

wife, Nerbudda, and his sisters-in-law as if they were his slaves. He has also given them many a cruel beating. Narain, the second son, has two wives, Lachhi and Barlee. The wives of Apajee and Balwunt, the third and fourth sons, are Gopee and Mainee. Two of Kheru's elder sisters having died in infancy on his birthday, he was placed in a basket in which the sweepings of the house were previously put, and then drawn round the four corners of the room, this was done to avert any further evil. On the same day he was named Parashuram by a Brahmin, but when he was twelve days old his mother called him Kheru, from kher, meaning dust or rubbish, thinking that if she named him after something that was of little value her family would live. He was then, according to their custom, put into a swing, swung backwards and forwards while the name Parashuram was called out again and again, then the name Kheru was repeatedly sounded in the same loud tone, and he has since been so named. When the school was opened Narain's wife, Lachhi, wished to learn to read, but he would not allow her to study, and treated her very badly indeed; but since the birth of her daughter I have not heard of his having given her any blows. The family was disappointed that the child was not a son, yet they do not illtreat her. I do not remember of having yet seen her poor scant clothing look clean. They say that if they put good clothes on her she would not be so apt to live. One night, about a year and a half ago, Lachhi quietly left the house, hastened to the station and took the train for Neemuch, where she had a sister residing, hoping that she would not be found, and that there she might live in peace. She had no money, but paid her fare by the sale of a pair of silver bracelets that she wore. Don't suppose that her clothing was good because she had silver bracelets on; natives wear bracelets when very often they have little else; so it was with Lachhi. She reached her sister's in safety, but did not long enjoy her fancied security. In the morning her husband went in search of her, and after the lapse of a few days found her in Neemuch. She was brought home and severely whipped with a cane by Kheru, and was then locked up for some