

been drawn out into an eighteen years' bloody contest, unless there had been something more than that silver mine at stake. So in the north-west, a contest about the division of spoils, or the cutting of a few bamboos, was, indeed, the match which set fire to combustibles, but certainly did not furnish fuel for combustion to the flames of that fierce contest that raged for twelve years, and was only quenched at last in rivers of blood. The contest was a contest for power.

(4) We can never be sure how much the Mohammedans in China are influenced from without. Dr. Williams says that the last great rebellion was largely fomented by Turkish sectaries.

Ramabai's Institution for Child-Widows.

THE little high-caste Brahman widow, Ramabai, bearing the highest honorary and literary degree bestowed by the Brahmanic brotherhood, and known by the title "Pundita," invented by an English lady for convenience of foreign introduction, came among us in an unostentatious way, studied our institutions and organized support of a cherished plan of her own for elevating and educating "little widows" of high-caste families in India, and departed the country as unostentatiously as she entered it. The organization which she accomplished while in this country is entitled "The Ramabai Association," which was formed at Channing Hall, Boston, Dec. 13, 1887. It was supported by Rev. Edward E. L. D.D., who was elected President, and Dr. Phillips Brooks, Miss Frances E. Willard, Rev. Geo. A. Gordon, and the since ascended, Dean Rachel L. Bodley, M.D., who was Ramabai's patron saint all the while she was in America.

A Board of Trustees was constituted for America, and an "Advisory Board" was appointed for India. Miss A. P. Granger, of Canandaigua,

N. Y., became Corresponding Secretary. Twenty-five thousand dollars was estimated as necessary for purchasing and finishing buildings to accommodate fifty boarders, and \$5,000 annually for its maintenance. Salutations came to the organization from England and from India.

Sir William Wedderburn, of England, lately retired from the Indian Civil Service, wrote :

"Both Lady Wedderburn and myself are very glad to receive news of Pundita Ramabai. We are both much interested in female education, especially in India, and it will give us much pleasure to do what we can to promote the Pundita's proposed normal school. When you have completed your plans I shall be glad to hear from you again; in the meantime allow me to express the pleasure I feel that Pundita Ramabai has found such good friends and supporters in America."

Dr. Ramakrishna Bhandarkar, professor of Sanskrit in a college in Poona, India, after a conference with several of his friends, wrote :

"We are glad that you American ladies are going to interest yourselves actively with the amelioration of the condition of your unfortunate sisters in India. I assure you we shall consider it a duty to give you all the assistance we can. I suppose the details of the scheme will be settled when Pundita Ramabai and the female teachers will arrive in India."

Dr. Bhandarkar and his friends were indorsed by Hon. Lionel Asburner, who was for thirty-six years in the Indian Civil Service, as "very responsible, influential men."

On the eve of her departure from the United States we received from her the following personal note :

"VALLEY STATION, N.E.B., June 16, 1888.

"DEAR BROTHER IN CHRIST :

"I received your kind letter a few weeks ago, but could not answer it through want of time. I have sent a few circulars to you already, and am sending a new one which has just come out. It is just twenty months since I have seen you when we talked about my work and when so little of hope seemed to exist, but the Heavenly Father has been with me in all that I have attempted, and my hopes are now almost realized so far as the material assistance goes. The main work is yet to be done, and I hope and pray that the heavenly grace will strengthen and sustain me in my undertaking.