

"We'll try his courage as we did the other's." But instead
Of testing Tartar's nerve himself, the wily Guicowar
Made much detested Ramsetjee, Jack's interlocutor.
Now Ramatoola Ramsetjee, a pompous card was he,
And stout, so stout, his fatness was a sight for saints to see.
"Approach me, child of Frangistan!"† in haughtiest tones he
cried,

And in a second (rather less) the *child* was at his side.
"Dost see this gray hair in my beard?"—"I does."—"Well!
pluck it out."

"In course I will, my hearty," and a most unusual shout
Of laughter rose, when Ramatoola, with an elephantine roar,
Snapp'd at Jack's hand in imitation of the Guicowar;
But ere he could repeat the dose, Jack had him in a trice,
Yea! had his head in chancery, as tho' 'twere in a vice.
And how the Rajah yell'd and laugh'd on that eventful day,
And burst his collar-button when he heard Jack Tartar say,
As he smote poor Rammy's left jaw, and banged him on the
right,
"Ha! would yer, would yer bite? Aha! ye fat thief, would
yer bite?"

For years, on the Vindayhan hills, fear check'd each childish
game,
When bandit sires but whispered of Jack Tartar's dreaded name,
And the terrors of invasion vex'd the Gèkwar's heart no more
When Tartar ruled the province as his Minister of War.

* The author has taken a slight liberty with the probabilities in making a Parsee descend to the humble condition of a water carrier.

† "Child of Frangistan"—an expression more common to the Moham-
medan than the Hindu, but may not Ramsetjee have had a weakness for an
"outside" phrase, just as many of our own friends who, not by any means
saturated with the classics, dearly love to lard their conversation with quota-
tions from the Latin phrases found at the end of every modern dictionary?