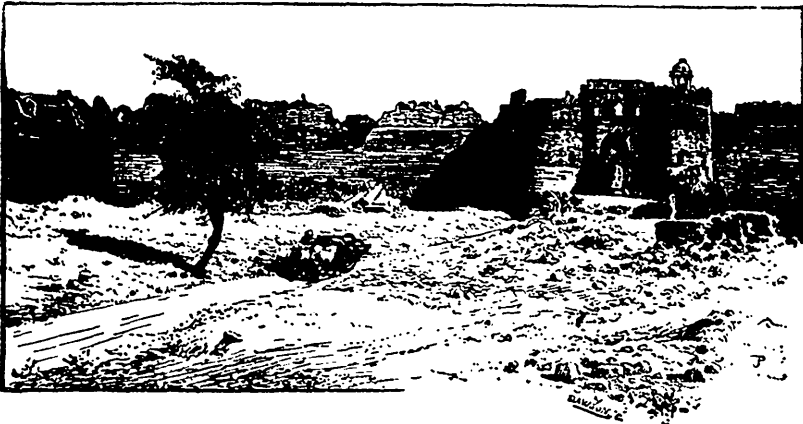


the spoils of Hindu temples. The great central range of arches, extending about 380 feet, consists of three large and eight smaller arches, the central one being fifty-three feet high and twenty-two feet wide. The great central arch is in excellent preservation, but the smaller ones are much dilapidated. In the centre of the courtyard of this mosque an ancient iron pillar stands, which is one of the most curious things in India. It stands twenty-two feet above the ground, and its base, which is bulbous, is rivetted to stone slabs two feet below the surface. Its diameter at the base is 16.4 inches, and at the capital 12.05 inches. It is a malleable forging, welded together in sections. The iron is quite pure, without alloy. It is a memorial of a victory won in A.D.



INDRAPAT.

360-400. It weighs about six tons, and it is a striking fact that the Hindus, so long ago, could forge a bar of iron larger and heavier than any that have been forged, even in Europe, until a very recent date. The noble southern gateway of the mosque was added by Ala-ud-din, seventy or eighty years later, and is supposed to be the finest specimen extant of the early Pathan style of architecture.

The beautiful cemetery of Nizam-ud-din, where lies buried the brilliant Shah Nizam-ud-din, reputed to be the founder of Thug-ism, and the murderer of Tughlak, whose tomb, hoary and time-worn, is enclosed in a very finely pierced marble screen, surrounded by a verandah of white marble. The well-house is within the enclosure, and the idlers of the place jump into water, feet foremost, from a height of seventy feet, for the pleasure of visitors, and for half rupees for themselves.

Indrapat is the most ancient of all the dead cities of the Delhi plain. It was founded 2,000 years B.C.