

আৰু ৰায়মুকুত বৃহস্পতিৰ টীকাকে অমৰকোষৰ শ্লোকৰ পাচত তুলি দিছে। তাৰ উপৰিও, অন্যান্য টীকাকাৰে যদি কিবা উল্লেখযোগ্য মত দিছে মিঃ বৰুৱাই আগহেৰে ক্ষীৰস্বামী আৰু ৰায়মুকুতৰ টীকাৰ লগতে তুলি দিছে।

মিঃ বৰুৱাই অমৰকোষৰ টীকাকাৰৰ বিবিধ টীকাপুস্তক গ্ৰন্থ বৰ যত্নেৰে সংগ্ৰহ কৰিছিল। বিলাতৰ ইণ্ডিয়া অফিচ, পুনাৰ দেৱান কলেজৰ লাইব্ৰেৰী, কাশী, দুৰ্গাপুৰ, চট্টগ্ৰাম, ধৰ্মপুৰ আদি নানা ঠাইৰ পৰা মিঃ বৰুৱাই পুথি-পাঁজি গোটায়।

আনন্দৰামৰ নামলিঙ্গানুশাসনৰ আদিতো দিয়া ইংৰাজী পাতনিখন বৰ সাক্ষৰা আৰু জ্ঞানগৰ্ভ। অমৰকোষ কিয় লাগতিয়াল, তাৰ ঐতিহাসিক মূল্য, গ্ৰন্থৰ নানা বিভাগ, মূলগ্ৰন্থ, শ্লোকবিলাকৰ শ্ৰেণী বিভাগ, বৰ্ণ, ক্ষীৰস্বামীৰ গ্ৰন্থ-সংগ্ৰহ, ক্ষীৰস্বামীৰ জন্মকাল আৰু যুগ, তেওঁৰ ৰচিত অন্যান্য গ্ৰন্থ, তেওঁৰ আভিধানিক প্ৰমাণ-গ্ৰন্থ, তেওঁৰ নিদানিক প্ৰমাণ-গ্ৰন্থৰ বিষয়ে পাতনিত সুন্দৰ আলোচনা দিয়া হৈছে। মিঃ বৰুৱাৰ মতে ক্ষীৰস্বামী খৃষ্টিয় বাৰ শতাব্দীৰ আগৰ মানুহ। তেওঁৰ জন্ম ঠাই আছিল মহাৰাষ্ট্ৰ বা কৰ্ণাট প্ৰদেশ।

মিঃ বৰুৱাই একেবাৰে সমুদায় নামলিঙ্গানুশাসন প্ৰকাশ কৰা নাছিল। তেওঁ তাক ছোৱা-ছোৱাকৈ প্ৰকাশ কৰিবৰ প্ৰস্তাব কৰে। দুখৰ বিষয় এই যে মিঃ বৰুৱাই সেই গ্ৰন্থ সম্পূৰ্ণকৈ প্ৰকাশ কৰি যাব নোৱাৰিলে।

১৮৮৭ চনত মিঃ আনন্দৰাম বৰুৱা সম্পাদিত সটীক নামলিঙ্গানুশাসনৰ প্ৰথম ভাগ প্ৰকাশিত হয়। প্ৰথম খণ্ডত প্ৰস্তাবনাৰ পৰা আৰম্ভ কৰি স্বৰ্গ বৰ্গৰ অন্তৰ্গত অগ্নি শব্দলৈকে, অৰ্থাৎ মোট দুকুৰি-পোন্ধৰটা শ্লোক আছে। দ্বিতীয় খণ্ড ১৮৮৮ চনত প্ৰকাশিত হয়। ইয়াত অমৰকোষৰ শব্দাদিবৰ্গৰ পঞ্চম শ্লোক অৰ্থাৎ পুৰাণ শব্দৰ ব্যাখ্যালৈকে আছে।

মিঃ বৰুৱাই অমৰসিংহৰ নামলিঙ্গানুশাসন গ্ৰন্থমালা তেওঁৰ সেই মহদুৰ্ভাৱৰ উৎসাহদাতাসকলৰ নামে উচৰ্গা কৰে। তেওঁৰ কিতাপ

গুৰোৱাৰ আয়োজনৰ কথা শুনি অনেক বিজ্ঞোৎসাহী পুৰুষে তাৰ অগ্রিম  
 গ্ৰাহক হয়। তাৰ ভিতৰত আমি তলত লিখা কিজনৰ নাম পাইছো,—  
 বোম্বাই গৱৰ্ণমেণ্ট; মাদ্ৰাজৰ শিক্ষাবিভাগৰ ডিৰেক্টৰ; হাবৰদ আৰু  
 দিনাজপুৰৰ মহাবাজা; অসম, মধ্যপ্ৰদেশ, বৃটিচ বৰ্দ্মা, কুৰ্গৰ চীফ-  
 কমিচনাৰ; প্ৰকৃতত্ববিদ্ ভাক্তাৰ হৰ্ণেল; ঢাকাৰ অধ্যাপক কালীপ্ৰসন্ন  
 ভট্টাচাৰ্য; বগলাপ্ৰসন্ন মজুমদাৰ, আনন্দ চন্দ্ৰ বাৰ; নগাঁও অসমৰ বাৰ  
 গুণাভিৰাম বৰুৱা বাহাদুৰ, মি: বলীনাৰাৰণ বৰা, গীত্ৰাম উকীল,  
 শনশ্ৰাম বেঙ্গবৰুৱা উকীল; বোম্বেইৰ এল্-আৰ বৈজ্ঞ; পুনাৰ সুবিখ্যাত  
 সংস্কৃত পণ্ডিত নন্দাবগীৰকৰ; বল্লভ বাৰাজী পণ্ডিত; কৰ্ণেল জি-ই  
 জেকব; পৃথিৱীৰ সৰ্বপ্ৰধান গ্ৰহ ব্যবসায়ৰ ঠাই লিপ্জিগ্ৰ হেব. কয়েলাৰ  
 আৰু চৌকিঙৰ বাণিজ্যও নাজিও।

প্ৰথম খণ্ড প্ৰকাশ হোৱাৰ পাচত সংস্কৃতাহ্বাসী সমাজৰ পৰা মি:  
 বৰুৱাই বৰ শলাগনি পায়। তেওঁ গ্ৰন্থৰ আদিত্তে অমবসিংহ আৰু ক্ষীৰ-  
 স্বামীৰ বিষয়ে যি সুবিস্তৰ আলোচনা দিছে সি অতি পাণ্ডিত্যপূৰ্ণ হৈছে  
 বুলি সকলোৱে স্বীকাৰ কৰে। যদিচ মি: বৰুৱাই নামলিঙ্গাঙ্কণসন  
 সম্পূৰ্ণকৈ প্ৰকাশ কৰি থৈ যাব নোৱাৰিলে, অমবসিংহ আৰু ক্ষীৰস্বামীৰ  
 বিষয়ে মন্তব্য সমালোচনা আগলৈকো পণ্ডিত-মণ্ডলীৰ আদৰৰ বস্ত হব,  
 পিচলৈ অমবকোষ ক্ষীৰস্বামীৰ টীকাসহ অন্ত্ৰেও প্ৰকাশ কৰিব পাৰিব।  
 পুনাৰ ওকা পণ্ডিতৰ সম্পাদিত নামলিঙ্গাঙ্কণসন সমালোচনা কৰোঁতে  
 ডা: ডি-আৰ ভাণ্ডাৰকৰ ডাঃবীৰাই কৈছে,—“ক্ষীৰস্বামীৰ টীকা বে  
 কিমান মূল্যবান মি: আনন্দৰাম বৰুৱাৰ সম্পাদিত আৰু আংশিকৰূপে  
 প্ৰকাশিত হোৱা নামলিঙ্গাঙ্কণসনৰ পৰা স্পষ্ট বুজিব পাৰি।”

লাহোৰৰ ট্ৰিবিউন কাকতত বৰুৱাৰ অমবকোষৰ বিষয়ে কোৱা কথা-  
 খিনি বৰ হৃদয়গ্ৰাহী,—“মি: বৰুৱাৰ সংস্কৃতত ব্যুৎপত্তি ৰেনে গভীৰ আৰু  
 নিৰ্ভুল ভেনে বিস্তৃত। আমাৰ বিবেচনা মতে তেওঁ আমাৰ জাতীয়

গৌৰবৰ পাত্ৰ, আমি জ্ঞাতিস্বৰূপে তেওঁক লৈ গৰু কৰিব পাৰোঁ; আৰু আমি একান্ত আশা কৰোঁ যে আমাৰ বুদ্ধিমন্ত যুবকসকলে মিঃ বৰুৱাৰ সমুন্নত অথচ কঠোৰ আদৰ্শ অনুসৰণ কৰিব।”

ইণ্ডিয়ান স্পেক্টেটৰ কাগজে কয়,—“আভিধানিক অমৰসিংহৰ সৰ্ব্বপ্ৰধান গ্ৰন্থ অমৰকোষ প্ৰকাশ কৰোঁতে মিঃ বৰুৱাই যি অপৰিসীম পৰিশ্ৰমৰ চানেকী দেখুৱাইছে তাক যথাযথ ভাবে সমাদৰ কৰি মোল বৃদ্ধিবলৈ আমাৰ শক্তি নাই।”

আচাৰ্য্য মোক্ষমুলাৰে মিঃ বৰুৱাক কবলৈ বাধ্য হয়,—“এই কিতাপ খনিয়ে আপোনালৈ মহৎ সন্মান আনিছে।”

নামলিঙ্গানুশাসনৰ দ্বিতীয় ভাগ প্ৰকাশ হোৱাৰ পাচত আৰু জন-চেৰেক সাহিত্যানুৰাগী পুৰুষ সেই গ্ৰন্থৰ অগ্ৰিম গ্ৰাহক হয়। তাৰ ভিতৰত এই সকলৰ নাম উল্লেখযোগ্য—বোম্বাই আৰু উত্তৰ-পশ্চিম প্ৰদেশৰ শিক্ষাবিভাগৰ গৰাকী; হাটোৱাৰ মহাৰাজা; মুক্তাগাছাৰ জমিদাৰ ৰাজা সূৰ্য্যকান্ত আচাৰ্য্য; ববাহনগৰৰ জমিদাৰ ৰায় যতীন্দ্ৰনাথ চৌধুৰী আৰু লণ্ডনৰ ট্ৰুংনাৰ কোম্পানী।

**ধাতুকোষ বা ধাতুপাঠ।**

**DHATUKOSA, OR DHATUPATHA.** Alphabetically arranged. With copious extracts from Madhava, Durga, Vopadeva, and others. 1888.

আনন্দবাম বৰুৱাৰ ধাতুকোষ বা ধাতুপাঠ গ্ৰন্থত সকলো সংস্কৃত ধাতুৰ বৰ্ণানুক্রমে নাম আৰু অৰ্থ আছে। তাৰ লগে-লগে মাধব, দুৰ্গাসিংহ আৰু বোপদেৱ আদি বৈয়াকৰণিকসকলৰ গ্ৰন্থাৱলীৰ পৰা সাৰ টোকা দিয়া হৈছে।

## APPENDIX I.

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO PERIODICALS BY THE AUTHOR.

আনন্দবাস বসুৰাৰ বিষয়ে বৰ্ত্তমান গ্রন্থকাৰক অত্যাৱশ্য প্ৰকাৰণী ।

I. *The Indian Review*, July 1920, and *Eminent Orientalists*. Reprinted with the kind permission of the publishers, Messrs Natesan & Co., Madras.

#### Anundoram Borooah—the Indian Sanskritist.

*Introductory.* The latter half of the nineteenth century witnessed a glorious band of workers in the field of Sanskrit research in India. This gifted brotherhood included among its members the late Mr. R. C. Dutta, Raja Rajendralal Mitra, Swami Dayananda Saraswati, Pandit Indrajī Bhavani, Sir Ramkrishna Gopal Bhandarkar and Mr. Anundoram Borooah. The last, by dint of his earnestness of purpose and his life-long devotion to the cause of Sanskrit scholarship, has won an imperishable name in the annals of Indian Sanskrit research. Thirty-five or forty years ago no Indian *savant's* name had excited greater admiration and applause than Mr. Borooah's, and this feeling was rightly echoed in the *Lahore Tribune* of those days.—“Mr. Borooah's Sanskrit scholarship is as profound and accurate as it is extensive. We are proud of him as a nation, and we earnestly hope that our brightest youths may follow his noble though very arduous path.”

Mr. Borooah was a member of the Indian Civil Service, and was for some years in charge of a heavy district in Bengal. The scope of his work and the range

of his scholastic investigations which he strenuously carried on in the midst of his busy official duties show him, to quote Prof. Cicil Bendall's words in the *Trubner's Record*, 1889, "to have been a kindred spirit with administrators like Colebrooke and Burnell among the illustrious dead, and the small band of living workers like Grierson, Fleet and R. C. Temple."

Mr. Borooah is a fine flower of western culture. The profound erudition of the oriental scholar combined with the critical spirit of the west imparted to Mr. Borooah's works a peculiar value and lustre. As the greatest intellectual representative of the "benighted province of Assam", Mr. Borooah is the glory of the Assamese; and Assam has not produced a greater man during the space of ninety-five years that she has come under British rule. His name has been an example and an inspiration to thousands of the youths of Assam.

*Life.* Mr. Anundoram Borooah B.A., I.C.S., Barrister-at-Law, was born in May, 1850, at North Gauhati in the district of Kamrup, Assam. This Kamrup forms at present only a fragment of the greater Kamrupa Empire of yore, hallowed by the names of Narakasur, Bhagadatta, Bana, Bhaskara-Varma, Naranarayan, Pratap Singha Swargodeo and Rudra Singha Swargadeo among her kings; Jongal Balahu, Cilarai and Lachit Phukon among her heroes and soldiers; Usha, Rukmini, Behula, Joymati and Phuleswari Barkuanri among her women; Dak, Sankar Deva, Madhava Deva, Purusottam Vidyabagis and Anundoram Dhekial Phukon among her saints and litterateurs; and Momai Tamooli Barborooah and Rajmantri Purnananda Buragohain among her ministers and statesmen. Anundoram belonged to the well-known Majindar Borooah family of Assam. His father, an Assamese gentleman of the older type, was for some

years a *Sadar Amin.*, a post equivalent to a modern Deputy Magistrateship.

Through the efforts of his learned father Anundoram was initiated into the vast potentialities of the *Deva Bhasha* even during his childhood. With the help of an erudite Sanskrit Pandit who was appointed to teach him Sanskrit, Anundoram mastered and got by heart the whole of the immortal lexicon *Amarkosh* before he was fourteen, at which age he also passed the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University. He read for the first Arts Examination in the Presidency College of Calcutta, and there he had as his teachers the great educationists, Mahamahopadhyaya Mohes Chandra Nyayaratna C.I.E. in Sanskrit, and Sir (then Mr.) Gurudas Banerji in Mathematics. Mr. Borooah had as his classmates the late Mr. R. C. Dutt I.C.S., Mr. B. L. Gupta I.C.S., and Mr. Kartick Chandra Mitra M.A., P.R.S. and as his contemporary college friends the Right Honourable Mr. Syed Amir Ali P. C., Sir Surendranath Banerji Kt., and the poet Babu Nabin Chandra Sen. Sir Gurudas Banerji has once fittingly remarked,—“The First-year Class of the Presidency College of 1865 was a splendid one containing many very brilliant students, .....and Mr. Borooah was unquestionably the brightest of this bright band of young students.”

Anundoram stood sixth in the First Class in the F.A. Examination held in December 1866, securing the Duff scholarship in Mathematics, and in January 1869 he stood third in the First Class in the B.A. Examination of the Calcutta University. Emulated by the noble example of the glorious trio Mr. Surendranath Banerji, Mr. Beharilal Gupta and Mr. Ramesh Chandra Dutt who had left for England a few months ago, Mr. Borooah made up his mind to proceed to England, and sat in

the competitive examination for the State Scholarship tenable in England. The Syndicate of the Calcutta University in their sitting of the 29th January, 1869, elected Mr. Borooah to the scholarship. Besides the state-scholarship, Mr. Borooah won by open competition the Gilchrist Scholarship as well, and the total value of these stipends amounted to £300/- a year.

Mr. Borooah proceeded to England in the spring of 1869 with Mr. H. Woodrow M.A., sometime D.P.I. of Bengal, who had taken a kindly interest in this young prodigy from Assam, and had introduced him to Lord Mayo, the then Viceroy and Governor-General of India. Mr. Borooah joined one of the Civil Service coaching institutions in London, studied Science in the London University and Law in the Middle Temple. His aptitude for scientific study was so great that Dr. Carpenter, Professor of Zoology in the London University and Principal of the University College, London, once remarked,—“Mr. Borooah was the most inquisitive student that I have ever come across.” Mr. Borooah passed the I.C.S. Examination in 1870, was called to the Bar in the subsequent year, and is said to have passed also the B.Sc. Examination of the London University. He stood high in Mathematics in the Civil Service Examination. During his stay in England Mr. Borooah contracted intimacy with the late Sir Taraknath Palit Kt., D.L. (then Mr.), and it ceased only with the death of Mr. Borooah. It may be noted here that Mr. Borooah was the first Assamese graduate, the first Assamese Barrister and the first Assamese Civilian, and that up to the present time no other Assamese has been successful in the open competition for the I.C.S.

Mr. Borooah returned to India in the autumn of 1872, and was appointed Assistant Commissioner of the

Sibsagar District in his own province, Assam. After a year of service in Assam Mr. Borooah secured transfer to Bengal where he passed the remaining years of his life. His short stay in Sibsagar was marked by his scholastic habits, and his independence of attitude for which he had occasional misunderstanding with his superiors. His usual dress was the old-fashioned aristocratic *chouga and chapkan*, and he used to have a book by his side even in the court which he read in the intervals of his magisterial functions.

Mr. Borooah served as an Assistant Magistrate in several places in Bengal; and when after a prolonged agitation which had as its great patron and supporter Sir William Hunter, Indian Civilians were first entrusted with the charge of districts, Mr. Borooah and Mr. R. C. Dutt were eventually appointed District Magistrates and Collectors. And as is always the case, when Indians are given fair opportunities to prove their mettle they respond magnificently, Mr. Borooah and Mr. Dutt discharged their duties without any hitch or trouble, and thereby paved the path for the Indians in securing the highest responsible posts under the Government.

Mr. Borooah did not allow his literary zeal to be damped by the heavy responsibilities of a Magistrate's duties; there issued forth from his pen every year books after books, lexicons, grammars, editions of old Sanskrit texts, and compilations from old Sanskrit authors. In 1881, Mr. Borooah projected the compilation of a comprehensive Grammar of the Sanskrit Language, in twelve volumes, of one thousand pages each, and to be able to consult the oriental books and manuscripts of the British Museum, London, he took two years' furlough from November 1881, and sailed for England. He



carried on his investigations in England, and in this undertaking his great helpers were Prof. Cecil Bendall, the Keeper of Oriental Books in the British Museum, Mr. Nicholson, the Bodleian Librarian at Oxford, and Dr. Reinhold Rost the learned Librarian of the India Office. After collecting sufficient materials Mr. Borooah returned to India in October 1883.

In 1885 Mr. Borooah was appointed Fellow of the Calcutta University, and was attached to the Faculty of Arts. Two years after he was placed for the second time in charge of the Noakhali District in Bengal; and there by his learning, benevolence, sympathetic treatment of the people, and various acts of public utility Mr. Borooah won the heart of the people. Schools and markets were established in Mr. Borooah's name, and tanks were dug in the interior parts of Bengal and named after him. The learned *Burra Saheb* of Noakhali used to place at his gate always a man with a few baskets of rice, and any beggar would have his share at any hour of the day. When Mr. Borooah went out to the *Mofussil* he had with him an additional cart loaded with provisions and food which he distributed among the needy folks as they clustered round to catch a glimpse of the Indian magistrate. All this sounds romantic and legendary, but it was for this reason that Mr. Borooah's name has spread an irresistible charm over the hearts of the people of Bengal. Mr. Borooah helped many poor students with books and money, and educated a meritorious Bengali student even in England. He had a staff of erudite Sanskrit *Pundits* whom he paid handsomely. This learned *congerie* of orthodox *Pundits* helped Mr. Borooah in the Mechanical portions of his literary endeavours. As an official too he won the trust and confidence of the Government.

In the winter of 1888 Mr. Borooh became ill. A sudden attack of paralysis, aggravated by an ill-advised sea-bath, disabled him, and he took leave for three months. He went to Calcutta, lived at the Ballygunge residence of his old friend Sir Taraknath Palit, and placed himself under the treatment of the best allopathic, homeopathic, and *Ayurvedic* physicians of the day. But even their united efforts failed to cure that fell disease. Mr. Borooh passed away in the afternoon of the 19th January, 1889.

*Literary Works.* Mr. Borooh's literary career spread over a period of twelve years only; and considering the shortness of the period, the character of his productions, both in their qualitative and quantitative aspects was simply marvellous. His *English-Sanskrit Dictionary* appeared in three volumes between 1877 and 1880, and for many years it was the only work of its kind written by an Indian. On the completion of this *magnum opus*, Mr. Borooh was congratulated from all quarters, including among them the illustrious names of Lord Northbrooke, Governor-General of India, and Prof. F. Max Muller. To the second and third volumes of his Dictionary Mr. Borooh prefixed two other original and useful works, viz, his *Higher Sanskrit Grammar* and *Ancient Geography of India* respectively.

This was followed by an edition of Bhavabhuti's *Mahaviracharitam* with Mr. Borooh's lucid commentary in Sanskrit called *Janakiramabhasya* after his beloved brother Janakiram Borooh. Mr. Borooh's next literary ventures were, first, a critical dissertation named, *Bhavabhuti and his place in Sanskrit literature*, which contained an exhaustive treatment of the *Ramaic* drama besides Bhavabhuti and his age; and secondly, *A Companion to the Sanskrit-reading under-graduates*

of the *Calcutta University*, being a few notes on the Sanskrit texts selected for the F. A. and B. A. Examinations. Small though in bulk the latter book is an important contribution to Sanskrit scholarship. Mr. Borooh's comments were suggestive rather than detailed.

The next literary enterprise of Mr. Borooh was, to quote Mr. R. C. Dutt's words, "a Sanskrit grammar of formidable size and erudition." In 1881, Mr. Borooh projected the compilation of *A Comprehensive Grammar of the Sanskrit Language, Critical, Analytical and Historical*, in twelve volumes of one thousand pages each. Its object, as described by Mr. Borooh in a prospectus which was circulated among his friends, and lovers and promoters of Sanskrit culture—"was to simplify the rules of grammar as far as possible, to examine their historical growth, and illustrate them fully from the existing literature, both ancient and modern, and to offer a complete commentary on all the Vedas. The first volume of the series, which was on Sanskrit Prosody came out in 1882 under the somewhat eccentric title of Volume X. The next volume was on Letters and their changes, *Nanartha-Samgraha*, which came out in 1884 as Volume III of the series. The learned world was startled at the encyclopedic character of Mr. Borooh's great undertaking. Professor Max Muller wrote to Mr. Borooh from Oxford,—“I confess I fell almost overwhelmed by the grandeur of it, but if only you carry out some portion of it, you will have done a very useful work.....Is it a great undertaking and will require for its completion a long life, a long purse and long patience.”

Mr. Borooh did not live to complete this great literary project. The remaining years of his life were

spent in publishing scholarly editions of *Saraswati-kanthabharanam*, Amara's *Namalinganusasanam* with the commentary of Kiroswami, *Dhatukosh* and *Dhatuvrit-tisara*.

Besides these Sanskrit works, Mr. Borooah had arranged to compile a Dialectal Dictionary of the Bengali language, and had for this purpose negotiated with the Government of Bengal for its help and co-operation.

Mr. Borooah was a Sanskrit poet of no mean order. In his edition of *Mahavira-charitam* he had added towards the end of each Act a few autobiographical verses in Sanskrit. These scattered lines, and his *Invocation* to the Sanskrit Muse prefixed to the second volume of his Dictionary show how this eminent Indian Sanskritist had assimilated the rythm and melody of the language of his forefathers.

*Conclusion.* Mr. Borooah's useful career was cut short by his untimely death; but his indefatigable exertions on behalf of Sanskrit learning will always be an example to the rising generations of India. His earnestness of purpose is best manifested in his confirmed bachelorhood. As a member of the Indian Civil Service, enjoying the highest emoluments and honour open to an Indian, Mr. Borooah could have lived a life of ease and comfort. But Mr. Borooah whose love of Sanskrit did not allow him to share his heart with any earthly object preferred to remain a bachelor; and when he was pressed by any friend to marry he would simply point to the vast array of books in his magnificent library and say,—“This is the darling of my life demanding from me my best energy and attention.”

To Mr. Borooah ‘Sanskrit is dearer than any other

language. Its music has charms which no words can express. Its capability of representing every form of human thought in most appropriate language is probably not rivalled, certainly not surpassed by any other language." Mr. Borooh always regretted that "Sanskrit research seemed yet to attract very few scholars," and he hoped "that the day is not distant when our countrymen will care more for our home literature than they do now for Shakespeare and Bacon, for Addison and Johnson."

Mr. Borooh's broader outlook, his intense love of Sanskrit, and his realisation of the glorious past and the present decadence of the *Deva-Bhasha* led him to neglect the more immediate demand of his own mother language and literature, viz. Assamese, which could not well afford to spare a man of genius of Mr. Borooh's calibre from its service; but on the other hand, it freed him from the provincial patriotism which sometimes forces people to lose sight of the greater demands of our common mother India. Mr. Borooh used to say when any of his zealous countrymen tried to impress upon his mind the necessity of diverting his literary activities towards the cause of Assamese language and literature,—“whatever I do for our common mother India will be shared in due course by my own Assamese fellow-countrymen who form an essential factor of the greater Indian brotherhood.”

Mr. Borooh's passionate devotion to the cause of Sanskrit learning displaced all other ties from his mind. He was extremely reserved and uncommunicative, and did not like to court ephemeral glory and reputation by playing to the gallery, or by making speeches at the slightest provocation. As a silent and unpretentious worker, who maintained the lofty tenure of his mind

and the steadfastness of his purpose in the midst of the career, Mr. Borooah occupies a place of honour in the rank of the selfless servants of India. What he could do had he not died at the age of thirty-nine reminds us of the measureless potentialities of the glorious "might-have-beens" of the world of which Mr. Borooah is a remarkable example.

Here we cannot resist the temptation of quoting the beautiful words of Mr. Borooah's great contemporary Mr. Bolinarayan Borah—one of the pioneer Indian Civil Engineers from Cooper's Hill, England,—“Mr. Borooah's singleness of purpose was his great characteristic. The industry and application which it demanded made him lead a too sedentary life. He sought little recreation, relief, change and variety. He burnt his candle at both ends, and had naturally to pay the inevitable penalty. His life was a meteoric flash and blaze, which burnt up the substance in its lightning course, dazzling mankind for a moment and disappearing for ever from view.”— S. K. Bhuyan.

2. *The Cotton College Magazine*, Vol. II, April 1924. No. 3.

### Anundoram Borooah in English Verse.

Prof. P. Seshadri M.A. of the Benares Hindu University came upon a well-nigh forgotten volume of English Verse, which for the light it throws on Anglo-Indian life deserves to rank with Mr. Rudyard Kipling's *Departmental Ditties* and *Barrack-Room Ballads*. All admirers of the late Mr. Anundoram Borooah are indebted to Prof. Seshadri for communicating to them the fact that *Divers Ditties, chiefly written in India* by Mr. Alec Macmillan, M.A., I.C.S. (Retired) has a humorous

poetical skit or serio-comic poem on the great India Sanskritist.

The poem *Anundoram Borooah* which is the first piece in the volume is styled by the author 'a rhapsody in rhyme', and it does not, like the average critical notices of Mr. Borooah, deal with his scholarly and administrative attainments. The absence of any inevitable reference to the same may be explained by the fact that the poem was written soon after Mr. Borooah was selected to the Indian Civil Service in the open competition of 1870, when he was only an 'untried horse', and when the vast potentialities of his life had not yet blossomed forth into action. The couplet from Byron which is printed immediately after the title of the poem is very aptly chosen,—

Phœbus! what a name,  
To fill the speaking trump of future fame.

Our poet is not much concerned with the great success of Mr. Borooah in the I.C.S. Examination. His theme is somewhat accidental, the poet is struck by the sonorous character of the name Anundoram Borooah, which to him is a 'weird sound', 'the name of doom', 'the name of fear.' From morn till night the poet is haunted by 'this king of sounds, uncouth and queer',—

'Tis not the strain that thrills the air,  
At midnight when the bulbul sings,  
'Tis not the name of damsel fair,.....  
Know then, that it's nothing more or less,  
Than what seven syllables express,  
The name of that late passed C.S.

Anundoram Borooah!

When the doors of the Indian Civil Service were opened for competition of Indians, Dutts, Chatterjis and Ghoses alternated with Colvins, Lawrences and Elliotts, but who ever thought that such a name as Anundoram Borooh would blazon in the I.C.S. list?

The poet-magistrate is seated on his 'judgment chair' at the court, sifting the truth from out of the evidences and deposition of contending parties. The eerie name pursues him there, and adieu to petitions, judgments and orders!

I try how large, how small-hand suits  
The letters of that wonderous name,  
How flourished capitals become  
The signature Anundoram.

The poet goes home and retires to bed, still haunted by the maddening name; the waving fringes of the punkah go and come to the tune of the name Anundoram Borooh. The coolie drops his rope, and the poet, righteously indignant, lays his hands on anything he gets in the room, a brush or boot, or fragments of carbolic soap, or fat law-volumes; but when he is about to hurl these sleep-breaking missiles at the undutiful punkhapuller,—

There seems, as if, by fiends posses,  
Mosquitoes with infernal hum  
To iterate Anundoram.

The mystic name of the Indian Civil Servant becomes inseparable even from the poet's dreams. He sees a battle, and the thundering drums thunder forth 'Anundoram! Anundoram!' The foes are vanquished and routed, and the victors are welcomed by tripping maidens at the city-gate who with lutes and palm-branches sing the praises of the magical name Anundoram Borooh.



The poet passes on to a second dream. Dr. (afterwards Sir) William Hunter was appointed by the Government to fix the spellings of Indian place-names, and through his suggestions Ayodhya and Kanhpur were changed to Oude and Cawnpore. But our poet wants to utilise the phonetic attainments of Dr. Hunter in a more befitting manner,—

O mighty Hunter LL.D.,  
 For I have work, more fit for thee,  
 The hour is come, and thou the man,  
 Who canst, although none other can,  
 Resolve this tough conund(e)rum,  
 How shall we spell Anundoram?

The learned etymologist, in acknowledgment of his incapacity to fix the spelling of Anundoram Borooh's name, sinks down and vanishes. But there appears before the poet a second shape,—

But, hist!—what second shape doth rise?  
 What prescient tremor fills my breast?  
 O, joy, beyond expression blest,  
 Borooh's self I recognise!

Mr. Borooh meets the poet on the common platform of humanity. There is nothing strange and eccentric about his manners, he accepts the usual social amenities from his host the poet. Then the poet makes a very pertinent query regarding the tact with which Mr. Borooh overcame his age disqualification in the I.C.S Examination,—

You know, my Nundy, tattlers say,  
 That ere you passed the other day,  
 You played a horoscopic hoax  
 On our good easy English folks,  
 By dropping out an awkward year  
 In counting up your age's sum,  
 (The evil-speaking "Pioneer"  
 Thus libelleth Anundoram)

The proud possessor of the astounding name melts into thin air by dropping from his lips only one syllable,—‘mum’; and the poets’ grief knows no bounds,—

Where art thou fled, my friend, my chum?  
Anundoram! Anundoram!

The poem ends with a pathetic note in the concluding stanza. The jarring name assails the peace of the poet,—

No charm will drive the pest away,  
In vain I struggle for release,  
The victim of a new disease,  
To wit, Borooah on the brain.

The poet, a victim of the strange malady “Borooah on the brain” courts a premature grave, and requests his friends to raise a tablet, and thereon to engrave the piteous tale of one who died so young. Lest his friends might not properly carry out his wishes the poet supplies his own epitaph,—

Here rests, by trouble vexed no more,  
The bard of Sab-se-chota-pore;  
He lived beloved, he died demented,  
Killed by a name of sound more wild  
That e’er was for a forktailed child  
In Pandemonium invented!  
Time was he trotted a merry note;  
Now death has stilled his tuneful throat,  
Has bid his lyric lips be dumb;  
Woe worth the day that weird sound smote  
On his astounded tympanium!  
Then traveller, pause, let fall a fear,  
And backward read recorded hear,  
The name of doom, the name of fear,  
Anundoram, Anundoram,  
The king of sounds, uncouth and queer,

Of all that can revolt the ear,  
 Cacophonous compendium  
 Anundorum Borooah,  
 Anundoram, Anundoram,  
 Anundoram Borooah!

We have at present no means to know whether Mr. Borooah had ever read this attempt to have innocent fun at the expense of his name. The book was published in 1895, six years after the death of Mr. Borooah, but the poem might have been published in some periodical during Mr. Borooah's life-time. The poet was assured to some extent of the presence of an unsuspected vein of humour in the great Sanskritist, who, being a poet of no mean order himself and a deeply read student of Eastern and Western literature, would have taken the whole performance good-humouredly. The poem seems to indicate that Mr. Borooah was an object of great interest and popularity in the circle of his civilian colleagues. When the poet sees the vision of Mr. Borooah in his dream.

He smiles upon me, calls me 'pal'  
 That peerles's name's original  
 In mould corporeal confest ;  
 He deigns with me to talk and jest ;  
 To chaff, drink pegs, and all the rest,  
 As man does with his brother man.

All this tends to show that Mr. Borooah was not an unsociable bibliophile as he has been supposed to be. The reference to the 'horoscopic hoax' that Mr. Borooah was said to have played upon the easy-going countrymen of the poet, and which was the subject of comment in the columns of the *Pioneer* shows how great an interest had centred round this intellectual prodigy from Assam. While a whole poem has been woven

round the mystic associations of such oriental names as Kubla Khan, Xanadu, Abyssinia and Abora, it is not surprising that the poetically-minded Indian Civil Servant found something mysteriously fascinating in the name Anundoram Borooh. We may, irreverently, perhaps parody Tennyson's lines and apply them to this happy effort of the 'Bard of Sab-se-choto-pore',

He dwelt upon a word we know,  
Repeating, till the word we know so well,  
Became a wonder, and we know not why.

—S. K. Bhuyan.

3. *The Indian Antiquary*, July 1920.

MISCELLANEOUS.

"Contributions to the study of the Ancient Geography of India."

*A Noteworthy Omission.*

Our thanks are due to Mr. Surendra Nath Majumdar Sastri M.A. for publishing in the *Indian Antiquary* of February 1919, a bibliography on the ancient geography of India. While Mr. Majumdar has included such books as Babu Nabin Chandra Dasa's *Geography of Asia, compiled from the Ramayana*, which he himself styles as of no importance, it is extremely regrettable that he has omitted from the list by far the most important contribution on the subject made by an Indian. We cannot point to a more devoted scholar in the field of Sanskrit research than the late Mr. Anundoram Borooh B.A., I.C.S., Barrister-at-Law, of Assam. His *English-Sanskrit Dictionary* written in the late seventies was for a long time the only book of that type by an Indian.