

riter attended both these ceremonies, and the details into which he enters will speedily dispel any idea as to the hindoos having abandoned the horrible practice of throwing themselves under the wheels of the Juggernaut car. Passing over the bathing portion of the business, which seems to have partaken of the character of a farce, we will come once to the closing part of the festival, which is said to have been a most shocking and revolting tragedy, and which it was impossible to witness without horror and disgust. The writer says:

The crowd seemed infinitely more dense than it had ever been on the former occasion, and all along the road were booths filled with sweetmeats, hidings, masks, trumpery, Birmingham ware and images of Juggernaut, Krishna and other deities of the Hindoo mythology. It was a barbarous copy of a country fair. There were whistles and drums, shell-fish, smelling horribly of the sun, huge "jack" fruit, some damaged pine-apples, and here and there a contrived "merry-go-round," with stout baboons enjoying the sport which that machine is capable of furnishing. There were nautch-girls hideously ugly, chanting their drawing, monotonous strains to the music of an fiddle and a tom-tom. Then there were little acrobats, who made "Catharine wheels," like the boys who run, or used to run, by the side of omnibusses in London streets. There was also a microscope, with views of the last Great Exhibition, on show at one place each season. The confusion was indescribable, and when a shower of rain came on happily it did once or twice, the crowd seemed to get tied up in a knot and to be incapable of disengaging itself, or of doing anything but roll helplessly from one side of the road to the other.

The centres of attraction were the two juggernaut cars. These are immense lumbering masses of wood, about 60 feet high, carved into all sorts of angles and decorated on every square inch with figures of the deities. They are connected in four stories, so to speak, and on each of these a crowd of Brahmins and their friends were collected. Large idols were placed at each corner of the two ropes of great length were attached to the front of the car. They were upon six heavy wheels, and the weight of the ponderous fabric must have been enormous. Hour after hour the multitude streamed past the wheels, which were at some distance from the car, or they turned aside to a path beneath which were placed a number of indecently painted idols, afterwards decorated with a little drapery, and hoisted upon the car.

It was not until four in the afternoon that a big gong was beaten on the top division of the first car, and with great shout Juggernaut himself, with a red cloth, was brought to the spot. A rope was fastened to him, and with much exertion he was hoisted from the stage by the Brahmins—for by himself the god seemed rather helpless. They dragged him up and uncovered him, and the crowd salaamed to him in the usual fashion. A huge ugly thing, with enormous eyes, painted with a broad white rim around them. The other god was brought and placed up in the same way, but to a second division, and so on till all were placed. The crowd meanwhile kept throwing garlands and donations to the Brahmins—dirty, common-looking men, with nothing whatever to distinguish them from the common mass except the white Brahminical thread over their shoulders. When the gods were all in their places, two large wooden horses were brought out, one blue and the other white, each with a thick tail sticking out at an angle of 90 degrees. The gay wheels were fastened to the car, and a Brahmin stood upon the back of each, holding on by a rope.

At this time the scene was extraordinary. Close by the side of the car was a large native house, broken and crumbling like most native houses. Through iron bars in front of this house some women were peering, and on the roof there were more women of the zenana, with an old crone keeping watch and guard over them. On the other side of the road was a Juggernaut temple crowded with women. The road itself was impassable for the crowds of people whose oily bodies and dirty ways did not improve the flavor of the heated atmosphere. Far as the eye could reach this throng extended, and when a thousand gongs were set beating and the Brahmins called upon the people a thrill of wild excitement ran through this enormous living mass. The ropes were fixed, and multitudes rushed to them, eager for the honor of pulling their deity along. On the car itself there could

scarcely have been less than 200 men. Perhaps there were 1,000 pulling at the ropes, but they pulled for a long time in vain. The car had been in one place for a whole year, and had made a deep hole for itself by its great weight. Again and again the Brahmins shouted and gesticulated, laughing among themselves. At last the mob happened to pull together, instead of one after the other, and the huge mass moved forward a few yards, groaning as if it had been a living creature. It stopped, and for a few minutes the crowd stood in almost perfect silence. Then the Brahmins gave the signal, and this time it crushed out a life with every revolution of its hideous wheels, covered as they were with human flesh and gore. The vast multitude seemed suddenly possessed with a fit of delirium. They fought and struggled with each other to get near the car, which had stopped as if by magic; they stooped down and peered beneath its wheels, and rose with scared faces to tell their friends of the sight.

I made my way to the back of the car, and there saw upon the ground a very old woman, all wrinkled and puckered up, with scarcely a lineament of her face recognizable for blood and dust. Her right foot was hanging by a thread; the wheels had passed over the centre of her nearly naked body, and a faint quiver of anguish ran through her frame as she seemed to struggle to rise. Not one in the crowd offered to move her, or raise her miserable gray head from the ground, but they stood looking on with vacant stares, while the Brahmins from the car gazed down with as much unconcern as could well be written upon a human countenance. The crowd cried that there were more under the car, and when I looked beneath it seemed as if the wheels were choked with dusky bodies. Two or three chokeydars here made their appearance and compelled the crowd to move back. Upon getting closer to the wheels I saw that one of them was half over the body of a man, and that it had fastened itself like some insatiable monster in his blood. Close by him there lay another man crushed to death; he was but a heap of mangled flesh. The Brahmins still looked down from the cars upon these poor wretches with perfect unconcern, and were even signalling for the crowd to pull again; but the few policemen present made them drag the car back, so that the bodies could be got out from between the wheels. The mob cried out "Apsel! apsel!"—that they did it of their own accord; and indeed there was no appearance of an accident. Their bodies were far under the car, where they could scarcely have got unless they had laid themselves down in front. I saw two other men lying there when the car first stopped, but they got up and walked away. The three bodies were placed together, and the car was dragged on by the people once more. I did not stay to see whether its track was made in fresh blood.

COTTON SUPPLY ASSOCIATION.

At the usual meeting of the executive committee, held on Tuesday, the 6th of December, a letter was read from Rio Grande, stating that some Egyptian seed sent out by the association had produced plants ten or twelve feet high. It is expected that this will be found the most profitable to cultivate, but other experiments are in progress, the results of which will be communicated. Some brown cotton grown in the district, it is thought, might be made available for mixing with Vacuna wool, which it resembles. It is used for making striped or checked cloth; the color is fast, and never changes. A letter was received from Lima, requesting Egyptian, sea island, and upland seed, and stating that great solicitude is felt to produce the best qualities of cotton. A letter from Yanco, Porto Rico, describes the plantations as presenting a satisfactory appearance, although some injury has been sustained from rains and the ravages of a worm. A letter was read from the president of the Turk's islands, accompanying four specimens of cotton grown at East Calcos, and reporting that increased facilities of transport are now afforded by the establishment of steam communication by the West India and Pacific line of steamers between the colony and Liverpool. A sample of cotton was received, grown from sea island seed in the Crimea by a landed proprietor who has been very successful in his efforts to cultivate cotton. He sent samples to the Moscow show which far surpassed those exhibited from the Caucasus. Samples of cotton from Balize, British Honduras, and one from Natal, grown from Egyptian seed, were submitted for examination. Consular reports were received from the Foreign

office on the cultivation of cotton in Servia, Rio Grande de Sul, Guatemala, Zanzibar, Lima, Honolulu, Port au Prince, Tampico, and Jaffa. This is the first year that cotton has been tried in Servia, and, as this summer is represented to have been the coldest and wettest known during the last twenty years, it is difficult to decide without further experiments whether cotton will succeed or not. The variability of the climate is a serious drawback. The largest and most promising crop on an island on the Bulgarian frontier was destroyed by a flood. From Rio Grande de Sul it is reported that one of the merchants had purchased a considerable quantity of land for the purpose of growing cotton, and having procured laborers from Scotland, he is determined to try the experiment, and seems likely to succeed. The result of his efforts will in due time be communicated.

Her Majesty's consul at Guatemala has not been successful in obtaining the required information respecting the cultivation of cotton; but he reports that it is general in all the republics of Guatemala, and even in all Central America. The plants thrive well in all parts, and up to the present time no fears have been entertained of any injury to the crops; but on the contrary an abundant harvest is expected, and of good quality. In Zanzibar a little cotton of a good description is grown to the north, and European influence has been exerted to obtain a supply thence, but East Africa, north at least of the Portuguese possessions, has never been a cotton-producing country, and there is but little prospect of any material change occurring. Her Majesty's charge d'affaires and consul general at Lima, in forwarding reports from official and private parties, state that there is no doubt that Peru offers great natural facilities for the cultivation of most excellent cotton, which would become a most important article of export if the cotton growers had access to capital to enable them to procure the requisite labor. The climate is benignant for a tropical country, and the absence of rain and heavy showers in many parts is also a special recommendation. Irrigation is practicable, and during the winter months there are fine mists that freshen and promote vegetable growth. In the province of Ica there were 4,800 acres planted in 1863, and 24,000 acres in 1864, and the produce which in the former years was 18,000 quintals, of 100 pounds Spanish each, is expected this year to amount to 90,000 quintals; everything indicates a larger increase next year. There is an immense field in this province for cotton cultivation, and the Peruvian Government would do well to encourage emigration, and give grants of new lands at a reasonable and advantageous rate.

In the department of Piura every one owning land has been induced to grow cotton in preference to anything else, and there will doubtless be a considerable increase. The Georgia seed, introduced a couple of years ago by an English gentleman owning a cotton estate, irrigated by steam pumps, has proved much less subject to blights than the native plants. It yields a crop in less time, and will, no doubt, be generally adopted throughout the province. The cotton has been sown at all seasons throughout the year, and the yield and quantity are found to be invariably the same. The vice consul at Erica reports that an increased area has been planted with cotton in the valleys in the department of Moquegua, Peru, and that the produce which in 1863 was 120,000 pounds, will, it is estimated this year be 240,000 pounds. The crops are healthy, and promise an abundant yield. The want of capital is a great drawback; land is to be had at a low rate, and it is thought that a company purchasing land and cultivating cotton in the valley of Sama would obtain ample returns. On the estate of San Jacinto, valley of Napena, province of Santa, 320 acres have been planted, and the produce is expected to be 70,000 pounds of cotton. On an estate in Canete, cotton planting has been established, and 600 quintals have been produced this year of excellent quality. Others are commencing, and he is confident that great progress will be made. Very fine samples of the cotton have been forwarded. Her Majesty's consul general at Honolulu reports that no cotton is cultivated in the Hawaiian islands, agriculturists being almost entirely devoted to sugar. A few experiments have been made, the result of which show that the soil and climate are suited to the growth of cotton, and it is regretted, therefore, that the cultivation on an adequate scale has never been attempted. Her Majesty's charge d'affaires at Port au Prince reports that 9,000 acres were planted with cotton in Hayti in 1863, and 15,000 acres in 1864, and that the produce which in

the former year was 2,400,000 pounds, is expected to be 3,360,000 pounds this year. During the last four years the cultivation has rapidly extended even into districts where it was formerly unknown. Some attempts have been made to grow cotton on an extensive scale, but as a rule the crop has been furnished by the peasantry, who plant small fields near their cottages and obtain the aid of their neighbors when the cotton is ready for picking. No wages are paid, but assistance is rendered in return, and in some cases a moiety of the crop is demanded by the owners of property in lieu of rent for their land. Want of labor is complained of, and the non-completion of the system of artificial irrigation commenced by the Government.

Her Majesty's consul at Tampico reports that no one in that part of the country has ever directed his attention to the cultivation of cotton, and that the only cotton grown in Mexico up to the present time is in the department of Vera Cruz and on the west coast. The soil and climate in this district are in every way adapted to its cultivation, and the only drawback which exists is the difficulty of commanding labor. Her Majesty's consul at Jaffa reports that the new crop has begun to come to market, and that the yield is generally good. The price had suddenly fallen about one hundred per cent., owing partly to intelligence from Liverpool and Marseilles and the belief in some cases that the yield of cotton all over the world will be above the consumption, together with the large quantity on hand. Nevertheless, those who have money have bought all they could at reduced prices, in the full belief that cotton would before long advance in value. A circular was received from the Foreign office stating that the ratifications of the treaty of commerce between France and Switzerland have been exchanged, and annexing the provisions of the tariff as regards the duty on the export of rags from France. A letter was read advising the arrival of samples of cotton from a large district in the Punjab, grown from fresh American seed, from acclimated American seed, from Egyptian seed, and from the indigenous seed of the district. They have been forwarded by the deputy commissioner of the Goozerat district in the Punjab, who is now in England, and who has made praiseworthy and successful exertions to extend and improve the cultivation of cotton in India. He returns next summer, and intends to renew his useful labors. A letter was read stating it to be the intention of the Turkish Government to promote the extensive use of American seed during the next sowing season. A grant of seed was made to an intending emigrant to Queensland, who is about to devote himself to cotton cultivation in that colony, which concluded the business.—[London Times.

#ANOTHER GOLD DISCOVERY IN NOVA SCOTIA.—Another gold discovery, apparently of no small importance, has been made within the past few days by a Mr. Jennings, of Upper Musquodobolt. The place of discovery is about four miles southward of the Musquodobolt river, west of the Sheet Harbor road, and a little to the eastward of the projected road from Musquodobolt to Old Tangier. Mr. Jennings made his discovery, whilst out moose hunting. He brought to town, one day this week, a box of specimens of auriferous quartz which had been merely hammered off from the outcrop of the quartz lode. They were very rich in gold. We understand that there is being a rush for mining claims at the locality referred to. There is, doubtless, a great extent of gold producing territory between Musquodobolt and Tangier.—Colonist.

SMALL POX IN NEW YORK.—A New York letter of January 23d says: Smallpox is said to be fearfully raging in this city at present, and the disease seems to be steadily on the increase. Forty deaths occurred during last week, and five hundred cases are known to exist at the present time. It seems that this pestilential disease is as virulent in its character in mid-winter as in the sultry summer months, and it will require the utmost efforts of the sanitary authorities to arrest the alarming spread of the disease.

—The Paris journal, *L'Union*, gives some French ecclesiastical statistics. It says that in France there are 6 cardinals, 15 archbishops, 68 bishops, 155 vicars, 6,660 canons, 3,398 curates, 29,636 servitors of the church, 10,000 priests, 30,000 seminarists, and 50,000 monks.

—In Ireland the production and consumption of whisky has decreased in ten years from 8,130,460 gallons to 3,898,258 gallons.