

Newsies are glad to they  
will be done  
Oh Paradise

# BOYS AND GIRLS

## Locomotion in India

(By Florence Penn-Forman, in Christian Work.)

Elephants are not only used in travelling, and in war, but they are worshipped in India, and Ganesh; the elephant god, is among the most honored of them all. The missionaries have much to overcome in attempting to do away with this worship among the common people. Like the Apostle Paul at Athens, they find the easiest way the best, as a general thing, and without combating the idea of worship directly, try to persuade and teach the natives that

around the door, opening at the side as in the illustration given herewith. These are usually drawn by small, white bullocks, though they are sometimes carried on the shoulders of servants, and when a journey on the train is undertaken, the ceremony of the lady's transshipment is only limited by the rank and riches of her lord. The dusky beauty sometimes rides in the open air, with a canopy over her, supported by four posts something after the manner of our old-fashioned canopy beds, with a eunuch seated in front to direct the oxen. Her arrival also is often heralded by a procession of servants carrying huge sheets. These

diamonds, gems galore, and side-elastic boots.

The Indian has always been a great lover of pilgrimages, and the opportunity for securing a cheap trip, the possibility of unlimited chatter—coincident with a reputation for piety—is an irresistible combination. It is no uncommon thing for penniless, decrepit Hindus to start off on a pilgrimage to Benares with absolutely nothing, trusting to the good nature of the officials to pass them along to the desired destination.

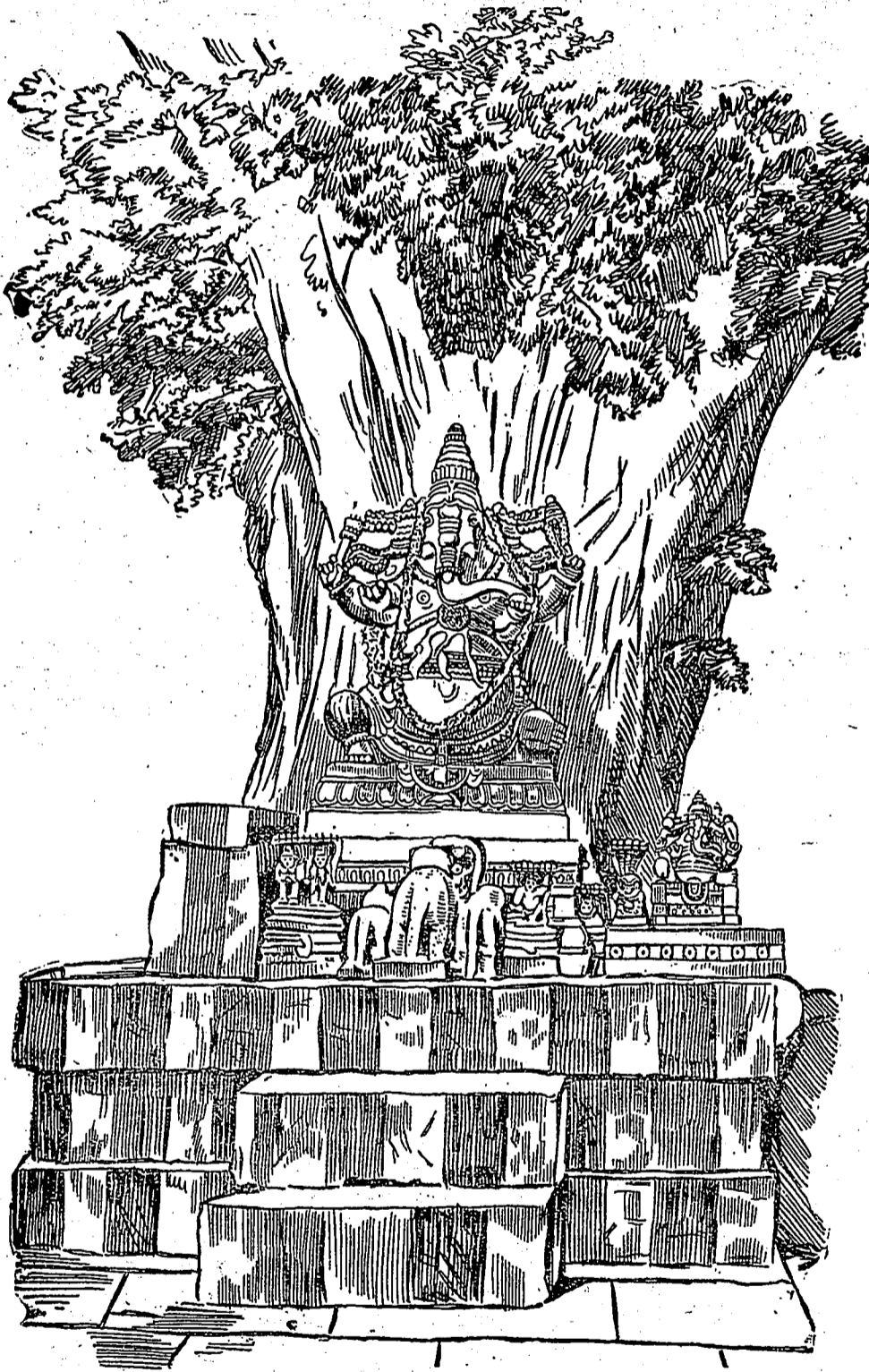
The supreme trial of the tourist in India is the food supply—or, rather, lack of food supply—which he encounters who has no friends along the line 'to put him up.' While a guest upon several occasions, I was astonished at the delightfully cooked and served meals, especially after witnessing the 'modus operandi' of the native cook. Everything was as dainty and appetizing as the most exacting could require, but the hotels and station refreshment rooms are administered by irresponsible Indians, who, despising the carnivorous globe trotter, furnish him a weird menu of seeming variety, but resolving itself into a wearisome succession of goat masquerading as lamb.

Bearing in mind the injunctions of the knowing ones, we remembered that the water is always poisonous, the horrid blue-white butter is bristling with typhus, the milk reeking with typhoid germs, the melons warranted to furnish a vigorous cholera in twenty-four hours, and the eggs of doubtful antiquity. As this constitutes the regular tourist diet, it is not astonishing that we soon confined ourselves largely to the consumption of the indigenous rice and delicious guava jelly.

The typical vehicle of many districts is the 'rickshaw,' and the rickshaw coolie is a type unto himself. Arriving at Aboo Road, one sultry morning, about nine o'clock—the archangel having been wired to procure us rickshaws for the ascent up Mount Aboo—we breakfasted, and secured a supply of hard-boiled eggs for consumption during the six-hour toil up the mountain, on the summit of which is the headquarters of the Rajpootana administration. It is also a sanitarium for European troops, but the great attraction of Mount Aboo is the Dilwarra Temples, that for delicacy of carving and beauty of detail stand unrivalled among the famous Jain temples of India. They are built of white marble, which is remarkable from the fact that there are no quarries from which the material can be obtained nearer than three hundred miles; the feat of dragging it across the plain and up 5,000 feet to the summit is an accomplishment worthy of old Egypt.

The ascent is sixteen miles, and can be made in jhampans or on ponies, but the rickshaw is the general mode of conveyance here. For the first four miles the road runs along the arid, sandy valley, where vegetation is represented by a few dusty trees near the station, which soon give place to short scrubs and abortive tufts of desert weed. The dust on the highway lies fully six inches deep, so that the occupant of the third rickshaw sees the landscape through a veil ploughed up by the tramp of forty-four feet. The heat waves quiver from the dazzling plain; on the horizon lie the purplish pink mountains against the blazing, blue sky, while nearer, the crest of Mount Aboo is brilliant with verdure.

During the ascent three halts are made of between five to ten minutes each, and while we are busily engaged in removing a



GANESH, THE ELEPHANT GOD OF INDIA.

they are 'too superstitious,' which means, both in the Greek and in the Indian languages, that they are too religious, and not sufficiently discriminating in their worship. They try to convince these people that they are able to declare to them the God 'whom they ignorantly worship' under the forms of animals and men.

In riding, the native ladies make general use of a cart or small tent-like carriage covered over with heavy pink or red cotton stuff, which extends in full curtains all

are arranged by the advance guard, and supported on poles from the outside to form a screen ten feet high, extending from the compartment door and encircling the covered litter or cart, as the case may be, from which the questionably fair occupant emerges and retires to the shuttered compartment with her women, and perhaps an eunuch, who directs the ceremony with great unction, while the rajah or princeling parades the platform, resplendent in gold-embroidered garments, watch chain of huge