

HONEY AND SCHOOL

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The Temple of Juggernaut.

THE hideous idol, Juggernaut, whose name means, "Lord of the World," is worshipped by many millions of Hindus. There are a great many temples dedicated to him; but that at Puri, on the western shore of the Bay of Bengal, is the largest, and the one which his worshippers esteem the most holy of all. This splendid temple is surrounded by a wall twenty-one feet in height; and its tallest pinnacle is one hundred and eighty-four feet high. This is richly gilt, and looks very beautiful in the gleaming, golden sunlight, surrounded by luxuriant tropical trees and flowering shrubs. But, while without, "every prospect pleases," telling of the wisdom and goodness of our loving Father; within, are seen only hideous idols—placed there, to be worshipped, instead of the one true God, who made heaven and earth.

The temple contains images of *Siva* and *Sathadra*, as well as *Juggernaut*, and just in front of the altar, is an image of the hawk-god, *Parounda*. The idols are all of carved wood, hideously ugly, and of crafty, cruel countenances. *Juggernaut* is painted dark-blue, with a great blood-red mouth. *Siva* is white, and *Sathadra* yellow. Every day a feast is spread for the idols, and about fourteen hundred pounds of provisions, consisting of rice, flour, butter, milk, and other things, are in some way disposed of.

It is pretended that the idols eat the food; but as there are about twenty thousand Brahmins or "holy men," living in this temple, it is easy to imagine what becomes of all the food brought in to feast the idols. The great annual car festival of *Juggernaut* is held on the eighteenth of June, at Puri: and is generally attended by more than five hundred thousand pilgrims. The car consists of an elevated platform, thirty-four feet square, supported by sixteen large wheels, and upon this platform, under a rich canopy of cloth-of-gold is seated the idol. Six ropes, each three hundred feet long, are attached to the car, and thousands of people, taking hold of these, draw the hideous god from place to place, that they may "obtain merit," or secure the pardon of their sins,

in return. Nearly half of the pilgrims are women, many of whom carry little children in their arms, or strapped to their shoulders, as they toil on, over hundreds of miles of burning sand, with but little food or rest. You, dear children, in your happy homes, cared for by tender, loving mothers, cannot at all understand the sufferings of these poor women, drooping, fainting, and falling daily by the wayside, from fatigue and hunger, till the plains are almost white with their bones. All this they suffer in the hope of finding pardon for their sins; for many of them never heard, even once, of the full pardon purchased for them by the sufferings and

Originally its face was a straight and sensible fish-face, but one day it insulted a herring, and made a mocking face at it, for which, as a punishment, it was never able to draw its face back to its natural position.

The Zulus say, that the reason the animal called the hyrax has no tail wherewith to drive away the flies is, that on the day when tails were distributed the hyrax, fearing it was going to rain, refused to go out of his lair, and begged the other animals to bring him his tail, to save him the trouble of going. So that the proverb to this day, addressed to a Zulu who, from laziness, asks another to do or

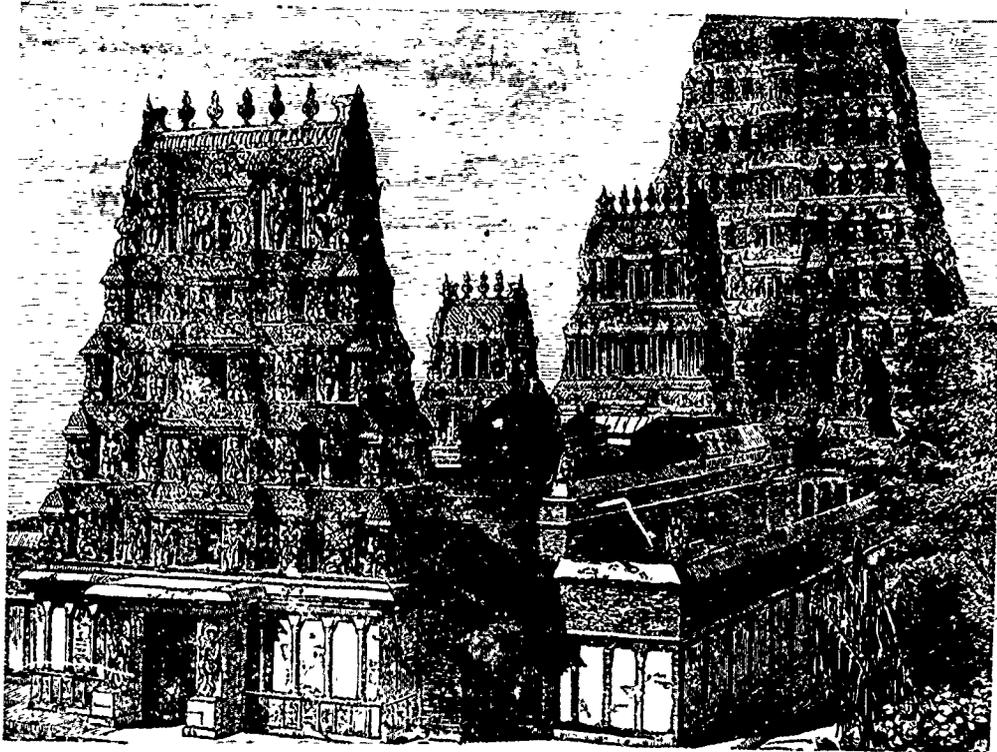
bring something for him, is: "The hyrax went without a tail because he sent for it."

The Bushmen say that the jackal's back is black because he once carried the sun on his back, when he found that great luminary, then a mortal on earth, sitting weary by the wayside.

The Indians used to have a legend current among them which explained why the bear is so fat and the rabbit so thin, and why the duck has so few tail feathers. The Great Spirit once killed so gigantic a fish that its oil and fat formed a small lake, whither he invited all the birds and beasts to come and be fed, decreeing that the fatness of each should depend on the order in which they arrived. The bear came first, and therefore became the fattest of animals. The bison and the moose were slower in coming; while the

rabbit and the marten, arriving last, came in for no fat at all. The feast over, the Great Manitou made them all dance around him with their eyes shut, and wrung the necks of the fatter ones as they passed him; but a small duck, suspicious enough to open her eyes, saw her danger and made for the water, which, however, she only just reached as Manitou gave her a kick that flattened her back, and caused the ducks of all future time to be marked, as a race, with a deficiency of tail feathers.

We would forget that there is any such thing as suffering in the world were we not occasionally reminded of it through our own.



THE TEMPLE OF JUGGERNAUT.

death of our dear Saviour. If they only knew about Jesus, how glad and happy they would be! Will you pray for them, and save some of your pennies to send them the "good news" of Jesus and his great salvation?

Curious Fables About Animals.

MANY curious and amusing stories are told among savage peoples in different parts of the world to account for the shape, size, colour, and habits of various animals.

The Westphalians have a strange explanation of the face of the flounder, which is all awry, with its eyes on one side of its face, instead of being straight across it, like the eyes of most other fish.