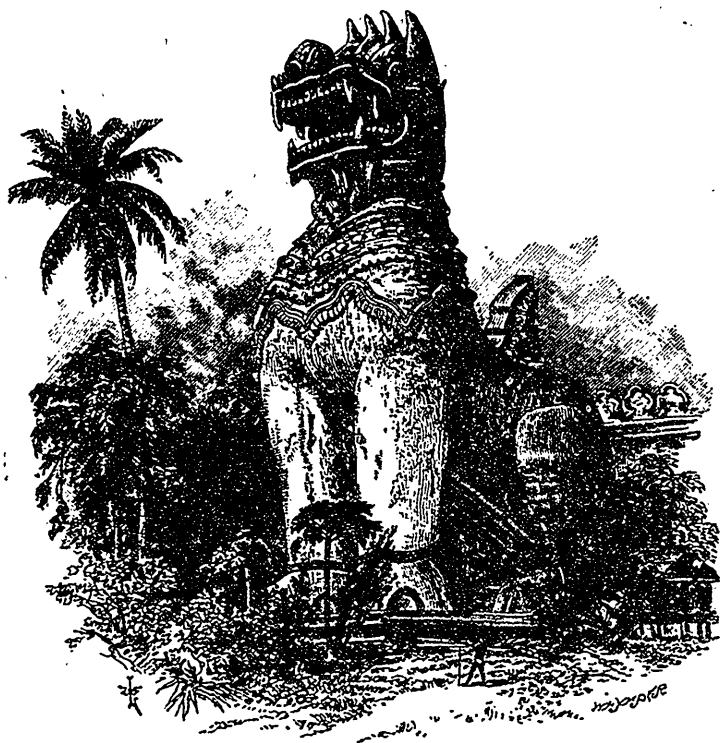


naut cars of India. The funeral of a Phoongyee is always made the occasion of a great function. The body is embalmed in honey and placed on one of these huge cars; and the people from the surrounding villages flock to the ceremony, bringing cartloads of fireworks, for the manufacture of which the Burmese are celebrated. Great rivalry arises as to which village shall be fortunate enough, through its representative, to set the gorgeous canopy on fire, and thereby release the good man's departed spirit and send



DAGON.

it straight to heaven without any further transmigration or trouble. This happy consummation is supposed to occur directly the large funeral pile, which is always of highly inflammable materials, takes fire. The result is that many accidents occur, besides a great deal of heart-burning and loss of life; for sometimes a whole quarter of the town is set on fire and much property destroyed in these contests.

The avenue leading to the Shway Dagohu Pagoda is guarded at the entrance by two enormous statues of *bylus*, or monsters,