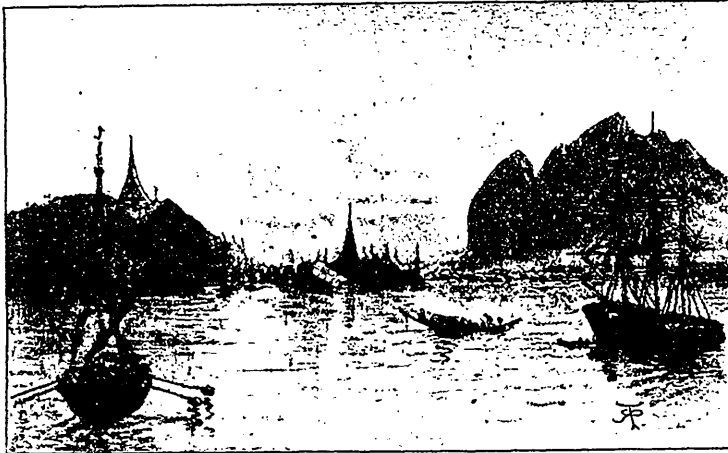


ligions, a brown and green expanse, fringed with palms and bamboos, through which flow the Indus and the Ganges; then, thirdly, the southern portion of the peninsula, high mountains on the west side, low ones on the east, and a triangular stretch of high tableland between them, called the Deccan.

As your memories take you back to it, what is India? It is Bombay, with its magnificent harbour, its Elephanta caves, its stately English government offices, its aristocratic bungalows on Malabar Hill,

ous tower,—its magnificent mosques and marble palaces, and its conflicts of creeds, philosophies, and politics. It is Lucknow, with its pathetic memories of the siege of 1857. It is Cawnpore, with its monuments to British martyrs. It is Agra, with the tomb of Akbar and the peerless Taj Mahal, a structure of which Bishop Heber said, most justly, that "it was designed by Titans and finished by jewellers."

It is Benares, with its stately residences for the few, and its squalid streets for the many; its gaudy



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its Parsee towers of silence, on which the vultures strip the flesh from the bones of the dead; its Parsees worshipping at the setting of the sun, with their faces turned toward the west; its Hindus burning corpses; its multitudinous mixture of sects and nationalities, like that of Alexandria of old.

It is Allahabad, with the junction of the Jumna and the Ganges crowded with the festivals of religious pilgrims. It is Delhi, with its ruins of Saracenic grandeur, its stately Kutub Minar,—a campanile more imposing than Giotto's fam-

temples, with frivolous or filthy rites; its crowds of pilgrims, bathing in the Ganges; its burning ghats, where the dead are reduced to ashes. It is Calcutta, with its palaces and schools and fleets and toiling thousands. It is Madras, with its surf-boats, its vigorous missions, its firm grasp on both land and sea. It is the sacred Ganges, a wide, tawny, shallow flood, rolling through a brown and dusty tropical plain. It is a toiling population of pinched and oppressed lower classes. It is a decaying native nobility, their mag-