



HINDOO DEVOTEE.

THAT a horrible looking creature ! I should be quite frightened if I were to see a real man like that. Whatever is he ? He must be a madman. Does he walk about the streets like that ? If he were in Canada they would take him to the lock-up. So many have said who have seen the above. But he lives in Mysore, India ; and there the people think differently. His name means one who has renounced the world—Sanyāsi. To pronounce it correctly, you must remember that the second ā is long, like ā in father ; and that i is like ē. These men are religious beggars, and are supposed to be very holy. They worship Shiva, and show their devotion by smearing

their bodies with the ashes of cow-dung, wear a simple cloth (piece of calico) round their loins, and throw a coloured cloth over their bodies. Some of them are so filthy that you would not like them to come near you. Look at his matted hair, full of dirt, because never washed, and hanging down like ropes. On his right arm, too, you see a kind of armlet. That is put on to add to his beauty, and is generally formed either of beads or the teeth of swine. In his bag he carries all his worldly possessions ; and if he were to open it, you would see a strange collection of cooking utensils, charms, and odds and ends of a most filthy character.

Some of these poor, deluded men torture themselves, thinking that by so doing they gain God's favour. One day, when the Rev. J. C. W. Gostick and I were itinerating near Shemoga, we spent a day or two at a village called Holaloor. Whilst there, a poor Sanyāsi came to see us. He heard that we were priests of the "English religion," and, of course, thought we belonged to the sacred brotherhood. He was a poor, wretched creature, and looked more like an idiot than a saint. He, however, was very devout, and had run a thick piece of silver wire through the fleshy part of his leg, to show his desire to mortify the flesh : and this wire he kept twisting about in our presence, as a proof of his indifference to pain. Poor man ! how we pitied him, and pointed him to Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life.—J. C. S.

We have given ourselves away ; that implies that we have no longer anything to do with ourselves. Our money, for example, is *all* God's. He leaves us what is necessary for us, and He manages it like a good father who provides largely for all our needs. But the rest is His, and He has a right to despoise of it.