

[WRITTEN FOR THE DESERT NEWS.]
**ENGLAND AND RUSSIA AS
 VIEWED FROM MOUNT
 EVEREST.**

By E. W. DUKE THOMPSON, late
 from India.

India is held by the sword and trickery and not as is sometimes represented through English papers, by love and loyalty of its inhabitants—this statement may be doubted, but it is nevertheless a fact—the only loyal display that can be accepted as genuine is among the Anglo-Indians or Eurasians as the term is applied to the offspring of Europeans and natives of India, but taking the aborigines of the land, they are a race quite incapable of self-government, and if left to themselves there would be constant warfare among the different sects that people the land. The natives of India (with exceptions) are a discontented and dissatisfied class, always wishing for a change of government, and only waiting the opportunity to overturn the administration that now holds sway. The India mutiny of some 20 years ago, nearly lost India to the British crown; the nature of this rebellion is well known and it is unnecessary that I should discuss the reasons and cause of the Sepoy war, suffice it to say that the same race exists having the same prejudices and hatred of the whites. No means are taken to remove this unpleasant state of feeling, and as long as Englishmen will look upon themselves as conquerors, and after their usual arrogant and overbearing manner treat the natives not as human beings should treat each other, this prejudice against their present rulers will always last. Many Englishmen holding influential positions in India, have informed me that they consider the aborigines to be little better than brutes, and that they cannot be sufficiently oppressed and ill-treated for rebelling against the paramount power. The Indians excuse themselves by saying that when the opportunity offered, they endeavored to gain back their country, and took every available means to drive away their intolerant masters; that war of a necessity brings crime, and that the cruelties practiced on the white people during the mutiny were published and highly magnified; and that nothing was ever known to the world of the disgusting cruelty and outrages committed on their own people, that facts have been subverted and the Indians made to appear a blood-thirsty and cruel race. The Indians also say they fought for freedom, and England for gain, and that she could not afford to lose the country without a struggle for its repossession. Almost every poor Englishman goes to India with the expectation of gaining a fortune, but as a rule the sons of rich men are specially sent out to fill influential positions, most of whom are quite incapable of gaining a living in England.

That the natives are discontented and dissatisfied with their present masters is a fact in which I believe, and that they would again rebel to free themselves, and being totally incapable of self-government as I stated before, they would invite the first European nation at hand to come and rule over them, it did not matter to them whether it were Americans, Russians or Germans, but Russia would be first in the field, and that she covets England's Indian possessions is a well known fact.

It has often been stated that England was holding India in trust till such time as she learned to govern herself; if such be the sincere wishes of the Paramount Power, then why is the army officered by Englishmen and the different influential positions under government filled by men sent out from England only; the pertinent reply would be that she doubts the loyalty of her Indian subjects, or why not put them gradually into positions of trust and power, that they may acquire the knowledge of self-government, and offer prizes to natives also, to induce them to qualify themselves for the coming responsibilities. It would be a very easy matter for any person from this country or elsewhere to go to India, pass among its people and return with the fallacious idea that everything was contentment with them, but the feelings and desires of the people can alone be known to those who have associated with them on the same footing of equality as I have done.

Having now given you an insight into the feelings of the natives I now propose to give you such information as to how matters are managed in keeping them down. The military is the largest arm of the service and so arranged and stationed that they can be brought to crush any rising of the mass, and having been frequently beaten, the natives have become dispirited and find it advantageous to recognize the force that rules them. In times of war the civil authority gives way to the military, who are always near at hand to act with effect when called upon. Although the natives do not know they are well off, they are more prosperous under England's rule than if left to themselves, the peculiarities of the people are such that they require to be ruled with an iron hand. Europeans alone occupy responsible positions under Government and only latterly a few natives who have been well tried, and whose loyalty to the British Crown is undoubted, have been raised and allowed to have a voice in government matters, but of these there are very few, and great unpleasantness and ill feeling is displayed by Europeans, when forced to attend at the court of a native judge or magistrate, the predominant feeling being, that every white man is vastly superior to any black heathen, which is the common expression used in those parts.

Sooner or later, Russia will intrude upon India from the north, and has even now her emissaries at work with the independent principalities, endeavoring to cause them to look with suspicion on England and gain the confidence, and doubtless, if left to themselves, would soon convert India to Christianity, as she has lately converted Turkey, but too sudden a conversion would tend to make the inhabitants sick, and England being of a more conservative turn of mind, will probably interpose obstacles that will delay this conversion purely on sanitary principles. England, on the other hand, keeps on friendly terms with the Chiefs and Rajahs whose territories lie between Russia and British India, and cultivate this favor by titles of honor, such as being made members of the "Star of India," similar to K. C. B., or Knights of the Garter, granted in England. Should England again get into difficulties with the native population, the Russians, uninvited, would send down her hordes of Cossacks and overrun the whole country from north to south, and I fear that prayers to their gods would be of little avail to ameliorate the condition of the poor Indian, and then only would they regret that they did not become converts to Christianity, when offered by the pious English soldier. I am of opinion that the majority of the conversions to Christianity in the case of the pure aborigines is a matter of mere bread and butter, as Americans would term it.

The principal recognized head of government in India is the Governor General or Viceroy, generally a nobleman appointed by the Premier of England and who is under the Secretary of State for India; next to the Viceroy are the governors of Madras and Bombay and the Lieutenant governor of the Punjab and commissioners of divisions. The governors are in charge of separate presidencies and the commissioners appointed to divisions and confer with the Viceroy in matters of state. Each of these officials have a certain limited power with regard to the expenditure of revenue, &c., and who are obliged to refer to higher authority for sanction in matters that go beyond their control, the chief authority or the one above having the option of rejecting, sanctioning or modifying as the case may be, such propositions or schemes that are placed before them.

The salaries paid to the governing officials of India are enormous and wholly from the revenue of the country. The Viceroy receives 15,000 rupees a month, valuing a rupee at 45 cents would give \$10,000 a month or \$120,000 per annum, in addition to this all his traveling expenses, &c., are defrayed by government, a palace well and sumptuously furnished is provided for him free of rent and a liberal sum allowed for giving receptions to ambassadors from native courts. The term of service of a Viceroy is limited to five years, when he retires on a handsome pension from the crown. The governors of the different presidencies are paid from seven to ten thousand rupees per

month with traveling allowances, and free residences, and on retiring are also granted pensions. This is also the case with the principal bishops and judges, which are sent from the mother country, and as a rule all superior officers under the Government of India are handsomely and highly paid.

The revenue realized from India is fabulous and incredible. Some five years ago when asking the question as to the amount realized by Government, I was informed by reliable gentlemen that the approximate amount was seventy crores of rupees, this amount converted into American coin gives nearly \$350,000,000 per annum. Out of this sum extensive improvements such as irrigation works, embankments, railways, lighthouses, salaries of troops and officials, maintenance of prisons, and other items, etc., etc., are drawn. Large sums are also paid to political prisoners, such as Kajahs and chiefs who have been dethroned by the government, but, for policy sake, are sumptuously supported; for instance, the Gackwar of Baroda, an independent prince, who was convicted by an English court for endeavoring to poison Colonel Phayre, the English Resident, is now placed in a sumptuous palace at Madras, and an allowance of 10,000 rupees, equivalent to \$4,500, is paid him per month; but these expenditures being paid mainly to Englishmen, quite a handsome sum is carried to England yearly, which constitutes a respectable bone of contention even between such powers as Russia and England.

Though Russia has quite plenty of soldiery, she has not the money for carrying on a vigorous campaign through such an immense country, and erecting fortifications sufficient to hold the same, because the natives, when once relieved from England's rule, would soon be as anxious to throw off the power of their deliverers, and Russia cannot therefore be expected to complete the conquest of India except by slow encroachments from the north.

In the commencement of this discourse I asserted that India was held by the sword and trickery, and I now give you an insight into the awful management of this government. There are two arms of the military service, viz., the European and native, and naturally one endeavors to excel the other. This spirit of rivalry exists, and when a body of Europeans are deputed for any particular service, the natives volunteer not from a spirit of loyalty, but more through jealousy and with the object of being looked upon as great warriors; and the reason why the Mahomedan soldiers of India volunteered to fight the Russians was more through a religious feeling for the Turks, who are also Mahomedans, but today they volunteered through enthusiasm for the aggrandizement of England, is the very essence of bosh.

Experience has taught England the policy of sending her native soldiers to fight her battles, and keep her possessions garrisoned by European troops, and it is therefore very easy by exciting the jealousy and savage ambition of the Indians to procure volunteers for almost any campaign, even to quelling mutiny in home colonies. This latter is done by sending Mahomedans to fight Buddhists, and Buddhists to quell Mahomedan rebellions, etc., whereas the European troops are first to start, last to go, and usually constitute the reserve.

Schools and colleges are established all over India. Each regiment has a military school for the benefit of soldiers and their children. At the principal seats of government of each presidency are government Medical and Civil Engineering Colleges; besides these, there are numerous private schools, which are frequently inspected by government officers, and on the whole the education in India is on a par with that of England. Some of the best of barristers and civil engineers have been educated in India. The principal object of government colleges is to qualify and fit men for employment in different branches of the service, and almost all endeavor to secure government appointments, the sole object being for the sake of gaining a pension after 15 or 20 years' service. This is sometimes defeated, and there are cases where men, after serving 12 or 13 years, have been suddenly called upon to undergo a test examination, the nature and reasons for this unnecessary

test has been explained before, viz., to cut down the list of pensioners.

I may therefore conclude that England, provided with her ramified educational institutions, her numerous floating fortifications and her inland forts, and armies composed of various factions all officered by Englishmen with one aim, infused with a full complement of craftiness and unscrupulousness, her Turkish debt amply secured and the immense India revenue pouring into her treasury, will maintain her right to Christianize and hold India in trust for a long time to come, and it is probable that if England is ever driven from the country, it will be by a people now in their infancy, viz., the Eurasians, a rapidly increasing half-breed population; and they will be Christians.

Correspondence.

Mass Meeting at Granite.

GRANITE CITY,
 Nov. 22, 1878.

Editors Desert News:

A mass meeting was held in Granite Ward House on Thursday, the 21st of November, 1878, according to appointment by the ladies. The meeting was well attended. It was called to order by Mrs. R. A. Despain. Mrs. Hannah Chlarson was elected chairman, and Miss Ella Despain chosen secretary. The chairman stated the object of the meeting to be to protest against the anti-polygamy crusade and the petition gotten up by the ladies of Salt Lake City some time since. After many appropriate remarks the ladies voted unanimously against the aforesaid petition, and said they asked no sympathy and wished no favors from the anti-polygamist ladies of Salt Lake City. Meeting adjourned. GRANITE.

Mutual Improvement.

ALMY, Uintah County,
 Wyoming Territory,
 Nov. 26th, 1878.

Editors Desert News:

On the 14th inst. the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association, and the Female Relief Society, joined together to celebrate that day, it being the first anniversary of the Y. M. M. I. A. An invitation was extended to the Latter-day Saints to meet at the schoolhouse at 7 o'clock p. m. The occasion was a very pleasant one. It opened with singing by the Almy choir and a prayer by Bro. John Sims, a short but very appropriate address by Counselor Crompton, which was followed by songs and recitations by the Almy and Evanston Saints. A short sectarian sermon by Thomas Dan, which seemed to be enjoyed by all present, if allowed to judge by smiling faces. Next was a lunch which everyone seemed to enjoy. The remainder of the evening was spent in dancing. There are 38 members in the Y. M. M. I. A. of this ward, most of whom are striving to store their minds with useful knowledge, that they may become useful men in the kingdom of God. This association has done, and is doing a vast amount of good in this little ward.

Yours respectfully,
 JAS. H. BALL,
 Sec. Y. M. M. I. A. of Almy.

Josh Billings' Philosophy.

My religion consists in trying to inculcate in my writings, a robust and healthy moral, and in getting a fair price for it.

The things that we are positively certain of are few and very seldom in our favor.

"The laborer is worthy of his hire," but the hire not always worthy of the laborer.

The cunning man is welcome to his victory; as for me, I had rather be a common fool than a cunning kuss.

A quidnunk is an individual who goes about stealing other folks' time, and phooling away his own. The value that most people put on things in this world is the price they are held at.

Men are never so happy, and seldom so innocent spending their money as they are in making it.

There is a luxury in poverty, but the poverty must be imaginary not real.

Fanning oneself on a day is like

chewing-gum, the more you do it, the more you want to.

TO THE LADIES.

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DRAWING, CUTTING, FITTING

And making all kinds of garments

EVERY STYLE.

To draw a correct Basque, Polonaise or

Cloak Pattern, you need only pencil, paper

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Twelve Lessons, each two hours,

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ONLY \$3.00.

Apply at office at Mrs. E. Hawkins

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