

# HOME SCHOOLS

TORONTO, JULY 4, 1885.

[No. 14.]

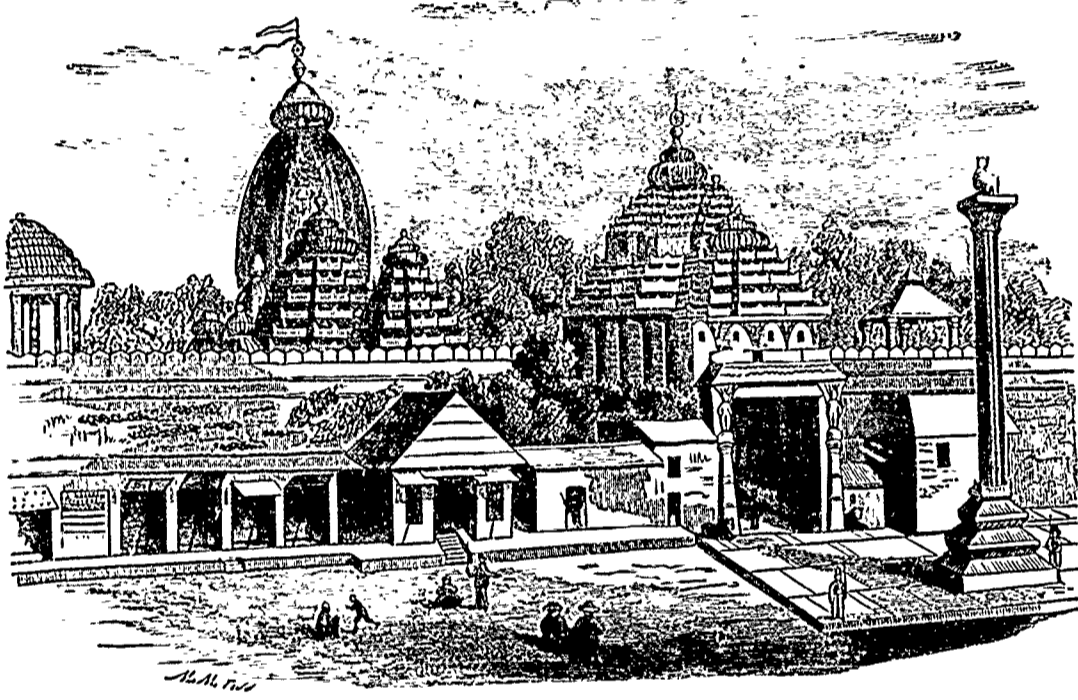
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## Temple of Juggernaut in Puri.

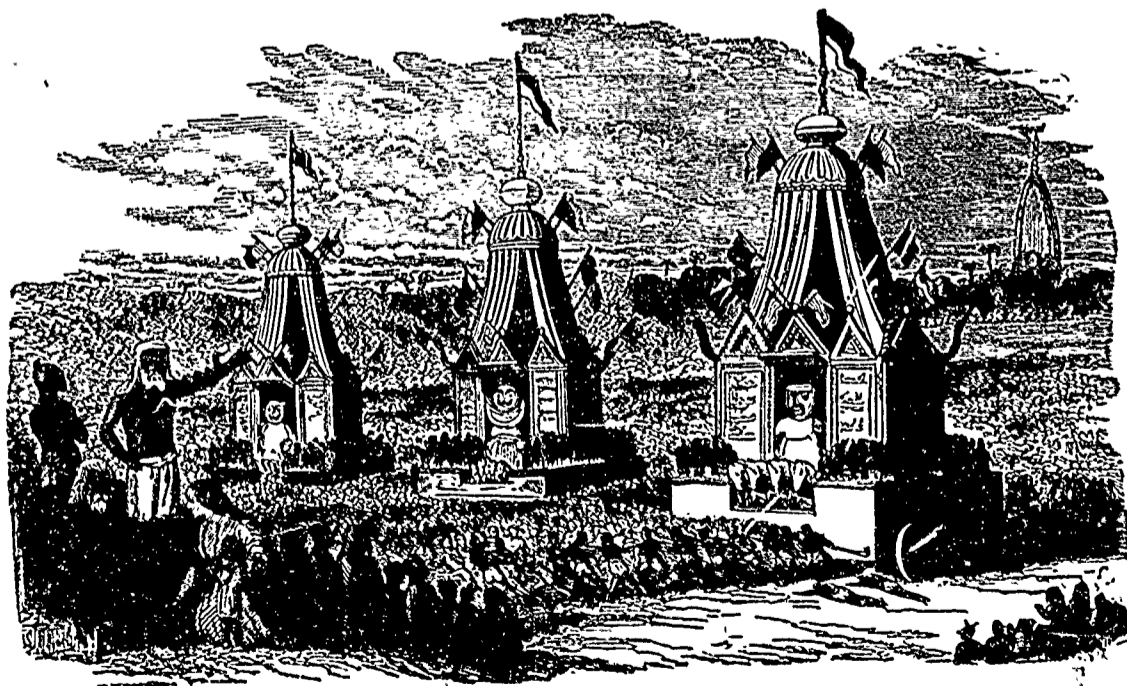
MR. WRIGHT, author of "Life in India," visited the temple of Juggernaut, at Puri, represented in the picture, and himself made upon the ground the drawing for this engraving; which, he states, is a perfectly accurate representation of the buildings brought to view. Mr. Wright says, in his work:

"Juggernaut has many temples; the one at Puri, on the western shore of the Bay of Bengal, being the largest, and esteemed the most holy. The principal edifice rises to the height of one hundred and eighty-four feet. The wall which surrounds the temple is twenty-one feet high, and forms an inclosure six hundred and fifty feet square.

"The car festival celebrated here is usually attended by more than one hundred and fifty thousand pilgrims, nearly half of whom are females. There is great suffering among these pilgrims, and very many of them die in consequence of excessive fatigue, exposure to the annual rains, and the want of suitable and sufficient food. The plains, in many places, are literally whitened with their bones, while dogs and vultures are continually devouring the bodies of the dead. The car of Juggernaut consists of an elevated platform, thirty-four feet square, and supported by sixteen wheels, each six and a half feet in diameter. Six ropes, or cables, are attached to the car, six inches in diameter, and three hundred feet in length, by means of which the people draw it from place to place. Many devotees have cast themselves under the wheels to be crushed to death. As a reward for this act of devotion, they expect to enjoy health, riches, and honours in the next life."



TEMPLE OF JUGGERNAUT.



FESTIVAL OF JUGGERNAUT.

## The Festival of "Juggernaut."

BY C. F. GORDON CUMMING.

THE great Car Festival of Jugannáth held at Puri, a sea-coast town a little to the south-west of Calcutta, in numerical importance is only exceeded by the monster fair at Hurdwar. The number of pilgrims who flock to Puri varies, of course, from year to year, and is estimated from fifty to three hundred thousand. The chief festival of the year occurs at midsummer, when the journey of perhaps a thousand or even fifteen hundred miles, mostly performed on foot, is rendered more oppressive by the intolerable heat, in spite of which the weary pilgrims, chiefly consisting of fragile-looking women, must push on, never falling short of their full day's march, lest they should reach the hallowed spot too late, and fail to be present at the various ceremonies which are to secure their salvation. We should notice, by the way, that this thirst for pilgrimage and the persevering zeal which carries the wayfarers through all hardships of the journey are diligently fanned by priestly emissaries, who go forth into every corner of the land preaching the necessity of thus purchasing salvation, and of carrying suitable offerings to the gods, or rather to the cruel harpies who guard the shrines.

By the time the weary, footsore creatures reach their desired haven, scarce able to crawl on bleeding feet, the season of the rain arrives. Perhaps for a few days longer the sun may shine, and the wayfarers, refreshed by a bath in some sacred tank, don the finery that was wrapped up in their little dirty bundles, and come forth like radiant butterflies to flutter in and out of every temple and drink of the