

ELEGY ON A RHINOCEROS, LATELY DECEASED.

Come, let us weep for Begum ; he is dead.
 Dead ; and afar, where Themis' waters lave
 The busy marge, he lies unvisited,
 Unsung ; above, no cyprus branches wave,
 Nor flowers fertilise around his grave.
 But ours it is to mourn, with welling eyes,
 Th' anachronistic pachyderm's demise.

Blithesome was he and beautiful ; the Zoo
 Hath nought to match with Begum ; he was one
 Of infinite humour ; well indeed he knew
 To catch with mobile lips the jocund bun
 Cast him-ward, by some sire-encouraged son
 Half-fearful, yet of pride fulfilled to note
 The dough, swift-homing down th' exultant throat.

Whilome in pensive-wise he stood, ornate
 With comfortable mud, and idly stirred
 His rearward caudal, disproportionate,
 But not ungraceful, while a wanton herd
 Of revellers the mystic lens preferred ;
 Whereof the focus rightly they addressed,
 And, Phœbus being kind, the button pressed.

Then, being frolic, he, with mien distraught,
 Would, blindly groping, seek the watery verge
 And sink, nor rise again ; but when, untaught
 In craft, the mourners raised th' untimely dirge,
 Lo ! elsewhere himself would swift emerge
 Incontinent, and shake his tasselled ears ;
 And, all-vivacious, own the sounding cheers.

Nothing of base suspicion nor of guile
 Was limned on Begum. His the mirthful glance,
 The genial port, the comprehensive smile ;
 The very sunbeams shimmering loved to dance
 Adown that honest, open countenance ;
 And, far as eye could pierce, his roomy grin
 Was pink, as 'twere Aurora dwelt therein.

Yet he is dead. Whether the wheaten feast
Some lawless lodgement made, nor found escape ;
Or if, perchance, the wild and ravening East
Had howled adown that hospitable gape,
And, ill-requiting, knocked him out of shape,
We nothing know : only the fact is spread,
Not how he died : simply that he is dead.

Still, tho' the callous bards neglect to hymn
Thy praises, Begum : tho', on dross intent,
The hireling sculptor pauseth not to limn
Thy spacious visage, kindly hands are bent
E'en now, to stuff thy frail integument.
Then sleep in peace, Belovèd ; blest Sultân
Of some Rhinokeraunian Devachân.

DUM DUM.

pleasing. Red carpet had been laid along the central aisle, and the altar was decorated with white chrysanthemums. As soon as the marriage bearing the wedding party arrived, Mr. Falconer, cathedral organist, played the march from Lohengrin. The bride looked lovely as she entered the building on the arm of her father. She wore a gown of ivory duchesse satin, the skirt being trimmed with a deep flounce of lace headed with orange-blossom. The body was composed of tucked satin, with a yoke and sleeves of lace and chiffon. From the shoulders swept a long court train draped with chiffon and daintily caught at the end with a bunch of orange-blossom. Her bridesmaids were her sister, Miss Benn, Miss Muir-Mackenzie, and little Miss Cahusac. Miss Benn and Miss Muir-Mackenzie were attired in dresses of cream Roman satin. The skirts were tucked from knee to hem, and the bodices designed with yokes and elbow sleeves of white lace over chiffon; they had fichus to correspond. The whole was completed most effectively by delicate pink sashes and large picture hats trimmed with pink roses. Little Miss Cahusac, a beautiful child of about five years, and daughter of Col. Cahusac, seemed as if she had stepped from an old painting, dressed as she was in a short-waisted costume of eau de nil chiffon and a quaint close-fitting cap of lace trimmed with violets. Mrs. Benn, mother of the bride, wore a gown of green silk trimmed with appliqué, with bodice and vest of chiffon and lace and green panne collar. Mr. Courage, 15th Lancers, brother of the bridegroom, acted as best man, and the bride was given away by her father. At the conclusion of the service Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" was played. At the door all the officers of H.M.S. *Magdala*, on which Lieut. Courage has served for some years, formed line on either side, and the newly wedded pair, amid ringing cheers from a large number of the non-commissioned officers and men of the *Magdala*, passed out to their carriage under a lane of crossed swords. After the ceremony a reception was held at their residence, Cumballa Hill, by Mr. and Mrs. Piercy Benn, at which there was a very large attendance. The Bishop of Bombay proposed the health of the bride and bridegroom. Other toasts followed, and were all drunk most heartily. Great interest was shown in the inspection of the presents, which were numerous, and testified to the esteem in which the recipients are held. Afterwards Lieut. and Mrs. Courage, amid great enthusiasm, drove to the Victoria Terminus to catch the afternoon train for Matheran. After a couple of days at Matheran the happy pair were to proceed to England by the first mail steamer.

R. I. P.

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SPORT.

POLO.

The Punjab Tournament.—In the Punjab Tournament semi-finals played at Lahore on December 29 the Dragoon Guards beat the South Wales Borderers by seven goals and five subsidiaries to nil, and the 10th Bengal Lancers beat the Inniskilling Fusiliers by eight goals and one subsidiary to one goal and two subsidiaries. The 18th Lancers and the 4th Dragoon Guards were to meet in the finals on Dec. 31.

The Burma Commission Tournament.—In the final polo match for the Burma Commission Cup the Essex Regt. beat Rangoon by one goal. The scores were: Essex Regt., two goals and two subsidiaries; Rangoon, one goal and two subsidiaries. Play was very even on both sides throughout.

Hyderabad Tournament.—SECUNDERABAD, Jan. 4.—The annual Hyderabad Polo Tournament for H.H. the Nizam's Cup, valued at 1,000 rs., commenced on the Futch maidan at Chudderghaut. The game was practically one-sided, and those who witnessed it were few. The detraction from the interest in the tournament this year is attributable to the British troops being out in the camp. But Capt. Rose Price, the honorary secretary, worked as hard as any man could to retain the polish the tournament has always had. The Golconda team met the 3rd Lancers of the Nizam's regular troops, and the result was that the crack Golcondas beat the Lancers by 12 goals and five subsidiaries to three goals and one subsidiary. The draw of these teams was unfortunate, as this was the first tussle of the Lancers, and although they were badly beaten they played pluckily. The following were the sides:—

GOLCONDA TEAM.—Jemadar Abid Khan, Mr. Shah Mirza Beg, Capt. Oosman Yar lung, and Mr. Killuder.

3RD LANCERS, REGULAR TROOPS.—Sub-Lieut. Wahid Ali Khan, Duffadar Ali Khan, Naik Abdur Shukur, and Sowar Mahomed Khan.

UMPIRES.—Capt. Barr and Capt. Rose Price.

GOLF.

The Amateur Championship.—The Amateur Golf Championship of India was won at Calcutta on Dec. 29 by Mr. Stuart Smith, who beat Mr. Urie by seven up and six to play. The Barrackpore Open Handicap was won by Major Ferrar, Capt. Carruthers being second.

The annual dinner given by the members of the Calcutta Golf Club took place in the evening at the Saturday Club. Sir John Woodburn was in the chair. There were about 60 members who sat down to table, the guests present including the well-known golf cracks, Mr. Plowden from Peshawur, Mr. Steven from Singapore, Mr. Macbeth from Bombay, and Mr. R. D. Murray from Kauli.

CRICKET.

The Punjab Cup.—LAHORE, Jan. 1.—On Saturday afternoon the Punjab Army Cricket Challenge Cup was presented by his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab on behalf of the Punjab Commission to Lieut.-Gen. Egerton, on behalf of the Punjab Army. The Lieutenant-Governor said the cup has been subscribed for by almost every officer on the Punjab Commission. The reasons which actuated them to give the trophy were various, but two were predominant: first, it was felt very desirable to encourage the British soldier to take more interest in such a thoroughly healthy and sound recreation as cricket, and so to assist him to pass his leisure hours more profitably than in anything resembling loafing; and, secondly, the Punjab Commission desired to show their goodwill towards their brethren in the Army, and mark their sense of the courtesy and hospitality shown by the various messes to isolated civilians dotted about the province. The only conditions imposed by the givers were: first, that British battalions should form one set of units, and suitable groups of native corps, and batteries of Artillery, Engineers, and other departments should form another, the grouping being left to be arranged by representatives of the Punjab Army; and, secondly, that the finals should always be played on the Lahore cricket ground. It was hoped that in time native competitors would take their place alongside their British confrères, as had been the case in polo, and it was hoped that the presentation of this cup, which had been won in the first tournament played by the 1st batt. 2nd Queen's, would do for cricket and for the Army much the same service as had been done by the Durand Football Cup.

Capt. Neale, of the 1st batt. 2nd Queen's, and captain of the regimental eleven, which has won the cup for 1900, then came forward and received the cup on behalf of the regiment. General Egerton then, on behalf of the Punjab Army, said that he and the Punjab Army, which he represented, were very grateful to the Punjab Commission for the splendid trophy which had been presented for the encouragement of cricket in the Punjab. In no province in India was there more cordiality and good feeling between the Civil Service and the