

INDIA'S OUTCAST ONES

THE LOWEST GRADES ARE BEYOND THE PALE.

By Reason of Their Occupation Vast Numbers of India's Millions Are Considered Unclean — Christian Missions Are Doing a Good Deal to Relieve the Suffering of the Pariah, Caste by Education.

Nihil Singh has written in the May number of the Southern Workman of the tragedy of the low-caste Hindu whom he terms India's "untouchables." Every one who knows even a little about India is aware that great numbers of people are, because of their occupations considered as unclean as the leper of sacred history. The touch of their garments, even the mere shadow of an "untouchable" falling on a high caste Hindu, makes it necessary to bathe the person and wash all the clothing so defiled. The feeling is carried so far that the low-caste Hindu gets into trouble if he wears decent clothing.

A low-caste man was recently stoned in Madras because he affected better clothing than he had a right to wear, according to the ideas of his high-caste townsmen. In Mangalore, South Canara, when a lad belonging to one of the so-called "depressed classes" went out in the hot sun on a midsummer day with an umbrella over his head, a sunshade was forcibly taken away from him, and he was beaten with it until he promised in the future to get along without this article so necessary in a tropical climate. These are not solitary instances, they are typical of the treatment that Hindu India accords its submerged brethren.

The "untouchables" reside in little huts made of palm leaves or mud, without windows and with a single doorway, usually so small that even a child must stoop in order to enter, it containing absolutely no furniture except a few rudely-baked earthen pots and pans. Generally there is no bedstead of any kind, the whole family sleeping huddled up on the bare floor, which is commonly plastered with cow dung. Only a few rags cover their persons, and these are worn night and day. Their financial condition precludes eating more than one meal a day, and this often than not is far from hunger appeasing, and is seldom calculated to appeal to the palate. For this wretched existence they must work hard and for long hours. On account of the filthy condition in which they live, disease is rampant among them. According to the last census 88 out of 100,000 people of the depressed classes are afflicted with leprosy. In the matter of education they are as deficient as they are in every other virtue. According to the report of the director-general of public instruction of Bombay, barely five out of 1,000 of the pariah children of the presidency, of school-going age, attend school.

These 88 million of Hindus are not only socially, but also intellectually, physically, financially, and morally, submerged.

This showing paints a hideous condition of things but it appears there is a possibility of their wretchedness escaping into something better through conversion to Christianity. The missionary is the only person who does not avoid and loathe them; they naturally are grateful and glad to accept his word and believe his teachings. Through him and his schools their poor creatures may rise above their low estate. In the Punjab canal colonies there are now a half-dozen villages wholly populated by low-caste converts," says Nihil Singh. One of these villages is Martinpur today is about 1,000, including the relatives and helpers of the 70 families that settled in the town, and not one of this 1,000 follows the hereditary profession of his fathers. They have fore-sworn scavenging and sweeping, skinning dead animals, tanning leather and making shoes. On the contrary, all are engaged in farming. Putting aside the question of whether or not they have become Christians, they have attained to self-respect and decent living.

In gratitude to those who have pulled them from the unspeakable degradations of their former life, these people have built a church and sustain it, and those who can bring no money give of their crops.

Indeed, the Martinpur people are prosperous. The women wear ornaments that are made neither of German silver nor of white or yellow brass, but of real silver or genuine gold. The agriculturists own their own plow cattle, cows and bullocks, all of them sleek and well fed. Unlike the average farmer in the same district, the Martinpur people eat white bread, meat, and vegetables. It is said of them that they have so much interest in improving their condition, that they have planted trees in their village, keep its streets clean, actually are anxious to have good sanitary conditions, and have improved the place to such an extent that Government has praised them.

The advantages reaped by the "untouchable" convert are these: He comes in contact with the missionary, and this inculcates habits of cleanliness, orderliness, punctuality; and, if nothing else, at least whets the man's ambition. The Christian child has a school to go to, whereas the Hindu may lack all educational opportunities.

Kamchatka's Volcanoes. Kamchatka has a number of volcanoes, the only ones in Russia that are still active.

A lot of people pour hot shot into their enemies before they get in striking distance. Worry and fretting would not be so bad if it could be made strictly a personal matter.

Thompson Bottling Co.
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LONDON MESSENGER BOYS.

They Are Often Entrusted With Remarkable Jobs to Perform.

Some curious instances of the quaint tasks which the ubiquitous London District Messenger boy is called on to undertake were given at the annual presentation of prizes—made by Princess Marie of Schleswig-Holstein—at the Dist. Portland's house in the city a few days ago.

All sorts of tasks, some romantic, some comic, had been performed by the boys who won these rewards. If any of the boys earned his medals Alfred Beale did. He received three for his good conduct, one for going to Rome, and one for going to Paris.

Beale is one of those persons who have greatness thrust upon them. He is quite willing to go whenever he gets an order from headquarters giving him the route to some foreign country, and he enjoys the trip.

His Rome trip was undertaken for the purpose of delivering a suit of court uniform, made by a West End firm, to a customer in Rome who was in a hurry.

He took some geometrical projections to a customer in Paris for whom the ordinary mail was not quite quick enough. That, however, was an uneventful job, though he was there and back inside twenty-four hours.

But probably his most curious job was a journey to Liege, undertaken solely for the purpose of handing to the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg—who was on his way from Paris to Berlin—a luncheon basket from London containing delicacies which the Grand Duchess particularly favored.

"You are the first messenger boy I have seen," said the Grand Duke, "and it is pretty smart of you to come over here alone."

Beale has already traveled about 4,000 miles alone. Several of the other boys decorated had won their laurels in peculiar ways. Messenger Robbins, for instance, had to fetch an elephant and its keeper, an Indian boy, from Brixton to the Palladium and to take it back the same night—a task which gave him the precious experience of a ride on an elephant's back.

Another queer task mentioned was that of "Messenger C. Cliff, who was sent for and instructed by some residents to stand in front of a German restaurant which was playing in the street and suck a lemon. Eventually one of the tormented musicians threatened him under the ear, but the lad stolidly stuck to his task, though whether or not he succeeded in stopping the "music" was not stated.

Cause For Economy. "A new hat, my dear?" said Mr. Needall. "I must say you don't seem to be following my suggestions of economy."

"It's the first new hat I've had this six months!" answered his wife, smiling. "Nonsense! What's wrong with your old one?" "It's out of date," she bridled. "And, after all, while I've been pinching and saving, you have been going to your clubs and music halls and smoking your expensive cigars!"

China's Food Problem. No natural resource is too trifling to be turned to account by the teeming population of China. The sea is raked and strained for edible plunder. Seaweed and kelp hauls are the larger. Great quantities of shellfish are bigger than one's finger nail are opened and made to yield a food that finds its way far inland. The fungus that springs up in the grass after a rain is eaten. Fried sweet potato vines furnish the poor man's table. The roadside ditches are bailed out for the sake of fishes no longer than one's finger. Careful observers say that four-fifths of the conversation among common Chinese relates to food.

Legal Advice. "Sir," said a barber to a lawyer who happened in to be passing his shop, "will you tell me if this is a good half sovereign?"

The lawyer, pronouncing the coin to be quite genuine, coolly deposited it in his pocket, adding with great gravity, "If you'll send me boy round to my office I'll return the three shillings and fourpence change."—London Ideas.

The Usual Fate. The unconscious stranger lay on the sidewalk breathing heavily and groaning. Two teeth were missing, his eyes were marked and his nose was bleeding.

"Who can he be?" said the crowd again and again. "I guess he was some peacemaker," suggested the ambulance surgeon, surveying the wreckage.

No Romance. Mr. Farwest—I met my old schoolmate Lakeside to-day for the first time in an age, and I thought from the way he acted when I mentioned that you and he must have had some romance or other before we met.

Simple Remedies For Fever. The hot pack, the cold pack and cold bath for reduction of temperature should be used only under the advice and direction of the physician. In mild cases of fever, however, sponging the body with cold or tepid water or alcohol and water will prove grateful and often reduce the fever.

Even from outsiders you claim and receive respect for being an earnest "town booster." Drink never drowns the sorrow that it sometimes causes the wife and helpless children.

"I Suffered Years With My Back."

Backache resulting from weak kidneys, a bad cold or other cause, usually renders the sufferer unfit for work and often results in permanent disability.

"I suffered for years with my back, or kidney trouble, and have tried a number of remedies from different physicians. More than a year ago, one of our local druggists induced me to try

Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills and after using them some three months I found a decided improvement in my kidneys, and I am glad to say that I hope soon to be fully restored to health." J. P. ALLEN, Ex-Judge City Court, Glasgow, Ky.

As long as pain is present in any part of the body rest is impossible and the system becoming weakened is exposed to any form of disease to which the sufferer may be inclined.

Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills by steadying the irritated nerve centers, make refreshing sleep possible, thereby enabling the body to recover lost strength. As a remedy for pain of any description Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills are unsurpassed.

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A good coal and we guarantee prompt delivery.
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It is the duty of parents to see to it that it will be easy for their children to honor them.

HOW TO WASH HAIRBRUSHES.

Cold Water and Ammonia Should Be Used, Keeping Backs Dry.

The best of hairbrushes may be ruined by careless washing, and if the bristles are allowed to become soft a hairbrush becomes practically useless for its intended purpose. Many persons cleanse hairbrushes by covering them with wheaten flour and simply rubbing the bristles together. This method, however, is not thoroughly satisfactory.

To keep your brushes in good condition proceed in the following manner: Have two dishes of cold—not hot—water. To the first dish, which contains, say, a quart of water, add a dessertspoonful of ammonia.

Now take your brushes one by one and keep dipping the bristles up and down in the water, being careful not to wet the backs, and in a minute or two the dirt and dust will come out of them as if by magic, leaving them beautifully white. Now dip up and down several times in the second dish containing the clean water to rinse them. Shake well and place to drain across a rack or towel horse.

No soap is needed and no rubbing with the hands. If you adopt this method of cleansing your brushes you will find that they will last three times as long as if cleaned with hot water and soap and that the bristles will preserve their stiffness.

How to Clean House. Housecleaning time is dreaded justly by a great many people, but the thoughtful husband may get it through with in short order. Washing windows, for instance, is always gone about in such an awkward way, the windows being washed in statu quo, so to speak. A simpler way is to take the windows out and send them to the laundry.

Dusting the pictures is also usually attended with much hard work. A quick and simple plan is to take hold of the frame firmly and swing the picture back and forth, hitting it sharply against the wall each time. This dislodges the dust, which falls to the floor and may easily be swept up.

If you have no vacuum cleaner you may improve one with an old bicycle pump by attaching a funnel to the nozzle. Then work the pump backward, so that instead of forcing the air out it will be drawn in. The rugs may soon be cleaned in this way.

Washing the woodwork is another futile proceeding. Simply get a few white pine shavings and paint over the grime on the woodwork. To replenish the hardwood floors take your wife's manicure buffer and sit down in a comfortable position and go to work. You will be surprised at what a pleasant way this will be to while away the evenings.

Don't Read This Often. "Hi, mister," called the driver of a huge dray, "will you kindly hold my hoss' head for me while I get down?"

The pedestrian hesitated. "Well, I'll do my best," he observed, approaching gingerly, "though I don't know much about horses. Er—what one shall I hold?"

"The off 'un," replied the driver. "Dear me! Poor thing!" exclaimed the pedestrian. "Do you mean this sad-looking one?"

"No, I don't," cried the driver. "Yes, I know you did," replied the pedestrian testily, "but as I wasn't at his parents' funeral how the dickens am I to guess which is the orphan?"—Answers.

A Curious Accident.

Of all the curious accidents the strangest occurred in the Madras presidency, India, some years ago. A large party was out shooting and had mortally wounded a tiger. She was, however, still able to fight, and one of the hunters, having rashly ventured too near, was seized by the beast. His companions ran up and soon despatched the tigress and released the victim. But just as he rose to his feet there was a loud report, and he fell again, with a bullet through his chest. In rising he had struck with his foot and discharged his own rifle, which lay on the ground. After long nursing he recovered from the wound, but it was a narrow escape.

Startled Schumann.

An amusing story of Schumann is told by a Vienna critic. The composer once accompanied his wife, who was even then a celebrated pianist, to the palace when she went to play gratified by the monarch's compliments of her performance. The composer was somewhat surprised, however, when the king turned to him and courteously inquired, "Are you also musical?" They say Schumann was so indignant that he never spoke for an hour.

Power of an Air Brake.

Some idea of the power of an air brake may be gained from the following facts: It takes a powerful locomotive drawing a train of ten passenger cars a distance of about five miles to reach a speed of sixty miles an hour on a straight and level track. The brakes will stop the same train from a speed of 60 miles an hour in 700 feet. Roughly it may be stated that a train may be stopped by the brakes in about 3 per cent. of the distance that must be covered to give it its speed.

Measure For Measure.

Widow—I want a stone for my husband's grave exactly like the other one in the lot.

Agent—But isn't it a trifle small for a man of your husband's prominence?

Widow—No, sir. If Thomas thought a stone like that was good enough for his first wife I guess it's plenty good enough for Thomas.

Condensed. "Do you buy condensed milk, madam?"

"I presume that we must, but I never thought of it before. I always order two quarts and pay for two quarts, but it never measures more than three pints."

If you are not able to maintain a wheelbarrow it is foolish to wish for an automobile. Membership in an order does not necessarily prove that brotherly love is in prime working order.

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goes farther than ordinary extracts, because ordinary extracts are Vanilla in name only. But Sherriff's True Vanilla is made from finest quality Mexican Vanilla Beans. And aged until it surpasses all others in strength. Six drops of this matchless flavor is equal to 15 drops of the imitation. And your cakes will taste more delicious when flavored with the true thing. So will your sauces and puddings.

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