

dian Regiment, who had an encampment on what is called the neutral ground outside the fortifications. We were fortunate regarding the weather while crossing the Bay of Biscay, and experienced nothing unpleasant in that usually turbulent water. On nearing the English coast it rained very heavily, and the night being intensely dark, the speed of the vessel was greatly reduced. Previous to retiring for the night, it was understood that we should land at eight o'clock the following morning, thus doing the entire distance from Bombay to England in thirty-one days, stoppages included. At day-light in the morning we found ourselves running along the pleasant coast of the Isle of Wight, and could clearly distinguish Osborne House, the residence of Her Most Gracious Majesty. Before breakfast bell rang, we had entered the P. and O. Company's dock at Southampton. All was now hurry and bustle; passengers hunting for their luggage; custom house officers examining the same; cabin stewards rushing here and there in anticipation of their usual fee; hasty adieus between friends and fellow travellers; and finally a rush for the express train, and, presto, we are all off in various directions. It was four o'clock in the afternoon when we entered the modern Babylon. Yes, it was London, the same London, which as a boy I had left to seek the "bubble reputation at the cannon's mouth." I now returned in ill health and shattered constitution; yet hoping that my native air and a quiet retirement for a season or two, would suffice to restore my nervous system to a healthy condition. We remained long enough in the gay metropolis to enable my wife, who had left England when a mere child, to see the wonders and gorgeous spectacles she had often heard me rave about. After acquainting the authorities at the India Office of my whereabouts, I established myself at a snug little cottage at Pinnar, near to the old fashioned manor house where twenty-five years previous I had received the first rudiments of my education. Should I sufficiently recover, I shall doubtless on the expiration of my furlough return to India, to complete the remainder of my