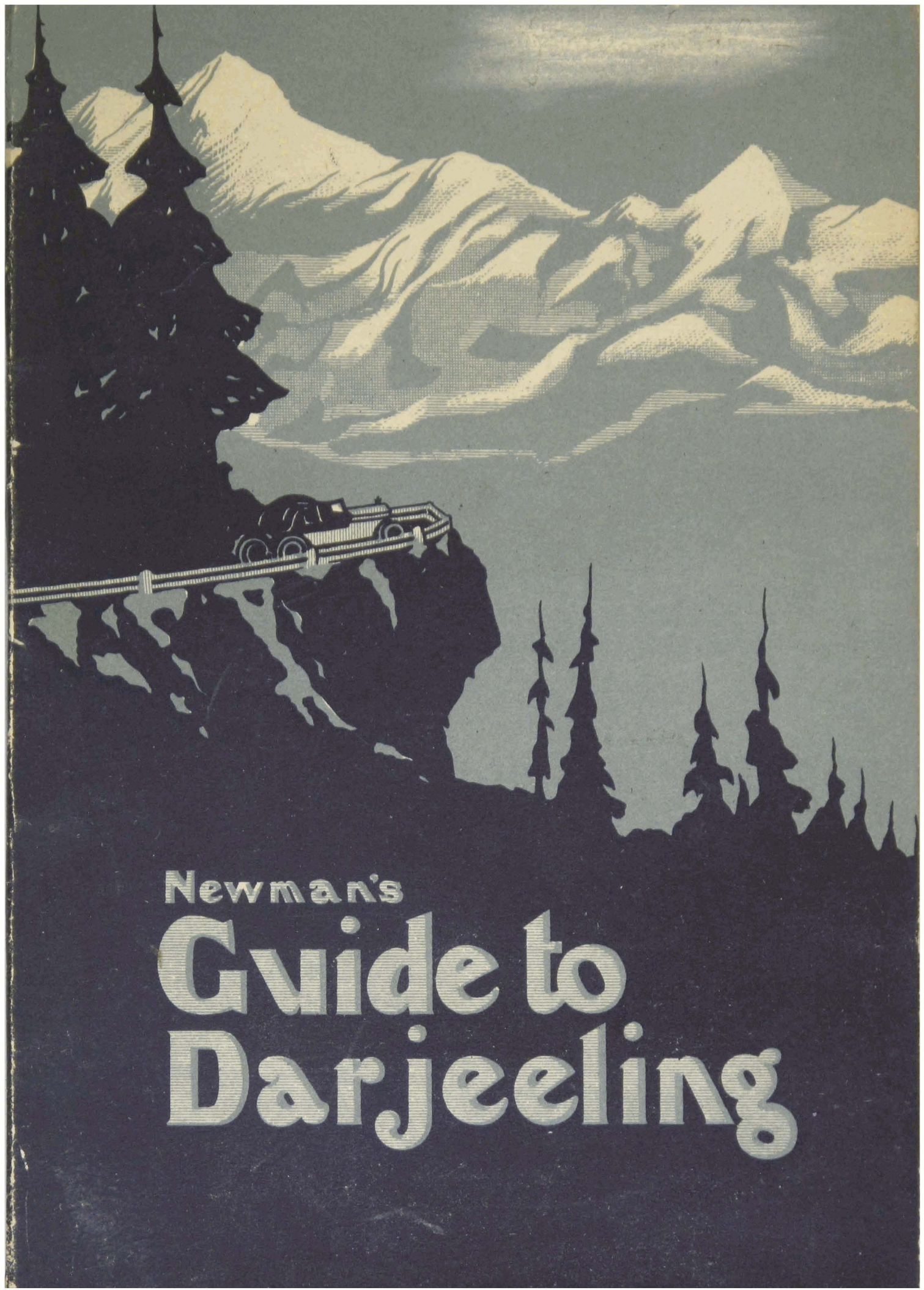


Newman's

Guide to Darjeeling

NEWMAN'S

GUIDE TO DARJEELING

AND NEIGHBOURHOOD

with directions and routes for walks, rides, picnics, etc., and a complete index for the instruction and guidance of Visitors to the Town.

An Historical and Descriptive Handbook

with an account of the manners and customs of the local HILL TRIBES.

TWO ROAD MAPS

24 ILLUSTRATIONS AND A CONTOUR

W. NEWMAN & CO., LIMITED
CALCUTTA

PREFACE

What this book is about

THIS is the Ninth Edition of the Guide to Darjeeling, and all necessary corrections and additions have been made to bring it up-to-date and ensure the information contained being as correct as possible.

That Darjeeling continues to grow in popularity as a health-resort is clearly shown both by the ever-increasing numbers who flock to it and benefit by a short or long sojourn in its bracing climate, and the resident population to whose total each year makes an addition.

The chapter on "Amusements" has been revised. It was introduced in a previous edition and met a long-felt demand for information about amusements of all kinds to be had in Darjeeling. No one, resident or visitor, can now say there is nothing to do in Darjeeling.

The chapters on "Walks in and about Darjeeling" and "Excursions from Darjeeling" have been much improved by the addition of explicit instructions, telling how to reach places of interest starting from the Chowrasta. Many of the Houses and Roads *en route* have been mentioned for no other reason than that of noting their position, which would not otherwise appear.

Two new Road Maps were prepared specially for this Guide and are quite up-to-date. The Maps are divided into squares for the convenience of locating any house, road or place, and with the aid of the detailed Index printed on the Map itself any road or place of importance can quickly be found.

The General Index, at the end of the Guide, has been made as full as possible to enable the reader, with its aid, to acquaint himself or herself with any phase of life in this popular hill station.

The climate of Darjeeling being particularly beneficial to children, an increasing number of young people are to be found attending its schools. The particulars therefore regarding these educational institutions, some of which are undoubtedly the best of their kind in India, have been most carefully compiled.

What this book is about

A brief account of the Hydro-Electric Power Supply has been included, and the chapter on Tea edited by a prominent Planter of the district.

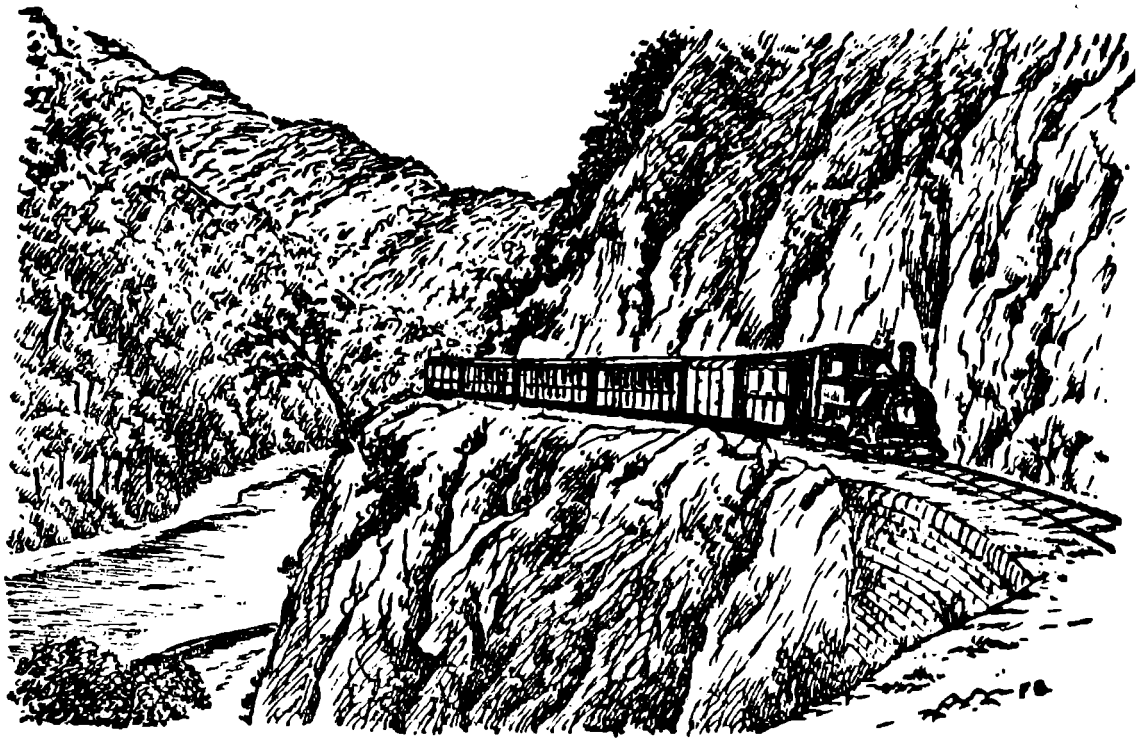
We are confident this edition will be appreciated as much as its predecessors; our aim has been to produce a handbook of interest to all, and to condense as much useful information as possible into a few words.

One of the illustrations, *viz.*, that illustrating the Hardinge Bridge, was kindly lent to us by the courtesy of the Eastern Bengal Railway and eleven illustrations were lent to us by the courtesy of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway. For the following eight reproductions we are indebted to Mr. M. Sain, Photographer, Darjeeling—

Darjeeling at Sunset—The Shrine at Mahakal—View from Observatory Hill—Mount Everest—Kangchenjunga Range—The Zig-Zag on the D. H. Railway—Devil Dancers at Ghoom—Darjeeling with Snowy Range.

The remainder appeared in the previous edition.

W. NEWMAN & CO., LTD.



THE TEESTA VALLEY MAIL.

CONTENTS

Complete detailed Index after page 96.

List of Principal Peaks facing Frontispiece.

Note—This publication is compiled carefully from Official information received, but the Publishers do not hold themselves responsible for any error. Suggestions cordially invited.

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

LIST OF
THE PRINCIPAL PEAKS

IN THE KANGCHENJUNGA RANGE, WITH THEIR HEIGHTS AND DISTANCES IN A STRAIGHT LINE FROM OBSERVATORY HILL.

[The order of the names is from West to East, or from left to right, if the spectator is facing Kangchenjunga.]

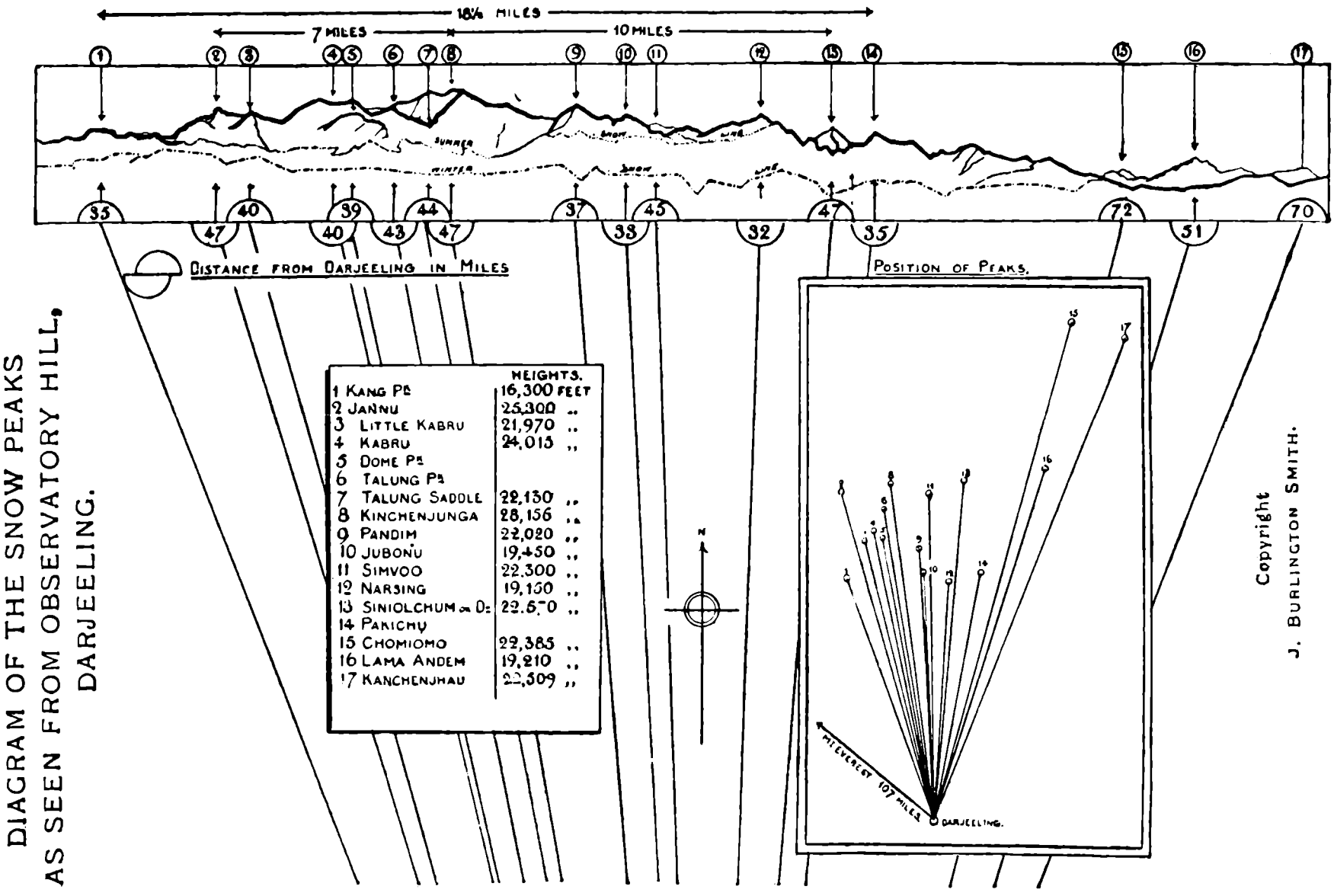
Janu, in Nepal	25,304 ft.	...	...	46	miles	distant.
Kabur, or Kabru	24,015 ,,	...	...	40	,,	,,
Kangchenjunga	28,156 ,,	...	...	45	,,	,,
Pandim	22,017 ,,	...	...	36	,,	,,
Narsing	19,150 ,,	...	...	32	,,	,,
Siniolchu or D. 2	22,520 ,,	...	...	46	,,	,,
Chumiomo	23,300 ,,	...	...	70	,,	,,
Yakcham or D. 3	19,200 ,,	...	...	49	,,	,,
Kangchenjhow	22,509 ,,	...	...	69	,,	,,

A mass of unnamed snowy peaks are between this and Donkhya Rhi 23,136 ft., 72 miles distant.
Narim 17,572 ft.
Chomnago 17,325 ft., 43 miles distant, to the east of which is the Chola Pass.
Gipmochi 14,578 ft., 42 miles distant, and next come the snowy peaks of Bhutan.

HOW TO USE THE CHART

Stand on the top of Observatory Hill with the Chart on the opposite page held in front of you. Look towards the snows and the highest Peak is Kangchenjunga. Taking this as a guide the other peaks can readily be picked out with the aid of the chart.

A useful guide to the position of Mount Everest is the right hand held out flat, palm downwards, at full length of the arm in front of the face, fingers close together and thumb opened as far as it can be (forming almost a right angle). Look along your middle finger at Kangchenjunga and your thumb then points to Mount Everest away to the left.

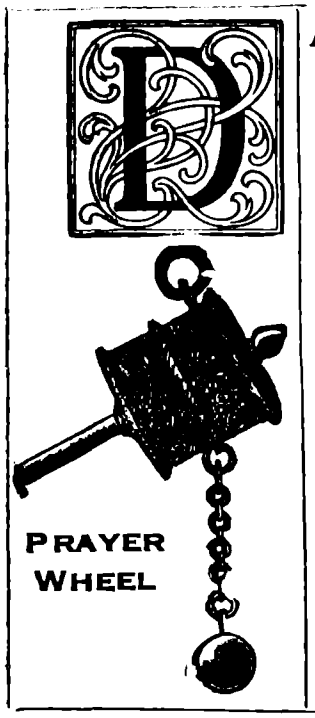


REPRODUCED BY PERMISSION OF J. BURLINGTON SMITH

1 DARJEELING WITH SNOWY RANGE.

CHAPTER I

THE RAILWAY JOURNEY, CALCUTTA TO DARJEELING



DARJEELING is 386 miles by rail north of Calcutta, and the traveller there, whether in search of health or pleasure, will find the journey quite comfortable and certainly full of interest. It is now possible to leave Calcutta in the evening and be up in Darjeeling by about 9-30 next morning, provided the traveller motors up from Siliguri and the weather conditions are favourable. This chapter contains useful information regarding the railway journey, particulars of the places of interest passed and some account of the difficulties in pioneering and constructing the line.

The Darjeeling Mail Train starts from Sealdah Station, the terminus of the Eastern Bengal Railway, in the evening, and is soon passing through the flat rice-fields of Bengal. It is advisable to reserve accommodation in advance.

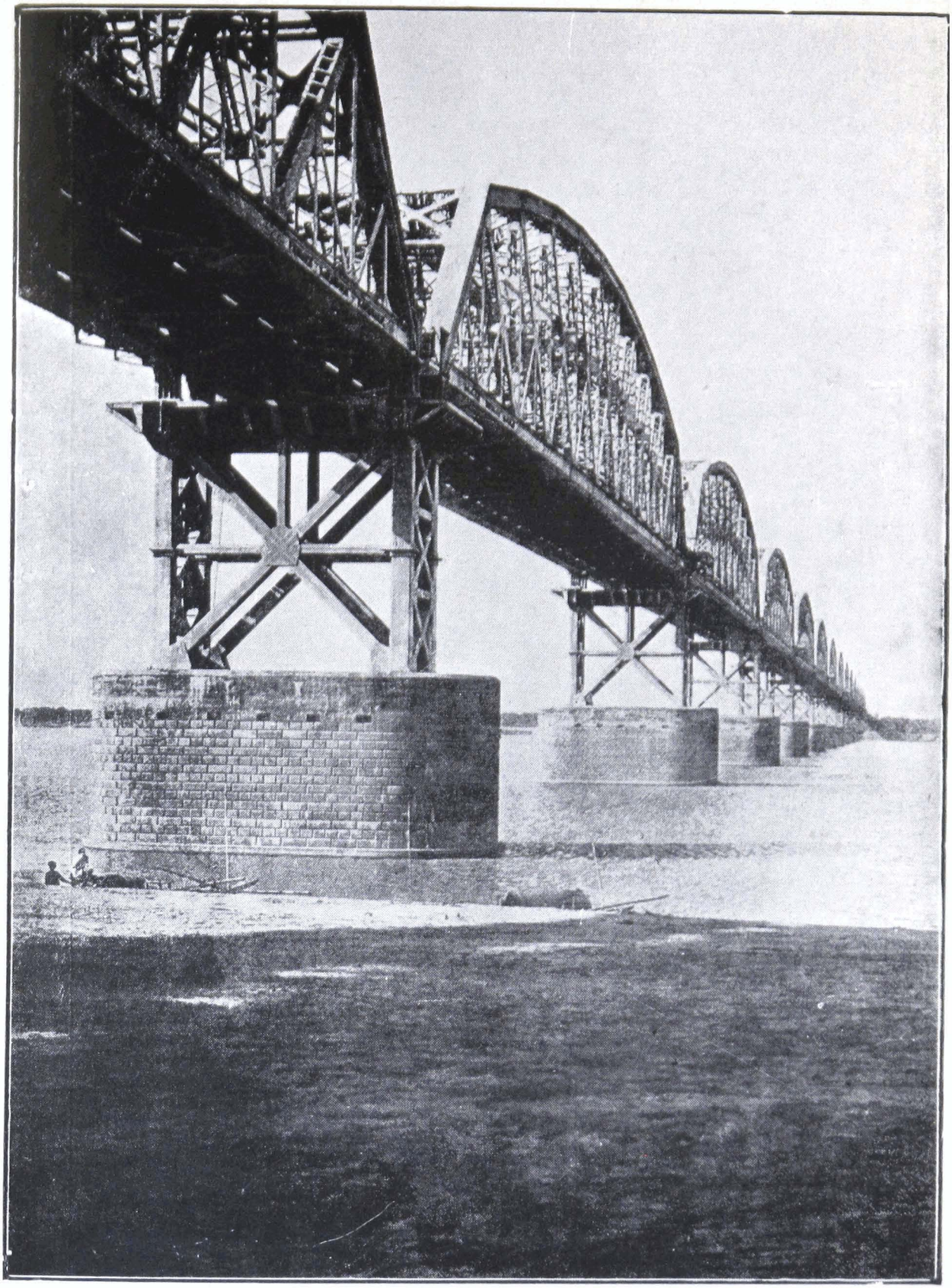
Care should be taken to place your bedding in your compartment on the train and not with your heavy baggage in the Luggage Van. You can then use your bedding during the night and bundle it up in the morning prior to arrival at Siliguri, where it must go with your heavy luggage in the Luggage Van of the little hill train. It is advisable on leaving Calcutta to set one's watch to railway or standard time which is used exclusively during the journey and whilst in Darjeeling. Just over three hours after leaving Sealdah, if sleep has not claimed you, you may listen for the continued roar of the train as it passes over the famous Lower Ganges Bridge at Sara, the building of which has been one of the finest of the many fine engineering feats in the annals of the Indian railways.

The Sara Bridge as it is generally called, was proposed and discussed for more than twenty years before its con-

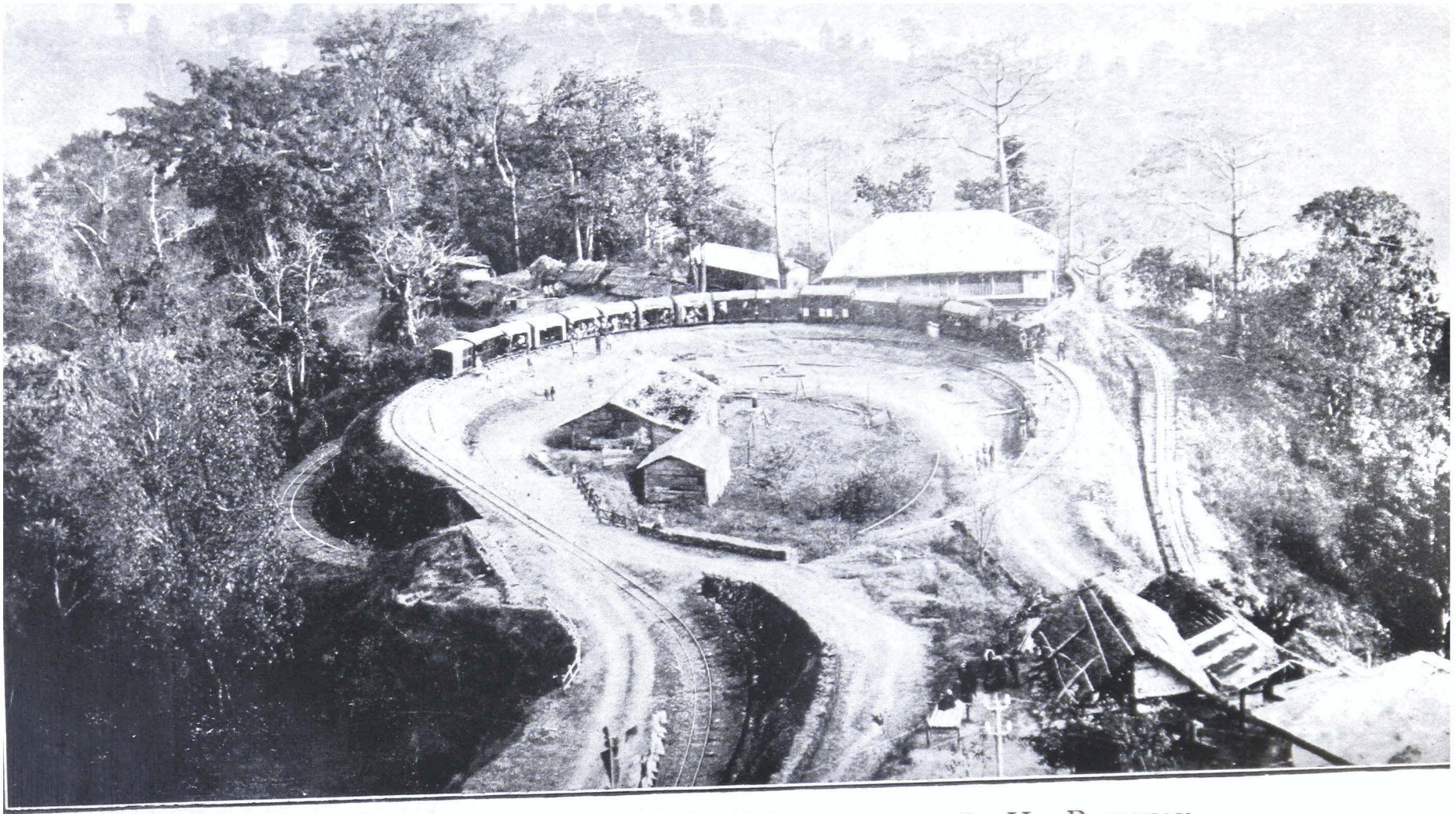
struction was finally sanctioned in 1908. The preliminary work was begun in 1909, and the construction of the service works and guide banks occupied the greater part of two years. In 1912 the foundations of the piers were begun, and by 1914 most of the main spans were erected. On the 1st January 1915 the down line was opened to goods traffic, and shortly after this the bridge was opened to passenger traffic, the entire work having thus been completed in a little over 5 years, a fine record of steady progress in the face of very great climatic difficulties. There are fifteen main spans supported on sixteen piers spaced 359 feet apart, and the total length of the bridge is $1\frac{1}{8}$ miles: some idea of the magnitude of the approach banks and training works may be obtained by the fact that these comprise nearly two hundred million cubic feet of earthwork. At high flood level it has been calculated that about two and a half million cubic feet of water pass under the bridge every second. The well which carries pier No. 15 was sunk nearly 160 feet below lowest water level and is the deepest foundation of its kind in the world. The entire cost of the undertaking was about 400 lakhs or rather more than two and a half millions sterling.

Before reaching Jalpaiguri, if the passenger looks out of the window on the right hand side of the carriage, he may see a magnificent view of the distant snows, a foretaste of the nearer panoramas he will get from Darjeeling. The nearer scenery however along this Section of the Eastern Bengal Railway is just as monotonous as it is in any other portion of Lower Bengal; a huge flat plain stretching on either side as far as the eye can reach, varied here and there by large jheels, where flocks of duck, teal and, in the season, snipe abound, here and there villages surrounded by bamboos, and an occasional mango tope. It is now advisable to put on clothing a little warmer than that used on the plains and to keep a rug or overcoat handy in case the weather turns cold and wet up the hill. By the time dressing is finished, the traveller will arrive at Siliguri. There is an excellent refreshment room at the station, and a really good meal is provided, with ample time to do it justice.

This is a very great contrast to travelling to Darjeeling in what is miscalled the "good old days." Before the



THE HARDINGE BRIDGE—OR AS IT IS GENERALLY CALLED THE SARA BRIDGE—OVER THE GANGES RIVER.



THE MAIL ON THE DOUBLE LOOP, D.-H. RAILWAY.

completion of this Section of the Eastern Bengal Railway, people wishing to reach Darjeeling were obliged to proceed from Calcutta to Sahibganj, a distance of 219 miles from the Howrah terminus of the East Indian Railway; thence by ferry to Carragola (a tiresome journey of 5 hours and often more), where the unfortunate travellers were disembarked on the river side, and even often obliged to wade a mile or more through the sand under a blazing sun. From thence the route lay along the Ganges-Darjeeling road *viâ* Purneah, Kissenganj, and Titalaya to Siliguri. This tedious journey was performed in a jolting ramshackle dâk-gharry, and on arriving at Siliguri even the most robust felt as though every bone in his body had been dislocated. From Siliguri there was another 48 miles ride in a tonga to be accomplished before the jaded wayfarer reached Darjeeling. All this is fortunately changed, and, judging from the crowds of visitors who now flock to Darjeeling, the alteration for the better has been thoroughly appreciated by the public of Bengal.

On arriving at Siliguri, the first care of the traveller by train should be to secure his seat and see that the luggage he had with him in the night train is placed in the brake-van of the miniature train, which is in waiting at the other side of the station, then return to the refreshment room and partake of something to eat.

There is also a Motor Car Service by road which takes only about three hours from Siliguri to Darjeeling. Motor Cars and Buses await the arrival of the train at Siliguri and if you are quick and lucky you may get a seat in one of them. It is better however to book seats beforehand. Seats in cars may be booked at Thos. Cook & Sons, The American Express Co., Grand Hotel, Calcutta, or Mount Everest Hotel, Darjeeling, the charge for a car up the hill being rather more than for the journey down. The journey by Motor Car from Siliguri to Darjeeling is very enjoyable in fine weather. The road runs for the most part close to the railway line and at each station the car must halt whilst the driver obtains a pass to proceed.

Before describing the journey to Darjeeling we will give a short history of the origin of the mountain railway. This line, two feet gauge, is perhaps one of the greatest feats of engineering skill in the world, and the journey from

the plains to Darjeeling is an experience to be remembered for a life-time. The locomotives are capable of taking a train of 35 tons up a gradient of 1 in 20, which is the steepest, the average being about 1 in 29. The carriages are arranged with a view to the utmost comfort for the traveller, whether in fine or unsettled weather, and a special invalid carriage with spring couch has been provided by the railway authorities, which is a very great boon to invalids ordered to Darjeeling for their health's sake.

Sir Ashley Eden (then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal), with his usual practical commonsense, recognised the fact that if a light railway could be constructed to Darjeeling, it would infinitely develop that town, also the country through which it passed, and would put Calcutta and the whole of Lower Bengal in rapid, cheap, and easy communication with its only existing sanatorium. How well-founded his anticipations were has been amply proved by results. The Government of Bengal promised to allow the rails to be laid along the road, and guaranteed interest. A company was formed, the public took up shares in it eagerly, and work was commenced in April 1879, the line being finally completed to Darjeeling, a distance of 51 miles, on the 4th July, 1881, when Sir Ashley Eden formally opened it, although trains had been running to Ghoom Station for some months previously. The line cost £3,500 a mile. The capital of the company was originally 14 lakhs, but has since been increased to what it now is, *viz.*, Rs. 61,25,000 in ordinary and cumulative preference shares and £115,000 in debentures. The line was originally laid on the hill cart road, but in order to improve the gradient, in some places 1 in 20, and to increase the radii of the numerous curves, many deviations have been made. The hill cart road, which is one of the finest mountain roads in India, is 40 miles long and cost the Government some £6,000 per mile, is now in charge of the Railway—who, with the special experience acquired by them in recent years, are able to ensure communication being kept open even in the worst seasons.

We now commence our journey to Darjeeling on the hill train. Crossing the Mahanuddy river on an iron bridge, seven hundred feet in length, the railway takes a straight line along the level for about seven miles to Sukna (elevation

533 feet), where it begins to ascend. From Siliguri to the foot of the hills the line runs through rice-fields and tea gardens on either side, and as the ascent begins a dense *sâl* forest is passed through. The line then begins to wind in and out along the hill sides, and twists and turns after the manner of a serpent, so that seated in your compartment you can see the engine alternately to right and left of you. Now you look up the steep mountain-side; close your eyes for a moment and you are literally hanging over the edge of a precipice. Still steadily ascending, the traveller will notice the gradual alteration in the character of the vegetation, the massive forest trees covered with epiphytes almost to the top, and the mountain streams, rushing and roaring down the hill sides, and along the bottoms of the deep gorges.

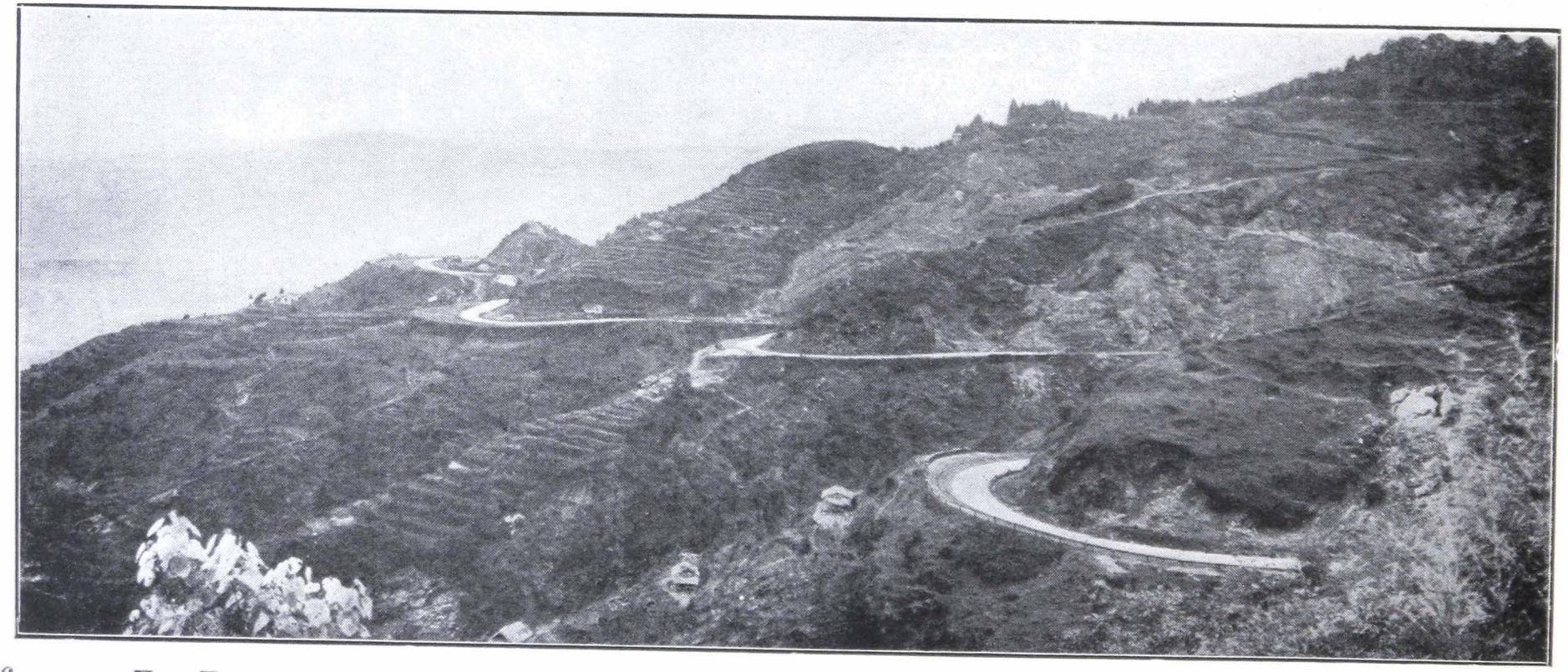
Mr. W. S. Caine in *Picturesque India* thus graphically describes this part of the journey:—"At every turn fresh beauty reveals itself. Behind, stretching away to the horizon, is the vast fertile plain of Bengal, bathed in sunlight, with rivers meandering out from the mountain gorges like bright silver ribbons. Before, the first ranges of the Himalayas rising from 5,000 to 8,000 feet above the plain, forest clad to their summits. As the train commences the ascent, the line runs through dense jungle of cane and grass, the canes fifty or sixty feet high, like great carriage whips, while the grass beneath sends up blades fifteen feet, and seed-stalks twenty to twenty-five feet from the ground, with huge feathery tops. These impenetrable wildernesses are the haunts of tigers, rhinoceros, buffaloes, bears, sambhar, deer, and wild hogs. As the train ascends the jungle gives place to forest; oaks, banians, mimosas, acasias, fig, india-rubber, and mulberry trees are all plentiful for the first 2,000 or 3,000 feet of ascent, and these are interspersed with great clumps of giant bamboo sixty feet high, with culms as thick as a man's thigh. At 3,700 feet above the plains both peach and almond trees are in full blossom in January, and at 4,500 feet there are fine spreading chestnuts. At 5,000 feet appears the first of the beautiful Himalayan tree-ferns, fifteen or twenty feet high."

A stoppage is made at Sukna, the first station after leaving Siliguri, from thence the train is seen to wind its way through dense jungle, first to the right and then to the

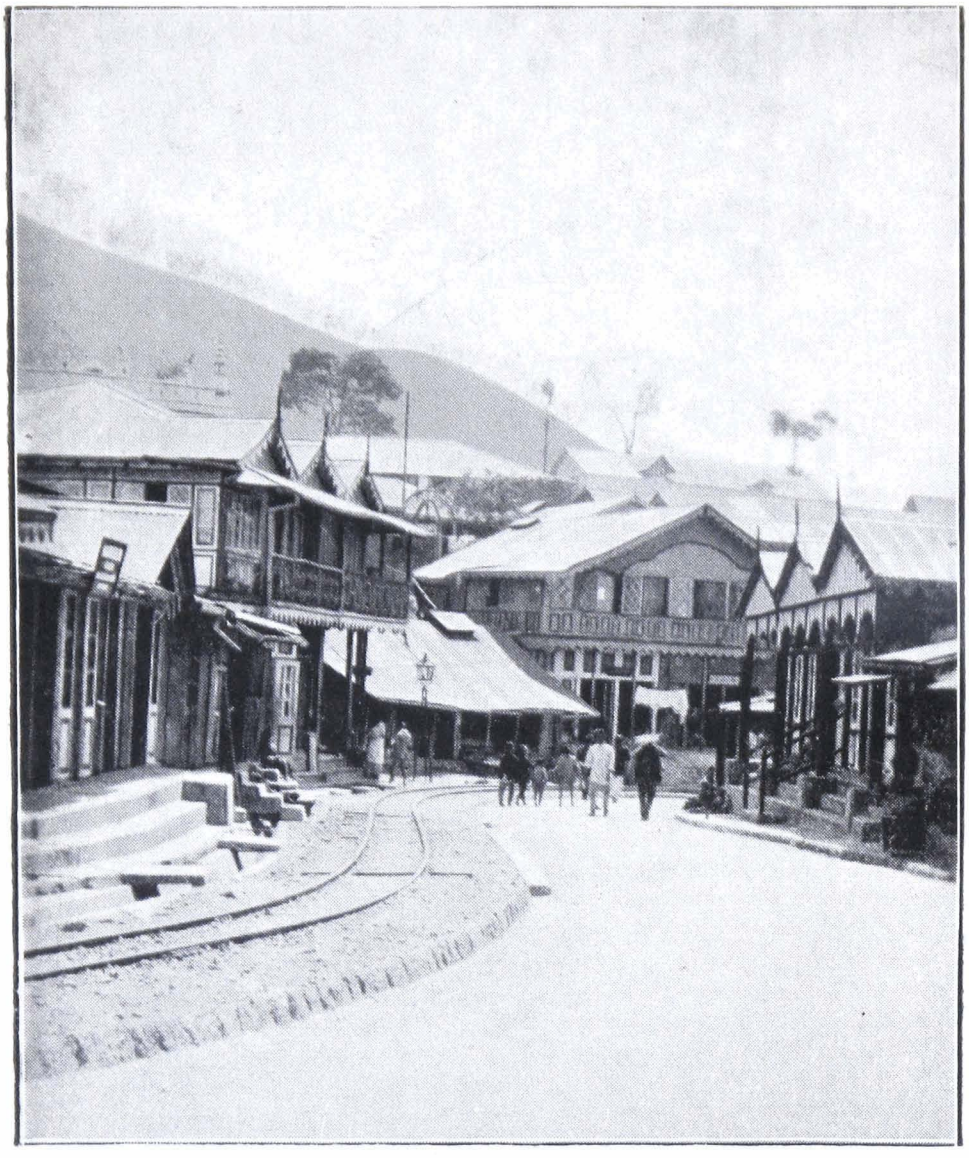
left, steadily rising higher and higher on its circuitous path. The line twists and turns about in such a manner that one can very often see both ends of the train when looking out of the carriage, and at places it forms a complete circle, the train being carried over a small bridge above the spot it has just left. The speed on this railway is, as a safeguard against accidents, limited to ten miles an hour.

At Tindharia (elevation 2,822 feet) the train halts for a few minutes. This is the principal locomotive station, and here also are the workshops of the line. A very remarkable piece of engineering is noticeable a little beyond Tindharia, where the line describes a figure of 8. The next station is Gyabari (elevation 3,516 feet), which is reached in about 20 minutes, but the Mail passes on. About two miles from Gyabari, what are locally known as the *goompties*, commence. These are long " zigzags," or reverses, along the hill sides for a considerable distance, and are a wonderful piece of engineering. There are several Lepcha monuments on the ridge above here, erected to the memory of departed local worthies. At the 25th mile is the *Pagla Jhora* or " mad torrent," a waterfall which has caused considerable trouble and expense, and is always a source of anxiety to the railway officials during the rainy season. From Gyabari, Kurseong is the next station. Here also are refreshment rooms and meals are always ready for passengers. Kurseong, from a comparative small village, has now grown into an important hill station. It is 4,864 feet above the sea level and from various points of vantage splendid views of the plains, as well as of the Balasun valley and Kangchenjunga, are to be obtained. The traveller, if not pressed for time, will do well to break his journey at this delightful spot. There are two Hotels here, the Clarendon and the Grand (the latter is now known as the Woodhill Boarding House), both very comfortable and well-managed places of accommodation. At Dow Hill, a considerable distance above the Clarendon Hotel, is a large Government School for the education of girls. The Victoria School, also situated here, is the boys' department of the Government School.

From Kurseong to Darjeeling the distance is 19 miles. On leaving the station, high up the mountain side will be seen the extensive range of buildings known as the



6 ZIG-ZAG ON THE DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY ON THE WAY UP TO DARJEELING.



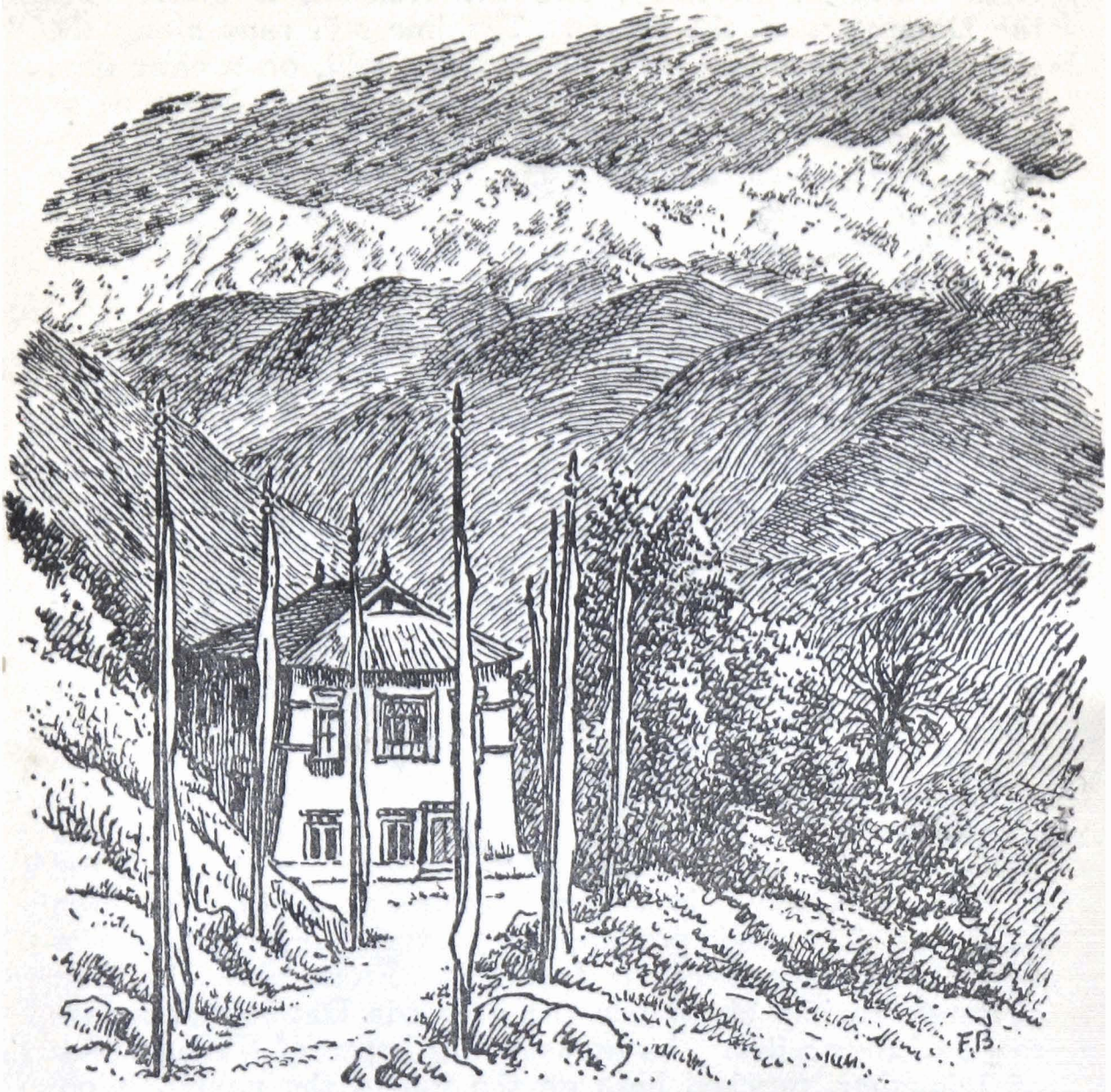
7 KURSEONG BAZAAR.

St. Mary's Training College, belonging to the Jesuits, also the Goethal's Memorial School, carried on by the Irish Christian Brothers, and St. Helen's, a Convent of the Daughters of the Cross. The line still runs along the side of the mountain, and the traveller will, on a clear day, obtain most lovely peeps of the valley of the Balasun, as well as of the many Tea Plantations with their neat iron-roofed bungalows and factories, which are scattered about all along the valley.

The next station is Toong (elevation 5,656 feet), and from this point the railway follows the old cart road. Near this point, the Victoria Brewery will be noticed: this was formerly a military building used by troops as a rest-house on their way to Darjeeling. At the 41st mile, we come to Sonada (elevation 6,552 feet), which is little else than a native bazar, but about two miles below is Hope Town, a small settlement, upon which a considerable sum has been spent, without much success.

From Sonada to Ghoom, the next station, it is frequently found that the road is enveloped in dense mist, and that the temperature is almost unpleasantly low even in the middle of summer. This is probably due to the thick forest on the western slopes of Senchal condensing the moisture in the atmosphere. Passing the Jor Bungalow Bazar, the station of Ghoom is reached, the highest point touched by the railway (elevation 7,407 feet above sea level). This is the most convenient station for passengers to alight at for Jalapahar. Ghoom is a very important station on this Railway. Tea and produce of a varied description are despatched from here to Calcutta. From here the line descends rapidly about 600 feet towards Darjeeling, a distance of four miles. An occasional glimpse of the barracks of Jalapahar, perched high on the top of the mountain on the right hand side, will be obtained, and on the left hand side will be seen numerous tea gardens in the foreground, with Mount Tonglu and the great Singalela range for a background. About a mile from Ghoom, the first view of Darjeeling, situate on a ridge varying from 6,500 to 7,500 feet above sea level, is obtained; and it is certainly a most striking one. The hill side is dotted over with picturesque villa residences, and if the weather is at all clear the mighty snow peaks are visible.

Another three miles, and our destination is reached, the train steaming into Darjeeling station.



BUDDHIST MONASTERY.

PASTIMES.

"THEIR besetting sin is gambling; one can rarely take a walk along the Darjeeling Mall, or on the adjacent roads, without seeing detached parties of them squatted on the ground playing at dice, a kind of chess-draughts, and other mysterious games of chance, unknown to us. They are very fond of quoits." *See* Chapter XI.

CHAPTER II

THE TOWN OF DARJEELING.

DARJEELING is the summer headquarters of the Government of Bengal. The great attraction of Darjeeling is its scenery, which is unspeakably grand. The view across the hills to mighty Kangchenjunga discloses a glittering white wall of perpetual snow, surrounded by the towering peaks of the Himalayan range. It has a most agreeable climate, particularly suited to Europeans, and the temperature seldom exceeds 70° in summer, or falls below 35° in winter. The mean temperature of the station is 56° and the average rainfall is 120 inches. Snow is occasionally experienced in the winter months, but heavy falls are exceptional.

The derivation of the name Darjeeling is variously given, but the generally accepted one is that it is a compound of the Tibetan words "*dorje*" and "*ling*"—the first meaning the thunderbolt—originally the sceptre of Indra, and the second, a place. Hence "the place of the thunderbolt." This was the name by which the Buddhist Monastery once located on the top of Observatory Hill was known.

The narrow ridge which the station occupies runs roughly speaking north and south and varies in height from 6,500 to 7,500 feet above the sea level, and divides into two spurs descending steeply some 6,000 feet to the bed of the Rangit river, which forms part of the northern boundary of the district. The residences of the European inhabitants, the Churches, Public Buildings, Hotels, Boarding Houses, and Shops are picturesquely situated on the hill sides, and nearly all of them command magnificent views of the Snowy Range; the Bazar or Market lies in a basin below them.

Before describing places or buildings it will be best to give the newcomer a detailed route leading from the Chowrasta to the Railway Station. This will take the reader past many of the leading European shops and important buildings and will give one the "lay of the land."

Chowrasta to Town Hall, Post and Telegraph Offices and Railway Station.

THE CHOWRASTA (Hind. four roads: elevation 7,002 ft.) is the large open space connecting the upper end of Commercial Row with the Mall, and may be regarded as the

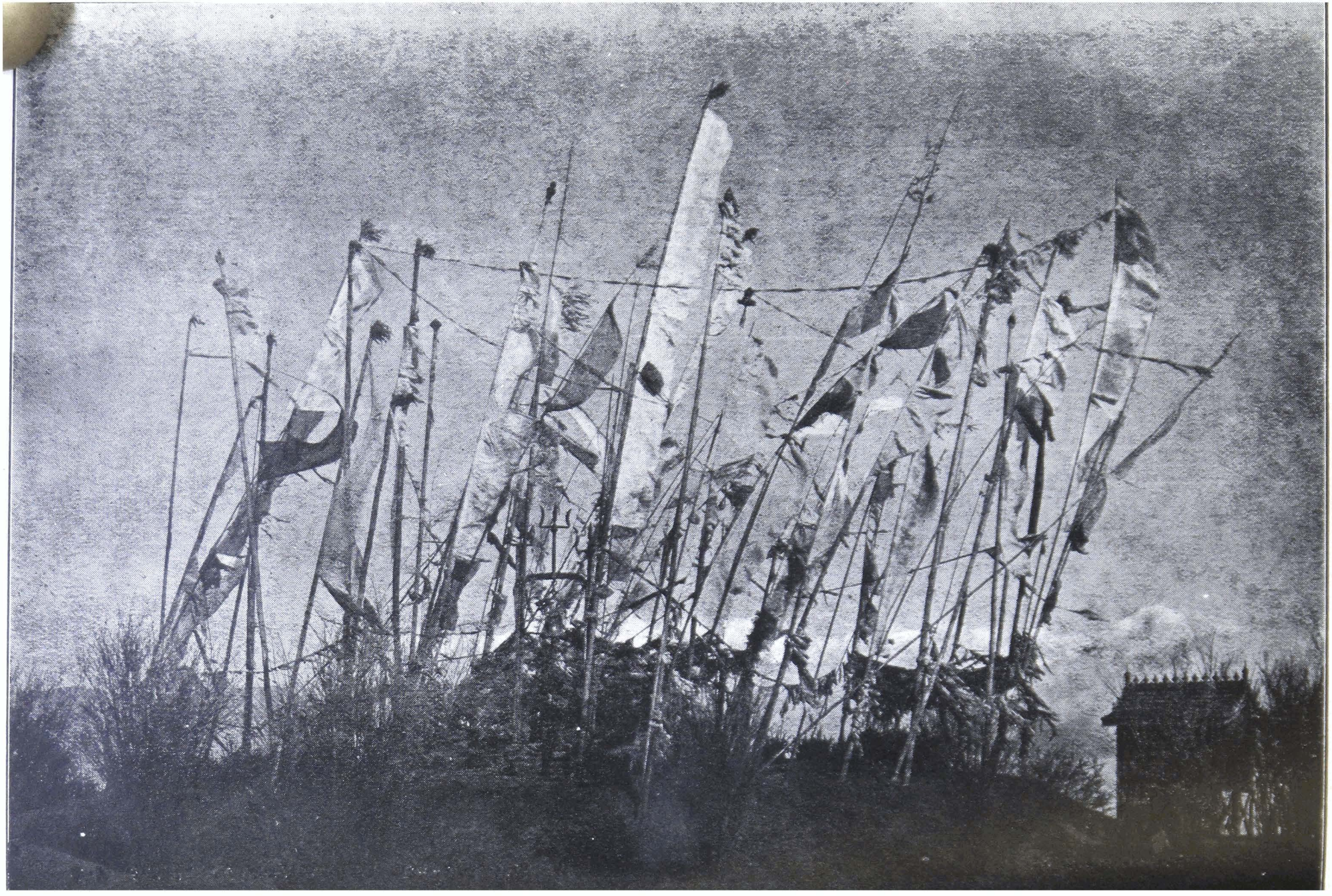
" Charing Cross " of Darjeeling. It is well-provided with seats where one may lounge at ease, enjoying the beautiful air and scenery, watching the passers by, or reading. In the centre is a large covered bandstand, now used as a shelter and provided with seats, and much appreciated on wet days. On the west side of the Chowrasta are several shops including those of Messrs. Francis, Harrison, Hathaway & Co., Madan & Co. and The Rendezvous.

Leave Chowrasta by Commercial Row, the " Bond Street " of Darjeeling, and proceed along it for about 250 yards, passing on your right Stephen Mansions, where there is a branch Post Office, Oxford Book and Stationery Co., Smith Stanistreet (Chemists), Boseck (Jewellers), Whiteaway Laidlaw (Drapers), then Commercial Lane branches off with Vado and Pliva's shop (Confectionery) at the top, then Frank Ross (Chemists), Hall and Anderson (Drapers), Burlington Studio (Photographer), and Keventer's Dairy. On your left are Bellevue Hotel and the Planters' Club. Keventer's Dairy is at the corner of the Cross Roads where Commercial Row ends and where the Motor Car garages have been built under the roadway. Take the middle of the three roads facing you and proceed down it (Mackenzie Road), passing the Town Hall, Beechwood House and Imperial Bank on your left and the Post Office on your right. Opposite the Post Office and on your left and round the corner is the Cinema (Madan's Theatres, Ld.). Continue down Mackenzie Road until it joins the Cart Road. Proceed along the Cart Road in the same direction and it is only a short distance to the Railway Station.

At the foot of Commercial Row are the Cross Roads, the upper road being Auckland Road leading to Ghoom, the middle one Mackenzie Road leading to the Railway Station, and the third one, leading down to the right, is Old Post Office Road which zigzags down to the Bazar.

Leading north-east and north-west from the Chowrasta is THE MALL, the chief promenade of Darjeeling. The Mall encircles Observatory Hill, on the slopes of which grow a profusion of flowers. This road is pleasantly shaded by trees, and commands splendid views of the Snows. It is as pleasant a walk on a fine day as one could wish for.

10 DEVIL DANCERS AT GHOOM.



A short steep climb from the Mall takes one to the summit of OBSERVATORY HILL (*see* the chapter on "Walks in and about Darjeeling"). This prominent feature of Darjeeling takes its name from the fact that there is a triangulation station on the small plateau at the top, and near this is the original platform from which the time gun, now at Jalapahar, was fired. On clear mornings and evenings this is a favourite spot for visitors, for from here the best views of the snowy range may be obtained. It is provided with seats—which are greatly in demand, as the sharp climb up the Hill is quite tiring to those accustomed to the plains, and leaves visitors very short of breath. There is also a useful observation hut in which is placed in position a panoramic photograph of the entire range of encircling mountains, with various details regarding the most prominent peaks. It is an excellent idea, well-carried out, and of considerable interest and instruction to visitors.

It is doubtful whether there is a finer view in the world than that to be obtained from Observatory Hill. The first thing that strikes one is the wonderful snowy range, and no words can describe its solitary majestic grandeur. The remembrance of the Alpine regions of Switzerland sinks into nothingness at the sight of the mighty Himalayas. The snow-line can be traced from east to west, and almost as far as the eye can reach the "cloud capp'd towers, the gorgeous palaces," calm, cold, stately and grand, compose a scene for ever ineffaceable from the memory; no pen can picture its awful solemnity. Towering above the many huge masses is Kangchenjunga (45 miles distant), and beneath is a sliding scale of picturesque peaks and wooded hills. When tinged by the rays of the setting or rising sun, every colour in the prism, always preserving its harmony, can be traced; masses of brilliant light, dark blue and violet contrasting with the more sombre green tints of the valleys. More than 12 peaks can be counted which rise above 20,000 feet, and many others are above 15,000 feet. The nearest peak with perpetual snow is Narsing, 32 miles distant, and the most remote to be seen from this spot is Donkhya, 73 miles distant. Mount Everest, the highest known mountain in the world (29,002 feet), is 107 miles distant. It is not visible from Darjeeling proper, but can be seen from Tiger Hill near Ghoom.

A list of the principal mountain peaks which may be seen from Darjeeling, with the distance each is in a straight line from Observatory Hill, will be found at the beginning of this book.

The range can only be described as sublimely grand. It is impossible to do it justice in words or in pictures, and the only way to form a conception of its glorious beauty is to see it for oneself. Probably very few visitors will leave Darjeeling without one or more of the beautiful photographs of the snows taken by Mr. Burlington Smith or Mr. Parr and sold at the Burlington Studio in Commercial Row. Many of these are really works of art, and in after days will bring back to memory the marvellous scenery.

The chief snow-clad peaks of the mountain range are seen to the north, in Sikkim and Tibet; towards the east are Tibet and Bhutan, and towards the west Nepal. The plains of Bengal lie to the south, Cooch Behar being visible on a clear day.

One of the chief objects of interest on Observatory Hill is the Bhutia shrine, a place of great veneration to all the hill people. Formerly the summit was crowned by a Buddhist monastery, but this was destroyed by the Gurkhas of Nepal, when they overran the country in the early part of the 19th century. The site however is still sanctified, and both Buddhists and certain classes of Hindus do " puja " within its sacred precincts. When a devotee visits the shrine, the priest in charge, a Lama, rings a bell and chants a *mantra* (charm); he then pours some milk out of a pot into a small saucer in which are a few flowers. The devotee is next anointed, first on the right and then on the left shoulder, with some holy ointment. After this the priest takes a little of the milk in the hollow of his hand and pours it over the head of the worshipper, also giving him a little of the same to drink. The Lama then takes a small length of coloured wool, and, after holding this against the altar while chanting a prayer, hands it to the devotee who carefully preserves it. The latter then walks round the shrine seven times following the direction of the sun's course, gives the priest a small donation, and the ceremony is terminated. Europeans are allowed to view this ritual from outside the sacred enclosure, a small space fenced

off with bamboos, from which flutter strings of flags, "the horses of the wind," to transport their prayers to the realms of the gods. On any festival or holiday, the visitor should see the picturesque people who wend their way up the hill; he will be struck with the variety of their costumes, and the interesting types of all kinds which this shrine attracts.

Above the Church, on the west side of Observatory Hill, is a cave, which tradition states leads to Lhassa.

THE CHURCH (St. Andrew's), one of the most conspicuous objects in Darjeeling, is situated on a knoll on the left or west side of Observatory Hill, and close to the Gymkhana Club. The foundation was laid on St. Andrew's Day, November 30th, 1843, and the original building was constructed after designs by Captain Bishop, at a cost of Rs. 9,000. It does not appear to have been very well built, and, according to the records, although it was used for Divine Service for some years, it was not consecrated. In September 1867 the state of the edifice was so bad that the tower collapsed, rendering the whole building unsafe. Steps were then taken to build a new Church, but it was not until May 3rd, 1870, that Bishop Milman laid the Corner Stone, as he called it, because the work was too far advanced for it to be called a Foundation Stone. This building in its original state was of a very plain and unpretentious design, and was consecrated on May 1st, 1873. Since that date there have been considerable additions including the tower, and the north and south transepts with porches, largely provided for by the liberality of private donors. There are several interesting memorial tablets on the walls including one to Lady Canning, wife of the first Viceroy of India, and another to George Aylmir Lloyd, C.B., Lieutenant-General, H. M.'s Bengal Army, one of the original pioneers of Darjeeling as a sanatorium. A fine brass also records the services of that distinguished civilian Sir Charles Allen, while a small but beautifully inscribed panel designed by Gill has been erected to the memory of Captain Burgess, I.M.S., who died in Darjeeling while serving on the staff of the Governor of Bengal.

ST. COLOMBA'S CHURCH (the Scotch Kirk) is close to the Railway Station and was opened on May 15th, 1894. At first a part of the building was screened off and used

for the Scotch Mission Primary School. This arrangement continued until 1906, when the Turnbull School was built, and in 1907 the Church was enlarged. It now provides seating accommodation for a congregation of 300. There is a fine stained glass window, erected in 1911 in memory of the family of Peterson Lennox Blackwood.

The UNION CHAPEL is situated on the Auckland Road. It was built in 1869 as a place of worship for any section of the Protestant Church. The American Methodist Mission now hold charge, but Ministers of other denominations are welcomed.

The ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH of the Immaculate Conception was built in 1893 and is attached to the Loreto Convent, below the Mall (left side).

GOVERNMENT HOUSE (formerly called "The Shrubbery") occupies what is probably the finest site in Darjeeling. It is the residence of the Governor of Bengal during his stay in Darjeeling, is splendidly situated just beyond Observatory Hill, and commands magnificent views of the Town and Snows. The extensive grounds have been very beautifully laid out and are reminiscent of an English Park. The main portion of the house was erected in 1879 and occupies the site of a bungalow originally built by Sir Thomas Turton.

The TOWN HALL is a handsome Gothic building on the Mackenzie Road—near its junction with the Auckland Road. The foundation stone was laid by H. E. Lord Ronaldshay, Governor of Bengal, in November 1917, and His Excellency also formally opened the building in May 1921. Darjeeling is indebted to the Maharaja of Cooch Behar for its Town Hall, he having erected it in memory of his father. Dances, both public and private, are held in the Town Hall, and it is also used for Concerts, Lectures and Public Meetings. Alongside is a branch of the IMPERIAL BANK, in a fine building specially erected for the purpose.

Near the Town Hall is the POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE on Mackenzie Road, also opened by His Excellency Lord Ronaldshay in May 1921. This is a most up-to-date building and admirably adapted to the needs of the Town and District.

The DARJEELING GYMKHANA CLUB is situated on Obser-

vatory Hill, close to the Church, and is available to any one introduced by a member, on payment of a small subscription. This Club is the hub of the Darjeeling social system and is one of the finest institutions of its kind in the East. Here lawn-tennis is carried on in the season with vigour on the eight hard courts which are in great demand. For the rainy weather a covered-in squash court has been provided. The billiard-room has three good full size billiard tables available for the use of members. Rinking and badminton may also be indulged in, while polo is arranged for at Lebong. The golf course is at Senchal. The Club has a fine ball-room with one of the best dancing floors out of the Presidency towns. There is a good library and a card room, while the reading room is well supplied with nearly all the newspapers and periodical literature of the day. The building also contains a bijou Theatre where Bioscope shows, amateur performances and concerts are frequently given. A dining-room has recently been built where excellent meals are served.

The DARJEELING CLUB (originally "The Planters' Club") is a very fine and commodious building, and having been specially designed for the purpose, is admirably suited to the requirements of the members. Gentlemen visiting Darjeeling during the season are admitted as temporary members on being properly introduced. It is situated above Commercial Row, where will be found a number of European shops, many of the leading Calcutta firms being represented in Darjeeling.

MADAN'S THEATRES, LD., occupy what used to be known as THE RINK, situated on the Beechwood Estate, between Commercial Row and the Railway Station. Bioscope shows, concerts and entertainments may all be enjoyed there at frequent intervals. There are two billiard tables available to the public.

The EDEN SANITARIUM is one of the landmarks of Darjeeling. It occupies a prominent site below the Chowrasta. From its position alone this building would form a striking feature in the Darjeeling landscape; but in addition to this the edifice is of a very handsome and ornate character externally, whilst internally it is admirably suited to the purpose for which it was designed. The history of this institution, which has proved of such incalculable advantage

alike to rich and poor of this province, is briefly described in another chapter.

The RAILWAY STATION was built in 1891, and is situated a few hundred yards to the south of the Darjeeling Bazar. It is a long barn-like structure, which, however, answers the purpose for which it was built.

The BAZAR is down in the hollow, a square piece of ground, flanked on either side by native shops, with a Hindu temple surmounted by rather an elegant cupola. Sunday being a holiday for the people employed on the many tea plantations, it is taken advantage of for "making bazar," and on that day all the choicest goods are displayed by the enterprising tradesmen. These people nearly all squat on the ground, with their goods beside and in front of them, and a curious collection it is. Tibetan brassware and curios, prayer wheels, tiger skins, rugs, furs, jewellery, turquoise ware, Indian, Chinese and Japanese silver goods, shawls, *kukries*, woollen goods of local manufacture, carvings, side by side with groceries, patent medicines, English piece-goods, sewing machines, lamps, ironmongery, etc., all go to comprise the most heterogeneous collection of articles exhibited in any bazar in the world. The noise the vendors and purchasers make, chattering, shouting, howling, singing, is something terrific. It is both interesting and amusing to watch the coolies and others as they flock to and fro in never-ending strings, some coming in to make their purchases, others returning home; the women with the useful hill bamboo basket slung on their backs, the men never without their *kukries* stuck in their belts; laughing, joking, playing with each other, many of them more than half intoxicated with the drink they make from *murwah*,* or from questionable brandy and whisky obtained in the bazar.

**Murwah* is a millet extensively cultivated by the natives of the hills—it produces a small seed which, when fermented, makes a mildly intoxicating drink, greatly favoured by them. The seed is put into what is called a *chonga*—a kind of bamboo bottle—water is poured in and left until the seed is well soaked; the liquor is then strained off, and drunk hot through a bamboo pipe; it is often flavoured with some pungent condiment, and the taste is something like the sweet wart used for brewing purposes in England; like beer, it is only intoxicating when taken in considerable quantities.

A sturdy independent lot these people are, looking capable of holding their own with anyone. They are even in their dirt, picturesque. A fuller account of them will be found in another chapter.

The LLOYD BOTANIC GARDEN is a beautiful place and well worth a visit. It comprises an extensive series of terraces covering about 14 acres, immediately below the Eden Sanitarium, and was presented to Government by the well-known gentleman whose name it bears. The grounds are well timbered, and are laid out in the most artistic style of landscape gardening. A feature of the Garden is a delightful rock garden. The flower beds, at most seasons of the year, are a blaze of colour, while the rarer varieties of plants are displayed in a fine conservatory in the centre of the garden. The grounds are divided into two main sections, the upper portion containing the indigenous, and the lower the exotic, trees and plants. The fine specimens of Tree Palms are noteworthy. The Curator is pleased at all times to show visitors round the garden.

THE CHILDREN'S PLEASANCE or VICTORIA PARK, situated on the Mall near the Church, is a popular little park of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres in extent. It has been tastefully laid out with shrubs and flower beds, and forms a safe and healthy place for children to play in. It contains two pavilions and a bandstand, and is well patronized during the season when the band is playing.

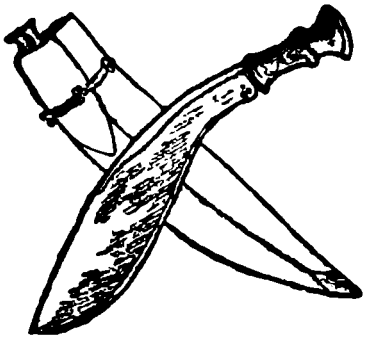
THE MUSEUM.—The present fine building, which is situated below the Park and close to the Bengal Secretariat, was designed by the Government Architect and built at a cost of over half a lakh of rupees during Lord Carmichael's term of office. There is a Curator in charge. The object in view is the collecting together of as complete a collection of the fauna of the district as possible. There are fine named collections of birds, butterflies and dragon flies, some of the latter obtained during the last three years being new to science. Though no entrance fee is charged, funds are needed for the work, and it is hoped that visitors will not overlook the donation box in the entrance hall.

ELECTRIC SUPPLY.—The Hydro-Electric Power Station, which supplies electricity for the lights, heaters and motors in the town of Darjeeling and in the neighbouring tea gardens, is the *first of its kind in India.* It was erected

by the Municipality in 1897 at the foot of a spur of a hill called "Sidrapong." The place is about 4 miles off and 3,500 feet below the level of the Darjeeling Railway Station. There is a fairly good bridle road through the tea gardens down to the Power Station.

The plant consists of two power houses, one about 300 feet above the other, and has 7 turbo-generators of a total capacity of 1,000 kilowatt. It generates electricity at 2,330 volts A.C. single phase, 83·3 frequency, and transmits it to 8 Sub-Stations at 8 different centres within the Municipality of Darjeeling and Ghoom, and also to five tea gardens, covering an area of about 28 square miles. The energy is transformed down to 230 volts through a number of static transformers at the sub-stations.

RESERVOIRS.—There are three big reservoirs for storing water, and a fine suspension bridge 284 feet long at the Power Station, where the scenery of the valleys, the hill streams and the flumes gliding along the surface of the hills are most beautiful, and the whole layout is very interesting and instructive. It is a place for picnics and excursions.



KUKRI.

TIBETANS.

"THE great ladies (for there are great ladies in Tibet as well as other parts of the world) wear velvet and silk robes, and a coronet embroidered with pearls; their necks are loaded with jewels." *See* Chapter XI.

CHAPTER III

AMUSEMENTS

MOST people will agree that walking is the chief recreation in and around Darjeeling. People up from the plains usually feel the steep grades and the rare atmosphere very trying for the first day or two, but when acclimatised there are many beautiful walks to take, places of interest to visit, quaint sights to see and photographs worthy of record. A special chapter is devoted to "Walks in and about Darjeeling," and another to "Excursions from Darjeeling" in which that wonderful sight, the Sunrise on Mount Everest, is mentioned, so we will not dally further with this theme here in this chapter, but will pass on to Tennis.

TENNIS is played all the year round. One of the great advantages of the hard Tennis courts at Darjeeling is that they are usually fit for play within a couple of hours of heavy rainfall. It should be remembered that one must provide one's own Tennis balls.

There are eight open air hard courts at the Darjeeling Gymkhana Club available to members only, and for rainy weather a covered-in squash court has been provided.

Tennis courts are provided for the use of their residents at several of the hotels and boarding houses. There is one hard court at the Elgin Hotel, another two at the Headquarters of The Northern Bengal Mounted Rifles, immediately below the Mall on the east or Lebong side; also at Caroline Villa, Colinton, The Dingle, Tarpsithea, Park Hotel, Hotel Mount Everest, Beechwood, and at the Pines Hotel, Ghoom.

RIDING is admittedly good exercise, and in the cool climate a great pleasure. There are several stretches of road where one can have a good canter without any danger. The Cart Road round Birch Hill to Lebong is a broad well-made road, and so is the Cart Road to Ghoom, but here the approaching and passing railway trains cause panic to nervous animals, and the upper roads are generally used, *viz.*, Auckland Road, Jalapahar Road and Calcutta Road. The Auckland Road is a favourite resort of riders, it is narrow in parts but very picturesque.

For Routes *see* "Excursions from Darjeeling," Chapter V.

The Bhutia ponies are very surefooted and strong, but hard in the mouth and not always reliable in temper.

Horses and ponies can be hired by the hour, trip, by the day or by the week at rates which include a syce to look after the animals whilst the rider is dismounted, at picnics, taking photos, etc.

RACING.—There are two race meetings every year at the Race Course on Lebong Spur, one in May, the other in October. The Race Course is used also as the Military Parade Ground. It is not the property of the Military, but belongs to Darjeeling, having been purchased by subscriptions from planters and rajahs. The Grand Stand and Course can be seen from The Mall and the Chowrasta. The principal Race Meeting is during the Poojah Holidays about September or October, when there are generally four days' sport and the events are very keenly contested, especially the Governor's Cup, which is the biggest trophy. Only Bhutia and Tibetan Ponies are allowed to race now-a-days. This restriction has improved the standard of this class of animal. There is always a humorous event in the Bare Back Bhutia Pony Race for soldiers, which is the cause of much laughter. Visitors can indulge in the excitement of betting to suit their pockets, as there are several licensed book-makers present in their little stands besides the Two-Rupee Totalizator. If one intends riding down to and up from Lebong on race days, it is advisable to book one's mount beforehand, as there is a large holiday crowd bent on riding to and from the course. The journey to Lebong Race Course may be made by Motor Car, but here again it is necessary to book well in advance. An item of bi-annual interest is the Governor's Cup Sweepstake. This is organised by the Secretary, Darjeeling Races, and tickets are obtainable from him at Rs. 5 each.

POLO is arranged for at Lebong on the (Parade Ground) Race Course. The teams are usually composed of military officers and residents.

Visitors proficient in and keen on the game can obtain all the information required from the Secretary of the Darjeeling Gymkhana Club.

GOLF.—There is a Golf Course at Senchal, beyond the

Military Barracks (for route *see* end of Chapter IV), membership to which may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Gymkhana Club, but any visitor can play for Rs. 2 per day payable to the Bungalow *Chowkidar* without becoming a member. It is a 9-hole course, and tricky but *well kept*. An extra hole starts from near the bungalow, and is used as a trial hole only. Members and visitors have the use of a room (free of charge, by arrangement) in the D. I. F. Bungalow.

Challenge Bowl. The Himalayan Bowl (handicap) presented by Mr. W. A. Inglis (open to season members only), is played for in October every year.

Caddies. Caddies can be obtained through the *Chowkidar*.

Luncheons and Teas can be arranged for on 24 hours' notice in the Gymkhana Club Office, or the Pines Hotel, Ghoom.

The curious pillars seen dotted over the Golf Course are the remains of Cantonment Buildings which were abandoned in 1867.

BILLIARDS.—There are good tables available which anyone can play on for the usual fee per game at Exchange Buildings, at Mount Everest Hotel and at Madan's Theatres, Ld. (The Cinema).

Members have the use of excellent tables at the Gymkhana Club, at the Darjeeling (Planters') Club, and the Club in the local branch of the Overseas League.

BADMINTON can be played at the Darjeeling Gymkhana Club by members only. There are four courts always available and much in demand in wet weather.

CARDS.—The Bridge Tables at the Darjeeling Gymkhana Club are keenly sought after in inclement weather.

THEATRES.—Entertainments are given at Madan's Theatres, Ld. (The Cinema) and at the Darjeeling Gymkhana Club.

CONCERTS are also arranged at these places.

PICTURES (BIOSCOPE).—There are two performances daily at The Cinema (Madan's Theatres, Ld.). Seats may be booked in the usual way. These entertainments are always open to the general public.

ROLLER SKATING may be indulged in at the Gymkhana Club on the covered-in Rink.

DANCING.—There are frequent dances at the Gymkhana Club which are immensely popular, also at Mount Everest Hotel and the Restaurants.

Thés Dansants are also given at the above places besides after-dinner Dances every Saturday night at Mount Everest Hotel.

Dances both public and private are also held in the Town Hall.

THE BAND, when available, plays during the season in the Bandstand in the Victoria Park (or Children's Pleasance) and is well patronized.

There is a Hindu Public Hall, specially built for Indians, situated just below the Market Square. Indian concerts, wrestling and other entertainments are held weekly.

FISHING may be had in most of the rivers in the district from March to December, and there is little doubt that fish could be taken with live-bait in a few of the medium-sized ones in January and February. Those which are recommended as easy of access and close to Darjeeling are:—The Tista, Rangit and Raman, and small streams, the Little Rangit and Rungnoo. The best months for fishing in the Tista, Rangit and Raman are from March to May and from October to December; those for the small streams, May to October. Of course, as every Indian angler knows, these rivers cannot be fished successfully unless perfectly clear (in which way they differ from the rivers in England). On this account the Rangit, Tista, and probably the Raman are not fishable during the rains, whereas the smaller streams clear so quickly that they are fishable very often at that time, and hold the largest fish then.

Detailed information regarding these rivers and likely stretches of water, tackle necessary, etc., may be found in "The Anglers' Handbook for India" published by W. Newman & Co., Ltd., Calcutta.

SHOOTING.—It is beyond the scope of this guide to give detailed information to the Shikari. Suffice it to say there is not an abundance of any kind of game in the hilly district; bears are found both on the higher spurs and the lower ranges, especially when the maize crop is ripening. The hill bear is inordinately fond of maize, and this season is the time for the sportsman to lie in wait for his appear-

ance; leopards are found in the hills; and a few elephants and tigers are met with in the Terai. In the Jalpaiguri division, tigers, rhinoceros, buffaloes, leopards, bears, red stag, sambhur, deer and wild hogs abound; a few wolves are also seen. Tigers have occasionally been killed near Kurseong,—an elevation of 5,000 feet.

SMALL GAME.—In the neighbourhood of Darjeeling green pigeons are plentiful in the rains, and near Kalimpong in the cold weather woodcock may be shot. In the wooded valleys the barking deer is tolerably plentiful, and an occasional pig may be met with. For detailed information regarding shooting species of game, their haunts and necessary equipment we refer readers to " The Game Animals of India," by R. Lydekker, to be had from W. Newman & Co., Ltd., Calcutta.

PRAYER WHEEL.

"THE Tibetan method of brewing the famous butter-tea . . ."
See Chapter XI.

CHAPTER IV

WALKS IN AND ABOUT DARJEELING

DARJEELING spur runs north and south, the main and most nearly level roads, therefore, run in the same direction, and the steep zigzag roads, as a rule, run east and west. Ghoom and Jorbungalow are at the extreme south end of Municipal limits and St. Joseph's College is at the extreme north end. Lebong is on a spur which strikes out from below the Chowrasta in a north-east direction. The Cart Road is now the main ròad from the plains, and the Railway runs on it as far as Darjeeling Bazar. This road continues through the Bazar and on to Lebong, this latter portion being called Lebong Cart Road.

There are a number of interesting walks in Darjeeling for those who like this form of exercise, or if riding is preferred, ponies may easily be obtained. Ladies who do not ride may be accommodated with rickshaws or dandies, and thus enjoy the excursions without fatigue. The rickshaws used in Darjeeling are very much more substantial than those to be seen in Japan, Colombo, etc., and are usually provided with three or four sturdy hillmen to pull and push them,—and their services are all necessary in negotiating many of the steep hills. A dandy is a coffin-shaped contrivance borne on the shoulders of three or four men, and much more comfortable to sit in than appears at first sight. It is a form of conveyance peculiarly suited to the hilly district of Darjeeling.

No. 1. CHOWRASTA TO OBSERVATORY HILL.—Proceed along East Mall for about 185 yards, passing Pekoe Tip gate on your right, to where the rickshaw path to Observatory Hill turns up on your left. This zigzags up to the top, passing Ada Villa on your left and Ada Villa Barracks on your right. Higher up at a bend on the path you pass on your left a shelter pavilion which is built on the site of the old monastery. Just below the shelter pavilion and approached by a few steep steps, is a cave, now almost closed in, possibly as the result of the rock falling in. Tradition states that this cave leads to Lhassa. Take the path on your right which continues upwards to the top of the hill, where there is a mound covered with Tibetan prayer flags. There is another path on the east

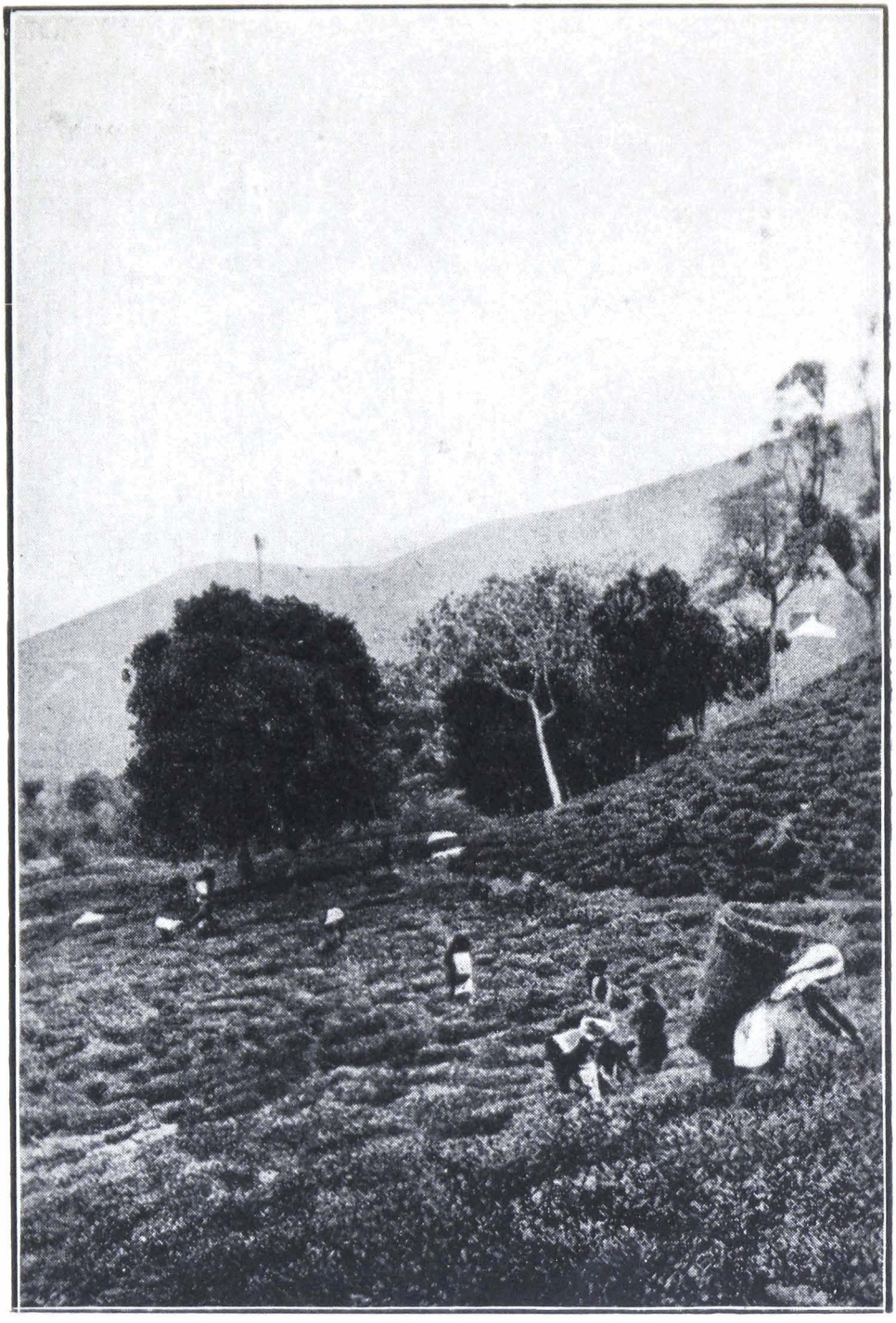
side of the hill which has an easier gradient than the one already mentioned. It is a long winding path that zigzags up and down the east side of the hill and finishes on the north of the Mall near Government House gates. This path passes close to the Gymkhana Tennis Courts. For further particulars of Observatory Hill *see* pages 11, 12, and 13.

No. 2. BIRCH HILL PARK, one of the prettiest spots in Darjeeling, is a pleasant walk of about 1½ miles from the Chowrasta. To reach it proceed from the Chowrasta along the West Mall, passing on your right The Snuggery, Ada Villa, Southfield, St. Andrew's Church and the Gymkhana Club. These buildings are all high up on the ridge and some of them are barely visible from the road.

The nearest buildings down the hillside on your left are first Thorn Cottage, then Alice Villa, then Carlton House, then on the level you pass the big iron gates which open on to the Victoria Park (Children's Pleasance); keep to the wide level road, the next house below you is Mall Side, then Ashley Dale with a piece of garden in front of it and a little cottage in the same compound, then nearer you there is Avondale and Killarney Lodge, then Halcyon House, a long low building facing a big flat garden. The West Mall opens on to a triangle at the junction of three roads, and Government House gates are on the side opposite the angle through which you enter. Keep straight on, skirting the west (or left) side of the triangle, and proceed along West Birch Hill Road. Government House grounds extend the whole way on your right, and on your left, below the road, you pass first Erina Lodge, then Government House Stables, and then Cooch Behar Estate Office. Continue along Birch Hill Road for about a quarter of a mile further, passing on your right Rivers Hill Road, which leads to the Government House Cricket Ground and to Rivers Hill House and Richmond Villa. On your left you pass the top of Hooker Road which leads down to the Lebong Road and on which the Superintending Engineer's Office, the Cooch Behar Estate Office and the Executive Engineer's Office are situated. The upper gates to the old cemetery are then passed, and when the upper fence of the Diocesan Girls' High School is reached, you turn up Snowy View Road on your right.

There is a small two-storied house at the top of this road on your left, and the boundary of Birch Hill Park is immediately beyond. Leave Snowy View Road, which zigzags down to East Birch Hill Road, and continue north past the Forest Ranger's house on your right and down to a grass plot with a dog's grave also on your right. At your left back a path runs down to West Birch Hill Road. On your right front a path leads to a maze of paths which it is best to avoid, unless you have plenty of time to explore; on your left front a path leads up to the pavilion. This branches several times, but all lead to near the same place. The steepest path up is the shortest. Near the pavilion there are seats, swings and seesaws, and a little beyond it a path turns down on the left to a ladies' room which is hidden in the bank. There is also a cook shed. Paths run in all directions from the pavilion to cosy nooks and lovely vistas. This is a favourite spot for picnics. In the Spring-time cuckoos may be heard, and—what is more rare—seen, all day long. Many monkeys may be observed, whose antics cause great amusement. Wild flowers abound, and quantities of violets may be plucked in their season. The return journey may be made on the other (Eastern) side of Birch Hill. Descend to the grass plot and take the steep zigzag path to your left. This descends and joins the East Birch Hill Road and brings one back to the Chowrasta *viâ* the Rungeet Road. The scenery and foliage on this side of Birch Hill are particularly beautiful.

No. 3. Quite one of the nicest walks is along BIRCH HILL ROAD—leaving Birch Hill Park on the right and continuing on round North Point. This is a circular route about four miles long, and brings one back again to the Chowrasta. After passing the Diocesan Girls' School on your left and Snowy View Road on your right, keep straight on. You will pass other paths leading to the right, and further on paths to the left leading down on to the Lebong Cart Road which can be seen hereabouts. The fine building at North Point is St. Joseph's College, controlled by the Jesuit Fathers. Passing this, one gets a splendid view of Lebong, and if the day is clear the Snowy Range may be seen practically all the way homeward. The Rungneet Valley lies below you on your left,



27 A Tea Garden.

with Rungneet, Phubsering, Badamtam and Tukvar Tea Estates—all within view—as well as Kalimpong and the Sikkim Hills in the distance.

Below St. Joseph's College is Queen's Hill School for Girls and little boys.

A Motor Bus Service runs from North Point to Darjeeling.

On nearing Darjeeling again Hermitage Road branches up on the right to the Mall, near Government House gates, and then Holmdene Road runs down on the left to West Lebong Road near "Hill Side." About a quarter of a mile further on you meet Rungeet Road which leads back to the Chowrasta.

No. 4. LEBONG.—Probably the favourite short ride in Darjeeling is along the Cart Road to Lebong Spur (about five miles), starting from the foot of Commercial Row. Motor Cars now run to Lebong and back, though a quick and interesting way to get to Lebong from the Chowrasta is to walk down all the short cuts. At Lebong there is a military depôt, and a large number of troops are stationed there. The extensive parade-ground and the church adjoining it are clearly seen from the Mall. The former is used as the race course for the Darjeeling Races, and for gymkhanas, sports, etc. There is an alternative route to Lebong leading from the Chowrasta, which is given in detail on page 28 and is shorter than the Cart Road and rideable (only about two miles), but much steeper. This road passes the Bhutia *busti* (or village), and the Buddhist temple should be seen; it is easily recognised by the long poles with flags (bearing prayers) which surround it. It contains a number of praying cylinders, including a large one some six feet high. This is worked by a strap and rings a bell at every revolution. The interior of the temple is nearly dark, and the paintings with which the walls are covered can scarcely be distinguished. There are huge tom-toms and gongs, and numerous bells to be seen and heard, for an important part of the ritual of the Bhutia Buddhist consists in warding off evil spirits by means of these instruments. There are also many idols, and some interesting books and manuscripts which are kept carefully rolled up in cloths. The Lamas will probably be repeating their prayers, which seem to be

interminable, and one constantly hears their "Om Mani Padmi Om." The temple also boasts a drum made from a human skull, and a trumpet that once was a human thigh-bone, but these are not always shown.

No. 5. CHOWRASTA TO LEBONG, passing the BUDDHIST MONASTERY.—Leave the south-east corner of the Chowrasta by Rungeet Road which zigzags down to the monastery path, passing

on the left	on the right
Stepaside Gate, East Birch Hill Road, Bhutia *busti*, Bhutia Lane, The Buddhist Girls' School at first bend, W. Lebong Road at third bend, Road to Monastery, 70 yards below this third bend.	Police Huts, Dant Koti, Ida Villa Gate, Nirvana Gate, Mall Villa 1, 3, 4 & 5, Shelter Seat, Bhutia Zigzag to Scotch Mission School, Bhutia Road, a little beyond second bend.

Pass the Monastery Road and continue down Rungeet Road through Bhutia *busti*. The road takes a curve to the right where there is a short-cut path, and 50 yards further on there is a rideable short-cut road to Lebong. The gradient of the main road is easier however, and this continues for about 160 yards to where it turns sharply to the left at the edge of a tea garden where there is a water trough. The road then runs through waste land for 700 yards to Lebong Park where it is joined on the left by the 10 feet wide stepped short cut from the foot of Bhutia *busti*. On your right at this point a rough path turns off to the rifle range. A little further on the road turns sharply to the right, then to the left, then runs down to the Lebong Cart Road. Turn to your right, passing the continuation of Rungeet Road on your right about 400 yards from the point where you arrived on the Cart Road. Lebong parade-ground is 570 yards further on.

Lebong is locally called "Alibong," meaning "tongue in the mouth," as it projects like a tongue in the mouth formed by the Darjeeling and Tukdah Spurs of Senchal.

No. 6. GHOOM.—Another favourite walk is in the opposite direction, to Ghoom, *viâ* Commercial Row and the Auckland Road. There are several waterfalls along this road, and the road by them is built up on bridges. Many of these cascades are very beautiful in the rainy

season, and the roar made by the falling water is heard for a great distance. Ghoom is about four miles from Darjeeling. Half-a-mile before reaching Ghoom Station is the Pines Hotel. A number of visitors prefer to stay at Ghoom on account of its quietness and delightful air. It is also a convenient place at which to spend the night when visiting Senchal and Tiger Hill (which is only three miles from the Pines Hotel) to see Mount Everest and the Sunrise on Kangchenjunga. At Ghoom a point should be made of seeing the drinking fountain, a curious specimen of Nepalese art. From Ghoom the journey back to Darjeeling may be made by the Cart Road by motor car or by train, though, as there are very few trains running, care should be taken to arrive at a suitable time to catch one.

No. 7. GHOOM ROCK.—If one is making a day's outing of this trip, the road may be continued past Ghoom Station, and then to the right towards Phalut, as far as Ghoom Rock,—about four miles beyond Ghoom.

Ghoom Rock itself is an immense boulder with a zigzag path running up it. It is 7,675 feet above sea level, and from the seat at the top a splendid view may be had. This is a favourite trip for picnic parties, but it is advisable to use ponies or rickshaws, unless the party consists of good keen walkers.

No. 8. CIRCULAR ROUTE from CHOWRASTA by CALCUTTA ROAD, JORBUNGALOW, GHOOM and AUCKLAND ROAD, visiting GHOOM MONASTERY (distance 8 miles).—Leave the South-East Chowrasta by Jalapahar Road, commonly miscalled Calcutta Road, and proceed along it for 160 yards to where it branches into three. Take the centre road which runs on easy gradients to Jorbungalow, a distance of 3 miles. This is part of Calcutta Road, which was the first road made from the plains to Darjeeling.

This road runs first along the top of Toongsoong *busti*. 650 yards from the Chowrasta, Toongsoong Zigzag turns up on your right. A small bridge is then crossed and the road runs through Cooch Behar land for about 400 yards. St. Paul's School land then lies above you on the right and Pandam Tea Estate below you on the left. One notices on the hillside by this road tremendous boulders, the results of landslips in bygone years, and wonders what will happen

if another slide should occur on a big scale. After crossing the old landslip, which appears to have settled down now, you pass under Mount Vernon with a Khargati cemetery on your left with its curious whitened *chortens,* and flags fluttering in the breeze. This is very charmingly situated, and, being flanked by a fine group of trees, with the snows in the background, the whole forms a very attractive picture of typical Himalayan scenery. Beyond this the road skirts the eastern boundary of Jalapahar and Katapahar Cantonments all the rest of the way to Jorbungalow.

On your left you pass North and South Aloobari *bustis.* Opposite the former a zigzag path runs up the hill on your right to Jalapahar parade-ground. At this same point the pipes which carry water from Senchal to Darjeeling cross the road 800 yards further on and about 100 yards down the hillside on your left, the electro-pumping station for Katapahar and Jalapahar is situated.

Jalapahar Road joins on the right about 700 yards from Jorbungalow.

At Jorbungalow, Calcutta Road joins the Cart Road on which the D. H. Railway runs and leaves it again on the same side 300 yards down the line to the south-east. It is then called the Old Military Road. 100 yards down the line the road to Tukdah Cantonments, Pashok, Tista Bridge, Kalimpong, etc., branches off on the same side (the East), and a few yards further on the path to the Golf Course and Tiger Hill runs up also on the same side. The Cart Road to Jalapahar branches off on the same side of the railway line, but on your right as you come on to the railway line from Calcutta Road, so that two roads cross and three roads branch off at Jorbungalow.

Turn to your left on reaching the Railway line and follow it for 600 yards, passing on your left some small shops and houses, the Scandinavian Mission House and the Ghoom slaughterhouses, then on your right the Dharmasala and the Police thana. Ghoom Station is a little further on, just beyond where Sukia Road branches off on your left. 100 yards beyond the station Ghoom Pahar Road branches off on your left and Auckland Road on your right. The former runs approximately on the old track to Nepal and the latter runs back to Darjeeling. Taking Ghoom Pahar Road you first pass through a street of small shops, then

along a bare hillside to Rising Sun Cottage, beyond which a path on your right runs up to the Monastery.

Ghoom Pahar Road runs on for another half mile to where it joins Sukia Road, by which you may return to Ghoom Station. It is better however to return to Ghoom Pahar Road to the railway line where you have the choice of three return routes to Darjeeling. You may take the Cart Road on which the railway runs or you may cross the line, and after proceeding 100 yards up Auckland Road, turn to your right into a path which takes you to Jalapahar Cart Road and so through Cantonments and by Mackintosh Road back to Darjeeling, or instead of turning to your left keep straight along Auckland Road. This last is the best route. The 100 yards from the railway line to the Jalapahar path junction rises steeply. On your left, opposite the junction, a path to Evelyn Cottage branches off.

From this point the road runs in very easy gradients into Darjeeling, and you pass on your left the Pines Hotel, Senabas Gate, Path to Margaret Villa, Path to Catherine Cottage, Path to The Retreat, Path to The Nest, and on your right Jalapahar and Katapahar Cantonments.

Cross over the small bridge and you will pass still on your left Shelter Seat, Path to Assyline Villa. Then cross two more small bridges and then on your right pass St. Luke's Road and on your left West Point Road, Path to Hollywood: now cross Kotwali Jhora, leaving Electric Sub-station on your left and Path to Charlemont on your right. Maryville Jhora comes next and then on your left Auckland Zigzag, Pearly Berg, Small Shop, Path to Gloven, Shelter, Wernicke Road, and on your right Erin House, Colinton Road; now cross Kag Jhora, and then Victoria Jhora and Concrete gallery, leaving

on your left	and on your right
a Shelter, Tonga Road, Mahtab Chand Road, Prestage Road, Woodlands Hindu Hotel, Woodlands Road, The Labyrinth, Ivy Cottage, Union Church, Memorial Hall, Banstead Road, White House, Kopji, Donkya	Craigmont, Hotel Mount Everest, Elysee Cottage, Mackintosh Road, Path to Encee Cottage, Baghmari, Salt Hill Road, Ulick Villas, Road to Altamont Villas and Mont Eagle Villas, Auckland Villas 3 & 4, Harman's Road,

on your left	and on your right
Villas, Havelock Villa, Elgin Hotel, Beechwood, Rhododendron Villas, Post Office Road,	Sligo Hall, Auckland Villas 1 & 2, Darjeeling Planters' Club.

This brings you to Commercial Row which takes you back to the Chowrasta.

No. 9. JALAPAHAR.—For those fond of climbing, a walk to Jalapahar, *viâ* the Auckland Road and Mackintosh Road, will be appreciated. It is not a long walk (about 1½ miles), but most people are glad to make use of the seats thoughtfully provided on this road (as they are on all the frequented roads in Darjeeling) by the Municipality. Jalapahar parade ground is 7,520 feet above sea level. Here is a military depôt, barracks, a church and the military cemetery. The walk, if desired, may be continued to Katapahar, where there are more barracks. There is an alternative route described in detail below from the Chowrasta past Rockville Hotel and St. Paul's School which is not quite so steep; splendid views of the snows may be obtained from this road.

No. 10. CHOWRASTA to JALAPAHAR, GHOOM, SENCHAL, GOLF COURSE and TIGER HILL (distance 7 miles).—Several routes are available as far as Jorbungalow near Ghoom. Calcutta Road and Auckland Road have been described in Route No. 8, and one can also go by the Cart Road which needs no description. Jorbungalow may be reached by any of these roads, but the route by Jalapahar is shortest and this will now be described.

Leave the Chowrasta by Jalapahar Road, passing on your left the Path to Ladies' Convenience, a Fire Sub-station, the Path to Gentlemen's Convenience, and the Path to Lodge Mount Everest, No. 2439 E. C. A little beyond this point the road splits into three: the middle one, which runs nearly level, is the Calcutta Road, but instead of going along Calcutta Road, continue up-hill, passing on your left Calcutta Road and Toongsoong Zigzag, and on your right Path to Campbell Cottage, Path to Rockville Hotel and the Water Reservoirs. Turn to the right, passing Path to Chevremont on your left, and on your right Path to Rockville Hotel, Rockville Road. Turn to the left, passing

on your left
Path to Little Chevremont, Path to Catherine Villa No. 1, Path to Catherine Villa No. 2, Path to Kenmure Point, Path to Marjorie Villa No. 1, Path to Marjorie Villa No. 2, Path to The Glen, Path to The Dingle, The Elms, The Yews, Tarpsithea and The Laurels, Path to St. Paul's School, Path to Mount Vernon, Shelter, Path to Mount Vernon Villas,

and on your right
Harman's Road, Salt Hill Road, Elysee Road, Path to Emerald Bank and Myrtle Lodge, Path to Cedar Cottage, Eden Falls Road, Path to Girivilash, the residence of the Rajah of Dighapatia.

Now we come to the Jalapahar Cantonment Boundary, and continuing pass on your left Path to Cantonment Church and on your right Path to Eagle's Nest Barrack, Path to Forest Hill Barrack.

This brings you on to the Parade Ground. Diagonally across this ground to your right front a road runs down to St. Luke's Church, and near the top of this a road zigzags down to Mackintosh Road which passes Colinton, the Maharajah of Cooch Behar's house.

Proceeding straight on, keeping the Parade Ground on your right, you pass on your left R. C. Chapel, Bazar, Hospital, Stores, and Rungnu Valley, and on your right Cantonment Road, Magazine, Guard Room, Family Quarters, Field Officers' Quarters, Officers' Mess, Station Staff Officers' Quarters, Subalterns' Quarters, Commandant's Quarters, Jalapahar Cart Road, Garrison Engineer's Office, Carpenters' Shops.

Continue along Jalapahar Road for 900 yards, when you enter Calcutta Road as noted in Route No. 8.

Continue in the same direction along Calcutta Road for 660 yards, when you come on to the railway line at Jorbungalow.

Turn to your left and proceed along the railway line for about 100 yards through Ghoom to where the Tukdah Road joins on your left. At this point another road runs up at a steep angle in the direction you have been going. This is Senchal Road, part of the first road from the plains.

Proceed along it for about 150 yards, where you pass Balaclava Farm on your left. The road winds up the hill through heavy forest for about 1⅓ miles and then comes out on open turfed land where the Golf Course has been laid out. The road to the Rest Houses turns off to the left.

To reach Tiger Hill, keep to the main road which skirts the Golf Course for nearly a mile. The curious pillars seen dotted over the Golf Course are the remains of Cantonment buildings which were abandoned in 1867.

For particulars about membership and permission to play Golf, etc., *see* Chapter III.

From here the old road used to run down-hill through Kurseong and Pankabari to the plains, but though still passable, this portion is now little used and is grown over with grass and jungle.

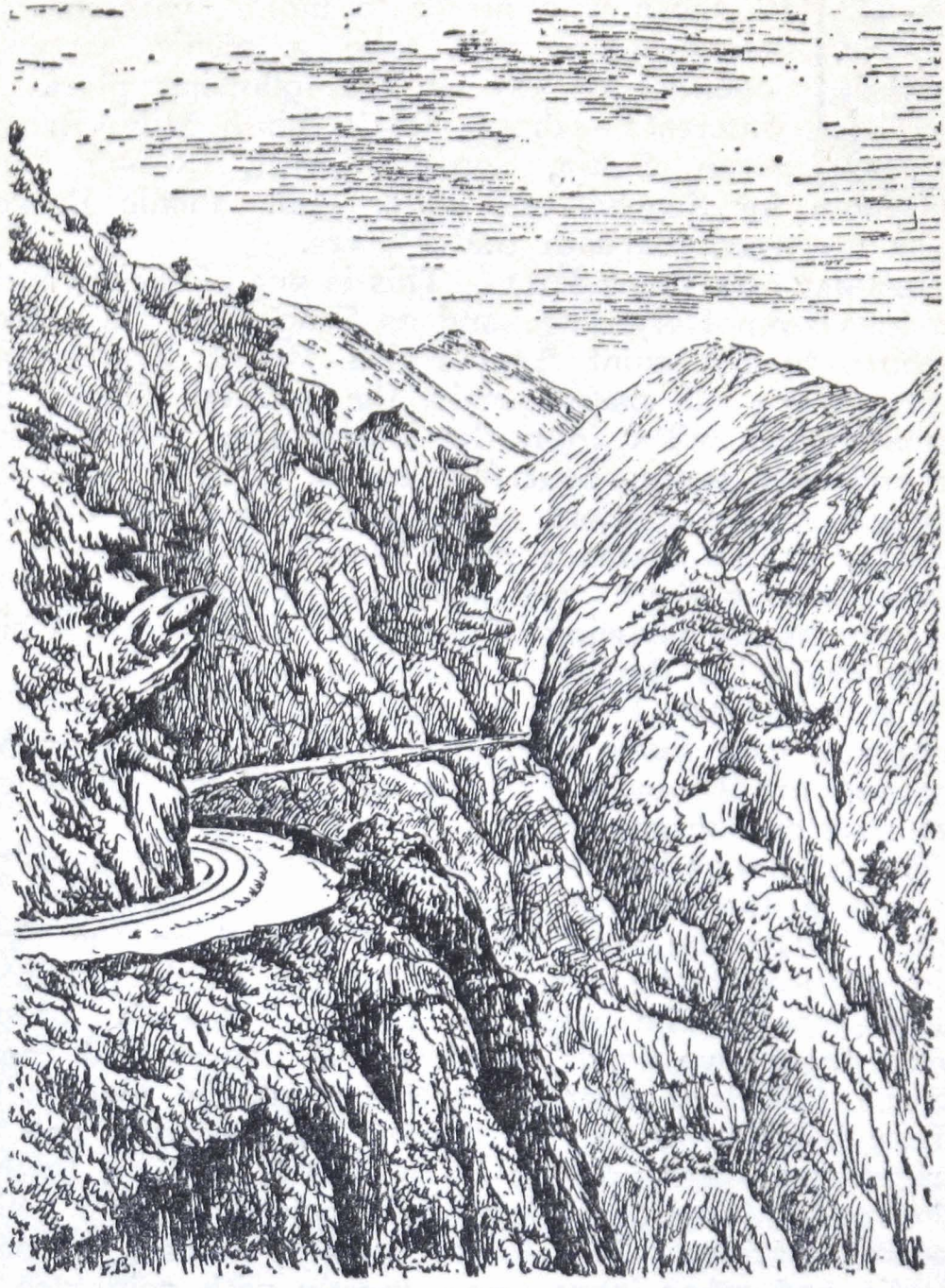
A few yards beyond this old road a path turns off to the left to Keventer's dairy farm. What is now the main road zigzags from this point steeply up to the top of Tiger Hill. A ferro-concrete shelter has just been erected here, the roof is flat, and an indicator painting prepared and fixed to the railing so that when seated on the middle of the roof, the indicator will shew the names of the mountains.

THE VICTORIA WATERFALL is well worth a visit, especially during the rainy season. It is not far from the railway station, and is on the road between the Bazar and Rosebank—the Darjeeling residence of the Maharajah of Burdwan.

There are numerous other interesting walks in the neighbourhood, such as Snowy View Road (leading from Birch Hill Park); Salt Hill Road, off Auckland Road; Colinton Road, also off the Auckland Road, past the mansion of the Maharajah of Cooch Behar, and on to Girivilash, the Darjeeling residence of the Rajah of Dighapatia and one of the finest houses in Darjeeling, returning by the Mackenzie Road. The visitor to Darjeeling will also discover many other walks in the station, each with a beauty of its own, for one of the charms of Darjeeling lies in the fact that one continually comes across lanes and roads that seem to invite exploration.

Longer excursions may of course be made, by those who have the time, as Darjeeling and Ghoom are excellent

centres for expeditions of all kinds; a few of these are dealt with in the next chapter.



A Rock Cutting.

"ABOVE the church, on the west side of Observatory Hill, is a cave, which tradition states leads to Lhassa.—*See* page 13.

CHAPTER V

EXCURSIONS FROM DARJEELING

FOR those who prefer to motor, cars may be hired which will take a picnic party in comfort to any of the following places of interest:—Ghoom Rock, Sixth Mile, Rangaroon, Sukia, Sonada Forest, Lebong Park, and Ghoom for Senchal and Tiger Hill. Picnic Baskets may be arranged for with the caterers.

SENCHAL and TIGER HILL. This is one of the favourite excursions from Darjeeling, and as Senchal is the nearest rest-house to the point from which Mount Everest can be seen, nearly all visitors make the journey. Tiger Hill is about seven miles from the Chowrasta, and the trip there and back takes about four hours. Visitors stopping at Ghoom are in a more advantageous position for this excursion, as the distance from here is only three miles and the journey there and back can be accomplished in about two hours, allowing of a longer night's rest, which is a consideration that will appeal to many.

It is quite easy to ride or motor up the four miles to Ghoom and stop there overnight, making it the jumping-off ground for the early morning trip to Tiger Hill to see the sunrise on the snows.

The road runs by Ghoom railway station (*see* page 33) and follows the railway line for a short distance. In Ghoom Village the road divides: the road on the right continues through the village, and the one on the left leads to Rangaroon. The path to Senchal ascends steeply between these two roads, past several houses and continuing by Balaclava Farm. At this point the road is on the bare hillside; to the left the hill rises steeply, and on the right is a sheer drop down the *khud*. A little further on the road is lined on both sides by primæval forest, with park-like clearings. The forest mainly consists of oak, magnolia and other large trees, mostly with epiphytes of various species clinging round their trunks. Many beautiful ferns may be picked up along the road-side. In April and May, when the rhododendrons and magnolias are in bloom, the hillsides are ablaze with colour, and this is at all seasons a most enjoyable ride. The road is kept in good condition all through the year. From where the Senchal Road leaves

the Cart Road it is a little more than a mile to the two Senchal bungalows and the Golf Course.

The view from Senchal is very fine. To the north in the foreground is the station of Darjeeling, with its white villa residences clustering along the sides of the basin, while in the background is the stupendous snowy range in all its glorious magnificence. Away to the north-west will be seen Mount Everest, appearing in the distance shaped like a soldier's white helmet. This is the highest known mountain in the world (29,002 feet). It is in Nepal and is about 107 miles distant in a straight line from Senchal. Towards the south the plains of Bengal, like an opalescent sea, are to be seen stretching as far as the eye can reach.

A still more extensive view is obtainable by climbing Tiger Hill—8,514 feet above sea level, and about 1,000 feet higher than Senchal Parade Ground. It is about a mile further on, to the right of Senchal Bungalow.

During the rainy season it is a decided gamble whether one will be able to obtain a view from Senchal, as the excursionist may leave Darjeeling when the whole country round is bathed in the very brightest sunshine, and yet before he can get even half-way to his destination the mists may come surging up and around in dense masses, shutting the view out completely, and the traveller will return to Darjeeling a sadder, a wetter, and haply a wiser man. The best plan for ensuring, as far as possible, a really good view from Senchal, is to wait patiently until heavy rain has fallen for three or four days in succession, and then, if no rain has occurred a couple of hours before daybreak, to make a dash for it. The sunrise will amply —indeed, more than amply—repay the early rising, and it is quite possible for an energetic person to be back in Darjeeling in time for a comfortable breakfast. From the close of the rains (about the middle of October) to the middle of December, and again from March to about the middle of May, splendid views can be relied on almost every day. Sunset from Senchal is also most striking, the effects of the various lights on the snowy range being indescribably beautiful. To enjoy the full effect of a sunset from Senchal, an evening when the setting of the sun coincides with the rising of a nearly full moon should, if possible, be chosen.

Another favourite excursion is to RANGAROON BOTANIC GARDEN, about seven and a half miles from Darjeeling. This Garden was founded in 1876 by Government, but the situation did not prove suitable for the purpose, chiefly owing to the heavy hailstorms which occur at certain seasons of the year and which caused havoc amongst the plants and trees. The experiment was therefore abandoned in 1878, but the grounds are still used by Government as a forest nursery.

Rangaroon is an ideal place for picnic parties and may be reached either on ponies or by motor car. It is about a thousand feet lower than Darjeeling, and the soil being fertile and water plentiful, is a beautiful spot. There is an excellent bungalow, permission for the use of which may be obtained from the Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling. The rooms have bath-rooms attached, and a wash is an appreciated luxury after the ride from Darjeeling. Visitors must take their own provisions, crockery, etc., but the kitchen belonging to the bungalow is available for their use. In front of the bungalow is a large level clearing, where games may be indulged in.

The road to Rangaroon runs through Ghoom Village. At the cross-roads where the path to Senchal branches off (*see* page 36), keep to the left along a fine broad road, which for a considerable distance is almost level. About two miles beyond Ghoom turn sharply to the left—a sign post points the way—and follow a path which descends abruptly. This path is very steep and rocky and passes through a thick forest, so that it is advisable to dismount and lead the horses until Rangaroon Bungalow is sighted.

Another pleasant excursion—in the opposite direction—is to the JUNCTION OF THE TISTA AND RANGIT RIVERS, and the TISTA SUSPENSION BRIDGE. The route we describe is about 23 miles going and 17½ miles returning, and occupies two days. If only one day is available, the traveller should proceed as far as the Manjitar Bridge over the Rangit, and return by the same road.

Starting from the Chowrasta (after a substantial *chota hazri*), descend by the Rungeet Road past the Bhutia *busti* —a collection of huts chiefly occupied by Bhutias, Limboos, and Lepchas, most of whom are porters, dandy-bearers, domestic servants or dealers in curios, with their hangers-

on of sorts. There is a large trade, and a very lucrative one too, done here, in armlets, ornaments, turquoise jewellery, praying-wheels, skins, horns, Chinese and Tibetan curios, *kukries, bans,* and all sorts of miscellaneous articles. The dealers are past masters at a bargain, and usually ask about five times the proper value for their wares, and even when the vendors have apparently been beaten down to the lowest possible price, they go away with the " smile which is childlike and bland," being cheered with the inner consciousness that they have not only sold their goods but have " sold " their customer as well.

Here is a Buddhist *Goompa* or Monastery, which is worth seeing. There is no difficulty about obtaining admission, and the Lamas, who form a cheery brotherhood, with not the least trace of ascetic cant about them, are glad to show interested persons round the temple. Intending visitors should provide themselves with a good supply of eau-de-cologne, as the sacred atmosphere of the interior is a good deal removed from that of " Araby the Blest."

After passing the Bhutia *busti* the road runs along the eastern side of the Lebong Spur, with the Winchu, Bannockburn and Ging Tea Plantations below, on the right-hand side. From the *busti* to the Badamtam Tea Estate the road begins to descend rapidly. About the eighth mile from Darjeeling, at Badamtam, there is a very neat and comfortable dâk bungalow, where either breakfast or tiffin may be partaken; but the traveller must provide his own commissariat. The road still continues to descend, passing through tea gardens and virgin forests of sâl, pine and other trees, the undergrowth consisting of a dense sub-tropical vegetation. The air which has become perceptibly warmer is at this stage almost alive with gorgeous butterflies and other insects.

In time the right bank of the Rangit is gained, and after crossing the Rungoo (one of its affluents) the Manjitar suspension bridge is reached, about 12 miles from Darjeeling. This iron bridge replaces the somewhat flimsy cane structure which used to cross the Rangit at this point. Visitors usually make a point of crossing it into Independent Sikhim, just for the sake of saying they have done so.

The road, which is a capital one and almost level, continues along the right bank of the Rangit, and about six

miles further on the junction of this river and the Tista is reached. On the way there are constantly succeeding peeps of the most splendidly varied vistas—river, forest and mountains; and if the traveller can at all appreciate the beauties of nature, he will frequently draw rein to admire the lovely scenery. The Junction of the Tista and the Rangit Rivers is strikingly and wonderfully beautiful. Tommy Moore never was in India, and even if he had been, he could never have done justice to this " meeting of the waters," and we will not attempt it. All we can say to visitors to Darjeeling is, go and see the place yourselves, and if you do not thank us for the advice, you are indeed blind to nature's most exquisite handiwork. There is a marked and striking difference in colour between the waters of the two rivers, and for some distance below the actual junction they retain their distinctive characters. That of the Tista is sea-green, somewhat muddy, and several degrees lower in temperature than the Rangit, while the latter is of a dark greenish-blue and perfectly transparent. The Tista is the main river and is much broader, deeper and more rapid than the Rangit.

The traveller then follows the right bank of the Tista along a good level road to the Tista suspension bridge, about four miles further on. This, although a substantial iron structure, is light in appearance, and reflects much credit on both the P. W. D. and Messrs. Burn & Co., of Calcutta. The bridge is an important one, as it is on the main trade route to Tibet and Bhutan.

As the Tista Bridge is only 710 feet above sea level, it is usually very warm here. There is a dâk bungalow near, but the place being somewhat unhealthy, travellers are advised to pass the night at the Inspection Bungalow at Pashok. This is a steady pull of about three miles up-hill, and lies above the junction of the two rivers. A " pass " should of course have been previously obtained from the Executive Engineer at Darjeeling to occupy the bungalow, and bedding, provisions, etc., should have been sent on by coolies early in the morning.

The return journey to Darjeeling may be made through the forest on the Tukdah ridge, and under Senchal—about 17 miles. There is a good road all the way and the forest scenery is very fine.

During the rains travellers will be on the safe side if

they take a few grains of quinine morning and evening, and they should bear in mind on no account to start in the morning without having first partaken of a really substantial *chota hazri*. Above all, travellers should carefully eschew bathing in either the Rangit or the Tista. If they neglect this warning, they must not be surprised if their indiscretion is followed by an attack of congestion of the liver, or intermittent fever, or both.

Another expedition, somewhat more ambitious, is to PHALUT, on the Singalela Range, some 50 miles from Darjeeling, and the journey there and back occupies about 7 or 8 days.

The best period of the year in which to undertake this trip is undoubtedly from the middle of October to the end of November, when clear sunny weather can invariably be relied upon. The next best time is between the middle of April and the close of May. In May the journey acquires additional attractions, for then the rhododendrons are in full bloom, and the spectacle of the forests resplendent with colour is a sight to delight the eye. The trip can also be performed in the first three months of the year, but there is always the possibility of mist and haze obscuring the view and at the same time damping the spirits.

The Singalela Range is an immense spur extending from Kangchenjunga to the plains of Bengal, a distance of 60 miles, and during the greater portion of its course it forms the boundary between Nepal and Sikhim.

The first day's march is through Ghoom, and here, near the Post Office, a sharp turning to the right goes direct to Jorepokri (7,400 feet), at which bungalow, distant 12½ miles from Darjeeling, the traveller stays the night.

Leaving next morning for Tonglu, a sharp descent at first and then a stiff climb up zigzag paths for nearly 10 miles, completes the second day's journey. From Tonglu a good view across to Darjeeling can be obtained. The bungalow (which is at a height of 10,774 feet) is only 11 miles in a straight line from Darjeeling; but it must be remembered that the road traverses two sides of a triangle, and some 23 miles have been travelled.

The third day's journey is from Tonglu to Sandakphu, some 14 miles over a fairly good road, although in places rather trying for nervous people. Sandakphu is 11,929 feet

high, and from it there is a glorious view of the Nepalese snowy range, including peaks west of the Arun river, Chumlang (22,215 feet), Everest (29,002 feet), Makalu (27,790 feet), and Kangchenjunga (28,156 feet).

From Sandakphu to Phalut the distance is 12½ miles, and the traveller puts up there for the night in a very comfortable bungalow at the height of 11,811 feet, and 19 miles away from Darjeeling in a straight line. Sunset and sunrise seen from this point are probably unsurpassed by any sights in the world. The range of snows is similar to that visible from Sandakphu, but the setting of the foreground is different, with the bold bluff of Mount Singalela immediately in front marking the junction of the three countries, Sikhim, Nepal and British India.

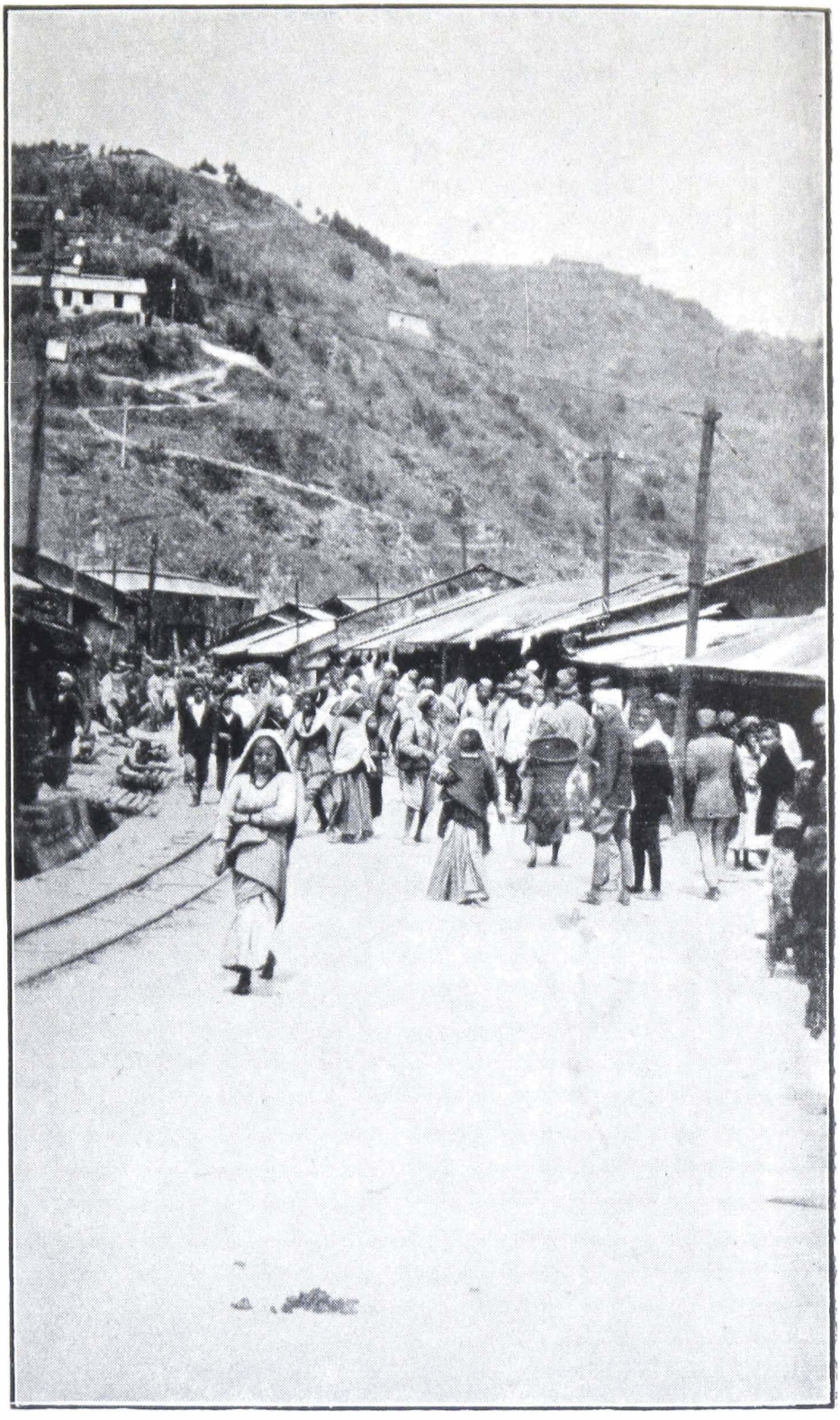
This trip is a very popular one, and the visitor will have little trouble over the arrangements, as most of these will be made for him, if he engages a good *sirdar* or headman. He will however have to be fairly " self-contained " and take most of his necessities with him, but all these are readily procurable from the shops in Darjeeling.

In Appendix I will be found all the official information concerning an expedition of this nature, and also all the particulars that the visitor will require if he extends his travels into Sikhim. If time permits the Phalut trip may be continued through Sikhim back to Darjeeling, but a Sikhim pass will have to be obtained, and the trip will take nine days.

From Phalut proceed to Dentam 17 miles, Dentam to Pamionchi 10 miles, Pamionchi to Rinchinpong 10 miles, Rinchinpong to Chakung 11 miles, Chakung to Darjeeling *viâ* Singla Bazar and Raman-bridge 20 miles. The scenery on this part of the trip is magnificent and will amply repay the extra trouble and time.

Another excursion from Darjeeling is to the JELEP PASS. This is the main pass in the range which divides Sikhim from Tibet. It is 14,390 feet high, and is passable for most of the year. The road as far as the Tista Bridge

THE TISTA RIVER AND BRIDGE.



43 GHOOM BAZAAR.

has already been described (*see* page 40). The Tista is crossed by the suspension bridge, and an ascent of some six miles brings the traveller to the sub-divisional station of Kalimpong, 28 miles from Darjeeling, where are the St. Andrew's Colonial Homes, started some years ago by the Church of Scotland Mission (*see* page 53). From thence five interesting marches bring the traveller to the foot of the Pass, the road all the way being negotiable by hill-ponies. It is a somewhat trying climb to the summit on account of the height, but once that point has been reached there is a wonderful view of Tibet available. Chumbi, an important town, is about 20 miles from this point. It will be necessary to take provisions of all kinds for self and coolies, as there are no bazars to be met with between the second march from Kalimpong and the foot of the Pass. It hardly needs mentioning that Europeans are not allowed to cross into Tibet without permission from the Government of India. People with any tendency to weakness of the heart or lungs should on no account attempt the ascent to the Pass.

There are many trips, pleasant and easy enough, which may be undertaken in Independent Sikhim, such as to the great Lamissary of Pamionchi, to Gangtok, the capital of the country, and other places, and a good walker would thoroughly enjoy a week or ten days' tour in Independent Sikhim. The journey to Gangtok may now be made by motor car. Several very good outline tours will be found in Appendix I, from the official circular issued by the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling; but those who contemplate any of these expeditions should first consult Mr. Percy Brown's "Tours in Sikhim and the Darjeeling District," which contains full and complete information on how and where to travel in this very beautiful country.

"THE temple also boasts a drum made from a human skull, and a trumpet that once was a human thigh-bone."—*See* page 28.

CHAPTER VI

POPULATION, CLIMATE, MEDICAL ASPECTS, ACCOMMODATION, AND SERVANTS

POPULATION.—The total population, according to the census held during 1931, is given as 21,225. This figure includes the cantonments of Lebong and Jalapahar, and is distributed as follows:—

Darjeeling Municipality ...	19,943
Lebong	564
Jalapahar (including Katapahar)	718

The following table gives the numbers under their different religious heads in the town of Darjeeling, including Lebong and Jalapahar cantonments:—

Hindu	13,587
Buddhist	5,554
Mussulman	914
Christian	1,112
Others	58

During the hot and rainy seasons of the year the population increases considerably, due firstly to the fact that the station is the headquarters of the Bengal Government during these months; and secondly to the influx of holiday makers, especially towards the end of September.

The languages spoken in the district are Bengali, Bhutia, Hindi, Lepcha, and Nepalese. The aboriginal tribes inhabiting the district are the Lepcha, Aka, Dhimal, Mechi, Murmi and Urava. Nepalese, Bhutias, and Tibetans form the great majority of the foreign element.

CLIMATE.—The climate of Darjeeling is most agreeable and particularly suited to Europeans. It is essentially a moist one, and during February, June, July, August and September, clouds are generally prevalent. There are practically three seasons—spring, the rainy season, and winter. The temperature seldom exceeds 70° in summer or falls below 35° in winter. The mean temperature of the station is 56° and the average rainfall is 120 inches. Spring may be said to begin about the third week of February, and lasts until the end of May, and the rainy season from June to the end of October.

During the spring months the mornings and evenings are cool, but in the daytime the sun comes out in full force, and the heat is often trying; thunderstorms are also frequent. The rainy season usually sets in early in June, lasting until the middle of October, and during this period about 100 inches or more of rain fall, the greatest amount generally falling in July. Much has been said and written about the terrible rainfall of Darjeeling during the rainy season, but the accounts are all more or less overdrawn. It is true that the rain comes down in torrents for hours, and sometimes for days together, but it is only in exceptional seasons that it is impossible to get out of the house for a few hours in the twenty-four without fear of getting wet. Somehow, the rain seems to harm nobody, if, on returning home after a drenching, the ordinary precaution of changing clothes is adopted. The water runs away down the hillsides as rapidly as it falls, and the roads are never muddy.

Winter begins towards the end of October, and lasts until about the middle of February. During November and most of December the days are bright and sunny, and the nights clear and frosty. About Christmas-time, rain or snow generally falls, the weather is usually overcast for a few days, and snow, accompanied by a thick, chilling, penetrating fog, falls usually towards the end of January or early in February. At this season the climate is rather trying, and coughs and colds are prevalent. After the snow has fallen the weather clears up again, and the temperature is most enjoyable.

The WATER SUPPLY of Darjeeling can compare favourably with that of any Indian station, and with most English towns. The water is brought in pipes from the settling tanks situated on the western face of Senchal, a distance of four or five miles, to large reservoirs just above the Mall, from whence it is distributed throughout the station. The quantity of water available for all purposes is quite equal to the requirements of Darjeeling proper, while the quality is irreproachable.

MEDICAL ASPECTS.—On account of its elevation Darjeeling is above the reach of malaria, and its equable though moist climate renders it an excellent sanitarium for Europeans. The visitor will greatly appreciate the absence

of mosquitoes—mosquitoes are unknown in Darjeeling. The mountain breezes are life-giving and charged with ozone, and at almost every inspiration those whose health may have suffered from a long residence in the plains of Bengal, feel as if they were adding days to their lives. But the visitor, more or less broken down in constitution, must be cautious if he wants the change of climate to do him good. He must always be warmly clad, never neglect to wear warm under-clothing, and must eschew cold "tubs." Tubbing in Darjeeling is just as essential to health as it is in any other part of the world, but on no account should a small dash of hot water be forgotten to be added to the cold. The neglect of this precaution is a very frequent cause of liver congestion—for which the climate is generally unfairly blamed. Another precaution to be taken is not to go out in the middle of the day, when the sun is at its height, and when it is quite as trying as in the plains, without some suitable covering for the head.

So long ago as 1854, Sir Joseph Hooker wrote in his "Himalayan Journals" that he believed "that children's faces afford as good an index as any to the healthfulness of a climate, and in no part of the world is there a more active, rosy and bright young community than at Darjeeling." It is almost unnecessary to add that this description of the place holds good to the present day. Children born and reared in Darjeeling are quite as chubby, spirited and happy as could be seen in the most favoured spots in Europe, while those brought up from the plains of Bengal suffering from anæmia, flabby, pale, peevish, and disinclined to do anything but fret, and worry all who have anything to do with them, soon become sturdy and cheerful, looking the picture of health, and with their cheeks simply radiant with colour.

Considering the large population, the mortality amongst children is almost nominal, as, unlike towns at home, scarlatina is practically unknown, and so are most infantile maladies that one has to be prepared for in the old country. Measles and chicken-pox do break out occasionally, but the types of both diseases are distinctly mild compared with the cases at home; and there is said to be no record of a European, either a child or an adult, ever having been attacked with cholera in Darjeeling. The climate was formerly

supposed not to have suited persons affected with asthma or any organic disease of the lungs, heart, or liver, but this has proved to be a mistake. So-called hill diarrhœa is not nearly so common or so troublesome as at other hill stations, and the cause is usually traceable to a chill in the stomach. Enlargement of the spleen is always much improved by a stay at Darjeeling, as are all other diseases traceable to malarial poisoning.

The EDEN SANITARIUM is a splendidly-equipped up-to-date institution. Situated as it is on an isolated knoll, it receives the full benefit of the life-giving breezes of Darjeeling, which themselves go far to restore health and vigour to those enfeebled by a continuous residence in an enervating climate. This sanitarium owes its origin to the co-operation of several leading officials and residents some 45 years ago. The late Sir Ashley Eden, with his characteristic energy, took the scheme up warmly, Government aid was liberally given, and the Maharajah of Burdwan headed the list of donations with the munificent sum of Rs. 10,000, and subscriptions flowed in liberally. It was opened in 1883, and named after the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to whose support its existence is mainly due. The building is a two-storied one, and faces nearly north and south. The front is towards the south and contains the apartments for the first and second class patients, with sitting and dining rooms, etc. The rooms and wards are all well warmed, ventilated, and lighted, and are replete with all modern comforts and conveniences.

A new block forming the Hospital, which is kept open continuously through the year, for surgical and other cases, was added about 21 years ago. It contains seven rooms, has five European Nurses, and a well-equipped Operation Theatre. There is a Resident Medical Officer, and the Civil Surgeon visits the Institution daily. The charges are very moderate, *viz.*, Rs. 8, Rs. 6, Rs. 5 and Rs. 3 per day. It possesses in addition a complete X-Ray and other Electro-Medical curative apparatus, and can lay claim to some marvellous recoveries, after very serious operations performed by able Civil Surgeons resident in the station.

THE LOWIS JUBILEE SANITARIUM for Indian patients is situated below the railway station. It was opened in 1888, having been built from funds placed at the disposal of

Mr. E. E. Lowis, I.C.S., then Commissioner of the Rajshahi division. During the season it is usually fully patronised, testifying to its popularity among all classes of Indians.

ACCOMMODATION.—Darjeeling caters well for its visitors, and the accommodation generally speaking is ample and rates reasonable. At times when there is a great inrush of visitors for a few days, such as during the Poojah holidays, and when the annual parties of some hundreds of American tourists suddenly swarm into the town, it is severely taxed. Sleeping accommodation is, however, always found, even if one's bed is a portion of a billiard table!

The principal hotels in Darjeeling are:—The Park Hotel, Rockville, Mount Everest, Bellevue, New Elgin, and Central. Furnished flats can be had in Stephen Mansions fitted with modern sanitary bathrooms and hot and cold water. Applications should be made to the Grand Hotel, Calcutta.

The chief boarding-houses are:—The Labyrinth, Ada Villa, Alice Villa, Annandale House, Beechwood House, Benmore, and Caroline Villa. In addition to the above there are several houses where visitors are received *en famille,* and made very comfortable. Accommodation is also usually available at the Sanitarium, which is appreciated by convalescents.

SERVANTS.—Many of the hill-men make excellent servants. The Bhutias and Lepchas, when caught young, may be trained to become good bearers and *khitmutgars,* and they have the advantage of having no caste prejudices, thus being able to turn their hands to any kind of work. The Mughs make quite good cooks. The Nepalese also make very good bearers and *khitmutgars.* Bhutia and Lepcha women are capital children's *ayahs;* and if not spoiled by previous mistresses, have no hesitation in undertaking *methrani* work. Bhutias will not usually undertake *syce's* work, nor will Lepchas as a general rule, but the Nepalese will do so, and look after the ponies in their charge very well. It is wonderful how these hardy hill-men manage to climb up the steepest tracks, and what long distances they can travel without fatigue. *Bhistis* are almost invariably men from the plains, as also are the *dhobis.* The dandy-bearers and rickshawmen are either

Bhutias or Lepchas. They are a dirty, impudent, extortionate set as a rule, but even so, like most hill-men, are "always merry and bright." Visitors have only themselves to blame if overcharged by dandy-wallahs. Printed rates of hire for ponies, rickshaws and dandies are issued by the Municipality, and this rate plus four annas *bakshish* is accepted without question by all of them. The fatal question "How much?" betrays a visitor whom, unfortunately, they feel justified in robbing. *Ticca* dandies and rickshaws are almost always available at the Chowrasta and in the vicinity of *all* the hotels. The following is an approximate table of the rate of wages prevailing. It is only possible to give approximate figures, as the rates demanded and paid vary considerably :—

Bearer ...	...	from Rs.	20 to 25
Khitmutgar	...	,, ,,	20 to 25
Cook ...	...	,, ,,	30 to 35
Ayah ...	...	,, ,,	20 to 30
Syce ...	...	,, ,,	20 to 25
Dhobi (according to household)	...	,, ,,	20 upwards (rate, Rs. 8 per 100 articles).
Mether ...	...	from Rs.	15 to 20
Dandy-bearers	...	,, ,,	14 to 16 each
Durzi ...	...	,, ,,	25 to 30

The *Durzis* run shops and customers have to go to them, when they charge by the article and not by the day. They do not come and work in the *Memsahib's* house as is the custom on the plains.

Many of the *ayahs* are spoilt by *Memsahibs* who offer fancy prices, *viz.*, Rs. 35 to Rs. 40, to get them to go down to the plains, because they are such excellent *ayahs*.

CHAPTER VII

SCHOOLS

IN a previous chapter the suitability of the Darjeeling climate for growing children has been referred to, and it is only a natural sequence that this desirable hill-station should contain some very fine educational institutions, specially equipped for the instruction of the sons and daughters of Europeans and Anglo-Indians.

The bracing mountain air which brings the glow of health to the cheeks, and the rapid means of travel which place the station within easy distance of Calcutta, are advantages that are appreciated by parents in the plains, and cannot be overrated.

Even the briefest record of the progress of education in the Darjeeling district would be incomplete without a reference to those pioneers in this subject, the Christian missionaries of over 65 years ago. To the Rev. William Start, a Baptist, is accorded the honour of being the earliest labourer in this field, for he it was who opened, as far back as 1841, using his own private means, the first school for Lepchas.

No proper system of education was however begun until the arrival of the Rev. William Macfarlane of the Church of Scotland Mission, in 1869. This strenuous Highlander prepared text-books in Hindi, collected a number of hill lads whom he trained as teachers, and, despite great natural difficulties and disappointments, was at last able, with the assistance of Government, Tea-planters, and even the villagers whose respect he had won, to open primary schools in the district. The work he had so thoroughly performed steadily expanded, and the Church of Scotland Mission now has a special training school for teachers at Kalimpong, with a European Principal. Such is the brief outline of the first steps taken towards introducing education among the hill-people. That the early work carried out so thoroughly by this small band of enthusiasts was on the right lines is proved by the fact that it has formed an excellent foundation for all the subsequent efforts in this direction.

With regard to education for European children, the first notable movement began as early as 1863 when the institution known as St. Paul's School was opened in Darjeeling. Since that date several other large secondary

schools have been founded, and the continued success of all these indicates the steady progress which has been maintained in European education in this locality. The following is a brief description of the principal European schools in the Darjeeling district.

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL for Boys (Church of England) is located on the top of Jalapahar Hill at an elevation of 7,400 feet, a situation which affords a magnificent view of the surrounding country. The school stands on its own estate, comprising some 40 acres of ground. It was first established in Calcutta in 1845, but owing to financial embarrassment was closed in 1863, and the premises sold. With the proceeds, *viz.*, Rs. 1,30,000, it was re-opened in Darjeeling the following year. In 1868 it received an endowment of Rs. 1,12,300 raised through the exertions of Bishop Cotton, one-half of this sum being given by Government.

The course of instruction is according to the Cambridge University Local Examinations, and the staff of teachers is composed of graduates of Oxford and Cambridge. There are also special classes for several of the services in India, as well as for the Indian Civil Service, Woolwich and other Examinations in England. The institution is fully recognised as a Higher Secondary School by the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate.

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE is situated at North Point, about a mile out of town. This is a Roman Catholic institution for boys, managed by the Jesuit Fathers. It was opened in 1888 at Sunny Bank (replacing St. Joseph's Seminary, a small school conducted by the Capuchins), and removed to its present position in 1892. The site was presented to the Jesuit Fathers by the Government of Bengal, and the funds for the building were raised largely by subscription, Mlle. Marie Bessuns alone making a contribution of Rs. 50,000. It is a handsome stone building, one of the finest in the station. The College has a Primary Department, School Department, and Special Department. The boys go through a regular course of studies for the Junior and Senior C. L. Examinations, as the College is fully recognised as a Higher Secondary School by the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate, and the Special Classes prepare young men for entrance into the different Government services, such as Accounts, Police, etc., likewise the

Engineering College at Roorkee. Although a Jesuit institution, pupils of other denominations are admitted, the usual conditions being observed with regard to their religious instruction.

THE DIOCESAN GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL, founded in the year 1875, now stands between the Birch Hill Road and the Cart Road to Lebong, beyond the Old Cemetery, having been removed to the present site and new buildings in 1904. The school is governed by the Diocesan Board of Education, of which the Bishop of Calcutta is the head. It is under the management of the Clewer Sisters and has a competent staff of mistresses. The pupils are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge Examinations, and the school is fully recognised as a Higher Secondary School by the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate.

THE LORETO CONVENT is situated on one of the south-western spurs of the town, within 15 minutes' walk of the Railway Station, and is the oldest European School in Darjeeling. It is a Roman Catholic institution, ably managed by the Loreto Nuns; the primary object of the institution is to give its pupils a sound moral training, while devoting special attention to their intellectual development. The school was founded in the year 1846 by Rev. Mother Joseph Hogan, an Irish lady from Nathfamham Abbey, Dublin, the Mother-House of the Order. Adjoining it is the Catholic Church.

It is fully recognised by the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate as a Higher Secondary School, and the course of studies embraces all the Grades of the Cambridge Examinations. Pupils are also prepared for the Practical and Theoretical Examinations in connection with Trinity College, London. Such other accomplishments as Painting, Drawing, Needlework and Languages are also taught.

QUEEN'S HILL SCHOOL, a school offering the best care and teaching for girls, with a department for little boys under 10 years of age, is a Non-Conformist institution governed by the American Methodist Mission. The school ranks as Secondary under the Bengal Educational Code. It was first opened in February 1895 under Observatory Hill, but was injured by the landslip of 1899 and subsequently removed to the south side of the station near Woodlands Hotel.

It is now housed in fine new buildings at Mount Hermon on the Tukvar Road, below St. Joseph's College, North Point. The situation is a safe and healthy one, commanding a fine view of the western valley and the snows.

Kurseong.

ST. HELEN'S CONVENT, a Higher Secondary School for Girls, is a Roman Catholic institution under the direction of the Daughters of the Cross. The Technical Department for those who have passed Standard VII, includes, in a course of three years, all the branches necessary or useful to qualify the pupils for a suitable profession. Besides the Technical Department there is a School Department, where pupils are prepared for all the Examinations in accordance with the rules and regulations of the European Code of Instruction for Bengal. Attached is St. Edmund's School for little boys under 10.

THE VICTORIA SCHOOL is an important Government institution for boys, established in 1879. Originally intended for children of Railway employés, it has since been opened to the children of Government servants and others, the last paying a higher rate of fees. There is a competent staff of teachers, and the school has both a Technical and Commercial Department in addition to the ordinary course of studies. It has accommodation for about 200 boarders.

DOW HILL SCHOOL.—This is the Girls' Department of the Government School at Kurseong, and accommodates about 125 boarders. There is in addition a Training College for 20 students attached to the school.

THE GOETHALS MEMORIAL ORPHANAGE is a Roman Catholic institution for boys in the care of the Irish Christian Brothers, and was founded to commemorate the late Archbishop Goethals of Calcutta. It is a three-storied building, completed over 20 years ago, capable of accommodating 200 boys, and has a Bakery, Dairy, Manual School, etc., attached. The course of studies is in accordance with the European Code, and pupils are also prepared for the Sibpur Engineering College, to which it is affiliated.

Miss Sylvia de Laplace has a HOME FOR MENTALLY DEFICIENT CHILDREN at Jim's Lodge.

Kalimpong.

ST. ANDREW'S COLONIAL HOMES are situated at Kalimpong, a distance of 28 miles east of Darjeeling, and have

been established for the training and education of children of poor and indigent parents of the domiciled community. Inaugurated in the year 1900, the Homes have since multiplied, and represent a very lasting monument to the work of the Church of Scotland Mission, and the Rev. Dr. Graham, C.I.E., who has been the guiding hand in their complete development.

The object of the institution is " to give the children of the domiciled community a course of training, in a healthy district and in favourable environments, such as will fit them for emigration to the Colonies and for honest labour in India. It is a well-known fact that the domiciled community deteriorates in the environments of a tropical country and oriental standards; and the object of the Homes is to break down the influence of heredity and of such environments, by removing the children at an early age to surroundings which are healthier, both physically and morally, than the towns in the plains, by teaching them the dignity of labour, and by instilling principles of self-respect, self-reliance and self-help." The system adopted is that associated in England with the names of Barnado and Quarrier. The inmates, European and Anglo-Indian boys and girls, ranging in ages from two to fifteen years, are housed in cottages, each cottage or " home " being under the supervision of two ladies, the one known as the house-mother and the other as the auntie. Special attention is paid to removing the distaste for manual labour which is characteristic of the Anglo-Indian and poor European, all the work of the cottages being done by the children, as no servants are allowed. Each of these " homes " is named either after the donor, or some community or person connected with its foundation. There is a Woodburn Cottage, an Elliot Cottage, a Hart Cottage, an Edinburgh Cottage, a Canadian Cottage, a Borissa Cottage, and many more.

In addition to this system of homes, there is attached an important educational department, which constitutes in itself one of the largest European Secondary Schools in India. Apart from the school buildings it comprises workshops, a gymnasium, a swimming bath, a farmstead, a kitchen-garden, a clothing section, store-rooms, and a well-equipped hospital.

The institution is under the auspices of the Church of

Scotland, and conducted by a Board of Management consisting of officials, planters, missionaries, and merchants.

Kalimpong has expanded a lot within the last few years, and now boasts of two hotels. It will, in time, be a popular hill-station.

SHIKAR.

BEARS are found both on the higher spurs and the lower ranges; Leopards are found in the hills; and a few Elephants and Tigers are met with in the Terai.—*See* page 67.

CHAPTER VIII

THE DISTRICT OF DARJEELING

THE Darjeeling District is situated to the north of the Purnea and Rungpore *zillas*, and is the most northerly portion of the Bhagalpur Division. It lies between 26° 31′ 50″ and 27° 13′ 5″ north latitude, and between 88° 2′ 45″ and 88° 56′ 35″ east longitude. It contains a total area, according to a return by the Surveyor-General of India, of 1,164 square miles; and is divided into two portions—the northern, consisting of a succession of hill and valley with an average of from 4,000 to 9,000 feet above the sea level, and the southern (or Morung), of the skirts of the first range of the Himalaya, and the plains lying between that and the *zilla* of Rungpore. On the north the rivers Ramman, Great Rangit and Tista divide the district from Sikhim, on the east the rivers De-chee and Ne-chee separate it from Bhutan, on the west the river Mechi and a lofty chain of hills divide it from Nepal. From the source of the Mechi northward, the ridge of the Tonglu and Phalut mountains carries the western boundary north to the river Ramman; to the south the district is contiguous with the *zillas* of Rungpore and Purnea.

The southern tract, called the Morung, formerly belonged to Sikhim. Its total area is 4,000 square miles. The upper portion of the Morung, lying immediately at the base of the mountains, is covered with forest and jungle, but much of it is suited for the growth of cotton, as well as of tea. It has a very fertile soil, and is inhabited by two tribes, the Mechis and the Dhimals. These tribes do not suffer from the unhealthy character of the Terai, but get ill at once on leaving it for the open plains, or the mountains. They are much diminished now, having become absorbed in a great measure with the other tribes employed in the tea industry, many also having left the district to settle in Jalpaiguri and other places.

HISTORY.—The history of the tract of land now called British Sikhim is decidedly interesting. The earliest inhabitants of this country were the Rong-pa (ravine folk)—better known as Lepchas—probably a tribe of Indo-Chinese

origin. When or how they emigrated to Sikhim is unknown. The reigning family however is Tibetan, and claims descent from one of the Gyalpos, or princelings, of Chinese Tibet. Their ancestors found their way westwards from Lhasa and Sakya, and thence down the Am-mochu Valley. Finally Penchoo Namygé, who was born at Gangtok in 1641, aided by Lha-tsan Lama and two other priests of the Duk-pa (or Red-hat) sect of Tibet, overcame the Lepcha Chiefs, established a firm Government, and introduced Buddhist Lamaism as the state religion. His son, Tensung Namygé, very largely extended his kingdom, but much of it was lost in the succeeding reign of Chak-dor Namygé (1700-1717), who however is credited with having designed the alphabet now in use amongst the Lepchas.

In the beginning of the 18th century Bhutan appropriated a large tract of country on the east. Between 1776 and 1792 Sikhim was constantly at war with the victorious Gurkhas, who were however driven out of part of their conquests by the Chinese, in 1792. In 1817, the bulk of Sikhim was restored to the Sikhimputtee Rajah by the British (to whom it was ceded by the Nepalese after their defeat by General Ochterlony). The object in restoring Sikhim was to hedge in Nepal by an ally and prevent her extending her boundary towards the east. The Sikhimese Rajah refused from time to time to carry out his obligations, and in 1841, 1861 and 1888 British expeditions were sent to enforce them. Eventually, in 1890, a convention was concluded with China, whereby the British Protectorate over Sikhim was acknowledged.

About the month of February 1828, Mr. J. W. Grant, C.S., then Resident at Malda, and Capt. Lloyd, employed in settling the boundary between Nepal and Sikhim, made an excursion as far as Chontong (a few miles west of Darjeeling), and were struck with the idea of the suitability of the latter place for a sanitarium. These gentlemen brought the matter to the notice of the Governor-General, Lord William Bentinck.

Major Herbert, Deputy Surveyor-General, was then directed to survey the Sikhim hills, which he did with a party in 1830; he concluded his survey during the season, and submitted his reports to Government. These reports were forwarded to the Directors of the East India Company,

who directed that the Indian Government should establish, if possible, a sanitarium at Darjeeling for the benefit of the troops, and also as a permanent cantonment. Some time was lost in the necessary arrangements, but in 1835, the tract of land including Darjeeling and the western and north-western slopes from Senchal, and the approaches to the plains, was ceded by Treaty with the Rajah of Sikhim, the British Government granting him a compensation of Rs. 3,000 a year. The following is the deed of grant which conveyed this valuable tract of land into the hands of the British for a mere nominal compensation :—

" The Governor-General having expressed a desire for the possession of the hill of Darjeeling, on account of its cool climate, for the purpose of enabling the servants of his Government suffering from sickness to avail themselves of its advantages—

" I, the Sikhimputtee Rajah, out of friendship to the said Governor-General, hereby present Darjeeling to the East India Company, that is, all the land south of the Great Rangit river, east of Balasun, Kahail, and Little Rangit rivers, and west of the Rungpo and Mahanuddy rivers.

" Seal of the Rajah affixed to the document.

" Dated 9th Maugh, Sumbut, 1891 (answering to our A.D. 1835)."

The station was inaugurated by Captain Lloyd (in charge of N.-E. frontier) and Dr. Chapman going up to Darjeeling and living there, exploring, building, clearing, etc. In 1839, Captain Lloyd made over the station to Dr. Campbell, who having been Resident at Nepal for some time, was transferred to Darjeeling as its first Superintendent.

The Morung portion of the district, as also the Rs. 3,000 a year, was taken from the Rajah of Sikhim in 1849, in consequence of his having seized and detained in confinement, without any tenable reason, two British subjects; *viz.*, Dr. Campbell, the Superintendent of the district, and Dr. Hooker, the well-known naturalist, whilst they were on a botanical and geological tour and travelling peaceably through the country.*

*An interesting account of this is given in Dr. Hooker's " Himalayan Journals."

When Dr. Campbell took charge there were not more than twenty families in the whole tract of hills. To him is due the present prosperity of the settlement; he was Superintendent for twenty-two years, and during that time made roads, bridged torrents, organized the bazar, built houses, the cutcherry, and church, a convalescent depôt at Jalapahar for soldiers, etc., introduced English flowers and fruits, experimented on tea seed being grown, encouraged commerce and created a revenue.

SOIL.—The soil is stiff red or yellow clay, with gneiss rock lying under it, and in some places coming to the surface. Gneiss crumbled in the form of sand is met with in different parts of the hills. Where the jungle has not been cleared, there is a fine surface soil of vegetable mould, ranging from six to twelve inches in depth. This yields one or two fair crops; where, however, the vegetable soil is washed away by the rains, little is left but the primitive clay, with here and there the bald rock standing out.

BOTANY.—"The Sikhim territory abounds with the following timber, fruits, and flowering trees and plants. From 12,000 to 10,000 feet above the sea level are found fir trees (*abies webbiana*), dwarf rhododendron, aromatic rhododendron, several other sorts of rhododendrons, juniper, holly, red currant bushes, cherry trees, pear, daphne or paper tree, potentilla, creeping raspberry, hypericune, ranunculus, geranium, veronica, polyanthus, one buff-coloured and two lilac primroses, violets, dack, *aconitum palmatum* or bikh plant, and *aconitum ferox* (from the root of which a deadly poison is extracted), dwarf cheem bamboo, iris, anemone (blue and white), arisanna, balsam, heartsease, and two kinds of grass, carex, moss and lichens.

"From 10,000 to 9,000 feet, oak, chestnut, magnolia, arboreous rhododendron, michelia or chumpa, olive, fig (*ficus gooloorea*), laurel (cinnamonum and cassia), barberry, maple, nettles, lily of the valley, cheem bamboo, rue, rhubarb, *androumela celastrus*, and white rose.

"From 9,000 to 8,000 feet, maple, rhododendron, michelia, oak, laurels, lime trees, dogwood, verbeneum, hydrangea, helwingia, ginseng, symplocus, celastrus, and vaccinium serpens.

"From 8,000 to 6,500 feet, elder, peach, oak, chestnut, maple, alder, michelia, olive, walnut, toon, hydrangea,

birch, holly, erythrina, magnolia, all the English flowers, rue, raspberry, strawberry, rhubarb, potato, hypericum polygona (of many kinds and forming the principal undergrowth in Darjeeling), wild ginger, osbechia, brambles, thunbergia, and wormwood (*artemesia santonine*).

"From 6,500 to 4,000 feet—6,500 feet is the upper limit of palms, alder, oak, maple, birch, acacia, dalbergia, terminalia, tree fern, plantain, wild vine, bignonia, holly, elder, barbadoes cherry tree, olive, hydrangea, pear trees, pepper, pothos covering whole trees, menisperma, helwingia, pendulpus mosses, lichens, arums of many kinds, arisooema, calami or rattan, caryota palm, aquilaria, myrsine, eubelia, ardisia, sonucratia; 5,000 feet is about the upper limit of cultivation for rice, barley, two species of buckwheat, murwah, Indian-corn, junera, yam, brinjal, bhang, fennel, cummin, mint, and rue.

"From 4,000 to 1,000 feet, gordonia, pandanus, sâl, toon, bombax or cotton tree, banian and other figs, orange, peach, pine (*pinus longifolia*), banana, lemon, and wormwood 12 feet in height.

"From 1,000 feet to the plains, figs of five kinds, date trees (*phœnix*), wallichia, caryotoides, cycas pectinata, twelve kinds of bamboo, phylanthus emblica, grislea, marlea, sterculia, trophis sissen, butea, mimosa, catechu, soap worts, terebenthaceæ, symplocus, climbing leguminosa, cucurbitacea, wild mulberry, three kinds of nettle, boehmeria, euphorbia, turmeric, ginger, many kinds of grass in the Morung, some 20 feet in height, terrestrial orchids, ferns, bondellata, randia, and oak."

Nearly all the above are marked according to Dr. Hooker. There are several species of oak; five are known as yielding good timber, but the oak of the Himalayas cannot compete with the sturdy British oak. The damp appears to deprive it of the strength and durability for which its English namesake is famous. Chestnut is an excellent wood, used for building purposes. The nut is small and sweet. Birch, two species. Maple, two species. Sâl, which is one of the best Indian woods, grows abundantly in the neighbourhood of Punkabari. It is also found on the other side of Darjeeling, near the Rangit. Toon grows to a large size in the lower districts. The late Maharajah of Sikhim took advantage of the suitability of this particular

tree to the climate of his State, and has planted double lines of these along most of the principal roads. This very praiseworthy action has borne fruit, and the majority of the beautiful routes in Sikhim are most pleasantly shaded by these fine trees.

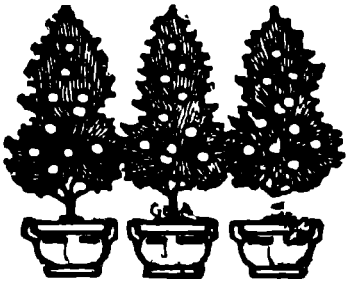
The wild mango grows between Kurseong and Punkabari. The fruit is small, cylindrical in form, and has not much of the flavour of the mango of the plains. Rhododendron, white and red, abound, though Darjeeling appears to be about the lowest elevation at which these shrubs grow luxuriantly. There is quite a forest of them on Tonglu. It grows to a gigantic size, and flowers in April and May. The wood is white, light and durable. Walnut, a very handsome wood, is used for furniture and house-building. Champ, a yellow cross-grained wood, is excellent for ceiling, flooring, chimney-pieces, doors and windows. Magnolia, a large handsome tree, white-flowered and highly scented, flowers in the spring, permeating the atmosphere with its fragrance.

The "lotus tree" so called, a large handsome tree, flowers in the spring; it bears a profusion of large lotus-like pink flowers. When in full bloom, this tree is really the queen of the forest; it belongs to the genus magnolia. Sycamore is somewhat like the plane tree. The wood is good. The hill-people use the leaves as a substitute for tea. Holly is a large handsome plant, especially so in the winter, when it is in full leaf and its branches covered in scarlet berries. There is a species of olive—the fruit is as large as a plum. The wood, though not durable, is used for door-posts and out-buildings. Semul, well-known in the plains for its cotton, grows at an elevation of 3,500 feet. Figs, two species, edible, ripen in August. The pimento tree bears a spicy berry, which has somewhat the flavour of strong orange peel; it is used medicinally by the local tribes.

There are three species of the paper tree, the yellow, white, and scarlet flowered. The yellow flowered thrives at an elevation of about 5,000 feet. The paper made from this tree is coarse and dark coloured. The whitish and pink is abundant; this thrives in a belt embracing 2,000 feet in elevation, that of Darjeeling, 7,257 feet, being the centre; it is the most prolific of its species. The scarlet flowered is found on higher elevations such as Senchal.

Olea fragrans is abundant about Darjeeling: it is sweet-scented, and flowers in October. Pines are found near the Rangit. Wild cherry is abundant below Darjeeling. The barberry is indigenous to the district, the fruit is equal to British fruit, the wood is green, and used for dyeing purposes. There is also a yellow, durable wood, very offensive when fresh cut, called by some "stinkwood."

The tea plant is not indigenous to the Darjeeling district, it was introduced in 1856. Both the cultivation of tea and of cinchona (introduced by Government in 1862) are now of such importance that a description of these will be found in a separate chapter.



TEA.

TEA was first planted in this district by Dr. Campbell, the first Superintendent of Darjeeling, in his garden at Beechwood. The seeds were of the China variety. For a description of Tea Cultivation, *see* Chapter X.

QUININE

Is manufactured at the Munsong and Mongpoo plantations. For an account, *see* page 75 on.

CHAPTER IX

RIVERS, MOUNTAINS, MINERALS, ZOOLOGY

RIVERS.—The principal rivers are the Tista and Mahanady, which, with their numerous affluents, form the main drainage of the country.

The Tista takes its rise in Cholamo Lake in Sikhim; it is also said to have another source below Kangchenjunga. After passing through and draining Independent Sikhim, it touches the British district of Darjeeling on its northern frontier, marking the boundary between Darjeeling and Sikhim for some distance, till it receives the waters of the Great Rangit, where it turns to the south, and after flowing through the hill portion of the district, passes through the Jalpaiguri and Rungpore districts, and finally falls into the Brahmaputra below Bagwa in Rungpore. It has a course of upwards of ninety miles. The principal tributaries of the Tista within Darjeeling, on its left bank, are the Ranchu, which falls into it on the northern boundary, and the Roli, which flows through the north-eastern part of the district; and on its right bank the Great Rangit, which, after flowing through Independent Sikhim, joins the Tista on the northern boundary of the district.

The banks of the Tista are precipitous; its bed is rocky in the hills and sandy in the plains. The summits of its banks are clothed with forests of sâl and other trees. It is not fordable within the Darjeeling district at any time of the year. It is a magnificent stream; and a ride along the banks of the Tista through the Darjeeling hills, from Savoke at the base of the mountains, upwards to the confluence of the river with the Great Rangit on the boundary of the district, well repays a lover of the picturesque. The Tista Valley Extension of the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway now runs along this route from Siliguri to Kalimpong Road, the station for Kalimpong. From the train beautiful views of the valley may be obtained.

The Mahanady has its source near Mahaldiram hill. After leaving the hills, it forms the boundary line between the Terai and Jalpaiguri to Phansideva, in the extreme south-east of the district. After leaving Darjeeling the

Mahanady passes through Purnea and Malda, and finally falls into the Ganges at Godagari, just within the borders of the Rajshahi district. Its banks are sloping, and, in the lower part of the Terai, cultivated: in the hills they are covered with trees and jungle. The bed of the river is rocky or sandy, according as it flows through the hills or plains. There is a strange peculiarity about this river; soon after it emerges from the hills it loses itself in the sandy soil, and only appears again after a distance of four miles or thereabouts; but this phenomenon is only seen during the cold season. The river is fordable only during the cold weather.

The Great Rangit rises in Independent Sikhim and has its source at the foot of Kangchenjunga. Its affluents are the Rangno, the Little Rangit, and the Ramman, which meet it about its junction with the Tista. The river from the point where the Ramman flows into it to its junction with the Tista, forms the northern boundary of British Sikhim. The Rangit is not navigable, being purely a mountain stream; its banks are shelving and covered with forest or jungle.

The best time to see this river in all its grandeur is during the rains when it is full of water, but it is well worth seeing at any period of the year, as it is really a noble stream, and during the cold season is crystal clear. It is full of fish, and the capture of gigantic mahseer has been known; but somehow, the Indian barbel in this river is either too well-fed or too cunning to respond readily to the " voice of the charmer " with a fishing rod in his hand, and the brethren of the angle who have tried to circumvent him, have generally returned home with empty creels. The mahseer has been usually accounted for with a spoon-bait, and this is really the only lure that will take a " rise " out of him.

The Ramman takes its rise in the Singalela range, which forms the western boundary of the district, separating it from Nepal. It first touches Darjeeling in the extreme north-west of the district, whence it flows along the northern boundary from west to east until it falls into the Great Rangit. Its bed is also stony or rocky, and it is not fordable at any time of the year.

The *Chota* or Little Rangit takes its rise under Tonglu in the Singalela mountains on the borders of Nepal, and

eventually falls into the Great Rangit on its right bank. Its bed is the same as the other rivers, but it is fordable in many places in the dry and cold months. These last named rivers have several tributaries, but they are little more than mountain streams.

The next large river is the Balasun, which takes its rise at Jagat Lepcha, a few miles to the south-west of the station of Darjeeling. When it enters the Terai it divides into two streams, one, called the New Balasun, which branches off and joins the Mahanady on its right bank just below Siliguri; the original, the Old Balasun, continues its course southwards until it passes out of the Terai into the Purnea district. The new channel is said to have been formed some thirty years ago by the Mechs damming up the streams for the purposes of fishing. This river has many tributaries both in the hills and in the plains. It can be forded in several places in the cold and dry months.

The Mechi takes its rise in the Singalela range, on the Nepal frontier. It marks the western boundary of the district from its source, flowing in a southerly course till it passes into the Purnea district. The river is fordable throughout the year, except immediately after heavy rains.

There are also two other tolerably large rivers; the Rilli, a tributary of the Tista, into which it falls after taking a south-westerly course, and the Jaldhaka, a stream marking the eastern boundary of the hilly tract, which it separates from the Bhutan State, and also from the Western Duars within the Jalpaiguri district. A fine view of the Rilli and the valley through which it runs may be seen from Kalimpong. There are two small lakes in the district, one lies about six miles south-west of Hope Town, the other (called Ramtal) is a few miles east of the Tista, and is 550 yards long by 200 yards broad.

MOUNTAINS.—The best description of the mountains of Sikhim and the Darjeeling district is to be found in Dr. Hooker's "Himalayan Journals." These were published as long ago as 1854, but are still the most authoritative account of the natural features of this country. The following outline is based on this description. The most striking feature of Sikhim is Kangchenjunga, the second highest mountain in the world. It lies in its north-west corner, and rises 28,178 feet above the level of the sea. An

immense spur, sixty miles long, stretches south from Kangchenjunga to the plains of India. It is called the Singalela range and separates Sikhim from East Nepal; the waters from its west bank flow into the Tambar, and those from the east into the Great Rangit, a feeder of the Tista. Between these two latter rivers is a second spur from Kangchenjunga terminating in Tendong. The eastern boundary of Sikhim, separating it from Bhutan, is formed by the greater part of the Chola range, which stretches south from the immense mountain of Donkhya, 23,136 feet high, 50 miles E. N. E. of Kangchenjunga. Where the frontier approaches the plains of India, the boundary line follows the course of the Tista and Rungpo, one of its feeders, flowing from the Chola range. This range is much loftier than Singalela. The Donkhya mountain, though five thousand feet lower than Kangchenjunga, is the culminating point of a much more extensive and elevated mountain mass. It throws off an immense spur from its north-west face, which runs first west and then south-west to Kangchenjunga, forming the watershed of all the remote sources of the Tista. This spur has a mean elevation of from 18,000 to 19,000 feet, and several of its peaks rise much higher.*

Sikhim consists of a mass of mountainous spurs. There are no flat valleys or plains in the whole country, no lakes or precipices of any consequence below that elevation. Viewed from a distance on the plains of India, Sikhim presents the appearance—common to all mountainous countries—of consecutive parallel ridges, which run east and west. These are backed by a beautiful range of snowy peaks, with occasional breaks in the foremost ranges, through which the rivers debouch. Any view of the Himalayas, especially at a distance sufficient for the remote snowy peaks to be seen over-topping the outer ridges, is, however, rare, from the constant deposition of the vapours over the forest-clad ranges during the greater part of the year, and the haziness of the dry atmosphere of the plains in the winter months. At the end of the rains, when the south-east monsoon has ceased to blow with constancy,

* For heights of the chief peaks, and distances from Darjeeling, *see* page facing Frontispiece.

views are obtained sometimes from a distance of nearly two hundred miles.

From the plains, the highest peaks subtend to so small an angle, that they appear like white specks very low on the horizon, tipping the black lower and outer ranges, which always rise out of a belt of haze, and probably from the density of the lower strata of the atmosphere never seem to rest on the visible horizon.

From the point of view of the picturesque, scenery more sublime, more stupendous, more charming, more varied, both of mountains, hills, valleys, and rivers, could not well be imagined. Even a partial survey of these beauties of nature well repays the traveller for any toil and trouble he may take in order to see this magnificent country.

MINERALS.—Iron and copper are found, and in some places these are worked by the inhabitants, but in a primitive and perfunctory manner. Coal exists in many places throughout the district; it was first pointed out by Dr. Hooker, who called the attention of the Bengal Government to it as far back as 1849. Since then the seams have been explored by members of the Geological Survey, but no practical use has hitherto been made of the knowledge gained. Lime is obtained by burning calcareous turfa, and quarries of this stone are worked. The turfa rock is nearly all pure carbonate of lime. It is found near the cart road in Darjeeling, and in several water-courses a few miles from the plains; also on the east bank of the Mahanady, as well as in many other places in and around the district.

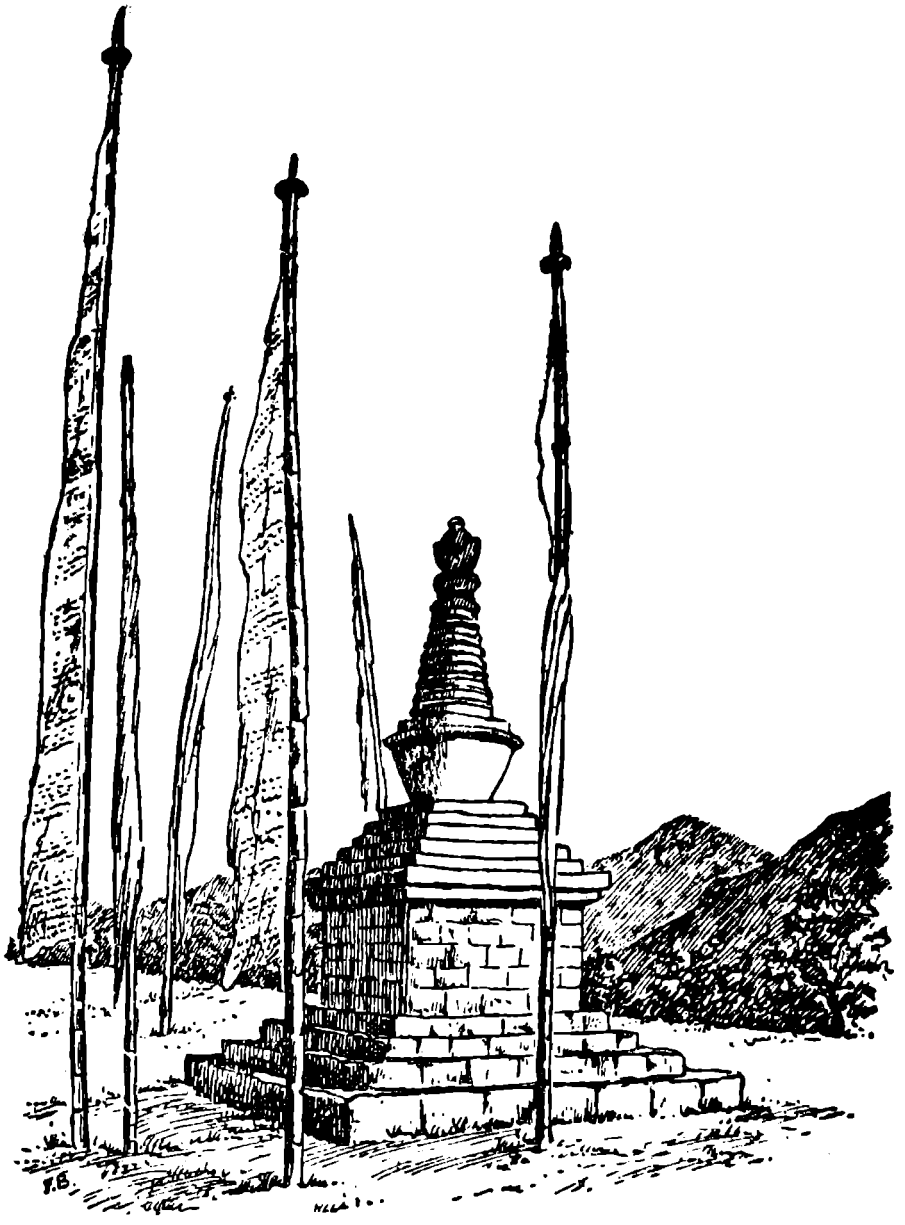
ZOOLOGY.—There is not an abundance of any kind of game in the hilly district; bears are found both on the higher spurs and the lower ranges, especially when the maize crop is ripening. The hill bear is inordinately fond of maize, and this season is the time for the sportsman to be in wait for his appearance; leopards are found in the hills; and a few elephants and tigers are met with in the Terai. In the Jalpaiguri division, tigers, rhinoceros, buffaloes, leopards, bears, red stag, sambhur, deer, and wild hogs abound; a few wolves are also seen. Tigers have occasionally been killed near Kurseong,—an elevation of 5,000 feet. The mahseer, or "Indian salmon," is to be caught in the Tista river.

The small game found in the Terai district comprises hare, jungle-fowl, florican, partridge of two kinds, peacock, snipe, woodcock, wild duck, wild goose, and green pigeon. In the neighbourhood of Darjeeling green pigeons are plentiful in the rains, and near Kalimpong in the cold weather woodcock may be shot. In the wooded valleys the barking deer is tolerably plentiful, and an occasional pig may be met with. The latter have also been shot within a few miles of the station.

The inevitable pariah dog and jackal occur, making night and morn hideous here, as in the plains. There is also an immense number of lizards, scorpions, centipedes, and a small brown insect somewhat resembling the latter, but quite harmless, with this peculiarity, that on a touch it rolls itself into a ball so hard and round, one might almost play at marbles with it. Snakes are rather plentiful in the forests, few are venomous, although at least four varieties of vipers have been found. Fleas and flies of varied size and intensely rapacious nature, enforce notice by their too pressing attentions, in which they are not at all discriminating, attacking alike "the gentle and the simple," and in every possible way defying all measures taken to circumvent them. There is also the peepsa, a minute insect that abounds in the valleys on the river banks, and looks no larger than a black speck floating before the eyes. Its nature is eminently bloodthirsty, and its size most disproportionate to its bite.

The leeches may here be mentioned. During the rains they lie in wait for the passer-by, whether man or beast, and are generally found in grass jungle or on the leaves of trees. They are a great curse to the unfortunate cattle which are turned out to graze in the forests, and it is no uncommon thing to see a whole herd of cattle bleeding profusely from their noses, the result of leech bites. The legs are the favourite place of attack in the human subject, and only double-tongued boots with well-tied-on putties will keep them out. In those places which are noted for these pests a putti *over* a stocking may be tried. The slimy villain may penetrate the putti, but when underneath this he finds a stocking intervening, he is said to think better of it and drop off. Common salt is the leech's greatest enemy, and a pinch of this applied at the right moment will generally

cause him to change his plans and go elsewhere. Fortunately with people in good health the bites give rise to little or no irritation, if only they are not scratched, although in people whose health is indifferent troublesome sores are sometimes originated by the bites of these pests. There is another and larger variety of leech which appears to have its habitat in the hill streams; this attaches itself to the noses of ponies high up, and is often very difficult to get rid of.



CHAIT AND PRAYER FLAGS.

CHAPTER X

TEA AND CINCHONA CULTIVATION, FORESTRY

AVERY brisk trade is carried on between Darjeeling, Sikhim, Bhutan and Tibet.

The chief imports from Sikhim are grain, fruit, vegetables, nuts, pulse, spices, ghi, hides and cattle; and the chief exports to Sikhim are rice, provisions, cotton piece goods, salt, cattle and tobacco. The principal articles of import from Bhutan are wax, wool, musk, cattle, ponies and ghi; and the principal exports to Bhutan are betel-nuts, tobacco, cotton piece goods and rice.

The imports from Tibet mainly consist of raw wool, horses, ponies and mules, silver, musk and yak-tails. The exports include silver, indigo, tobacco, cotton piece goods, brass and copper.

Most of the sturdy little ponies one sees in and about Darjeeling have been imported through Bhutan and Sikhim from Tibet. There is also a large trade in chiretta, and enormous numbers of oranges pass through Darjeeling in the cold weather, on their way from Independent Sikhim to the plains.

TEA CULTIVATION.—This industry is one of the most important in the Darjeeling district, and employs a large number of Europeans, as well as a host of native tea-makers and coolies. In fact it may be safely asserted that the European tea-planter has done more to develop the natural resources of this beautiful country within a short space of years, than could be accomplished in centuries without his aid.

The first tea-seeds in this district were planted by Dr. Campbell, the first Superintendent of Darjeeling, in his garden at Beechwood. The seeds were of the China variety, and the older parts of all the original gardens were planted with China seed. Attempts were made to introduce tea cultivation into Darjeeling some time previously to 1853, when two or three small gardens existed, but the real date of the commencement of the industry on a large scale is

COOLIE WITH TEA CHEST. 70

71 COOLIE PLUCKING TEA.

from the years 1856-57. The earlier planters had to grope about a good deal in the dark owing to want of practical experience; they consequently made many serious mistakes, and their ventures did not meet with success.

The following is a brief description of tea cultivation. Having obtained a suitable block of land, if possible with water power available, and not too far off a main road, and arrangements having been made for an adequate supply of good seed (Assam indigenous for choice) and a sufficient supply of labour, operations commence about the middle of October. The first thing to be done is to clear the land for planting. This is done by firing the undergrowth when it is sufficiently dry to burn freely. The heavy timber (if any) is singed and left standing for a time, or felled at once and sawn into scantlings for future buildings, such as bungalows, factories, etc., and into thin planking for tea chests, and the inferior species into charcoal. The jungle having been burned, the coolies are set to work to grub out roots, and afterwards to hoe the entire surface to be planted to a depth of from one-and-a-half to two feet. Roads are then marked out and the land is staked off with bamboo stakes at a distance of from four to five feet apart, to indicate where the tea plants are to be. Holes 18 inches deep by one foot in diameter are next dug at each of the stakes, in which the surface soil is to be placed. This work is usually finished by the end of November. One or two seeds are now planted in the holes (although some people plant as many as three or four), and are pushed down to the depth of an inch. They are then covered over with loose soil. This is known as " Seed-at-stake " planting, the alternative method being to plant out approved healthy, vigorous and well-grown seedlings from nurseries.

" Nurseries " are formed at the same time at places where irrigation is possible, and sown with seed closely planted. These nurseries are intended as a reserve, from which young plants can be removed during the rainy season to fill up any vacancies that may be caused by any of the seed in the staked-out plot not having germinated.

The garden having been planted, the next thing to do is to erect some permanent buildings, such as a bungalow for the manager, with the necessary out-buildings and houses

for the coolies. All that now remains to be done is to keep the planted land clear of weeds, and to fill in vacancies with "transplants" from the nurseries during the rainy season.

In the third year all the plants should be from 2 feet 6 inches to 4 or 5 feet high, according to the variety of seed sown. The China is the slowest and the Assam the quickest grower. They are then pruned down to about 8 inches from the ground, in order to promote the growth of new wood and tender shoots and form a wide spreading bushy plant. Pruning is done between November and February, when the sap is down, and this is an operation requiring great care and attention from all concerned. About a month or six weeks after pruning, according to weather, elevation, and aspect, the new shoots are on an average six to eight inches long and can now be picked; and from this period throughout the rains successive "flushes," *i.e.*, new shoots, make their appearance at intervals varying from fifteen to twenty days, according to soil, weather, elevation, and system of pruning adopted.

The tea plant is said to "flush" when it throws out new shoots and leaves. A well cultivated garden planted with a good *jat* of plant not too far apart, should give in its fifth or sixth year about 240 lbs. of manufactured tea per acre; which is reckoned as being equivalent to 960 lbs. of green leaf brought into the factory. The outturn increases steadily until the twelfth year, when the bush has arrived at maturity. The yield will then be from 320 to 600 lbs. per acre, according to elevation. It is a fallacy to suppose that a tea plant will give a larger crop than this steadily year after year. It is true that as much as from 700 lbs. to 900 lbs. an acre have been reached, but the results to the planters have been disastrous in every case. The tea made has been coarse, has consequently sold for prices which hardly paid for manufacture, and the trees have required many years of careful nursing to recover from such rough treatment. Pruning is now steadily and systematically carried on during the cold weather, and the gardens, as a rule, are deep forked twice or oftener during the dry months, and are kept clean and free from jungle growth by hand-weeding and sickling during the rains, when a serious loss of soil by wash and

erosion would result from disturbing the soil on the hilly slopes.

As soon as the flush is in a sufficiently advanced stage, as many women and children as are needed are employed to take it off the bushes before it has time to get hard, as the younger and more succulent the leaf, the better will be the tea manufactured from it. The principle in plucking is to leave the bud at the axis of the leaf down to which the shoot is plucked intact, as from this axis the next " flush " starts. Only the top of each shoot is plucked to the extent of two (and rarely a third) leaves and the bud, as it is an axiom accepted by all planters that " fine " plucking produces the best and, therefore, the most remunerative tea.

After manufacture the tea is graded by means of a mechanical sieve with several different lengths of gauged wire-meshing, which separate the tea according to size into the following classifications, given in order of merit :— 1, Flowery Orange Pekoe; 2, Orange Pekoe; 3, Pekoe; 4, Pekoe Souchong.

The small flaky particles of these grades are again removed by a winnowing process, and become :—1, Broken Orange Pekoe; 2, Broken Pekoe; 3, Pekoe Fannings; 4, Dust.

At 5 o'clock in the evening the factory gong rings and the pluckers hasten in with their baskets of leaf, which is carefully weighed and examined.

The leaf is then spread out thinly (under cover) on trays or racks made of bamboo, canvas, or wire netting, in order to allow the leaf to wither. If the leaf is brought dry to the factory it is usually withered by early morning. The best tests, by which it is known whether the leaf is sufficiently withered, are the following :—Fresh leaf gathered in the hand and held near the ear gives a crackling sound, but no sound should be heard from properly withered leaf. The stalk of withered leaf will bend double without breaking; this the fresh stalk will not do.

When sufficiently withered to roll without breaking, the leaf is put into rolling machines and rolled; the length of this operation varies, according to whether the leaf is soft or hard, from one to two hours. The object of rolling is to crush the leaves so as to liberate their juices and so start the fermenting process, and also to roll the leaves

for the coolies. All that now remains to be done is to keep the planted land clear of weeds, and to fill in vacancies with "transplants" from the nurseries during the rainy season.

In the third year all the plants should be from 2 feet 6 inches to 4 or 5 feet high, according to the variety of seed sown. The China is the slowest and the Assam the quickest grower. They are then pruned down to about 8 inches from the ground, in order to promote the growth of new wood and tender shoots and form a wide spreading bushy plant. Pruning is done between November and February, when the sap is down, and this is an operation requiring great care and attention from all concerned. About a month or six weeks after pruning, according to weather, elevation, and aspect, the new shoots are on an average six to eight inches long and can now be picked; and from this period throughout the rains successive "flushes," *i.e.*, new shoots, make their appearance at intervals varying from fifteen to twenty days, according to soil, weather, elevation, and system of pruning adopted.

The tea plant is said to "flush" when it throws out new shoots and leaves. A well cultivated garden planted with a good *jat* of plant not too far apart, should give in its fifth or sixth year about 240 lbs. of manufactured tea per acre; which is reckoned as being equivalent to 960 lbs. of green leaf brought into the factory. The outturn increases steadily until the twelfth year, when the bush has arrived at maturity. The yield will then be from 320 to 600 lbs. per acre, according to elevation. It is a fallacy to suppose that a tea plant will give a larger crop than this steadily year after year. It is true that as much as from 700 lbs. to 900 lbs. an acre have been reached, but the results to the planters have been disastrous in every case. The tea made has been coarse, has consequently sold for prices which hardly paid for manufacture, and the trees have required many years of careful nursing to recover from such rough treatment. Pruning is now steadily and systematically carried on during the cold weather, and the gardens, as a rule, are deep forked twice or oftener during the dry months, and are kept clean and free from jungle growth by hand-weeding and sickling during the rains, when a serious loss of soil by wash and

erosion would result from disturbing the soil on the hilly slopes.

As soon as the flush is in a sufficiently advanced stage, as many women and children as are needed are employed to take it off the bushes before it has time to get hard, as the younger and more succulent the leaf, the better will be the tea manufactured from it. The principle in plucking is to leave the bud at the axis of the leaf down to which the shoot is plucked intact, as from this axis the next " flush " starts. Only the top of each shoot is plucked to the extent of two (and rarely a third) leaves and the bud, as it is an axiom accepted by all planters that " fine " plucking produces the best and, therefore, the most remunerative tea.

After manufacture the tea is graded by means of a mechanical sieve with several different lengths of gauged wire-meshing, which separate the tea according to size into the following classifications, given in order of merit :— 1, Flowery Orange Pekoe; 2, Orange Pekoe; 3, Pekoe; 4, Pekoe Souchong.

The small flaky particles of these grades are again removed by a winnowing process, and become :—1, Broken Orange Pekoe; 2, Broken Pekoe; 3, Pekoe Fannings; 4, Dust.

At 5 o'clock in the evening the factory gong rings and the pluckers hasten in with their baskets of leaf, which is carefully weighed and examined.

The leaf is then spread out thinly (under cover) on trays or racks made of bamboo, canvas, or wire netting, in order to allow the leaf to wither. If the leaf is brought dry to the factory it is usually withered by early morning. The best tests, by which it is known whether the leaf is sufficiently withered, are the following :—Fresh leaf gathered in the hand and held near the ear gives a crackling sound, but no sound should be heard from properly withered leaf. The stalk of withered leaf will bend double without breaking; this the fresh stalk will not do.

When sufficiently withered to roll without breaking, the leaf is put into rolling machines and rolled; the length of this operation varies, according to whether the leaf is soft or hard, from one to two hours. The object of rolling is to crush the leaves so as to liberate their juices and so start the fermenting process, and also to roll the leaves

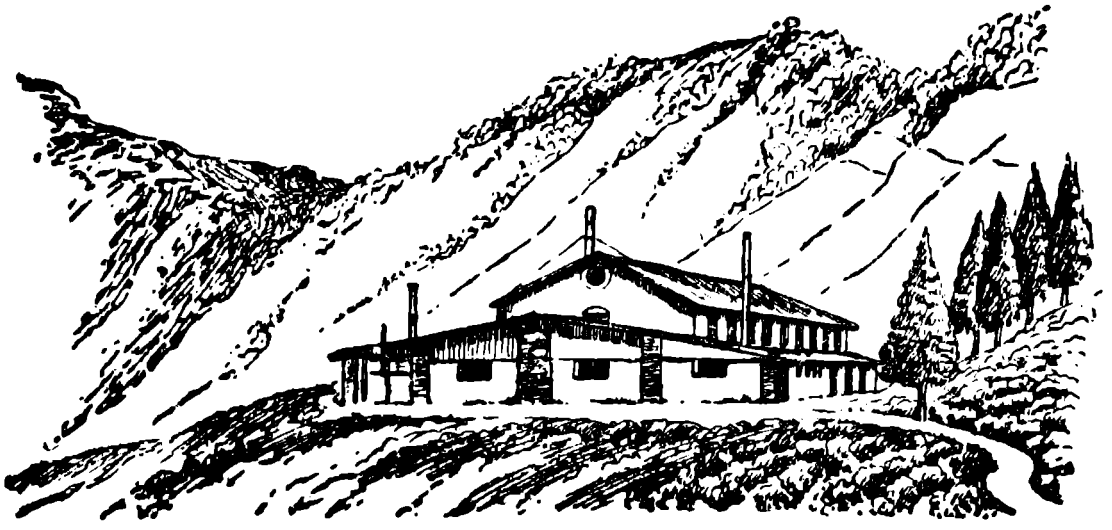
up into the thin thread-like particles so well known to us as tea.

The leaf is then taken out of the machine, and it will be found that much of it is rolled up into balls, which balls must be broken up before the leaf is spread, otherwise the fermentation will be unequal.

The leaf is then prepared for fermentation. This is the most delicate and important of all the stages of tea-making, as on it depends the future quality of the tea. The fermentation should be stopped at the right moment, and it needs a sharp and experienced eye to tell when the proper amount of fermentation has been arrived at. The process of fermentation complete, the leaf receives a second rolling and is then placed on a trolly and transferred to the " firing " or " drying " machine. The manufacture is now complete; the leaf brought into the factory has become tea.

The tea is now left to cool, and the next process is to sift it into its separate qualities. For this purpose sieving and breaking machinery is called into use as already described. The tea is then packed in air-tight cases. As Indian tea has become so popular in both the home and foreign markets, and scientific planting and manufacture have been universally adopted,—in addition to the vast improvements arrived at in the machinery of late years, the tea industry in these hills is certain to continue in a flourishing condition.

A tea garden is well worth a visit, especially during the manufacturing season, when the different processes briefly sketched above may be seen in operation. The estates are models of neatness and order, and the planters are always willing to explain each process and the reason for it to visitors. The Nepalese coolies, too, are very interesting. In spite of a pretty liberal coating of dirt, some of the women are good-looking, and men and women alike are a happy-go-lucky lot, cheerful and in good condition. They are well paid and well housed, and each family has its little patch of cultivation rent free, on which maize and *murwah* (a sort of small millet from which they brew a very potent liquor resembling beer) are grown. That they are better off on the tea gardens than in their own country (Nepal) is proved by their immigrating into Darjeeling, and settling down there in such large numbers.



TEA GARDEN AND FACTORY.

CINCHONA CULTIVATION.—The manufacture of the celebrated Alkaloid Febrifuge is a leading industry in this district.

The plantations are situated at Munsong and Mongpoo. The former is situated about 10 miles north-east of Kalimpong and comprises the divisions of Munsong, Kashyem, Burmiak, and Sangser. The latter, which is about 12 miles south-east of Darjeeling, is composed of the Mongpoo and Sittong divisions. The road to this plantation branches off at the third mile from the Jore Bungalow on the Tukdah road. From the turning the ride is a longish one, but is most interesting, as the forest scenery along it constitutes some of the finest now remaining in this district.

As with tea there was a deal of groping about in the dark at the outset of this industry. In 1862 some cases containing a number of plants and seedlings were sent up from Calcutta. They were 15 days or more on the road and many of the plants died *en route*. The cases were then sent to Senchal of all places in the world, because some wiseacre concluded that as Cinchona grew and flourished on the higher slopes of the equatorial Andes, Senchal must be *the* place for them. Needless to say dearly bought experience proved that the climate was utterly unsuitable, so in time they were removed to Lebong. This place also proving unfit for the plants, they were moved to Rungaroon. Their migrations were then almost at an end, as finally a large

block of land, bounded on the north by the Riang river, and on the east by the Tista, was taken up as a suitable place for the new industry. This is now known as the Mongpoo plantation. That the selection was a judicious one has been amply proved by experience.

In 1862 there were 311 plants and 1,300 seedlings on the Government Cinchona plantations. The number of trees of all kinds on the plantation, at the end of the financial year 1882, was 859,323. During that year the produce of the plantation was 34,570 lbs. of dry bark; and 10,876 lbs. of febrifuge were disposed of. The total revenue of the plantation was Rs. 2,72,214, with a net profit of Rs. 1,30,338, representing a return at the rate of 13 per cent. on the capital. In addition a sum of probably nearly five lakhs of rupees was saved to Government, by the substitution of febrifuge for quinine in the public institutions of the country. At the end of the year there were 858,323 quinine producing trees on the plantations, namely, *Calisaya* (including *Ledgeriana*) 566,695, and hybrids 291,628. There was no addition during the year to the alkaloid giving trees, *succirubra.* Thus in 20 years, from a very small beginning, a splendidly successful enterprise was established, which, although it has since become somewhat less profitable, is still one of the chief industries of the district.

Many years ago an attempt was made to manufacture quinine on the spot, but like most first efforts it turned out a failure. The Government, although naturally discouraged, did not give up the effort to manufacture a cheap antipyretic locally, instead of being obliged to incur the needless expense of sending the bark home to be worked up into quinine there, and then be re-imported in that form. After numerous experiments Mr. Wood succeeded in obtaining an alkaloid from the Government bark. There was considerable opposition on the part of a portion of the " faculty " to the introduction of this alkaloid into the public institutions as a substitute for quinine, and reams of paper were wasted in exhaustive reports, trying to prove that the alkaloid was worse than useless. However, time proved that the opposition were entirely in the wrong, and it is now acknowledged that the febrifuge is quite as useful as quinine in most cases of intermittent fever. When Mr. Wood left India, Mr. Gammie took over the direction, and succeeded

in improving the quality of the amorphous alkaloid, as well as in producing an alkaloid little inferior in appearance and solubility to sulphate of quinine, while it is fully equal to it in efficacy.

From 1887, when this quinine was first produced by the factory, until 1892, the Mongpoo plantation yielded enough bark to meet the annual demand for the drug, which was never more than 4,000 lbs. But from 1892 to 1905 the demand was nearly quadrupled, the requirements being for 15,000 lbs. of quinine, while the maximum annual yield from the plantation bark never reached 9,000 lbs. The result was that large quantities of bark had to be purchased to supplement the supply. The new plantation of Munsong was therefore started, and planting commenced there in 1900-01. Both the blocks at Mongpoo and Munsong have since that date continued to expand and the output of quinine has steadily increased. In 1917, the area under cinchona was 2,405½ acres, producing a harvest of dry bark of nearly half a million pounds. From this a supply of about 21,000 lbs. of the drug was extracted and made available for the public.

The mode of extracting the febrifuge from the bark is roughly as follows:—The bark is first reduced to a coarse powder, which is then soaked in enough dilute muriatic acid to make it thoroughly moist. After soaking for a variable period, and stirring the mass occasionally, it is put into an apparatus, and is allowed to percolate with the dilute muriatic acid until the solution which drops through is nearly destitute of a bitter taste. A solution of caustic soda is then added to the liquor, and it is well stirred. The resulting precipitate is allowed to subside gradually, the supernatant liquor is drawn off, and the precipitate is thoroughly washed with cold water until the washings cease to have colour. The precipitate, with some more water added, is then heated and dilute sulphuric acid added gradually until nearly all the precipitate has been dissolved, and a neutral liquid has been obtained. The liquid is then concentrated until a film begins to form. Many details are omitted from this description for obvious reasons, but this is an outline of the various processes through which the bark has to pass before being converted into alkaloid of febrifuge.

FORESTRY.—The retimbering of these hills, already far too much denuded, as well as the preservation of the existing forest and the supply of fuel and timber, has for some years formed a very important branch of Government work. The forest reserves in this district are the Darjeeling, Kurseong, and Tista Divisions. The estimated area of the first is 24,288 acres, of the second 57,392 acres, and of the third 161,255 acres. The divisions are again sub-divided into blocks of various sizes. The forests extend from the sâl forest of the plains to the region of oaks and pines, or from an elevation of 300 to 10,000 feet above the sea level. A list of the trees growing between these elevations will be found in another chapter. The work of planting out young trees at the various elevations suitable to the growth of the numerous species, is being carried out vigorously and systematically, while nurseries have been formed in different parts of the reserves, and efficient measures have been taken for the protection of the existing timber from fires, by preventing *jhuming*, and setting apart places where travellers may camp and cook without danger of firing the forests.

MANNERS and CUSTOMS.

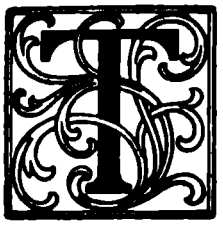
ONE of the tribes described in the following chapter are the Lepchas. They have a tradition that they are the descendants of a couple who escaped from a great flood and established themselves on the top of the mountain of Tendong, not very far from Darjeeling.

The story of the several tribes makes interesting reading.—*See* Chapter XI.

CHAPTER XI

THE HILL TRIBES

Their Manners and Customs



HE LEPCHAS.—The Lepchas or Rong-**pa** (ravine folk) are the aboriginal inhabitants of Sikhim. They are a peace-loving people who have been repeatedly conquered by the surrounding hill tribes, and now appear to be dying out. Their language has been preserved from extinction, chiefly by the efforts of General Mainwaring, but their literature was almost entirely destroyed by the Tibetans, and their traditions are rapidly being forgotten. They have a wonderful knowledge of the ways of beasts and birds, and are essentially woodmen. Once free and independent, they are now the poorest people in Sikhim, and it is from them chiefly that the cooly class is drawn. They undertake all sorts of out-of-door employment, and even for a time take domestic service, but their habits are wandering and erratic.

Their physiognomy is decidedly Mongolian, having broad flat faces, oblique eyes, and high cheek bones (like the Tartar race); and though they have broad chests, muscular calves, and well-developed arms, they are nevertheless effeminate-looking; this is owing, perhaps, in some measure, to their short stature (they rarely exceed five feet in height), small hands and feet, and almost hairless faces; the men have but a small silky down on their upper lips, which it would be an insult to call a moustache. Their hair is coal black, grows very long and thick, and is plaited into pig-tails; the women divide theirs into two tails. Their complexions are of a whitish-yellow colour.

They are a merry, free-hearted, careless race, with but little thought of the morrow, and may be seen at any time in and around Darjeeling, racing, scampering, and playing like children. They are very civil and inoffensive, but somewhat indolent; and can rarely be got to work consecutively for any length of time, though they are much valued as servants on account of their honesty. Their besetting sin is gambling; one can rarely take a walk along the Darjeeling Mall, or on the adjacent roads, without seeing detached

parties of them squatted on the ground, playing at dice, a kind of chess-draughts, and other mysterious games of chance, unknown to us. They are very fond of quoits, using pieces of slate for the purpose, which they throw with the utmost dexterity, and are great adepts at the highland game of "putting the stone." Though they always wear a long knife stuck in the girdle, they are never known to use it on each other, even in their cups (for they are addicted to an intoxicating drink called *murwah*). This same knife is used in the most wonderful manner, it serves them to cut down trees, skin animals, build huts, pare their nails, sever their food, and even pick their teeth.

Although they are said to be the original inhabitants of Sikhim, and once held vast mountain possessions, they are now however confined to the portion of the sub-Himalayas between the Nepalese and Bhutan frontiers, a narrow tract of mountain country not more than 60 miles in breadth. There is another branch of them called Khamba Lepchas, immigrants from Tibet, who have intermarried with the Lepchas proper, and are said to be a bolder and more turbulent race than the Lepcha Rong, or real Lepcha; they say they come from Kham, a province of Tibet under Chinese rule, and reckon seven generations (about 200 years) since their arrival on this side of the snows. The country occupied by this community extends further along both north-west and south-east of the southern face of the Himalayas. It is said that they once possessed a great part of East Nepal, as far west as the Tambar river, and at a still earlier period they penetrated as far west as the Arun river. Except to the initiated, it is very difficult to distinguish between the two tribes.

The Lepchas proper have a tradition that they are the descendants of a couple who escaped from a great flood and established themselves on the top of the mountain of Tendong (not very far from Darjeeling). With the exception of the above tradition, they cannot trace their history back further than 300 years, for though they have a written language, they have no recorded history. They say that previous to the period when they were overrun by the Tibetans, who compelled them to adopt their religion, habits and customs, they were a half-naked, savage race subsisting on herbs and hunting. The Tibetans compelled them,

GROUP OF BHUTIAS. 80

81 A Nepali Woman.

among other innovations, to adopt the pig-tail. Their language, though it differs in some important particulars, is very similar to the Tibetan; this, with their very decided Tartar features, goes far to prove, what has been asserted by savants, *viz.*, that they originally came to Sikhim from Tibet long before the introduction of Buddhism and its civilizing influences.

THE LIMBUS.—The tribe called the Limbu is so closely allied to that of the Lepchas, that even by that oft-mentioned yet mythical personage "the oldest inhabitant" of the Darjeeling District, they are often confounded. A little close observation, however, will soon shew in what respect they differ: their features are more peculiarly Mongolian, their skins yellower, and their eyes smaller and more oblique; they are also of a more slender and sinewy build.

The Lepcha plaits his hair (or his wife does it for him), but that of the Limbu is left loose, and his elfin locks are as shaggy as a Shetland pony's mane. They are also above the vanity of personal decoration, and wear neither ornaments in the ears, noses, round their necks, arms, nor ankles. They evince quite a Spartan contempt for elegance and, we may also add, clean apparel, for their dress is simple in the extreme; it consists of long, loose, wide cotton trousers (of what colour originally we could never determine), a light jacket, or *chupkan,* and not to be quite deficient in the picturesque, a red sash (also very much toned down in colour) round their waists; the men wear the Nepal curved *kukri* in their belts, instead of the Lepcha straight *ban.* The dress of the women is a modification of the Lepcha feminine kind, but they set an example to the women of our own race, which doubtless would be pleasing to many husbands if followed, by shewing a mind above all extraneous aids to their charms, considering "beauty unadorned, adorned the most."

The places of abode of this hardy race are the mountainous tracts that lie between the rivers Dud Kosi and Kanki in Nepal, also in Eastern Nepal at an elevation of from 2,000 to 5,000 feet. They once ruled over that country, but their number is becoming every year "beautifully less." Their disposition is very different from that of the cheerful, jovial, happy-go-lucky Lepcha, but they are brave and warlike, and many of them are to be found in our

Gurkha regiments, recruited almost entirely from Nepal. They take service indiscriminately, however, either with Nepal or any other power that chooses to engage them. They profess never to give in, and have the reputation of giving no quarter, slaughtering indiscriminately old men, women and children.

THE BHUTIAS.—This race, with its divisions and subdivisions, is by far the largest in number of the aboriginal tribes in and around Darjeeling. They are divided into several classes: *viz.*, the Bhutia proper, belonging to Tibet; the Bhutia of Bhutan, or the Dharma country; the Sikhim Bhutia, and the Sharpa Bhutia (a cross between the Tibetan Bhutia and the Lepcha).

The Tibetan Bhutias are said to be the best of them, but taken at their best, they are a sorry lot, and exhibit no remarkable moral characteristics in manners, customs, or religion. The Tibetan Bhutia, however, is a gentleman compared to the Dharma Bhutia, who is a condensed epitome of the Tibetan of the same class, possessing all his vices, and none of his few virtues.

The Tibetan Bhutias have been for centuries located between the neutral ground of dry Tibet proper and the wet Himalayan gorges. They are a powerfully built race, and of so hardy a nature, that they can with ease bear a climate much too cold for the Lepcha, Limbu, or Nepalese. They are very Mongolian in aspect, with the broad mouths, high cheek bones, oblique eyes, and flat noses common to that anything but handsome race. Their colour is supposed to be whitish-yellow, but as a rule they are so encrusted with dirt and smoke, are of so begrimed and weather-worn an aspect, that they look more like what we should imagine some of the denizens of Dante's inner "circles" to be, than living human beings—we have tried hard to find out if they ever did take a course of "tub," or put on "gorgeous apparel," but our enquiries only resulted in a shake of the head, or a grunt; possibly our want of knowledge of their language may have had something to do with our inability to solve this problem.

The Tibetan Bhutia migrates with the seasons, accompanied by all his belongings, including his herds of cattle and dogs, between an elevation of 5,000 to 15,000 feet. He grows scanty crops of wheat, barley and some few

vegetables, and also does some trade, but in a *laissez faire,* indolent way. They levy a small tax on all imports, and are the middlemen for a large portion of the trade in salt, wood, musk, cattle, etc., with the Tibetans. Their language is a dialect of Tibetan, but it has no written character. They bury their dead on the mountains, raising no cairns over them.

The Bhutan or Dharma Bhutias are, however, most familiar to Darjeeling tourists and residents. It is they who do the real hard work of the place, they are the coolies, drudges, the hewers of wood and drawers of water, and jack-of-all-trades. They take places as servants, but their talent for breakages, and their inveterate propensity for assisting their masters to dispose quickly of their store of liquors, make them anything but models of "helps." When in their cups, they are most quarrelsome, and very cruel to each other. They waste but little time in speech, rarely answering a question by anything more intelligible than a guttural "ugh."

The Sikhim Bhutias, also called Arrats, are as like the above as two peas, but they are said to be even more turbulent, if that could be possible. The dress of both is a long loose robe, confined at the waist by a belt sometimes, at others by a rag of unknown hue; this is their sole attire, barring the ornaments spoken of; the upper part of this robe, above the belt, forms a convenient receptacle for all sorts of incongruous articles, including their food, cooked and uncooked; two or three puppies of astute Tibetan appearance are also very often seen, craning out their short necks, and puffy faces and eyes, taking stock of things in general, and possible purchasers in particular. As weapons of defence (and aggression perhaps) they have long knives slung to their belts, some of them heavily chased and ornamented with silver.

The women are a degree better looking (some of them have actually been seen with clean faces) and they wear a smile, perhaps at their unaccustomed cleanliness, though the larger number most certainly belong to "the great unwashed." Their hair is generally allowed to float unrestrained, answering most gracefully to the breeze, like an unkempt pony's mane. Some of them (we presume the more tidy and respectable) bind their hair with fillets of

silver chains, sometimes having a handsome gold ornament fastened in front. They seem to be a very industrious race in one respect, for they are always spinning, and the woollen garments they make for themselves are marvels of thickness. They may be frequently seen trudging complacently along with a heavy load in the bamboo basket slung behind them, two or three juvenile Bhutias clinging to their clothes, and knitting away for sheer life from the primitive spindle in their hands; the supply of raw wool being thrust into the capacious body of their one garment.

NEPAL AND THE NEPALESE.—Nepal is an Independent State wedged in between India and Tibet, and occupies a parallelogram 450 miles long and 150 miles wide, running almost east and west. Towards the centre of this territory is a small oval space known as the Valley of Nepal. This valley, which constitutes the most important part of the State, is about 20 miles long and 15 miles broad. It is bounded on the north by stupendous mountains—a series of peaks gradually rising, and increasing until the snow-crowned summit is reached. The bottom of the valley is very uneven and intersected by deep ravines, caused, it is believed, by the velocity of the autumnal inundations. The mountains to the east and west are not nearly so lofty—the portion to the westward being defined by a low steep ridge covered with timber. In the valley there are several towns and villages: of these, Khatmandu is the largest and most important, from its being the residence of the Maharajah, and the centre of trade and industry.

The eastern borders of Nepal abut on to Darjeeling, so that it is not surprising to find that the Nepalese form 50 per cent. of the population of the district; they are a pushing, thriving race and great colonizers. An agile, energetic people, they are capital agriculturists, as well as carpenters, tanners, blacksmiths, tailors, etc. The greater portion of the labourers employed on the tea estates are Nepalese. In this generic term of "Nepalese" are included many tribes or castes, rearers of sheep and buffaloes, cultivators, shop-keepers, agriculturists, etc. In physique the Nepalese differ greatly from the other tribes previously described, as they are generally "quick on the uptake" and have both intelligent and pleasing countenances.

They are a plucky lot, and none dare insult them with impunity; it is fortunate that they are not a quarrelsome race, for they can use their *kookries* (or curved knives) with all the skill and adroitness of a Spaniard with his stiletto. The Gurkhas, which is the name of the ruling race and dynasty, make splendid soldiers, and many of them are enlisted in the Indian Army. They are short and slim, but wonderfully active and enduring, also brave to a degree. Being naturally a warlike race, they are willing to indulge their fighting proclivities on every possible occasion.

The country is rich in forest and minerals; grain is cultivated, and the various tribes rear buffaloes, sheep, cows, pigs and poultry. Some of them exhibit specialities, for example, the tribe called Newars, inhabiting the main portion of the central valley of Nepal, are excellent masons. They are said to be the best cultivators and builders in Nepal, and they are employed in that capacity throughout the whole district. They form large towns, and their houses, built three stories high, are said to be excellent in every respect:—site, construction and architecture. The morality of all these tribes, with respect to sex, is by no means of the most exemplary kind. Their religion is a combination of Buddhism and Brahmanism, with the addition of certain primitive pagan rites.

There are three rude, almost barbarous tribes, called respectively Kasandas, Hains, and Chepangs, inhabiting the jungles of Central Nepal. The Kasandas may be said to exist quite in a state of nature; they live on wild fruits and the produce of the chase; they possess no implements of civilization beyond rough bows and arrows, the sharpened heads of the latter being procured from neighbouring tribes; the only glimmer of intelligence they display is in the snaring of birds, and beasts of the field; they do not even seem to have the wit to build huts—boughs torn from the forest trees laid crosswise one over the other constituting their only homes. They acknowledge no allegiance to any power, and have not even the privilege of paying taxes.

The Hains are found in the lower ranges of the mountains of East Nepal; like the other tribe, they keep to themselves and associate with no other tribes. The Gurkhas and Hindus consider them as outcasts. Dr. Campbell says he believes them to have originally come

from Ceylon, as they bury their dead, and worship Ravana, the demon king of Lanka (Ceylon); and have one particular ceremony identical with that practised by the lowest tribes now in Ceylon. It is that of the dance performed in commemoration of the death of Ravana: "about sixty men and women stood in a line, back to breast, men and women alternately, each one throwing forward the hands and grasping the person in front by the arms. The column thus formed, and preceded by half-a-dozen men beating drums and cymbals, and shouting in a barbarous dialect a metrical chant, moved slowly in a circle, nodding and keeping time to the music and clapping of hands; in this fashion they keep on revolving an interminable time." Though they are supposed to have come originally from Ceylon, their physiognomy is decidedly Mongolian, the cheek bones high and flattened, the forehead narrow. They average 5 feet 2 in height. All the tribes are splendid hunters, the great forests which skirt the Nepal territories throughout their whole extent from Naini Tal to Darjeeling being the abode of wild animals. These forests contain most valuable timber—sâl, sisso, ironwood, ebony (in small quantities), and many other woods.

THE MECHIS OR BODOS, AND DHIMALS.—These two tribes inhabit the forest portion of the Terai lying immediately below the base of the hills; except in their language and manner of worship—that they live in different villages and do not intermarry—they are identical.

They are a stunted and ill-developed but not an unhealthy people, though they live in a district that is noted for its fatal effects upon other races. Their cast of countenance is strongly Mongolian, with a yellowish rather than dark colour of skin, though they inhabit the dense malarious jungles of the Terai. They are principally agriculturists, but have very nomadic habits, cultivating ground for a short time in one location, then, as soon as the soil shows symptoms of exhaustion, seeking "fresh woods and pastures new," never trying by tillage or artificial means to renovate the worked-out ground. This habit has doubtless arisen from their having a vast expanse of unbroken forest to select from, which even now, though much encroached upon, contains an abundance of fertile spots. These people rarely cultivate the same field for more than a year, and

never remain in the same village longer than four or five years, wandering on, selecting new sites, and building fresh abodes. They are essentially a primitive race, but in some respects decidedly better morally than many of the more robust hill tribes. Each family attends entirely to its own surrounding patch of cultivation, raising cotton, oil-seeds, etc.; there is no separate class of shepherd, handicraftsman or shopkeeper among them.

TIBET, AND THE TIBETANS.—As the main trade route from India to Tibet lies through the Darjeeling District and Sikhim, and as many Tibetans are seen near Darjeeling bringing their cattle, etc., to the market, a short notice of this comparatively little known country, as well as of its inhabitants, may be interesting to our readers.

Tibet is the loftiest country in the world, and consists chiefly of table-lands averaging over 16,500 feet above the sea. It is bounded on the north by Turkestan, on the east by China, on the west by Kashmir and Ladak, and on the south by India, Nepal and Bhutan. It has an area of over one million square miles, but is very sparsely inhabited, the estimated population being about three millions.

The climate of Tibet varies greatly over the enormous area and different altitudes of the country. In Western Tibet, for nine months of the year, the atmosphere is extremely dry, and little snow falls at any season. Low temperatures are prevalent. The central lake region is also extremely dry, excepting in the summer when there is an abundance of rain. Northern Tibet is an arid waste, subject to intense heat in summer and bitter cold in winter. In March snow still lies deep in the passes, whilst in June the heat, even at an elevation of 16,000 feet, has been found oppressive.

Until recent years the true native of Tibet was not frequently seen in Darjeeling, but they are now beginning to arrive in appreciable numbers. Those usually seen are wild uncouth-looking individuals, squarely built, middle sized, supple, muscular, and hardy to a degree. Their features are truly Mongolian; it is said they have very good complexions, but as the men scarcely, if ever, wash themselves, and the women, when out of their houses, or travelling, rub their faces over with a black sticky mess of coal-tar-like consistency, it is a difficult task to guess even what

lies underneath; the statement that travellers make therefore that they have complexions has to be taken on trust. The men wear pig tails, or the hair long and flowing, as whim or fancy guides them; they affect neither beard, whiskers or moustaches, removing with tweezers every trace of hair on their faces. Their dress consists of a long thick blanket robe fastened round their waists by a leather belt, in which they stick iron or brass tobacco pipes, and to which they suspend their long knives, chop sticks, tobacco pouch, tweezers, tinder-box, wooden cup and many other useful articles. This is their everyday dress, but they also have in their wardrobe (?) gala dresses of a particularly swell cut and make. The gala dress is a long cloth garment, girded with a red sash, red or purple cloth boots, and blue or red tufted cap, bordered with black velvet; sometimes a fringed red hat is substituted for the cap. The dress of the women is not unlike that of the men, for ordinary occasions the long robe, over which a short coat is put; they braid their hair into two tails, and the "working bees" wear a small yellow conical cap on their heads. The great ladies (for there are great ladies in Tibet as well as other parts of the world) wear velvet and silk robes of the same shape, but a kind of coronet, embroidered with pearls, instead of the yellow conical cap; they also consider it more fashionable to put on an extra quantity of the black mess, being enamelled in black, instead of in white, the reverse of the Western custom. The poorer women wear a broad girdle of brass; the richer, silver links formed into a very handsome *chatelaine,* to which they hang their knives, scissors, needle-cases, etc. Both men and women wear earrings set with turquoises, as well as the square amulet upon their necks and arms; the necks of the women are also loaded with strings of coral and brass beads, intermingled with lumps of amber; in the richer classes, these are jewels. Their disposition generally is said to be jovial, their manners pleasant, although they are easily excited. They make capital soldiers, but are a very restless race (except those residing in the capital and larger cities); they are constantly on the move, and their sufferings from cold in their wanderings are intense; in some of the worst passes, in the depth of winter, they have even been known to freeze as they stood leaning on their

staves, their companions hurrying on and leaving them to their fate.

Both men and women are fairly industrious; the women, unlike their Indian sisters, enjoy a large amount of liberty, going abroad when they like; perhaps the reason for blackening their faces may be found in this—the varnish renders them safe, if not polished!

Drs. Campbell and Hooker, who studied the domestic ways and manners of the Tibetans, describe them as being amiable and kind to each other, fond of their children, and, though not cruel to their wives, they keep them up to the mark in the matter of work. Some of the women they saw were shrill-voiced viragos, and the men seemed to stand in considerable awe of them; others, the younger ones, were smiling and good-tempered, seemingly on excellent terms with themselves and their owners.

The Tibetan method of brewing the famous butter-tea is as follows. A piece of the compressed brick-tea is broken off, beaten into powder, and boiled in a kettle until the liquid looks red; salt is then added, and after the effervescence which it causes has subsided, and the fluid is nearly black, milk with any quantity of butter is poured in, and it then becomes a dish fit for a king,—or to be poured into the sink.

In Darjeeling, and on the roads leading into Sikhim, parties of Tibetans, with their belongings,—children, dogs, yâks, sheep, etc., etc.—may often be seen bringing salt and other produce of the country into the Darjeeling market. The ragged, dirty Lama mendicants (called *phud*) are also frequently to be met with. They wear black masks with cowrie shells for eyes, and dance (at the word *bucksheesh*) a kind of toe and heel shuffle, heavy and lugubrious to a degree, singing at the same time a quaint monotonous melody, and playing on an odd-shaped kind of violin with three strings, really a melody, and not the nasal prolonged howl of the plainsman *primo tenor* or *baritone*.

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS.

"THEIR colour is supposed to be whitish yellow, but as a rule they are so encrusted with dirt and smoke, are of so begrimed and weather-worn an aspect, that they look more like what we should imagine some of the denizens of Dante's 'inner circles' to be than living human beings."—*See* page 82.

APPENDIX

INFORMATION REGARDING THE TRAVELLERS' BUNGALOWS IN SIKHIM AND THE DARJEELING DISTRICT, ISSUED BY THE POLITICAL OFFICER IN SIKHIM AND THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, DARJEELING. (1930.)

1. Europeans visiting Sikhim are required to carry a pass, and unless provided with a pass, will not be allowed beyond the Darjeeling frontier. Passes are issued by "Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling."

2. Passes for the bungalows on this list are issued as follows:—

Nos. 1—37 by Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling.

(For bungalows Nos. 9—37 inclusive, application may, if preferred, be made to the Political Officer in Sikhim.)

Nos. 38—44 by Executive Engineer, Darjeeling Division.

3. All applications made to the above officers for passes should be addressed to them as such, and not by name. Those for the Political Officer should be addressed to the Agency Office, Gangtok, Sikhim; those for the Deputy Commissioner, to the Deputy Commissioner's Office, Darjeeling; those for the Executive Engineer, to the Executive Engineer's Office, Darjeeling.

TRAVELLERS' BUNGALOWS IN DARJEELING DISTRICT AND SIKHIM.

The following bungalows are now open, besides Dâk Bungalows at Kurseong, Punkhabari and Siliguri.

Passes issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling.

No.	PLACE.	DISTANCE IN MILES.	Height in feet above M. S. L.	No. of Rooms. Bed.	Dining.	Sitting.	No. of Beds.	No. of Mattresses.
1.	Senchal (old)	6 from Darjeeling ...	8,000	4	1	0	4	4
2.	Senchal (new)	6 ,, ,, ...	8,000	2	1	0	4	4
3.	Badamtam ...	7 ,, ,, ...	2,500	2	0	0	4	4
4.	Lopchu ...	15 ,, ,, 4 from Pashoke	5,300	2	0	0	4	4
5.	Jorepokri ...	13 ,, Darjeeling, 10 from Tonglu ...	7,400	2	1	0	5	5
6.	Tonglu ...	10 from Jorepokri, 14 from Sandakphu ...	10,074	2	1	0	4	4
7.	Sandakphu ...	14 from Tonglu, 12 from Phalut ...	11,929	2	1	0	5	5
8.	Phalut ...	13 from Sandakphu, 17 from Dentam ...	11,811	2	1	0	4	4

No.	Place.	Distance in Miles.	Height in feet above M. S. L.	No. of Rooms. Bed.	Dining.	Sitting.	No. of Beds.	No. of Mattresses.
9.	Dentam ...	17 from Phalut, 11 from Pamionchi, 13 from Rinchinpong	4,500	2	1	0	4	0
10.	Pamionchi ...	11 from Dentam, 10 from Rinchinpong	6,920	2	1	0	4	2
11.	Rinchinpong	10 from Pamionchi, 13 from Chakung, 13 from Dentam ...	6,300	2	1	0	4	2
12.	Chakung ...	13 from Rinchinpong, 20 from Darjeeling *via* Singla Bazar and Raman-bridge, 13 from Badamtam	5,100	2	1	0	4	0
13.	Rungpo ...	11 from Melli, 9 from Pakyong, 5 from Sankokhola ...	1,200	4	1	1	4	0
14.	Sankokhola (Bardang) ...	5 from Rungpo, 18 from Kalimpong ...	1,400	3	2	1	4	0
15.	Martam	6 from Sankukhola, 10 from Gangtok by short cut—13 by Cart Road ...	2,180	2	1	0	4	0
16.	Gangtok ...	10 from Martam by short cut—13 by Cart Road, 51 to 63 from Darjeeling according to route followed: quickest route *via* Melli, Chhapa Bridge and Badamtam ...	5,800	5	2	0	4	0
17.	Pakyong ...	9 from Rungpo, 11 from Gangtok, 14 from Pedong, 6 from Rorathang ...	4,700	2	1	0	4	0
18.	Kyozing (Soshing) ...	10 from Pamionchi, 10 from Rinchinpong, 5 from Ligsip ...	6,000	2	1	0	4	0

No.	Place.	Distance in Miles.	Height in feet above M. S. L.	No. of Rooms. Bed.	Dining.	Sitting.	No. of Beds.	No. of Mattresses.
19.	Temi	... 10 from Kyozing, 11 from Namchi, 13 from Martam and 14 from Rungpo	5,000	2	1	0	4	0
20.	Song	... 12 from Temi, 15 from Gangtok ...	4,500	2	1	0	4	0
21.	Namchi	... 11 from Badamtam, 14 from Chakung	5,200	2	1	0	4	2
22.	Ari	... 12 from Pakyong, *via* Rhenock, 8 from Pedong ...	4,700	3	1	0	4	0
23.	Rhenock	... 3 from Ari, 5 from Pedong ...	3,200	1	1	0	4	0
24.	Rongli	... 9 from Sedonchen, 15 from Rungpo, 13 from Pakyong, 4 from Ari ...	2,700	2	1	0	4	0
25.	Sedonchen	... 13 from Ari, 9 from Rongli ...	6,500	1	1	1	4	0
26.	Gnatong	... 9 from Sedonchen ...	12,300	2	1	0	4	4
27.	Kupup	... 4 from Gnatong, 3 from Summit of Jelap-La, 20 from Pusum ...	13,000	2	0	0	2	2
28.	Pusum (Karponang)	... 10 from Gangtok ...	9,500	2	1	0	4	4
29.	Changu	... 11 from Pusum ...	12,600	2	1	1	4	4
30.	Dikchu (Riatdong)	... 13 from Gangtok, 11 from Singhik ...	2,150	2	2	1	4	0
31.	Singhik	... 11 from Dikchu ...	4,600	2	1	2	4	0
32.	Toong	... 8 from Singhik ...	4,800	2	1	0	4	0
33.	Chungtang	... 5 from Toong ...	5,350	2	2	1	4	0
34.	Lachen	... 13 from Chungtang...	8,800	2	2	1	4	4
35.	Thangu	... 13 from Lachen ...	12,800	2	2	1	4	4
36.	Lachung	... 10 from Chungtang	8,800	2	2	1	4	4
37.	Yamtang	... 8 from Lachung ...	11,700	4	1	1	4	4
Passes issued by the Executive Engineer, Darjeeling Division, Darjeeling								
38.	Pedong	... 12 from Kalimpong, 4 from Rississum, 5 from Rhenock ...	4,900	4	2	0	4	4

No.	Place.	Distances in Miles.	Height in feet above M. S. L.	No. of Rooms. Bed.	Dining.	Sitting.	No. of. Beds.	Mattresses.
39.	Pashoke	... 17 from Darjeeling, 4 from Lopchu, 3 from Tista Bridge	2,600	3	1	0	6	6
40.	Tista Bridge	23 from Darjeeling, 3 from Pashoke, 6 from Kalimpong, 11 from Badamtam, 5 from Reang ...	710	2	0	0	3	3
41.	Berrik	... 10 from Tista Bridge, 5 from Kalijhora	—	2	1	0	5	5
42.	Kalijhora	... 5 from Berrik, 16 from Siliguri ...	550	2	1	0	4	2
43.	Melli	... 5 from Kalimpong, 11 from Badamtam and Rungpo, 3 from Tista Bridge	800	2	0	1	4	3
44	Kalimpong	... 28 from Darjeeling *via* Pashoke and Bridle path and 23 *via* Rungit and Bridle path ...	4,100	4	2	1	7	6

"A pass must be obtained from the Executive Engineer, Darjeeling, before a person can be permitted to use any bungalow under the Public Works Department. The pass is issued subject to the bungalow not being required by an officer of the Public Works Department, who has the right to occupy any such bungalow or part thereof on giving 8 hours' notice."

4. The bungalows are available only to persons provided with passes. A separate pass must be obtained for each occupant or party of occupants for each bungalow, whether going or returning. Persons occupying bungalows without passes will be required to pay double fees, provided accommodation be available.

I. (*a*) **Fees.**—The fees chargeable for bungalows (1-8) are as follows:—

For the New Senchal Bungalow—

(*i*) From 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. or any shorter period within these hours, Rs. 3 per head up to a maximum of 10 for the occupation of the whole bungalow for day use only.

(*ii*) From evening to the following morning, Rs. 4 per head up to a maximum of Rs. 12 for the whole bungalow.

For Badamtam, Jorepokri and Tonglu Bungalows—

(*iii*) For a period of less than three hours in the day, Re. 1 per head. For the whole day, Rs. 2 subject to a maximum charge of Rs. 8 for the whole bungalow for day use only.

(*iv*) From evening to the following morning, Rs. 3-8 per head up to a maximum of Rs. 10 for the occupation of the whole bungalow.

For all other Bungalows—

(*v*) From 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. or any shorter period within these hours, annas 8 per head up to a maximum of Rs. 6 for the occupation of the whole bungalow for day use only.

(*vi*) From evening to the following morning, Rs. 3-8 per head up to a maximum of Rs. 10 for the occupation of the whole bungalow.

(*vii*) These fees are payable in advance to the office of the Administrator, Darjeeling Improvement Fund, Darjeeling, and the Political Officer in Sikhim.

(*b*) Eight annas for each person for occupation during the day up to a maximum charge of six rupees. Two rupees per night for each occupant up to a maximum of six rupees for bungalows Nos. 9—37. The maximum charge for the occupation of whole Bungalow at Gangtok and Rangpoo is Rs. 12 each per night *plus* electric light rent at annas 8 per head per night in case of Gangtok Dâk Bungalow.

2. Passes issued may be cancelled by the local authorities in case the bungalow is required by Government Officers on duty.

3. A refund of bungalow fee is allowed after deduction of 12½ per cent. and money order commission, provided that the party does not occupy the bungalow and prior information is sent.

4. Passes must be made over to the Chowkidar in charge.

5. Fees are payable in advance to the Political Officer in Sikhim, Gangtok, Deputy Commissioner or Executive Engineer, Darjeeling, on the submission of the application for the pass.

6. Government Officers on duty are allowed to occupy the bungalows in the Darjeeling District and in Sikhim free of charges.

7. Out-station cheques in payment of fees should include four annas for every twenty-five rupees, as discount.

II. Furniture, etc.—(1) Beds, Tables, Chairs, Lamps with wicks, Candlesticks, Crockery, Glass and Kitchen utensils are provided at each bungalow. Cutlery is supplied in Sikhim bungalows, also mattresses in bungalows above 7,000 feet [*see* V. (*ii*) below] and in some bungalows below 7,000 feet.

2. Visitors must take their own Bedding, Linen, Candles, Oil for Lamps, Provisions, and in the Darjeeling District, Cutlery.

III. Provisions, etc.—(1) Ordinary bazar supplies are obtainable at Jorepokri, Dentam, Pamionchi, Kalimpong, Tista Bridge, Pedong, Namchi, Pakyong, Rhenock, Rongli, Rungpo, Gangtok, and Singtam near Sankokhola.

2. Firewood is provided free of charge on the Nepal Frontier Road bungalows. At Jorepokri, Senchal, Badamtam, Lopchu and Kalimpong four annas a maund. The charges for firewood in the Sikhim bungalows are notified in the bungalows and are payable before delivery of the wood, whether used by travellers themselves or by their servants, coolies, etc.

IV. Servants.—(1) A sweeper can be hired at Kalimpong, Jorepokri, Tista Bridge, Rungpo, Sankokhola, Gangtok, Pakyong, Namchi, Rhenock, Rongli, Dentam and Senchal bungalows.

2. Elsewhere travellers must take sweepers with them, and no pass will be issued except on this condition.

3. There is no resident Khansamah at any bungalow.

V. Situation.—

(i) On the Nepal Frontier Road, Nos. 1 to 11.

(ii) In Sikhim Nos. 9 to 37.

(iii) On the Road from Kalimpong to the Jelap Pass, Nos. 22 to 27 and 40.

(iv) On the Tista Valley Road, Nos. 16 to 18 and 44 to 47.

(v) On the Road from Gangtok to the Nathu-La Pass, Nos. 28 and 29.

(vi) On the Road from Gangtok along the upper Tista and in the Lachen and Lachung Valleys, Nos. 30 to 37.

(vii) Nos. 19, 20 and 21 are on the Darjeeling-Gangtok Road across the hills (*viâ* Badamtam Rungit Bazar).

(viii) No. 17 is on the Pedong-Gangtok Road *viâ* Borathang Bridge.

(ix) No. 7 is on the Daling Road to the Plains.

VI. Tours.—The following tours can be made—

(*a*) Darjeeling to Jorepokri, Tonglu, Sandakphu, Phalut, Dentam, Pamionchi, Rinchinpong, Chakung and back to Darjeeling, or the same as above substituting Kyozing for Rinchinpong and Namchi for Chakung.

(*b*) Darjeeling to Badamtam, Tista Bridge, Pashoke and back to Darjeeling, but this road is frequently blocked during the rains.

(*c*) Darjeeling to Pashoke, Tista Bridge, Reang, Kalijhora, Siliguri and back by train to Darjeeling.

(*d*) Darjeeling to Pashoke, Kalimpong, Pedong, Ari, Sedonchen, Gnatong, Kupup (for the Jelap Pass), Changu, Karponang, Gangtok, Martam, Sankokhola, Rungpo, Melli, Lopchu to Darjeeling.

(*e*) Darjeeling to Badamtam, Namchi, Temi, Song, Gangtok, Pakyong, Pedong, Kalimpong, and back to Darjeeling.

(*f*) Darjeeling to Badamtam, Chakung, Rinchinpong, Dentam, Pamionchi, Kyozing, Namchi, and back to Darjeeling.

(*g*) Darjeeling *viâ* Pashoke to Gangtok, to Dikchu, Singhik, Chungtang, (Lachen, Thangu and back), or Lachung, Yamtang and back.

VII. Rates.—For Coolie rates see the prescribed table of rates separately supplied from the Darjeeling Municipality.

Ten to twelve annas a day is an usual charge for each coolie hired in Darjeeling and eight to ten annas if hired in Kalimpong or Sikhim.

VIII. Publications.—Map showing tours in Darjeeling and Sikhim at Re. 1 are sold at the Deputy Commissioner's Office, Darjeeling.

N.B.—Mirik transferred to the District Board.

Rississum transferred to the Forest Department.

Rangiaroon transferred to the Forest Department.

See also separate rules for Dâk Bungalows in Sikhim recorded in all Sikhim Dâk Bungalows.

Rules for the occupation of the Darjeeling Improvement Fund Bungalows (1930).

1. No person, whether official or non-official, is permitted to occupy the following Darjeeling Improvement Fund Bungalows without a pass:—

(1) Senchal (New Bungalow).
(2) Senchal (Old Bungalow).
(3) Jorepokri.
(4) Tonglu.
(5) Sandakphu.
(6) Phalut.
(7) Rangiroon.
(8) Lopchu.
(9) Badamtam.

Passes for these bungalows can be obtained from the Darjeeling Improvement Fund Office, Darjeeling.

2. Gazetted officers of Government are entitled to free passes when travelling on duty. Such passes will be issued for periods not exceeding 10 days. Free passes or passes at concession rates may, under special circumstances, be issued to certain classes of persons at the discretion of the Deputy Commissioner. All other persons are required to pay the fees laid down in rule 3.

3. The fees chargeable are as follows:—

For the New Senchal Bungalow—

(i) From 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. or any shorter period within these hours, Rs. 3 per head up to a maximum of Rs. 10 for the occupation of the whole bungalow for day use only.

(ii) From evening to the following morning, Rs. 4 per head up to a maximum of Rs. 12 for the whole bungalow.

For Badamtam, Jorepokri and Tonglu bungalows—

(iii) For a period of less than 3 hours in the day, Re. 1 per head. For the whole day, Rs. 2 subject to a maximum charge of Rs. 8 for the whole bungalow for day use only.

(iv) From evening to the following morning, Rs. 3-8 per head up to a maximum of Rs. 10 for the occupation of the whole bungalow.

For all other bungalows—

(v) From 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. or any shorter period within these hours, annas 8 per head up to a maximum of Rs. 6 for the occupation of the whole bungalow for day use only.

(vi) From evening to the following morning, Rs. 3-8 per head up to a maximum of Rs. 10 for occupation of the whole bungalow.

(vii) These fees are payable in advance to the office of the Administrator, Darjeeling Improvement Fund, Darjeeling.

4. Any person occupying a bungalow contrary to the provision of rule 1, without a pass, must pay double the fees laid down in rule 3. These fees should be paid to the bungalow chowkidar and payment of the amount noted in the bungalow register.

5. A pass issued for a particular bungalow should be made over to the bungalow chowkidar at the time of the arrival of the pass holder. Pass holders have a prior right of occupation over non-pass holders.

6. All persons occupying bungalows should sign the bungalow register.

7. The attention of pass holders is drawn to the foot-note on the pass which requires that the bungalow should be left clean. No sweeper is attached to any bungalow, except those at Senchal, and visitors must make their own arrangement for a sweeper.

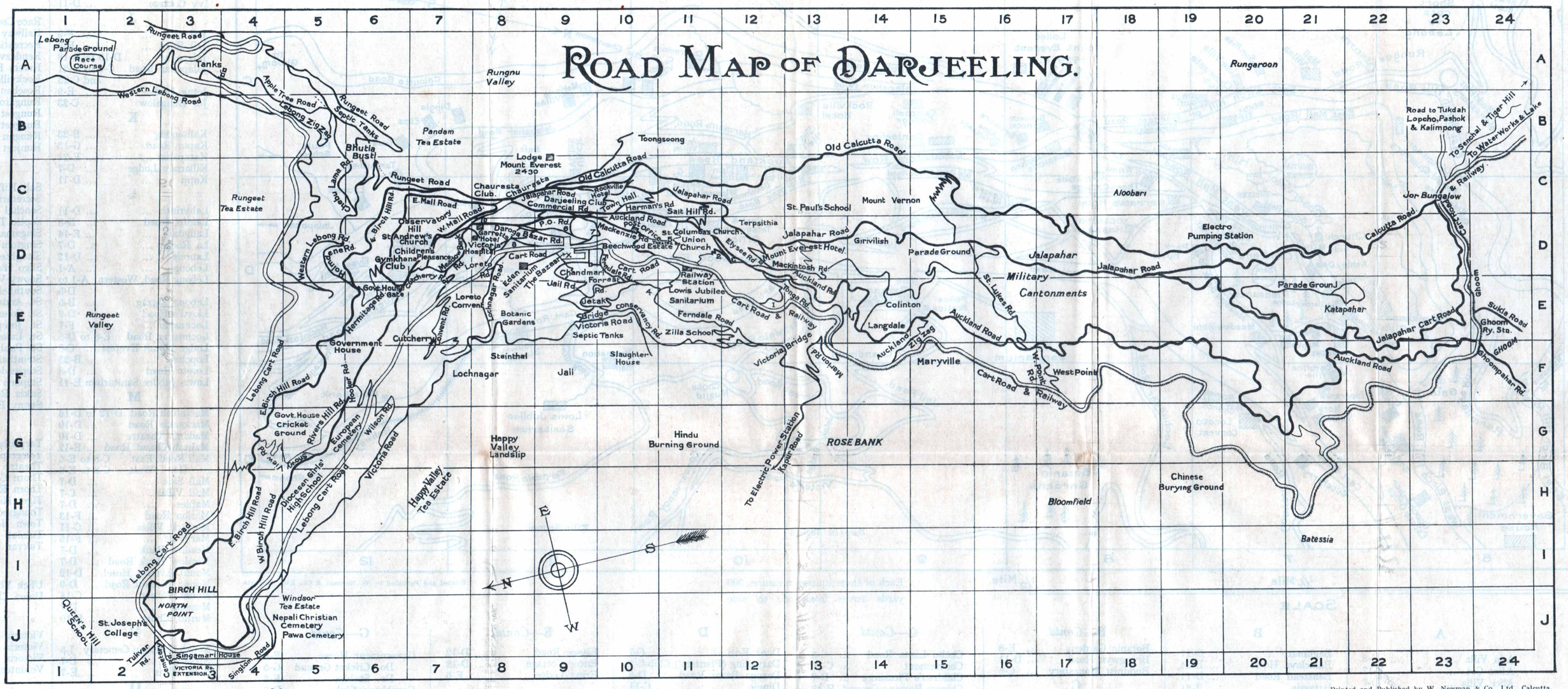
8. If the bungalow chowkidar is employed as a paniwallah he should be paid annas 6 a day for his services.

INDEX.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED
BY
W. NEWMAN & CO., LIMITED
at
NEWMAN'S PRINTING WORKS,
21, Meredith Street, CALCUTTA

NEWMAN'S
GUIDE TO DARJEELING

ROAD MAP OF DARJEELING.



0 1/4 1/2 3/4 1 Mile

SCALE

REFERENCES.

1 Mahtab Chand Road
2 Prestage Road
3 Woodlands Road
4 Bryngwyn Road
5 Banstead Road
6 Mt. Pleasant Road
7 Lloyd's Road
8 Laldigi Road
9 Dispensary Road
10 Thorn Road

N.B.—These Squares measure 300 yards each way. This is useful in measuring distances. 1,760 yards make 1 mile.

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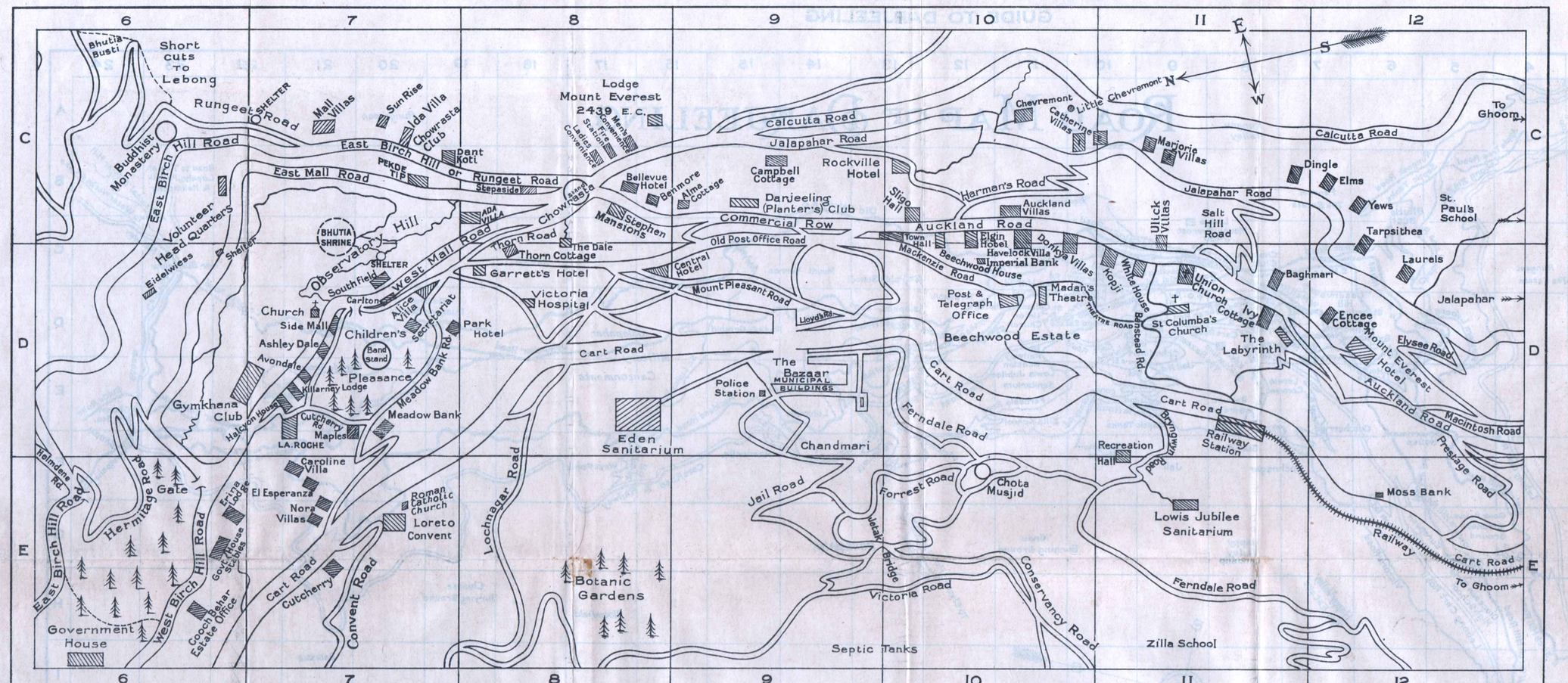
ENLARGED ROAD MAP OF DARJEELING



0 1/4 Mile 1/2 Mile

SCALE

Each of these squares measures 300 yards across from side to side

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