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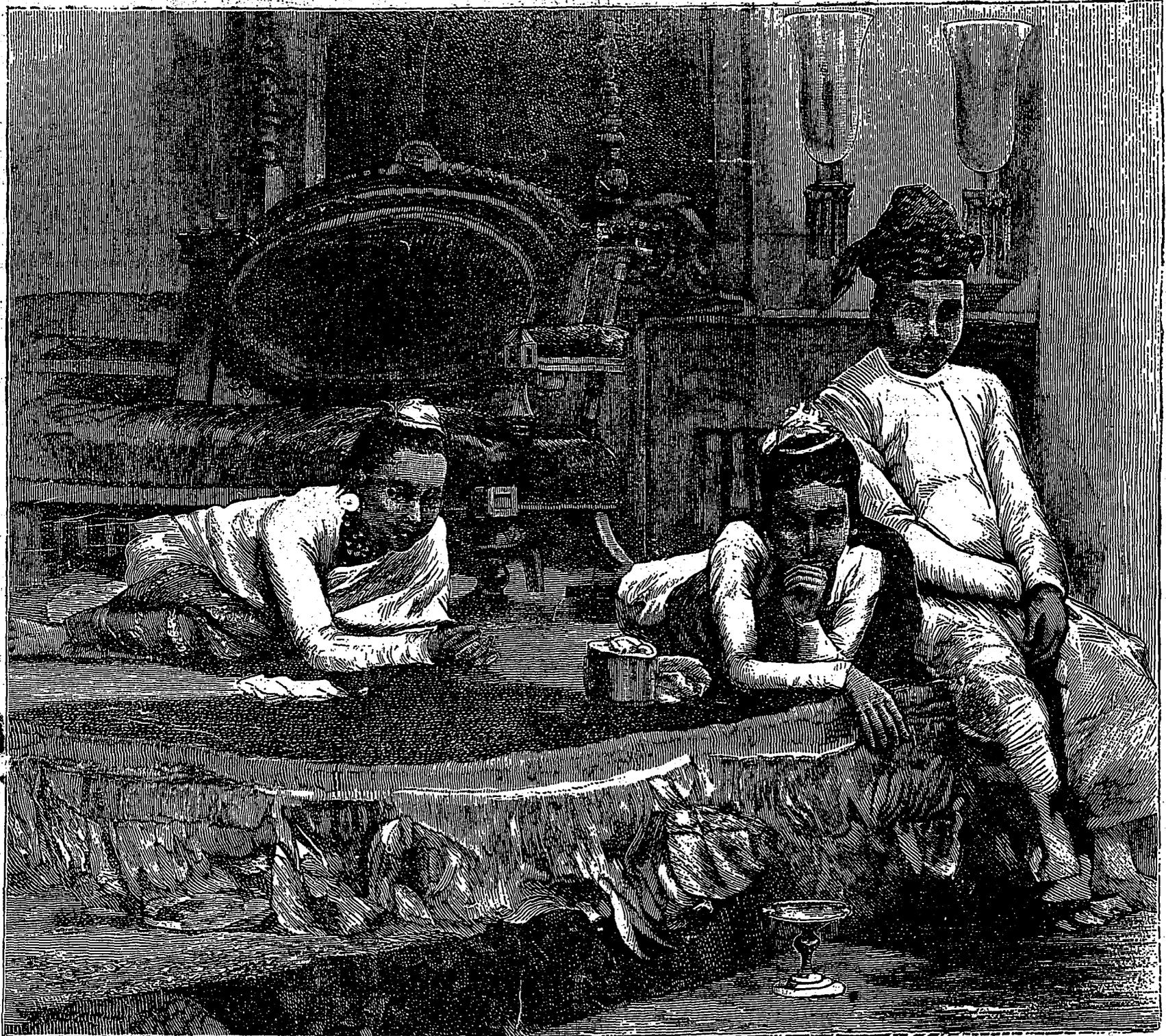
A KING'S DOWNFALL.

Thebaw Min, His most Glorious and Excellent Majesty, Lord of Elephants, Master of many White Elephants, Lord of the Golden Shoe, Lord of Gold, Silver, Rubies, and Amber, Sovereign of the Empires of Thunapuranta (countries north of Burmah such as Assam, Manipori), and Iambudipa (countries south of Burmah) and all other Great Empires and Countries, and of all the Umbrella-bearing Chiefs, the Supporter of Religion, Descendant of the Sun, Arbiter of Life, King of Righteousness, King of Kings, and Possessor of Boundless Dominions and

Supreme Wisdom, one day last fall heard that a regiment of British soldiers had had the temerity to enter the Land of the White Elephant with the intention of opposing the latest command of his Majesty, and forthwith issued the following proclamation: "In accordance with my custom of guarding against any decrease in the prosperity of our religion or the welfare of my country, I myself, having arranged the army, will come forth, and by means of my generals and subordinate officers, my numerous infantry, artillery and cavalry, will, by land and water, capture, crush down, and wipe out these

English heretics." The 28th of November saw this same monarch trembling and weeping before Colonel Sladen, who, with his soldiers had entered the royal palace almost unopposed, and saying, "All is finished; I have been badly advised by my ministers, I leave all to you, Sladen, I will allow you to govern my country. If I cannot live in the palace give me a little house in Mandalay." Well might the poor king say that he had been badly advised, if his seven years reign of cruelty had been conducted solely under the guidance of his ministers. But free of

blame himself he could not be. He was to all intents and purposes a usurper. On the death of the late king, his favorite wife, fearing loss of power, concealed his death for some days, and, in concert with the Captain of the Royal Guard, by trickery and force known only in Eastern courts, made away with the rightful heir, and all the other princes who would be likely to assert their claims and established Thebaw upon the throne. This was in October 1878, and Thebaw was twenty years old. Shortly after this she married him to her second daughter, Soo Pyah Lat, who soon showed



KING THEBAW AND HIS TWO QUEENS.

ROBERT GALLON QUE
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