

Bradshaw

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x

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British India and its Dependencies :

CONTAINING

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face, and almost prevented me from breathing. These insects have wings; but while on the ground, they leap like other grasshoppers. The natives catch them, pluck off their wings, and eat them." They invited the Dutchmen to partake of this banquet, but they were contented with the *bestail*: and the King, learning their taste, made them a present of "*quatre bestes à corne*."

Little novelty is found in his succeeding details. The first land he makes in Europe is Ireland, and he enters the port of Kinsale. Here his crew found themselves so comfortable, that he could not get them on board again. He went to the Mayor, and inquired if he could force them to go on board; the latter replied, "No!" "But," says Bontekoë, "when I presented his wife with a piece of fine muslin, he contrived to accomplish the object. He caused it to be announced by *sound of trumpet* in the

town, that if any of the Hollanders who had arrived in the East-India ship owed his host more than 7*s.*, he need not pay the surplus." His men could get no further credit, and came to the vessel, with a train of hosts and hostesses following, clamouring for money. By this expedient he recovered his men, "except three or four who were *engaged* with women whom they had married!"

They arrived in Zealand 16th November, "for which," says our devout traveller, "I owe a thousand praises to God, who has extricated me from all the dangers I have written of, during the space of seven years wanting one month."

So much, Mr. Editor, for Mynheer Wilhelm Isbrantz Bontekoë, whom we will leave to *digest* (in both senses) what he has seen and eaten.

I am, Sir, &c. &c.

DAVUS NON ŒDIPUS.

NEW HINDU COLLEGE AT CALCUTTA.

GOVERNMENT, on the 21st of August 1821, appointed a Committee for the superintendence of a Hindu College to be established in Calcutta, consisting of a Member of the Board of Revenue, the Secretary to Government in the Judicial Department, and two gentlemen of eminent oriental acquirements, and transmitted to them at the same time the Resolutions of Government relative to that establishment, for their information and guidance. The Resolutions thus transmitted, directed the Committee to prepare a detailed plan for the regulation of the institution, specifying the following particulars: The nature of the studies to be pursued; the number and description of teachers and servants to be employed; the mode in which they are to be superintended and controlled; the pecuniary advantages to be assigned to the students, whether in the shape of fixed allowances or occasional prizes; the fund to be appropriated to the purchase of books, or the encouragement of literary works; the

condition under which students are to be admitted; the discipline to which "they are to be subject; the examinations which they are to undergo. The Committee will also of course consider and report the site which may appear to them best adapted for the College, and after communicating with Captain Phipps or Lieutenant Paton, they will submit a plan of the buildings they may propose to construct, with estimate of the expense." In conformity to the orders thus transmitted, the Committee had the honour to submit the subjoined details on the several topics on which their sentiments had been required.

STUDIES, &c.

In the first instance, at least, the instructions to be given at the College will be confined to the sacred literature of the Hindus, as it is contained in compositions in the Sanscrit language. The reason for this preference is, indeed, involved in the establishment of the Institution, as that is intended for the benefit of the Hindus

alone, by whom no other system of education will be held classical, and, in the present state of their ideas, no other would be accepted.

Although a collegiate education does not commence in Europe with the rudiments of language, yet with reference to the neglect in which education of any kind has fallen in India, and the provincial peculiarities to which, where cultivated, the Sanscrit language has been subjected in Bengal, it will be necessary, in the outset of the College, to provide more fully than would otherwise be requisite for grammatical instruction in the Sanscrit language. It is not proposed that youths of an earlier age than twelve shall be admitted; and it may therefore be made a condition of such admission, that they shall have acquired some knowledge of the elements of Sanscrit, as taught in one or other of the popular grammars, the *Mughhaboda*, *Calapa*, *Suraswat*, or *Caumudi*.

On their admission into the College, the students shall go through a course of the *Sidhanta Caumudi*; and, as on a thorough knowledge of the grammatical system depends their future progress, and as it will not be possible yet to convey this knowledge by any other mode of instruction than the laborious one with which alone the native teachers are familiar, a period of three years seems the shortest that can be devoted to this subject. If, at the expiration of this period, no adequate progress has been made, it should be left to the Committee of Superintendence to determine the propriety of extending to the students the benefit of instruction for any further term, or of removing them from the institution.

It is usual for the Hindus to restrict their ambition of excelling to one branch of literature; and it is not uncommon to find amongst them very profound acquirement in one department of learning, and extraordinary ignorance in every other; the contracted spirit thus formed, and the unfitness of the mind to receive general ideas thus engendered, are amongst the chief evils the foundation of the College is designed to remedy, and it must therefore be made obligatory on the students, at the end of their grammar course, to go through one of poetry, with its accompa-

niments of prosody and rhetoric. The entrance on this course may be begun whenever the student is qualified by his skill in grammatical science, and it may be prosecuted either alone or in conjunction with his grammatical studies; a period of three years will be at any rate required for this branch of his education.

The rudiments of arithmetic, of such essential utility in every situation of life, are rarely obtained by the most learned Brahmins, unless they devote themselves altogether to the study of astronomy, or, more properly speaking, of astrology. It will, therefore, be an especial object to supply this defect, and the attendance of at least one year in the early arithmetical classes should be made compulsory on every student; it is most likely that this may be comprised within his term of six years, and may be exacted in the sixth, by which time he may be expected to have attained a tolerable competency in the use of the Sanscrit language, the youth will thus be master of a better literary foundation, than is usually laid by the ordinary system of Hindu education.

As these classes will comprehend most, if not all the first students of the College, at least in the first instances, it will be necessary to provide more fully for their instruction than for any other, and, indeed, more so than will be necessary when the College is in full operation: on this account a larger number of professors must be retained, especially in the department of grammar; in this class two permanent Pundits, with two assistants, seem to be the lowest number likely to be required upon the opening of the College. One will probably be sufficient for the poetical class, as the grammar students will not all attain the preparatory proficiency at the same time and for the same reason: one will be sufficient for the *Alancar*, or rhetoric, and one for arithmetic.

At the expiration of the six years, or earlier if qualified, the student may be at liberty to enter any other class or classes he pleases, for a future term of six years, to be also divided amongst them as he likes, care being taken that he diligently attends to the studies he engages in, and that he does not merely make them an excuse for longer enjoying any advantages which may occur from his stay in College:

the term of twelve years seems to be sufficiently long for effecting all that is desirable; and a more protracted course should only be permitted under the existence of great general talent and application, directed to acquirements of the widest and profoundest descriptions; instances of this nature may be left to the discretion of the Committee of Superintendence.

It may sometimes happen that students may wish to enter at once upon the higher classes, and there seems no objection to the indulgence of such a desire, provided they possess the requisite preliminary attainments; it would be desirable to fix a limit to the age at which they may be admitted under these circumstances, and that of twenty-four is perhaps the most advanced term at which their admission might be allowed; the period of academical attendance should also be limited to six years.

The classes which are to be regarded as forming the higher course of study are the following:

1. Grammar, as taught in the Manorama, Sabdendusechara, and other abstruse compositions.
2. Law, as taught in the schools of Benares and Mithila.
3. The same, as taught in Bengal.
4. Logic.
5. Algebra and astronomy.
6. The Puranas, legendary history.
7. Sanchya, philosophy and theology.
8. Vedanta, ditto.

In this system we have omitted the Yoga, which treats of mystical devotion; the Purva Mimansa, which explain the ritual of the Ve'das; the Tantras, which, inculcating many extravagant notions, include much matter that is highly exceptionable in the estimation of many of the most respectable Hindus, and the Ve'das themselves; instruction in which is attended with many difficulties, arising from the want of competent teachers, and the objections that would be started to any supervision of the progress of the students. There is also another omission, which perhaps may be considered unadvisable, the Vaidyaca, or medical class: but although the practical part of Hindu medicine contains much valuable information on the properties of medicines, and the symptoms of disease, yet the theory is so erroneous, and there is such utter ignorance of ana-

atomy amongst the medical writers and teachers, that it would scarcely be beneficial to institute the class, until some elementary works shall have been prepared for it, and the teacher himself trained for the duty; should these preparatory means be found procurable, a medical class may be then established, and with this view it may be included in the calculation of expenditure, although not at first comprehended in the establishment.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF THE TEACHERS AND SERVANTS.

Teachers.

The teachers must be of the Brahmanical class. Independent of the received notions of the natives on this head, it would not be easy to find competent persons in any other; should the tuition given in the College be hereafter extended to any of the spoken dialects, or to branches of science unknown to the body of literature considered sacred, other teachers may be admitted. The salaries of the Pundits should be the same, as it is not possible to adopt any satisfactory scale of precedence amongst the studies that are followed by the Hindus: an eminent Pundit in any one department is on a level with an eminent teacher in any other, and it will be the best means of obviating jealousies, and preventing undue influence, to put them on the same footing in the College. Assistants and temporary instructors may be placed on a lower scale; the salaries of the Pundits of the Benares College have been generally fixed at sixty rupees per month, and this appears to be a rate both liberal and moderate, and may be assumed on the present occasion; the establishment of Pundits will then stand thus.

2 Grammar Pundits at 60 ..	Rs. 120
2 Assistants ditto at 40.....	80
1 Poetry	60
1 Rhetoric	60
1 Arithmetic	60
1 Upper Grammar	60
2 Law ditto at 60	120
1 Logic	60
1 Algebra and astronomy	60
1 Purana	60
1 Sanchya	60
1 Vedanta	60
1 Vaidyaca (hereafter)	60

Rs. 920

The following servants will be necessary.

1 Librarian	Rs. 60
2 Correctors of MSS. at 40	80
1 Accountant and Writer	40
Durwan and Furrashes, &c. . . .	40

Making a monthly establishment of

} Rs. 1140

SUPERINTENDENCE, &c.

The system of control established for the College of Benares having, we believe, been found highly effective, we have only to recommend the adoption of the following rules which are there in force, with such modifications as the difference of local situation suggests.

The control of the College to be vested generally and individually in the members of a Committee of Superintendence, to be exercised through the agency of their Secretary. Besides the general and incidental duties of the Secretary, the following shall be considered as particular and permanent.

He is to be the channel of communication between the officers of the College and Committee.

He is to supervise the interior details of the College, the attendance of the Baudhis and pupils, and all persons belonging to the establishment, and to authorize the purchase of indispensable contingencies, according to the necessity of the case and the funds of the College; purchases of books may also be effected by him with the previously obtained sanction of the Committee.

He is to prepare, with the assistance of the writer, the monthly bills for establishment and contingencies, to draw the amount from the proper offices, and to issue the same to the parties entitled to their respective portions of it.

A distribution of prizes will be equally open to scholars not on the foundation, and will here, probably, as it has done at Benares, attract a number of independent students to the Institution; it will be the least expensive mode of multiplying such students, and will be the most beneficial, as it will furnish a provision for those alone who merit it: twelve hundred rupees a year will probably be sufficient allowance for this branch of the College expenditure.

FUNDS FOR THE BOOKS, &c.

The expenditure of the College establishment will not leave a very ample sup-

ply out of the revenue appropriated by Government, we apprehend, for extensive purchase in this respect; it might, however, be sufficient to apply one hundred rupees a month to this purpose, if in the first instance a stock of manuscripts could be at once collected to form the groundwork of the library; as then some time must elapse before the charges of the establishment are incurred. It may, perhaps, appear expedient to Government to expend a portion of the sum destined to the first year's maintenance of the College, in providing its library; we should be disposed to think that five thousand rupees would be sufficient, if judiciously laid out, and we should recommend the sum being placed at our disposal, to be vested in books purchasable either here, or, in all probability, more successfully and economically at Benares, through the assistance of Captain Fell; as the College of Fort William possesses a number of copies of almost all the printed Sanscrit works, we should also hope that the transfer of a few copies of each to the library of the Hindu College would be attended with no public inconvenience.

The encouragement of literary works is necessarily of too uncertain a character to admit of our calculating the means which the College may possess of contributing to so desirable an object; the funds, indeed, appropriated as above stated, with the probable amount of the salary of the Secretary, will not leave more than is sufficient for contingent charges; the discussion of this subject must, therefore, be left to the occurrence of any particular occasion that may call for it, and till some experience has been acquired of the extent of the surplus means which the College may possess.

ADMISSION OF STUDENTS, &c.

In our remarks on the course of study and the nature of superintendence, we have already adverted to some of the conditions under which students are to be admitted, and the discipline and the examinations to which they are to be subjected. Their admission into the junior classes should be restricted, we conceive, to the period between twelve and eighteen years of age, and into the higher between eighteen and twenty-four. There may be circumstances recommendatory of slight deviations from those limits, but they will

be best left to the discretionary decision of the Committee, and these ages be considered as the standards for regulating their admission; the degree of previous proficiency has also been described, and it only remains to add, that although it need not be adopted as a restrictive rule, the pupils should be generally of the Brahmanical class; it may, however, be advisable to establish no positive rule on this head, as it is most likely that there will be little necessity to make any exception to it; Sanscrit literature is less an object with other classes than that of the Brahmans, as they are engaged in the practical rather than in the speculative duties of society; it should also be remembered, in speaking of the Brahmans as a class, that they are not to be looked on as forming a small and isolated division of the community, but that they constitute a very large, perhaps the largest portion of the whole Hindu population, and are to be found in every situation and occupation of social life.

The discipline of the students is not easily determined, except in communication with the teachers, as the hours and days of attendance, or vacation, are not precisely the same as those of the Upper Provinces. Rewards are furnished in the prizes above provided for, and the College maintenance. No punishments are admissible short of expulsion; independent of theoretical objections, the person of a Brahman is sacred, and any attempt to infringe upon his liberty, or detract from his privileges, would be followed by the instant and perpetual abandonment of the College by every class of Hindus; a diminution of the monthly allowance, and expulsion, must form the whole criminal code of the institution.

The examinations are proposed to be held quarterly by the Secretary to the Committee, with the assistance of the Pundits. At the annual one the prizes are to be distributed publicly by the Committee, according to the Superintendent's report; and on this occasion some formalities may be advised, calculated to excite the interest of the respectable natives of Calcutta, to give the Students and Pundits some little consequence in their own estimation, and pride in their proficiency, and to extend the credit and propriety of the institution; it will rest with

the Government to decide how far this annual celebration shall be favoured with the notice of the Supreme Authorities, and the European Society of Calcutta.

SCITE AND BUILDING.

The situation we have been induced to recommend for the erection of the College, is in the new road that is making by the Lottery Committee from the Bow Bazar to Chitpore, in which it will be both accessible and ornamental to the native parts of Calcutta. We have been favoured with a ground plan and estimate by Capt. Paton, and an elevation of the building by Mr. Atkinson, which we beg leave to submit. The ground plan is sufficiently well calculated for the proposed Institution, and the elevation expresses the character we conceive best adapted to the building, although it may hereafter admit of some modifications and improvement; these will of course affect the ultimate expense; and as also we have not been able yet to ascertain precisely the cost or extent of the ground that must be purchased, we are not prepared to offer a positive estimate of the charge to be incurred; we feel satisfied, however, that every purpose will be fully effected by an outlay not exceeding sixty thousand rupees. The expense thus proposed perhaps exceeds that which was originally contemplated, but the situation renders the property of great and improving value; and we are satisfied that it is always the wish of Government to combine ornament with utility, when the cost is not disproportionate to the end; it is also to be considered that a fund may be said to exist for the expense to be so incurred. The intention of founding the Nadya and Tirhut Colleges, so long back as 1811, was positively and finally expressed by Government: had that intention, therefore, been then carried into effect by the Executive Authorities to whom its completion was intrusted, an outlay would ever since have been annually incurred of sum appropriated to the maintenance of those Colleges, or 25,618 rupees a year for at least eight years, making a total expenditure of 204,944 rupees (above two lacs). We hope, therefore, that the sums we have suggested above, as requisite for the building and library, will not be considered as extravagant, when viewed with reference to the pledge that has hitherto been unredeemed, and the charges

which have been delayed so much beyond the period at which it was resolved to incur them.

We believe we have now stated our sentiments on all the subjects proposed to us in the letter of Mr. Secretary Mackenzie; should they generally receive the sanction of Government, they may hereafter be framed into positive rules or statutes for the

regulation of the Institution: at the present, it is only of importance to determine the construction of the building, as that will necessarily occupy some time; and no satisfactory arrangements for the admission and instruction of Students can well be made, until it is at least within a near degree of being completed.—*John Bull in the East.*

COUNTRIES FAVOURABLE TO THE GROWTH OF TEA.

BY WILLIAM HUTTMANN.

THE suspension of our trade with China, at the beginning of this year, has directed public attention to the question whether tea might not be raised in some of our own colonies or possessions. Such a measure, if practicable,* would render us independent of China for what has become one of the necessaries of life, and supersede the necessity for our purchasing the enormous quantity of tea consumed in Britain of the Americans, or any European nation, in case we should ever permanently lose the China trade. To qualify us for answering this question, it is necessary to know in what places tea is indigenous, and is most successfully cultivated.

Leaving out Tung-King and Cochinchina, where the tea is of a very inferior quality,† the only remaining countries, of which it is a native, are Japan and China, it being extremely doubtful whether it grows in Siam, which is asserted by Tulpius,‡ but contradicted by Tachard,§ who agrees with other writers in stating, that the Siamese import their tea from China and Japan. According to the Ta-ming-yih-tung-she, a sta-

tistical account of China and the adjacent countries, chap. 89, folio 4, tea grows in Corea; but the other Chinese geographical works and encyclopedias do not include tea among the plants of Corea, and it is too little known to Europeans for them to furnish an accurate account of its vegetable productions. The southern part of Corea is, I doubt not, sufficiently warm for the growth of tea: but if Hamel's description of the climate is correct, and it is, I believe, the only one we possess, the cold in the northern and central parts must be too severe for the tea plant; as he affirms that about the end of November, the cold was so vehement at Sior, or King-ke-tao, 37° 38' N. lat., that the river was frozen, and three hundred horses laden passed over it.* Although we are indebted to Kempfer and Thunberg for the most scientific accounts of the tea plant, and their observations are limited to the culture of tea in Japan, yet neither of these writers has mentioned in which of the Japanese islands it is principally found. Thunberg says, that it grows in every part of Japan, both spontaneously, and in a state of cultivation round fields;† but he must, I think, be understood to mean every part of Japan he passed through, in his journey from Nagasaki to Jedo, no part of which ex-

* On the ultimate practicability of Mr. Huttman's suggestion we offer no opinion, but we think it will be generally admitted that a long course of years must necessarily elapse before the supply of tea, from other quarters, can compensate, in any tolerable degree, for the loss of the China trade.—*Ed.*

† *Exposé Statistique de Tunkin de la Cochinchine*, etc. 97.

‡ *Observations Medicæ*, 380.

§ *Voyage de Siam*, 369.

* Hamel's Travels in Corea, in Pinkerton's *Voyages and Travels*, vol. vii. 524.

† *Flora Japonica*, 226.