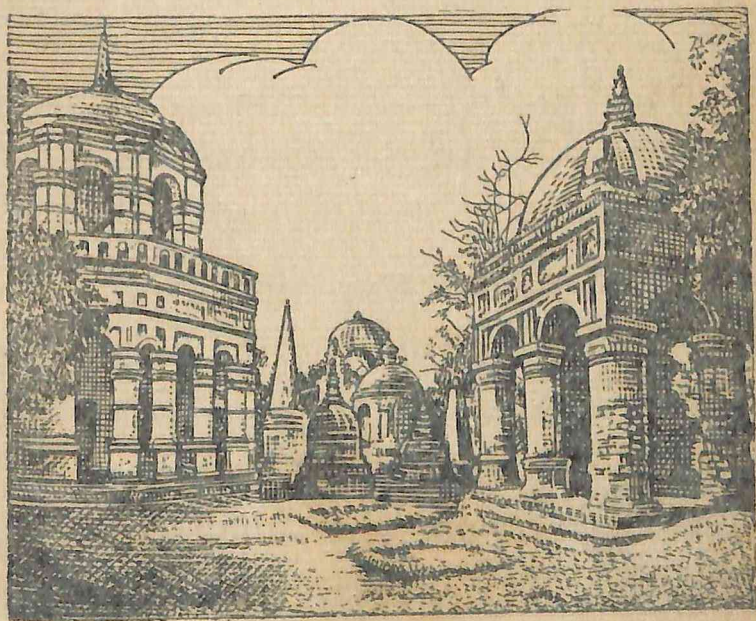


THE ENGLISH FACTORY AT SURAT IN 1638

or order, allowing an English envoy to reside at his Court, and also permitting the English to trade in Surat. Thereupon commenced a great rivalry in trade between the English, Portuguese, Dutch, and French. The fortunes of the English



Surat had many ups and downs until the year 1759, when the Nawab signed a treaty with the English and made over to them the castle and his fleet for a yearly sum of Rs. 200,000. The Emperor in Delhi



DUTCH TOMBS AT SURAT





agreed to this arrangement, and British rule was firmly established in Surat from the year 1800. The Nawabs continued to live in Surat until 1842, when the last of the Nawabs died. The places to be visited are the Castle, the English and Dutch Cemeteries, the principal Mosques, and the tombs of the Bohras. Gold and silver wire is made in Surat, and silk weaving is a well-established "cottage industry".

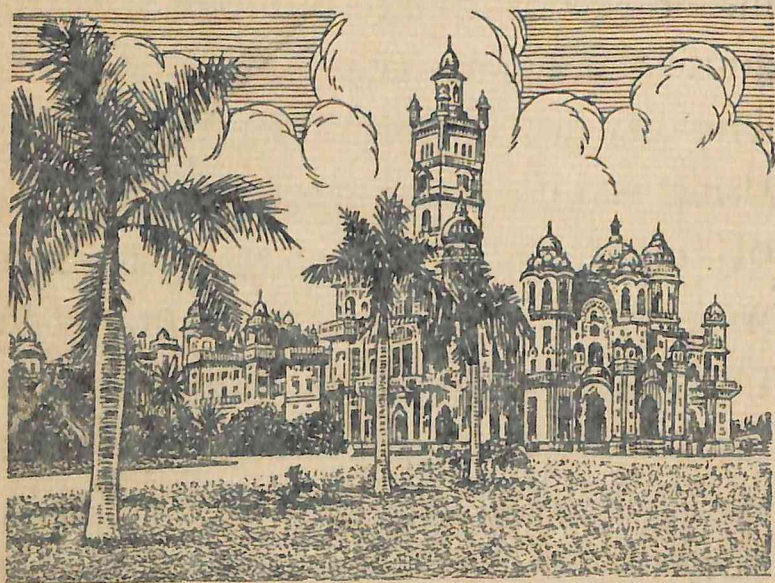
We leave Surat for Baroda, passing the ancient town of Broach on our way. Baroda is the capital of the very important State of His Highness the Gaekwar. The State has a population of over two and





half millions, and covers an area of over eight thousand square miles. To the west of the railway station are the houses of a large number of State officials as also the Baroda Hotel, which is provided for His Highness's guests, and for visitors to Baroda. To the east is the city, which has many fine buildings, including the College, the Museum, the General Hospital, the State Offices, etc. In the middle of the city is the Nazar Bagh Palace. Two state guns, one of gold and one of silver, are kept there. The golden gun contains 280 pounds weight of solid gold and is drawn by milkwhite oxen. The Lakshmi Vilas Palace cost sixty lakhs of rupees.

Education in the Baroda State is highly developed, His Highness the Gaekwar having endowed many



LAKSHMI VILAS PALACE, BARODA

schools and colleges with special funds.

7

Sixty miles from Baroda is Ahme-





abad, which is a beautiful city. <sup>172</sup>It was founded in 1411 by Sultan Ahmad I, King of Gujarat. Sir Thomas Roe described it in 1615 as "a goodly city as large as London". The city had its periods of prosperity, rising and declining with the fortunes of the Kings of Gujarat. In 1573 it was taken by Akbar, and increased in prosperity until 1709, when its fortunes fell with the decline of the Moghul Empire. It is once again very prosperous, being the centre of the cotton trade.

During the reign of the Emperor Shah Jahan he appointed his brother-in-law, Shaista Khan, as Governor of the Province of Gujarat. Hearing





SHAISTA KHAN

that the traveller SL  
Tavernier had arrived in Surat with a collection of beautiful jewels for sale, Shaista Khan sent special messengers

to call him to Ahmedabad. Tavernier says that during his stay in the city the Governor sent him everyday from his own table "four silver dishes containing pilao and choice meats." On leaving Ahmedabad Shaista Khan gave Tavernier "a *Khil'at* complete with sword and dagger, the whole worth more than one thousand rupees." He was also presented with a fresh and lively horse which he

mounted with difficulty.

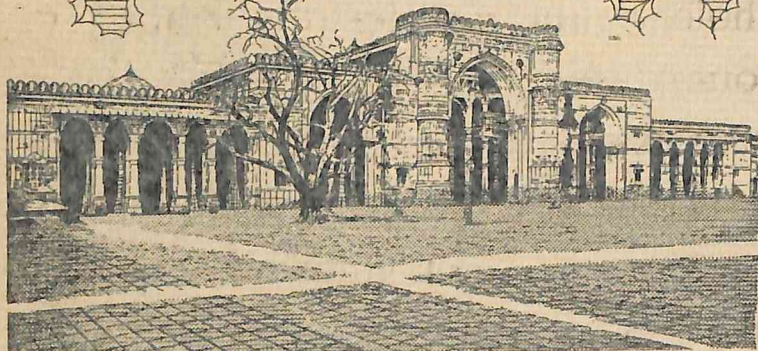
The architecture of Ahmedabad is charming, being a mixture of Hindu and Moslem styles. Curious objects in many streets of the city are the resting-places for birds. They look like pigeon-houses, but are not meant for this purpose.

The principal mosque is the Jami Masjid near the city's centre. It was built by Sultan Ahmad I in 1424, and contains his tomb. The roof of the mosque is held up by 260



JEAN BAPTISTE TAVERNIER



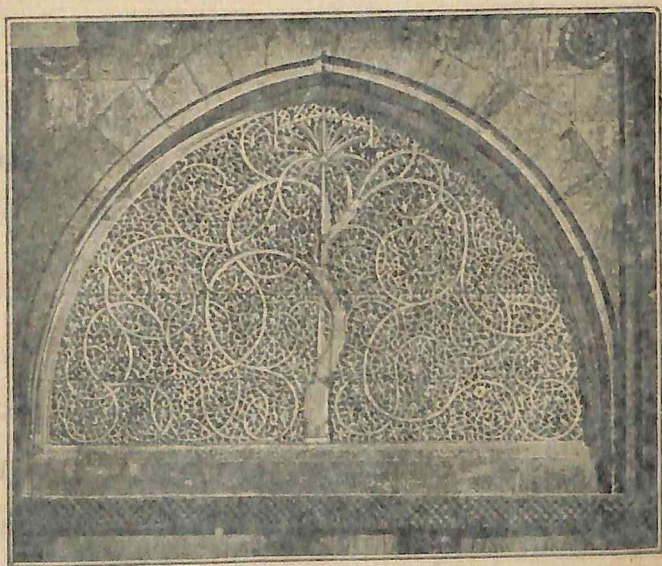


JAMI MASJID AT AHMEDABAD

columns. Other important mosques are Rani Sipri's Mosque, Haibat Khan's Mosque, and Dastur Khan's Mosque. Near the Bhadar or Citadel is Sidi Saiyad's Mosque. Although Sidi Saiyad was a slave of Ahmad Shah I, his mosque has become world famous on account of the beautiful carving in it. Two win-



are filled by tree-stems with branches growing out of them, the whole being wonderfully traced in stone. A critic says : "There are some exquisite specimens of tracery in marble at Delhi and Agra, but not one of them equals this beautiful work in Sidi Saiyad's Mosque".



WINDOW OF SIDI SAIYAD'S MOSQUE, AHMEDABAD



There are many more mosques and tombs to be visited, but it would take many pages to describe them all.

Ahmedabad is a city of handicraftsmen. Do you know what that word means? It means workmen who are very clever at making things with their hands. In Ahmedabad we find coppersmiths, brass-workers, goldsmiths, jewellers, carpenters, stone-masons, leather-workers, makers of gold and silver threads, and weavers of the finest brocades made in India.

## 8

From Ahmedabad we branch off to the west to Kathiawar, which is a peninsula of about 20,000 square



175  
SL  
The principal State is Cutch, the ruler of which claims descent from the Lord Krishna. One hundred years ago the jungles of Kathiawar contained many lions. Now these dangerous wild animals are confined to the Gir forest, where they are protected against hunters.



MANELESS LION OF GUJARAT

The principal towns in Kathiawar are Viramgam, Wadhwan, Limbdi, Junagadh, Veraval, and Porbandar. Whilst we are in Kathiawar we must not miss paying a visit to Satrunjaya, or the Holy Mountain. This holy hill is near Palitana, which is 18 miles from

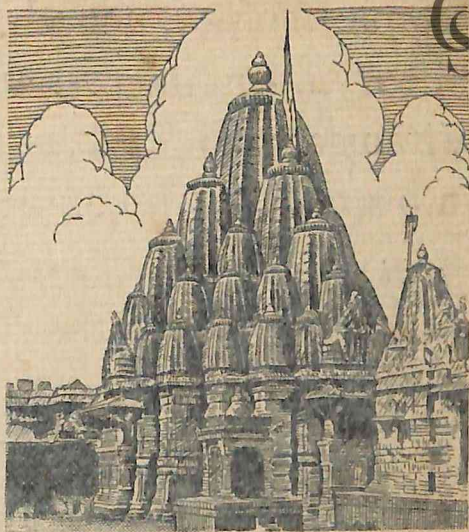




Sihor Junction. It is about one and a half miles from Palitana to the foot of the holy mountain. The hill-side is very steep, hence it is convenient to engage a *dholi*, which is a kind of chair slung between two poles and carried by four bearers.

The Satrunjaya Hill is, indeed, a city of temples, there being eight hundred and sixty-three in all. Every temple and passage is kept spotlessly clean and over all there is a silence which is very noticeable. Once in a while we hear a bell being rung in a nearby shrine, and from the larger temples comes the sound of *mantras* being chanted by the priests. It is therefore not very

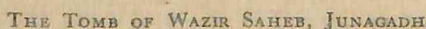
wonderful  
 that pea-  
 cocks, par-  
 rots, doves,  
 pigeons and  
 squirrels  
 should all  
 find a happy  
 home in this  
 peaceful



THE TEMPLE OF NIMNATH, MT. GIRNAR

abode. The temples were built by  
 the Jains, and some of them date  
 from the 11th century.

A visit must also be paid to  
 Junagadh, where the Fort, the Tombs,  
 the Mosques, the Caves, and Mount  
 Girnar all attract attention. At  
 Verawal we are near the ancient



to enquiring students such as ourselves. But time passes. We can return to Bombay by a coasting vessel from Porbandar, or we can return by the railway. Which shall it be ?





# THE KINGDOM OF NEPAL

## 1

On the southern slopes of the mighty Himalayas is the historic kingdom of Nepal, known to most people as the home of the brave Gurkhas. It is five hundred miles in length and one hundred miles in breadth. Nepal is the only independent Hindu kingdom in the world, and has a population of about six million.

SL Every kind of climate and scenery is to be found in Nepal. If we had to take a journey from India to Nepal we should first of all go through thick jungles called the Terai. The Terai extends along the whole of the southern border of Nepal. It is about twelve miles broad. It is very unhealthy during the rainy season because it abounds with malaria-



carrying mosquitoes. During the winter months there is not much danger. The Terai then becomes the sportsman's paradise. The great forests are full of elephants, tigers,



leopards, rhinoceroses and other wild animals.

When the late King-Emperor George V, came to India for the Delhi Durbar, he was invited



to a big *shikar* in the Nepal Terai. His Highness the Prime Minister of Nepal and his nobles and generals met the King in a wonderful camp. It was furnished with every comfort by the Nepal Government. They offered the King the most wonderful sport in the world. The King shot many tigers and



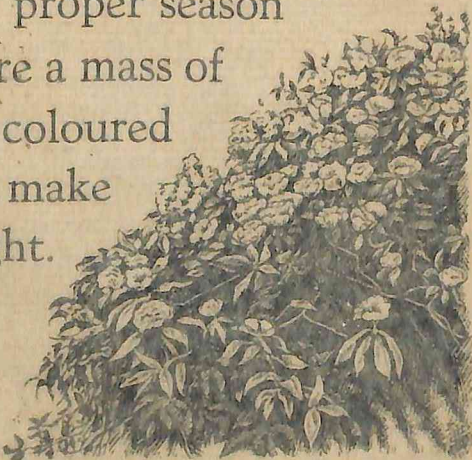


CSL

other animals. On leaving the Terai, King George said he had never enjoyed such kindness anywhere before. The King and His Highness were always the closest of friends.

After we have passed through the Terai we reach the thickly forested foothills. Here the air is cooler. As we climb higher, we see many kinds of orchids, ferns and rhododendron bushes. In the proper season these bushes are a mass of beautifully coloured flowers. They make a wonderful sight.

We now come to the hills, which





### KANCHENJUNGA

are from four to ten thousand feet high. Here the climate is delightful. Down in the valleys are the towns and cultivated lands. Towering high above all is the Himalayan range, the "Home of the Snows." The mighty peak of Kanchenjunga, 28,156 feet, is within the kingdom of Nepal. Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world, lies partly in Nepal and partly in Tibet.



ASHARFI  
(Gold)

Nepal contains some valuable minerals. There are mines of gold, silver, iron and copper. A number of rivers, which rise in the Himalayas, divide Nepal

into valleys. The principal rivers are the Kosi and the Gandak. The soil of Nepal is very rich, and rice,



ONE RUPEE  
(Silver)

The principal rivers are the Kosi, Gandak, and the Gandak. The soil is very rich, and rice,

barley, cotton, tobacco and sugarcane are grown. Nepal has its own coinage of gold, silver and copper. The coins are made by machinery in the Mint at Khatmandu.



ONE PICE  
(Copper)





180  
SL  
There is also a series of coloured postage stamps.



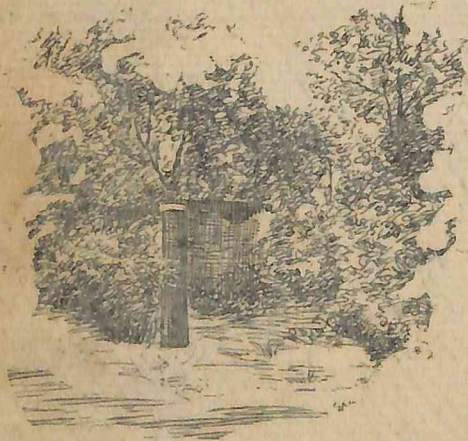
Nowadays, the easiest way to reach the capital is to catch the train from Raxaul, which is in North Bihar in India. The light railway was built by the Nepal Government, and was opened in 1927. The train takes us to Amlekhgang, a distance of twenty-four miles from Raxaul. From Amlekhgang there is a good road to Bhimphedi, a distance of twenty-five miles. We can do this part of the journey by motor lorry. From Bhimphedi to Khatmandu (twenty miles), one has to engage a pony or walk on foot.



One of the longest ropeways in the world has been constructed near Bhimphedi, and by means of this goods are carried to Khatmandu. The ropeway is worked by electricity.

## 2

History tells us that Buddha, "the Blessed One," was born in the Lumbini Garden over 2,000 years ago. This spot is in Nepal at a place called



ASOKA PILLAR AT RUMMINDEI

Rummindei. Lumbini was not a part



Nepal at the time of Buddha, but it is now. On this spot Asoka erected one of his famous pillars on which he has clearly said, "The Buddha Sakyamuni was born here." This pillar was discovered in the year 1894.

In the course of years many dynasties ruled the land. It was divided into three kingdoms, Khatmandu, Patan and Bhatgaon. It was invaded many times by armies from Tibet and China.

Outside the valley, to the west, was the kingdom of Gorkha. Legend says that the people of Gorkha, who were called Gurkhas, were descended from the Rajput princes of Udaipur. In the eighteenth century, the ruler





PRITHWI NARAYAN

of Gorkha was Prithwi Narayan Shah. He is said to have ascended the throne when he was only twelve years old. In 1769 Prithwi Narayan invaded Nepal and quickly subdued the three kings of Khatmandu, Patan and Bhatgaon. These kingdoms became the districts of Kantipur, Lalitpur, and Bhaktapur respectively. Prithwi Narayan made Khatmandu his capital. Various parties and persons wished to seize the throne, but from that time the Gurkhas were to control the destinies of Nepal.

In 1814 there was a quarrel between Nepal and the British. The



182  
GSL  
Governor-General of India, Lord Hastings, sent some soldiers into Nepal to try and stop frontier raids. The quarrel came to an end the following year. Since then the King of Nepal has been the most sincere friend of the British government. The biggest test of a country's friendship is when their soldiers fight shoulder to shoulder against a common enemy. This the soldiers of Nepal and England have done on many occasions.

### 3

In the middle of the nineteenth century Jang Bahadur became the Prime Minister. He was very friendly towards the British. He went to



SL

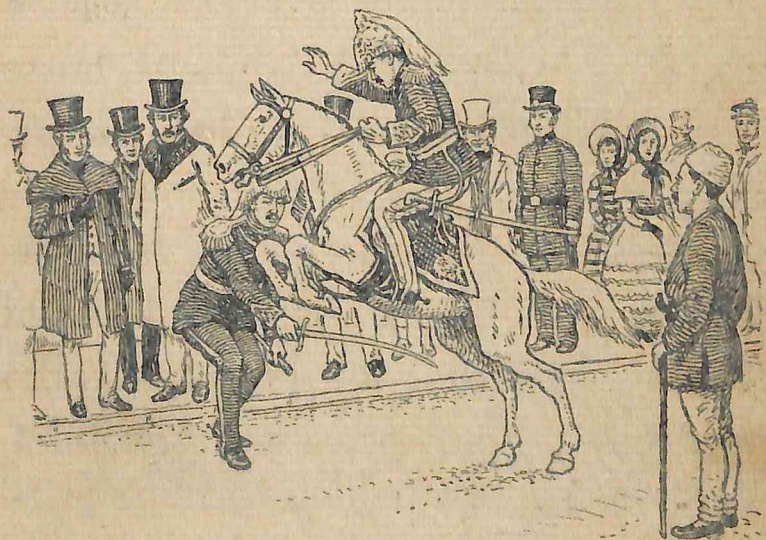
England in 1850 to see Queen Victoria. His charm of manner made him very popular amongst all classes there.

Jang Bahadur was very fond of horses. One day, whilst he was in London, he went to choose a horse from one of the dealers in Piccadilly. He selected a nice-looking colt. The dealer demanded three hundred guineas for the colt, but Jang Bahadur told the dealer that he must first try the colt and see how well it could jump. After that he would consider the price asked for it.

The horse-dealer brought out the colt and informed Jang Bahadur that it was a very young and untrained animal. Jang Bahadur at once jumped



183  
SL  
Upon the colt's back and asked his brother, who had accompanied him to England, to draw his sword and hold it so that the colt could jump over it.



On hearing this, the horse-dealer became anxious for the safety of his colt. Jang Bahadur, however, said, "If your horse is touched by the sword in



my way, I will at once pay you all the money you have asked for it.”

SL

Jang Bahadur rode the colt up and down the road for a little while, and then made it jump over the naked sword. On seeing this the onlookers were much astonished at Jang Bahadur's skill and horsemanship. He was so satisfied with the colt that he soon made a bargain with the horsedealer.

On his return to Nepal, a plot against his life was discovered, and the culprits were exiled to India. In 1856 Jang Bahadur resigned in favour of his brother, Bam Bahadur. Soon after this, the King of Nepal made Jang Bahadur a Maharaja, and ordered that in future the Prime Minister of



184  
SL  
epal should always be a member  
of Jang Bahadur's family, and so it  
is even to this day.  
Bam Bahadur died in  
1857, and at the King's  
request Maharaja Jang  
Bahadur again became  
Prime Minister.



About this time  
serious trouble arose MAHARAJA JANG BAHADUR  
in India. Maharaja Jang Bahadur  
offered his troops to the British, and  
his offer was accepted. The Maharaja  
personally led twelve thousand of his  
faithful soldiers into India to help in  
the restoration of order. He died in  
1877 and will always be remembered  
as one of the greatest of Nepal's sons.



Another famous Prime Minister  
was Maharaja Sir Chandra Shumshere



MAHARAJA SIR CHANDRA  
SHUMSHERE

Jang Bahadur Rana.  
He did away with  
slavery in Nepal, and  
freed over sixty  
thousand slaves.

He ruled from  
1901 to 1929. In 1908  
he visited England as

the guest of the British Government.  
During the World War he placed  
the whole resources of Nepal at the  
disposal of the British. He ruled the  
country with marked ability, and  
began many important reforms.

The King of Nepal, or the Maharajadhiraj as he is called, is a nominal ruler. His name is His Majesty Tribhubana Bir Vikram Jang Bahadur Sah. The government of the country is conducted by the Prime Minister. The



MAHARAJA SIR JUDDHA  
SHUMSHERE

present Prime Minister is His Highness Maharaja Sir Juddha Shumshere Jang Bahadur Rana. When the terrible earthquake of 1934 laid large tracts of Nepal in ruins, His Highness made large grants of money to relieve the

homeless and bereaved, and has rebuilt many of the towns and villages which



THE HEAD-DRESS OF H. H. THE  
 PRIME MINISTER

were laid waste. He has also been able to introduce many reforms into the country. His Highness' head-dress is the most magnificent in the world. The cap is covered with diamonds, pearls,

rubies and emeralds. The plume of a bird of paradise rises up in front and surmounts the whole head-dress.

A representative of the King-Emperor stays in Khatmandu. He is called the Envoy-Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary. Isn't that a





186  
SL  
Sig name ? A representative of the King of Nepal, with exactly the same title, lives in London. The Envoy is very popular with the people there.

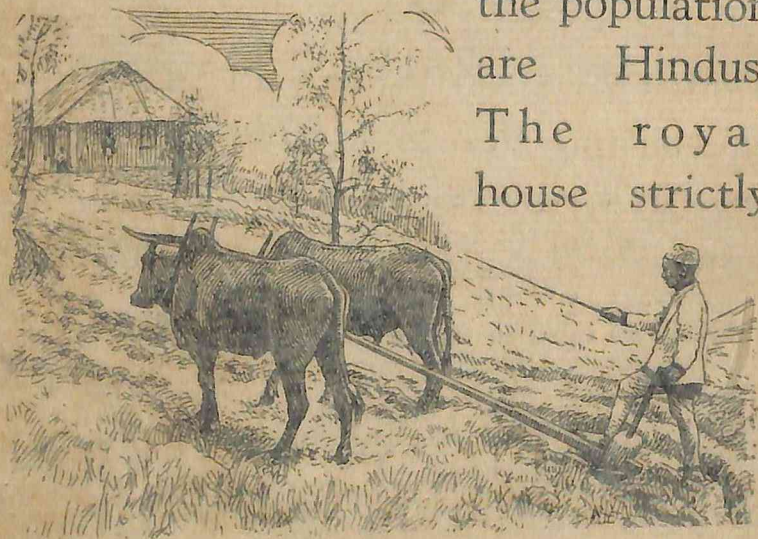
The British Envoy does not interfere in any way with Nepal affairs. No person who is not a subject of Nepal is allowed to enter the kingdom unless he has the special permission of His Highness the Prime Minister. There are, therefore, very few visitors to Nepal. We must think ourselves very lucky to be able to learn something about Nepal from this little book.

5

The main castes in Nepal are Brahmins, Thakurs, Chhetris, Kiratis

Gurungs, Magars and Newars. The various races of the kingdom have separate languages, but the state language is Nepali. Most of the people are engaged in military service. Agriculture is carried on by the Newars, who are also very skilful workmen.

At one time Buddhism was the chief religion, but nowadays most of the population are Hindus. The royal house strictly

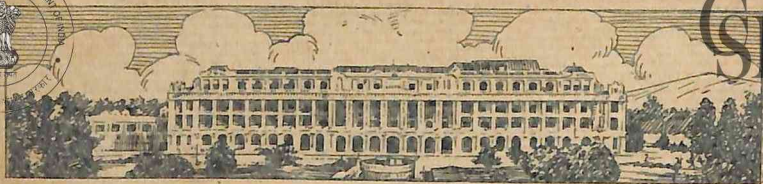


187  
SL

observes all the Hindu rites and ceremonies. The festivals of Durga Puja or *Dasain*, and Diwali, also known as *Tihar*, are celebrated with much rejoicing. Diwali, as you know, is called "the festival of lights." Every house is illuminated with many little lamps. At night Khatmandu becomes a fairy city of lights. It is a very pretty sight.

If we visit the capital we shall find beautiful palaces, Buddhist shrines and stupas, and Hindu temples with Nepali boys and girls running in and out of them and quite at home. We shall also find that the benefits of modern inventions have been provided, and electricity illumines this picturesque city. The roofs of the temples and





### THE SINGHA DARBAR

houses remind us of China. They rise high into the sky, tier above tier. The doors, windows and roofs are beautifully carved.

The King's palace is a magnificent building of modern design. The Singha Darbar, or Prime Minister's palace, is a massive structure and is the centre of the life and government of Nepal. Both palaces are surrounded by lovely gardens, waterways and fountains.

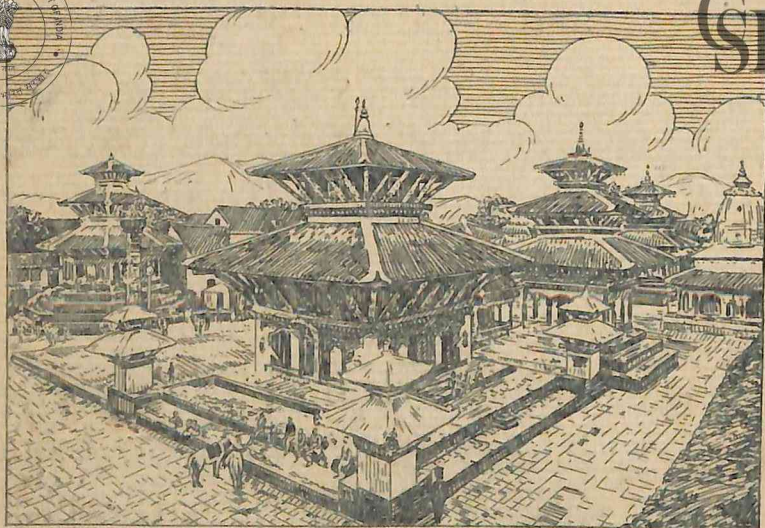
The Darbar Hall in the Prime Minister's palace is richly decorated, and presents a wonderful sight. Large



188  
SL  
Mirrors and statues line its walls. Beautiful marbles cover the floor. Sparkling chandeliers hang from the ceiling, and when they are lit up the scene is very fine.

There is a huge parade ground in Khatmandu called the Tundi Khel. It is used every day. There are about 60,000 soldiers stationed in the city, so you can imagine what a sight it must be to see thousands of Gurkha soldiers on parade.

The Rani Pokhri or Queen's Tank lies to the north of the Tundi Khel. It is a fine stretch of water. In the centre is a temple, which we can approach by a causeway which is built from the western side of the tank.



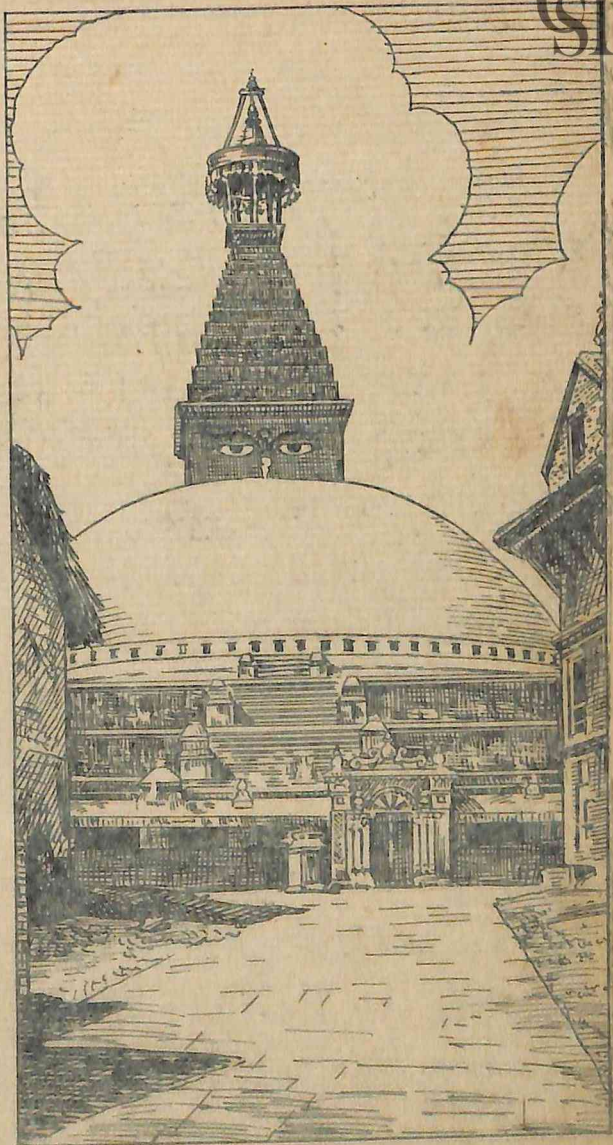
DARBAR SQUARE, KATHMANDU

As we wander through the streets of the city, we shall see the Darbar Square, the shrine of Kala Bhairab, and the Hanuman Dhoka, the old palace of the kings.

Swayambhunath is a famous temple to the west of the city. Here there are many pagodas, shrines and



stupas,  
mainly  
dedicated to  
the wor-  
ship of  
Buddha.  
Another  
interest-  
ing place  
is the  
temple  
of Bodh-  
nath.  
It is  
built  
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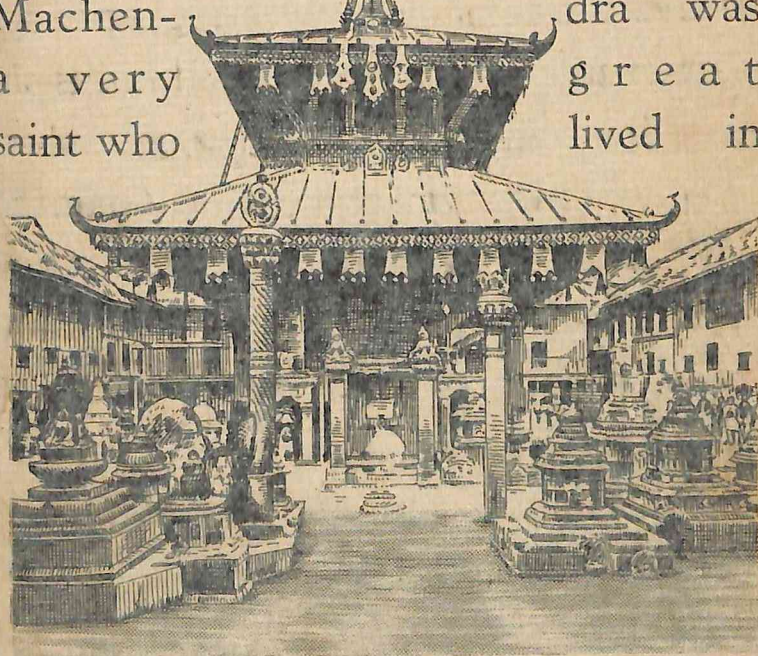
plan as Swayambhunath, having a central dome and numerous shrines built all round it. The main building is most impressive. It is a high circular structure. From its roof there issues a tall tower, at the base of which two wonderful eyes are painted. When we look at this tower, these eyes immediately arrest our attention. It is just as if some powerful being is watching us. You will get a good idea of this from the picture on page 25.

## 6

There are very interesting things to see at Patan. The temple of Machendra, built in 1408, is the centre



of attraction. A great festival called the Machendra-jatra takes place there every year. In olden days Machendra was a very great saint who lived in



MACHENDRA TEMPLE, PATAN

India. He had a disciple whose name was Gorakhnath. Now, Gorakhnath went on a visit to Nepal, but was not





ceived with the honour to which he considered himself entitled. Thereupon he retired to a little hill outside Patan where he remained without moving. As a result of this, no rain fell in Nepal for a long time. People thought that rain would never come until Gorakhnath could be made to leave the spot where he sat.

The King of Bhatgaon hurried to the dwelling place of Machendra and begged him to come quickly to Nepal. When Machendra arrived, his disciple Gorakhnath moved from the spot in which he had been sitting for so long, in order to pay homage to Machendra. Immediately he put his feet on the ground, rain began to pour,



and. Nepal was saved from further  
amine.

The King of Bhatgaon was so released that he ordered a festival to be held every year in honour of Machendra. An image of Machendra is clothed in rich robes and drawn in a wooden car or *Rath* through the streets of Patan. It is dragged by means of thick ropes to a plain outside the city. There the car waits for an auspicious day before it is taken back to the city. How excited the people are ! They come in hundreds and thousands from all parts of the country to see the wonderful sight.

There are also beautiful temples at Bhatgaon, some of which were built



STATUE OF BHUPATINDRA MALLA, BHATGAON

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 pati, the  
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 of the  
 guardian  
 deity  
 Nepal



Nepal played a big part in the Great War. His Highness Maharaja Chandra Shumshere offered every possible military help to the Government of India. The offer was accepted with much gratitude. The twenty regiments of Gurkhas in the British Army were increased to forty. Many regiments of Gurkhas were sent to the North-West frontier, to Egypt, Palestine, Mesopotamia, Salonika and to the battle-fields of France.



RIFLEMAN KULBIR  
THAPA, V. C.

Over 200,000 Gurkhas served during



the Great War. Riflemen K Bahadur Rana and Kulbir T

CSL

were awarded the Victoria Cross  
wonderful bravery on the battle-f

Nearly fifteen lakhs of ru  
were given by the Nepal Govern  
to the British Government from tim  
to time. When I tell you that Nepa  
also gave, free of cost, 85,000 pounds  
of tea and 200,000 wooden sleepers for  
railways, you will begin to understa  
the generous and selfless spirit  
Nepal and its rulers. Is this not  
magnificent record?





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gardens on these picturesque mountains, and the industry provides work for many people. In the mountain jungles, as also on the Wynaad Plateau, there are herds of elephants and bison. Tigers are not scarce and

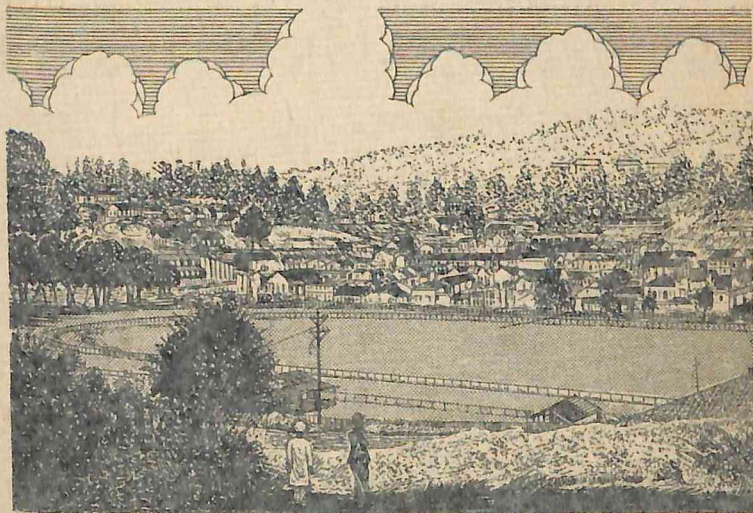


AN IBEX

black panthers, rare in most parts of India, are frequently seen. This is also the home of the ibex, a species of goat, which can be found on the higher peaks. The ibex is an extremely wary animal and has a very keen sense of smell. Those who stalk it have to be very careful, as it inhabits only slippery precipices.



The chief towns on the Nilgiris are Ootacamund, Coonoor, Wellington and Kotagiri. Kotagiri is the oldest station in the Nilgiris. It has



OOTACAMUND RACE COURSE

a golf course and a small club for the inhabitants. Wellington is a military station three miles from Coonoor, which is about 6000 feet above sea