

tion. He was always made an honorary member of the messes and clubs during his stays there.

The business grew rapidly; the work of the earlier years had so well paved the way for larger operations, that they were able to more than hold their own against other traders who, after the troubles were at an end, sought to establish themselves at various points on the western coast of the peninsula, and, after six more years of hard and continuous work, the business became to be a very large and important one.

"I think it more than probable," Stanley wrote to his mother, "that before very long I shall be returning home. My uncle spoke about it the last time that I saw him, and said that we were outgrowing Calcutta, and ought to establish ourselves in London. 'We can hold on a bit longer,' he said, 'but we must come to that sooner or later, and when it does you must be the one to go to England and take charge. I may go home before that for a few months, but I have no wish or desire to stop there. We have now got a good staff, and I shall probably fix myself permanently at Calcutta.'"

Two years later Tom Pearson, on his return from England, brought back a wife with him, and established himself at Calcutta. Stanley joined him there three weeks after his return. They had a long talk together that evening.

"I see, Stanley," his uncle said, "that things have gone on improving since I have been away, and that our turnover last year was £150,000, and the profits close upon £15,000. I think now that it is high time we opened a