

TRAVEL AND EMIGRATION.

THE SOUTH-WEST SHORES OF THE CASPIAN.

(Continued from page 77.)

STEAMING ALL NIGHT and next day at eleven knots, we made about 2 p.m. the low land at the mouth of the Seid Rod, where the camp was expected to ship some more of my baggage...

They signalled the vessels, as they were getting ready for us, we pushed on, and so made Enzeli. The weather being tranquil, the mauls had some of us in the boat...

As we crossed the lake, after pulling for an hour or two they made sail on the affair; but there was no wind to speak of, and presently it began to pour with rain which continued about an hour...

As we stopped for the night, as it began to rain again, sleeping in the upper story. In the morning we got some tea made early, and were off by 6 a.m., finding a good road, instead of the horrible mud...

The peasants we met were civil, and seemed industrious; nobody was armed; altogether, they seemed to be improving considerably, and I began to think it a pity that our Government had not backed better...

We got to Reslit after one hour of quiet riding, instead of taking half a day as formerly, and, passing through the narrow lanes, filled with the people...

Thomas was hailed by half a dozen of his compatriots, who were also civil, not getting tea ready, &c.; after which, I left to call upon Mr. A., the consul, whom I found on the eve of departure for Europe...

The result is that the Shah, since his visit to Europe, finding that things were coming to a dead lock, and the old system would not work...

Next day they were all going round liquoring and eating everywhere. I was repeatedly invited, but out of the swim on business...

I was shown an apple tree in the court of the serai which gave fruit twice a year, one large and sour, the second time small and sweet...

The next day a gradual cessation of the "drunk" was visible; Henri purposely kept in the caravanserai all day, and, not having any more...

As all business, in consequence of the prevailing jollification, was of course at a standstill, I went to the conversation with Henri, varied by a short duration, pipes, coffee, &c.

About 10 a.m. the British Commissioners for the suppression of influence of moolahs and the introduction of "code civil" was proposed...

The wine here, as more or less all over Persia, is dry and heavy; but it is not so much as the grapes are very ripe, and the juice is full...

The two or three minutes which I started off, I began to think about getting Luigi to make salt (he having proposed to accompany me), which, however, was not so easy, he having at the last moment, of course, a great deal to do.

to a good manager, twenty-five men will without difficulty hoe up for the first time one acre of land that has never before been cultivated; and, although the wages are so low—men, say, 10s., women 7s., and children 5s., (out of which they provide for their families)...

LIFE OF A TEA PLANTER IN INDIA.

MOST OF THE TEA PLANTATIONS in India are situated in the midst of rich undulating forest land, and in consequence of the desire to pick out the most fertile soil, and to possess large areas of timber for charcoal, boxes, building material, &c., the poor man is often isolated...

I remember an incident which occurred last year, and which will serve to illustrate the out-of-the-way position of some of the gardens. I had occasion to visit a plantation some twenty-five miles from the nearest station...

The elephant was induced to enter the water, guarding himself with his trunk, and, when he got across, when a large boulder of rock above us, displaced by the heavy rush of water...

This, I will allow, is an extreme case; for, in opening out new plantations, labour, is considered almost as important a point for the success of a tea concern as quality of soil.

As a rule planters' houses are not very substantial-looking buildings. Raised some four feet from the ground, and with a verandah extending all round the house, into which doors from all the rooms open; built of rough timber, posts, and beams, out in the neighbouring jungle...

The furniture, although simple, consisting of a few tables, easy chairs, and a punks, is suitable to the place, for not only do the room furnished in the style of our English apartments afford hiding places for snakes, centipedes, scorpions, and other crawling insects...

The house with water, backed by a massive range of well-wooded hills—a planter's residence presents a very different aspect to the hill-side man's house. Life is not an excessively laborious one, although in the rainy or manufacturing season, i.e., from March to October, the manager's constant attendance is necessary to superintend the manufacture...

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