

FAMINE--The Devouring Monster of India.

**The Reality Worse Than the Pictures--
Twenty Millions in Extreme Destitution--Relief Work of Great Britain--
How Americans May Save the Starving--Work in Utah.**

In view of the increased activity which is being shown on the part of the general committee having in hand the collection of funds for the relief of India famine sufferers, Governor Wells was asked today if Utah was doing anything in the matter. "Some time ago," said the governor in reply to a question, "a gentleman representing the general committee came to Salt Lake

very bottom of agonized hearts made life weary from the sight of so much unnatural death, where the cruel reaper following in the wake of pestilence and famine has with a grinning vindictiveness thrown off every vestige of compassion, slowly torturing to the very last vestige of life the poor beings that come within his grasp. No charitable speed in the awful execution there; but an excruciating, soul-destroying condition of postponement of the final gasp, until men once of iron will and stone



HINDU PEASANT WOMAN IS HAPPY TIMES.

east. In these native states, particularly, the missionaries, both American and European, are doing heroic work. There are hundreds of brave, devoted men and women rescuers in the field. The extent of their work depends wholly on the means furnished them. The next question, "What is the British government doing to relieve the famine?" The consensus of testimony of Americans long resident in India is summed up by one of them as follows:

"Magnificent work is being done by the British government, which has now on relief about 5,000,000 souls, a scheme of charity vastness than ever before conceived, let alone carried out. The government has already expended about \$50,000,000. All able-bodied men and women who apply are employed on cash wages in making roads, building reservoirs and digging wells and irrigation ditches to check future famines. Puny, however, are the efforts of men when in a fearful climate rain fails for one or two years, in some places, even for three years."

During the famine of 1876 in Bengal out of a population of 30,000,000 one-third, or 10,000,000, perished. So few were left to till the fields that jungles grew up where there had once been flourishing villages. Now note the contrast. When, a hundred years later, Bengal was again visited by famine, in 1873, comparatively few actually perished, nearly 4,000,000 people receiving

labor unions, employers, proprietors of hotels and summer resorts, churches, Sunday schools, young people's societies, King's Daughters, etc., is earnestly sought in distributing this free literature. Many who will lend a hand in this way can add the cause as much as if they were able to draw a handsome check themselves. They can save a day will save life, and \$2 will provide work for a famished person until the next harvest.

THE COMMITTEE.

The committee of one hundred which has in charge the raising of a relief fund is composed of the following named persons:

William E. Dodge, chairman; L. T. Chamberlain, chairman executive committee; Elgin R. L. Gould, secretary; Arthur W. Milbury, assistant secretary; Frederick D. Greene, assistant secretary; John Crosby Brown, treasurer; John W. Auchincloss, Joseph S. Auerbach, Robert Baron, George F. Baker, Charles T. Barnes, August Belmont, Cornelius N. Bliss, David A. Boody, M. C. Borden, George S. Davidson, Nicholas Murray Butler, John L. Caldwell, J. Cleveland Cady, John G. Carlisle, John Claflin, Bird S. Carter, Bowles Colgate, James M. Constable, Ed. Cooper, John M. Cornhill, R. Fulton Cutting, Walter Damrosch, Julian T. Davies, Eugene Delano, Cyrus Edson, Frank A. Ferris, Charles R. Flint, Anderson Fowler, Algernon S. Fressell, T. W. Gibson, J. Goodwin, George J. Gould, Francis V. Greene, Randolph Guernsey, William E. Havemeyer, Joseph C. Hendrix, Henry Hertz, Abram S. Hewitt, Frederick W. Hodge, William B. Hornblower, Paul Huntington, Clarence M. Hyde, E. Fran-



HINDOO MOTHER AND CHILDREN IN PROSPEROUS TIMES

and appointed Mr. W. S. McCormick treasurer for the association. A little money is coming in to the banks continuously, and these amounts are promptly transmitted to the committee in New York. Mr. McCormick is now in Europe but his banking house transacts the business in his absence.

The fact that so small an amount has been contributed here is not on account of any lack of charity or sympathy, but because of a lack of organized effort. It is regrettable, of course, that genuine sums have not been forwarded but the reason for this condition is as stated and from this time forth it is earnestly hoped that there will be numerous substantial responses to the call for aid.

Utah people have so far little realized the appalling scenes that go to make up the daily occurrences in the stricken districts where this famine has done its most hideous work. The horror of charity boxes and rows of dead human beings, with here and there a poor soul dying and having such a picture impressed upon the eye as a parting sight of mother earth, has not yet been brought home to the people here. Consequently the battles that have been waged among the subscribers and they are all doing to have not been overwhelmed with donations of money. There are some people in the world who naturally feel such avenues of release for their naturally alert charitable disposition, and it is this class in Utah that has principally subscribed to the fund so far. But now that a new general movement is being inaugurated the fund will be more rapidly swelled. All the banks have lists and will be pleased to receive and send subscriptions to the general committee. The appeal for help is a cry from the

heart look on with shattered nerve and merciless cry, "God help us!"

SUBSCRIBE!

The "News" will gladly receive and forward to the proper authorities any contributions to the Famine Fund sent to this office making acknowledgment in its columns of the individual amounts subscribed.

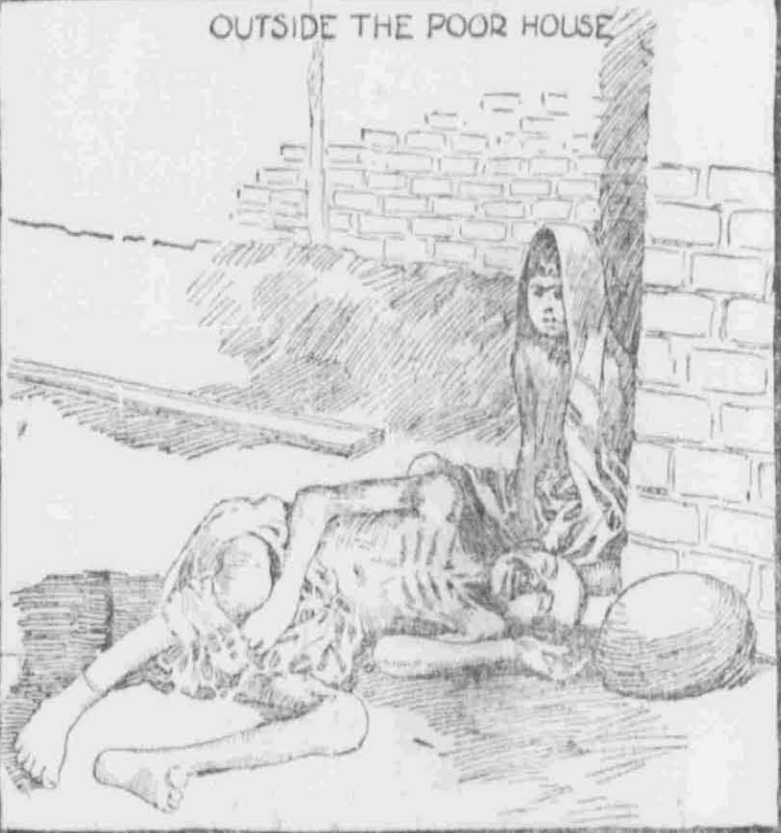
The famine which has been devastating central and western India for over six months and will continue at least four months more is one of the greatest calamities of the century. Yet how little impression it has made until recently upon the life of the people of America! This is due to various causes, such as the more dramatic events taking place elsewhere, our distance from the scene and the fact that we in America have had no experience with famine and cannot realize its horrors. There are many of us who never get hungry enough to eat with a good appetite and who turn our eyes away from suffering lest we may lose what little appetite we have. God pity the heart so tender that it cannot afford to pity others!

The reason for these pictures is to make the subject real. They do not claim to be works of art, much less of imagination, but are drawn from photographs right from the famine.

Rev. Edward S. Hume, who has just returned from Bombay broken in health by the terrible strain of famine relief work, says: "I have read the accounts of the famine in American papers; I have seen the pictures, I have seen the conditions in the famine districts, and I can assure you that the actual state of affairs is much more terrible than pictured or described. And the worst of it is that, even if the June rains are entirely favorable, no relief can be expected till the crop is gathered in October."

The famine area exceeds 450,000 square miles, greater than France and Germany combined, and equal to all the United States east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio river. The population involved is over 200,000,000, of whom 20,000,000 are in extreme destitution and probably 16,000,000 will perish unless aided.

One of the first questions that naturally arises is, "What causes such famines?" The primary cause of famine is lack of rain and consequent failure of crops and pastures. The present drought is the worst for 23 years. But, secondly, lack of crops is rapidly aggravated by lack of work, therefore of wages, not only for farmers, but for all kinds of laborers. Famine is an immense lackout effected by nature in the industries of the country. Then the British government, by stopping intertribal wars and improving



OUTSIDE THE POOR HOUSE



MISSION INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

the conditions of life, has increased the population of India since its occupation from 150,000,000 to nearly 300,000,000. The problem is how to overcome this growth by corresponding agricultural and industrial development.

It should be remembered that there are in India 68 semi-independent native states, constituting about one-third of the total area, which are ruled by Indian princes, who are very slow and inefficient in caring for their subjects.

Here the distress is, naturally, great.



"WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH ME?"

daily relief, at a cost to the government of \$2,000,000.

In 1897 the grim monster once more raised its head in the northern provinces and actually secured tens of thousands of victims. But its ravages were greatly curtailed by the government, which poured out \$20,000,000 for relief. The disaster was quickly followed by plague which had a death toll in the province of Bombay of 100,000. This in turn, within two years, is succeeded by the present famine, which finds the people entirely unprepared to face it.

There is hope that through the better development of the arts, industries and agriculture of India a happier era is in store for that land of beauty and those races of such charm and intelligence. This is their hour of need. It is through no fault of their own that they are now so helpless.

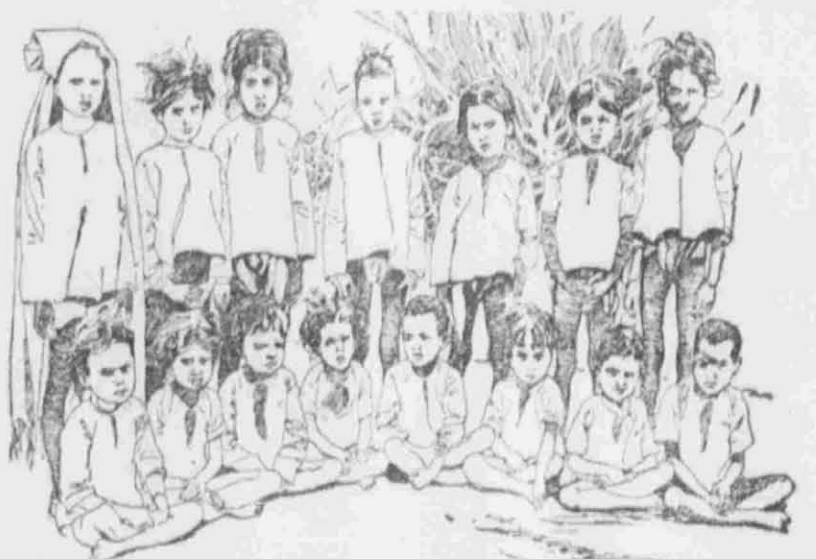
Let us thank God for the blessings we enjoy in favored America, and let no one whose eye sees this page read until he sends a generous thank offering to the starving. Such gifts may be sent to any local fund or to Brown Bros. & Co., 55 Wall street, New York, the treasurer of the committee of one hundred, by whom they will be called promptly to the responsible and representative American-Indian relief committee, under the chairmanship of United States Consul William H. Fox at Bombay, with the veteran missionary, Robert A. Hume, as executive secretary. This committee aids and co-operates with our heroic fellow citizens of all denominations in the famine districts, and, by having a survey of the whole region, can avoid overlapping in one part to the neglect of another.

The New York committee of one hundred, William E. Dodge, chairman, and Leander T. Chamberlain, executive director, co-operates with committees in Boston, New Haven, Baltimore, Washington and other cities, each of which has charge of the work in its own section. The committee announces that, thanks to the hearty assistance of the press of the United States and the express companies, which forward gifts without charge, it has quickly received contributions amounting to \$100,000. On receipt of a postal addressed, "Committee of One Hundred, 73 Bible House, New York, N. Y.," free supplies of illustrated literature are sent. The help of individuals and of clubs, lodges, la-



STARVED TO DEATH

els Hyde, William R. James, D. Willis James, Thomas L. James, E. G. Janeway, Charles M. Jessup, Morris K. Joseph, Rosette Johnson, John S. Kennedy, John LaFarge, Charles H. Lamb, James Leeb, Seth Low, William G. Low, Charles McBurney, John A. McCall, John J. McCook, Alfred T. Mahan, Henry G. Maryland, Wesley Merritt, George Macculloch Miller, D. O. Mills, Levi P. Morton, William H. Nichols, Robert C. Ogden, Alexander E. Orr, William H. Parsons, George Foster Peabody, George B. Post, James H. Post, Whitelaw Reid, James B. Reynolds, George L. Rives, John D. Rockefeller, P. W. Ruckstuhl, Russell Sage, Frederick E. Schenck, Charles A. Schieren, Jacob H. Schiff, Isaac X. Seligman, John H. Schiff, Francis Louis Slade, John D. Slayback, Samuel Sloan, John Sloane, Charles Sprague Smith, Simon Sterne, John A. Stewart, James Stillman, Lewis A. Sumner, James Strickland, Oscar S. Straus, William E. Strong, James Talcott, Frederick D. Tappan, Samuel Thorne, Charles L. Tiffany, J. Kennedy Todd, Spencer Trask, Warner Van Norden, George F.



RESCUED FAMINE GIRLS.

Victor, George Gray Ward, J. Q. A. Ward, John DeWitt Warner, Lucien D. Warner, Everett P. Wheeler, Stanford White, William C. Whitney, George O. Williams, James C. Woodward, George W. Young.

The following letter from Rev. Robert A. Hume of Bombay, India, who distributes the funds sent for relief, has been received by the committee:

"We are all satisfied that, in addition to the providing of food for the starving, the best way to save life, in the long run, is to follow the lines herein indicated.

"Village relief is most effective now, at the beginning of the rainy season, when people leave the government relief works for their villages, in helping very many of those who have no resources. Village relief means giving small amounts of money and grain, and the providing of employment on needful local works, etc."



GOVERNMENT RELIEF WORK--BUILDING A RESERVOIR.



THE HAPPY MOTHER BEFORE THE FAMINE.

"Aid to children and deserted women reaches those who cannot otherwise take care of themselves. You would be surprised to see how, under the awful stress of famine, people desert their children and female relatives."

"Aid in clothing saves many lives in this inclement season, when rain comes to drench the people and the open ground on which they sleep."

"Aid to farmers at this season, will prevent having many more orphans and other famine sufferers by and by."

"Last Friday morning at 5:30 a. m. I rose and left for the famine districts, and was gone till 10 p. m. on Wednesday night, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 days--a part of Sunday and Sunday night, when I returned home for supplies and to answer telegrams, etc. In this time I arranged for aid to famine sufferers in 17 towns. Other members of our volunteer relief corps, have done the same in about 400 other towns, in the last ten days."

"Subordinate government officers had previously made out lists of needy farmers. These lists were kindly placed in our hands, as the basis on which to proceed. We questioned every applicant, judged of his situation, told him to get a government loan if this was possible, excluded some names, added many others, and gave each an order for a definite amount, in no case exceeding three dollars, according to his land and condition--which money will be paid, when all is ready for the actual sowing. Widows, children, and poor people, received special consideration."

"The subordinate officers who prepared the lists had, for the most part, omitted the names of farmers on relief works, yet these farmers really most needed help. Accordingly, we have put such names on the list to a considerable extent, although we cannot do all that is necessary."

"This statement is made to show, in some detail, how the efforts from your committee are being used. In a few days, assignments of all the sums which you have remitted will be made."

"Just now we are distributing a large amount of clothing in the following way: Trustworthy agents go to the government relief works and make lists of the persons who are most nearly naked. A white paper, stamped by one of our relief corps, is filled out by the agent with name, town, etc., of the person, and is an order for a cloth for a woman. A blue paper of similar character is an order for a blanket. The clothes and blankets are left with the faithful officer in charge of the relief work. When the person presents the order, he or she gets the garments. This method insures wisdom and accuracy and order in the distribution of the clothing."

"Rain has begun to fall and, in this region, the prospect for the sowing of fields is good."

"In some towns I have placed a pair of oxen with the mission agent, who allows the poorest farmers to use them in turn. In other towns, we are placing light agricultural instruments to be pulled by hand. It is premature to say how largely these will be used, but we are doing all we can."

"We are under immense obligations to the committee for the hundred, and to all who send relief funds."

"Receipts for money are taken from those to whom money is remitted by our treasurer, and we mean to have everything done in a business-like way."

RUSSIA VS CHINA.

England is elsewhere fully engaged, and Russia has decided that the time has come to engage in active operations. Her only opponent is Japan, and by the first move on the chess-board that country is placed at a disadvantage. Any other move would have suited Japan better. With Peking taken and rendered impregnable, Russia can hit Japan do her worst. The Taku forts at the mouth of the Peking, defended by the czar's soldiers, would prove exceedingly difficult to take. Port Arthur will shield Russia's fleet, and is in such proximity as to render the landing of troops within the Gulf of Tcheili a matter of serious risk. Russia's army in the Far East exceeds 100,000 men, but Japan can mobilize an army of five times that number, in individual units are equal to any in the service of the czar, and imbued with a fiery patriotism. If Russia had made Korea the battle-ground, Japan would have had a fair chance of victory. As it is, all the chances are in favor of Russia, whose war funds, collected since many years, enable her to play a waiting game, which Japan cannot afford. A short, brilliant campaign is not Russia's program. Her object is the annexation of China, and to accomplish that purpose she will use any means, in possession of the Forbidden City, which will be used in poor Russia's name, and the Cossack will see that they are obeyed. That Forbidden City with its occupant, the poor Tien-tai, or Son of Heaven, renders Russia virtually owner of China--Harper's Weekly.



SKELTONIZED BY FAMINE.



FAMINE CHILDREN FROM GUJERAT