

inferior gypsum, form the salt bazaar, a Government monopoly which brings in a revenue all over India of some £7,000,000 every year. Here and there throughout the bazaar are little shops whose entire stock consists of a small lump of greenish pudding, which is being retailed out in tiny cubes. This is another "Government monopoly" and is *Majoon*, a preparation of the deadly *Bhang* or Indian hemp known in Turkey and Egypt as *Hasheesh*, the most horrible intoxicant the world has yet produced. In Egypt, its importation and sale is absolutely forbidden, and a costly preventive service is maintained to suppress the smuggling of it by Greek adventurers; but a Christian Government is wiser in its generation and gets a comfortable income out of its sale. When an Indian wants to commit some horrible crime, such as murder



DYER'S SHOP, LUCKNOW.

or wife mutilation, he prepares himself for it with two annas' worth of *Bhang* from a Government majoon shop. The wide and spacious shops, in front of which are strewn broken potsherds, and whose contents are two or three kegs and a pile of little pots, are the Government liquor-farmers' establishments. The groups of noisy men seated on the floor are drinking ardent spirits of the worst description, absolutely forbidden to the British soldier, but sold retail to natives at three farthings a gill, of which two farthings go to the Exchequer. No Hindu will drink from the same vessel as any one else, which explains the pile of little pots, and the broken sherds in the street outside.

Here and there a large native house is passed, through the door of which streams in and out a swarm of customers. It is, perhaps, three o'clock in the afternoon. Entering with them, you