



CHOWKIDAR

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Editor: Dr. Rosie Llewellyn-Jones

British Association For Cemeteries In South Asia (BACSA)

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Notes on BACSA

The Association was formed in October 1976 to bring together people with a concern for the many hundreds of European cemeteries, isolated graves and monuments in South Asia.

There is a steadily growing membership of over 1,500 (1993) drawn from a wide circle of interest- Government; Churches; Services; Business; Museums; Historical & Genealogical Societies. More members are needed to support the rapidly expanding activities of the Association - the setting up of local committees in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Sri Lanka, Malaysia etc., and the building up of a Records archive in the Oriental and India Office Collections in the British Library; and many other projects for the upkeep of historical and architectural monuments.

The enrolment fee and subscription rates are shown on the opposite page and there are options for annual or life membership, single or joint husband & wife, special terms for overseas members and corporate bodies. Full details obtainable from the Secretary.

The Association has its own newsletter, *Chowkidar*, which is distributed free to all members twice a year and contains a section for 'Queries' on any matter relating to family history or condition of a relative's grave etc. There are also many other publications both on cemetery surveys and aspects of European social history out East.

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Two Stories From Cawnpore

Geoff Wadsley from Lincolnshire had treasured an old photograph of his grandmother's grave in Cawnpore (Kanpur) for years and when he learnt about BACSA he wondered if it was possible to trace it. The photograph had been taken by 'A. Sache, Dalhousie, Artist and Photographer', and a note on the reverse stated 'This picture can be enlarged to any size and finished in Oil or Water colours', an interesting comment on Victorian attitudes to death. The query was passed to the member for Cawnpore, who learnt that Mr. Wadsley's grandmother, Ellen (Nellie) Newcomb, was the wife of Sergeant W. Newcomb of 2nd Battalion The Lincoln Regiment, and that she had died on 9 February 1889, aged 23 years. This gave the clue that her grave was likely to lie near another from the same Regiment in the Cantonment Cemetery, which was opened in 1882. It was, however, not listed among epitaphs already noted, and Mr. Wadsley was told it was unlikely to be found.

By chance a BACSA member from Australia, Michael Garnett, was visiting Cawnpore and offered to search for this grave, among others. He was delighted to report that he had not only found it, but that it was in excellent condition and a photograph was duly passed to Mr. Wadsley (see page 101). In addition to Ellen's inscription was a sad little memorial to her infant son, Charles Ephraim, who died only a week after his mother, aged nine days. Mr. Wadsley was able to confirm that his grandmother died in childbed. He also told us that Sergeant Newcomb served out his time with the Regiment until 1903 and returned to Lincolnshire. He subsequently remarried and gamely volunteered for duty in the First World War. He lived on until 1940 and is buried in Boston, Lincs. Mr. Wadsley himself is a member of the Lincolnshire Regiment Old Comrades Association, 'stationed' at Sobraon Barracks in Lincoln.

Comparison of the two Cawnpore photographs, taken over 100 years apart, shows that except for removal of the surrounding low iron railings, and two rather handsome flower vases, the tomb is well-maintained, and that the cross has not fallen, as often occurs. Added interest was given when Mr. Wadsley produced a little black-edged 'In Memoriam' card, sent to mourners at the funeral, with the verse 'Why should I shrink at pain and woe/Or feel at Death's dark day/ I have Canaan's goodly land in view/ And realms of endless days.'

The second story began when BACSA member Kevin Patience found a blackened, ribbonless Indian Mutiny Medal awarded to a civilian doctor, in a curio shop in Mombasa, Kenya, of all places. With the help of fellow BACSA member, Timothy Ash, he was able to piece together the sad story of Dr. Samuel Maltby, FRCS, who was murdered in Cawnpore on 15 July 1857. He was the son of the Rev. Ince Maltby of Shelton, Nottinghamshire, and enrolled as a

medical student at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, qualifying as an assistant surgeon in 1843. He arrived in Calcutta the next year and was seconded to various regiments. While stationed in Agra in 1852 he married Anne Lloyd, the daughter of Brigadier Lloyd of the Bengal Establishment. The couple had two daughters, Emma and Eliza. Two years later Dr. Maltby retired from Army service, with the rank of Lt. Col. and went to live at Fatehgarh with his family.

In 1857, alarmed by news of insurrections he and his family, together with some 80 other military and civilian refugees, boarded three boats to sail down to Cawnpore. Unknown to them, the town had already fallen and the Maltbys were apprehended at nearby Nawabganj. Dr. Maltby was taken, with others, to the Assembly Rooms, which had been the hub of European social life. His wife and infant daughters joined other women and children at the Bibighar and were among the 200 massacred, their bodies being thrown down the Well. Dr. Maltby was presumably shot, with other European men, and his burial place is unknown, probably in one of the mass graves in Wheeler's Entrenchment. The Church of All Souls was erected to commemorate the Cawnpore victims, and after Independence the memorial cross from the Bibighar was moved here, with the beautiful angel and the pierced wall from the Well. But two questions remain unanswered. Why was the 'Mutiny' medal awarded, posthumously, to Dr. Maltby? And how did it end up in Kenya?

Mail Box

'Of British families which had several members who served in India over long periods of time and with distinction, no family, perhaps, had as many members (at least 17) serving in India over as long a stretch of time (1771 to 1945) and with such distinction as the Prinseps'. Dr. Om Prakash Kejariwal, a researcher from Delhi, is piecing together the history of this illustrious family, and he goes on to tell us of their history. John, the first Prinsep in India, arrived in 1771 and worked as an indigo planter. He was one of the first to introduce the art of painting on cotton fabrics, and also minted copper coins for the East India Company. The second generation had seven members who served between 1820 to 1840, including Henry Thoby, Chief Secretary to the Government, Charles Robert, Attorney General, James, the historian (after whom Prinsep's Ghat, Calcutta, is named), Thomas, the surveyor, William the businessman, and Augustus, author of the novel 'The Baboo', who died an early death at 27. 'It was with some justice, therefore, that one of their contemporaries complained that the administration of India seemed to be run by the Prinseps!' Other later Prinseps were the artist Val who was given the Royal Commission to paint the Delhi Durbar, and Edward, the distinguished Settlement Commissioner of the Punjab. Earlier this century David served in Skinner's Horse until the 1930s and Evelyn Siegfried in Probyn's. You can imagine how excited Dr. Kejariwal

was when he traced a Prinsep descendant (through BACSA) and on 'opening an old trunk... came across original letters of James, 13 paintings (small ones) of William and a pile of letters of David. I feel I can say with some certainty that this is a unique family as far as India is concerned.' Further information on the family would be welcomed by Dr. Kejariwal (through BACSA), who is also researching British historians of India.

Four years ago *Chowkidar* published the story of Kenilworth Castle, at Hosur near Bangalore. At the time we admitted that there were several unanswered questions about a 'baronial castle' set down in the middle of the Deccan. Now BACSA member John Jealous has written the final chapter in the story, after his visit to the site. Firstly, the grave in the grounds is confirmed as being that of Walter Elliott Lockhart MCS, Collector of Salem, who died 30 January 1850 (see page 100). His tomb was erected by his widow and the spot is still looked after today by the Church of South India. Kenilworth Castle, sometimes known, for good reason, as 'Brett's Folly', was probably constructed in 1864, well after the erection of the tomb. The builder was a Mr. H.A. Brett, and there is no trace of his grave in the grounds, says Mr. Jealous, nor that of his wife. The remnants of the castle, which seem to have been little more than a large gatehouse, at the end, were sold to a developer with 'planning permission' and he knocked down the remaining buildings in June 1991. Luckily they were photographed both before and after demolition by the Deccan Herald newspaper, and even in their ruined state show a certain grandeur, not to say megalomania. The original building, a forest of battlements, turrets, arrow slits and gothic-arched colonnades, did indeed incorporate a moat, which seems to confirm that Kenilworth stood on the site of an earlier fort belonging to Tipu Sultan, and built with forced British labour. John Jealous has kindly offered to send photographs and the Deccan Herald article at cost to anyone interested - please write to 43 Spofforth Hill, Wetherby, W. Yorkshire LS22 6SF.

Research by BACSA member Ben Hoogewerf on his great-great-grandmother, Mrs. Gibbons, has prompted him to enquire about the history of medicine in 19th century India. The 'formidable Mrs. Gibbons', as family legend recalls, was a pioneering woman doctor, or perhaps midwife, who outlived three husbands and had seventeen children by them. By complete chance an article on early women doctors has been sent in by the author Charles Perrill, an American contact. He tells us that Elizabeth Blackwell founded the first Women's Medical College in Philadelphia in 1850, well in advance of anything similar in Britain. In fact it was not until Florence Nightingale's work in the Crimea that nursing was recognised as a worthy profession for women. In spite of an unhelpful attitude towards medicine from the Church, a group of American Methodist missionaries developed a programme to train women doctors in British India. The Rev. and Mrs. James Humphrey sailed to India during

the fateful year of 1857, and with difficulty made their way to Nainital. Here they were helped by the Commissioner Sir Henry Ramsay, a Scot, and his friends, who generously provided money to build a church and schools. By 1868 Humphrey, now qualified as a doctor, was urged by the Deputy Commissioner at Bareilly to take some Indian girls from the Orphanage there and to train them, in turn, in midwifery and childhood diseases. British civil surgeons firmly advised against this, writing disparagingly that 'Native women had not sufficient ability to grasp the subject nor sufficient stamina and strength of character to enable them to practise medicine with any degree of success.' Luckily the Rev. Dr. Humphrey was not put off by this prejudiced belief and was supported by the Lieutenant Governor of the NW Province, Sir William Muir, who said it was an experiment worth trying. By 1870 nine women had passed their examinations and become doctors in Nainital. That same year Dr. Clara Swain, 'the first woman physician (with an MD) to set foot in Asia', arrived in Bareilly from the Philadelphia Medical College. In turn she held classes for Indian girls. The Nawab of Rampur, on visiting one class, remarked in astonishment that 'he did not know that girls could learn so much..' He proved to be a good friend and gave Dr. Swain an old palace standing in an orchard, where she started a hospital and dispensary. In 1880 she supported Lady Dufferin in setting up her famous fund to provide medical relief for the women of India. This led to all medical colleges being opened to women students and the establishment of a training programme for nurses throughout India. How different things might have been, for the worse, had it not been for these brave, pioneering American women.

Lt. Col. Frank Nangle from Co. Down spotted the illustration of Major General Sir Robert Rollo Gillespie's memorial at Meerut in the last *Chowkidar* and kindly sent us some notes on his Indian career. He was born in 1766 at Comber, a small town near Belfast in Ireland, and was by descent a Scot, his grandfather having fled, like so many others, after the failure of the first Jacobite rebellion in 1715. Gillespie obtained a commission as Ensign in the 45th Foot, and subsequently went on to serve in seven different regiments, both cavalry and infantry, from San Domingo to India and Java. He survived both a duel in 1787, when he was a Cornet, and a court-martial in 1802, as a Lieutenant Colonel. In 1806 he recaptured Vellore Fort from mutineers. He was killed in action on 31 October 1814 attacking the Gurkha stronghold of Kalunga, near Dehra Dun, during the Gurkha War. His last words, recorded by Charles Kennedy, who was with him at his death, were 'One shot more for the honour of Down'. As was the custom at the time, when corpses needed to be transported, his was put into spirits and brought down to Meerut, leading to the irreverent comment from his contemporaries (and this is the Editor's addition, not Lt. Col. Nangle's), that 'he was pickled in life and pickled in death!' A photograph taken in 1952 of his monument in the Square at Comber, shows the

handsome obelisk (referred to in the review of Professor Curl's book on page 107), with the Gillespie statue on top. It was unveiled on 24 June 1845, some considerable time after the subject's death, but undoubtedly a handsome tribute to a rip-roaring Irishman.

An amusing extract from the Memoirs of the late Brigadier Sir John Smyth VC (who was a BACSA member), has come in from member John Elliot. Shortly before the Second World War Sir John, who was stationed in Chitral, as Force Commander, invited Bishop Barne of Lahore, an old Oxford friend, to consecrate two cemeteries, at Drosh and Chitral, both of which had been in use for many years, but had never been consecrated. The Chitral cemetery was just south of the Fort and contained, among others, the grave of Capt. J. Baird, 24th Punjab Infantry who had died of wounds on 4 March 1895 when making a reconnaissance before the siege of Chitral. There was also a sad little memorial to Victor Fenin, the child of a Colonel and Madame Fenin, who, with a party of about 50 Russian refugees, almost all officers, had fled from the Bolsheviks in 1918. The family were making their way to Bombay, but had to remain at Chitral where Victor died on 15 March 1919. The cemetery at Drosh contained a small number of British officers of Chitral Force who had died (or been killed) during their tour of duty. The Bishop arrived in full regalia, with his crook, but had omitted to warn Sir John exactly what was involved in a consecration ceremony. He explained that he would read the Service in the course of circumnavigating the outside of the cemetery walls, with Sir John in attendance. 'With the fierce winds and the heavy snow and ice of winter it had been difficult enough keeping the inside of the cemetery neat and tidy; the outside was a complete jungle. We started off with the Bishop in front and me behind. But soon I had to do advanced guard, hacking away with my very blunt sword, which was only meant for show, at the stubborn weeds and thick brambles which blocked our path. Finally, the Bishop had to interrupt his prayers to assist me by holding back the branches with his crook. We were exhausted and our clothing torn to shreds by the time it was all over. I am afraid the officers of Chitral Force rather enjoyed it.'

The Star of India

Most towns of any pretensions can usually boast at least one 'Star of India' curry restaurant, but what is the origin of this name? It seems so commonplace that no-one has ever bothered to ask, but now BACSA member Arthur King has produced a well-researched little leaflet that tells the story behind the name. 'The Star of India, coupled with the motto "Heaven's Light our Guide", originated as a decoration to be worn by the recipients of the honour created by Her Majesty Queen Victoria and awarded for loyalty to the British Crown in connection with India.' The most exalted order of the Star of India was founded in

1861 after the Government took over the administration from the East India Company. The Queen gave personal instructions on the design of the honour and Albert, her Consort, was asked to take charge. The brief was that the design should have no religious significance or connotation, so that it would be acceptable to Buddhist, Muslim, Hindu or Christian. No crosses or crescents were to be used. It was said that an initial design was vetoed because it included a lotus-like flower which might have been interpreted as a Buddhist symbol. The first investiture of the Order on 25 October 1861, included Duleep Singh, the deposed Maharaja of the Punjab and favourite of the Queen.

The insignia was authorised for use by the Viceroy, and also by Provincial Governors. It was later used on maritime flags, probably because the motto 'Heaven's Light our Guide' with its connotation of celestial navigation, seemed particularly appropriate for sailors. The Blue Ensign, with the Star symbol, was authorised by the Admiralty in 1884 to be used by ships of Her Majesty's Indian Marine. 'The "heavenly" motto was irreverently and flippantly added to by young Naval Officers with the words "And Hell our Destination!"' The Star was also used on the buttons of uniforms worn by officers of the Royal Indian Marine, and later the Royal Indian Navy. It also decorated the bows of five troopships, CROCODILE, EUPHRATES, JUMNA, MALABAR and SER-APIS built in 1866 by the famous Wadia shipyard in Bombay and operated by the Navy on behalf of the Government of India. The Royal Bombay Yacht Club also used the Star on its club flag, although recent examples show a simplified design and no words. The City of Portsmouth, with its strong naval traditions adopted the motto in 1929, which was officially registered by the College of Arms in 1970. A star and crescent had been borne by the City for 800 years. Is this the complete story and full catalogue of applications of the Star of India, asks Mr. King? If not, we are sure readers will be able to help with more examples of this beautiful symbol and motto.

Can You Help?

BACSA member Mrs. Sheila Unwin had always believed that her grandfather, Major William Thomas Mills, was a gunner in the Royal Artillery, who died at sea, off Suez. Now, thanks to her query in the Autumn *Chowkidar*, she has a quite different picture of him. Timothy Ash, another member, had some time ago bought Major Mills' medals and researched his background. He told us that the Major's father was Henry Mills of the East India Company, which explains the Indian connection. William was born in London and baptised at St. Dunstan's, Stepney in April 1833. He served with the 25th Regiment Bombay Native Infantry, and retired in November 1879 as a Lieutenant Colonel (Honorary Colonel). He had two sisters who subsequently went to live in Devon (where Mrs. Unwin lives), and he himself is thought to have died there.

He married, or perhaps had a liaison with, Helen Horn Mills, who died in Scotland. Now with all these clues, both BACSA members are on the Major's trail, and rewriting the family history.

'I am enclosing copy of extract from Will of Robert Stuart who died in 1863', writes Mrs. Eileen Pye from Australia. 'My great grandfather George William Stuart, was his nephew and one of the two executors of his Will. Robert Stuart was the uncovenanted Assistant Registrar in the Sudder Dewani Adaulat and the Nizamat Adaulat [Calcutta]... married Sarah Anne Cecilia Tottie 26 January 1822 at St. John's. Would anyone know the history of, or what happened to, the Calcutta Free School and the Calcutta Diocesan Additional Clergy Society, also is there any record of his stone monument?' The Will was sworn before Robert Belchambers, Commissioner at the Court House on 23 July 1863, and the Executors affirmed that they were 'well acquainted with the handwriting of the said deceased'. Robert Stuart had desired 'that I may be buried in the Protestant burial ground situate in Circular Road and I direct that the Expenses and Charges of my funeral inclusive of the cost of a stone monument to be erected over my grave shall not exceed the sum of Rupees Fifteen hundred.' To his wife Sarah he left, quaintly, 'all her wearing apparel and ornaments of her person' as well as his 'plate, plated articles, linen, books, pictures, prints, wines, carriages, horses, china, glass, household goods and furniture' and money to be invested for the Free School. Interestingly this money was to be invested in the 'purchase of the securities of the Government of India commonly called Company's papers'. The East India Company had, of course, ceased to exist in 1858, but apparently the old name lingered on, and possibly people felt their money was safer with a 'Company' than a Government! Calcutta's Free School, which gave its name to the Lane that runs behind Chowringhee, was an amalgamation between the first English charity school opened in 1713 by the Rev. Gervase Bellamy and a later one started by the Rev. Zachariah Kiermader in the 1780s. The merged schools were then known as the Calcutta Free Schools for Boys and Girls, and later became St. Thomas's Schools for Boys and Girls. Today they are secondary institutions specialising in vocational training. But what was the 'Additional Clergy Society' and can any recent visitor confirm that Robert Stuart's stone monument still exists in the Lower Circular Road burial ground today?

Dr. Virginia van der Lande tells us that she is researching the life of her great-grandfather, Lt. Col. John Cumming Anderson, CSI, RE. Last year, together with her sister, she visited Madras and tried unsuccessfully to find the cenotaph erected to him soon after his death in 1870, by fellow officers in the PWD. Col. Anderson was Garrison Engineer at Lucknow during 1857 and at the time of his death was Officiating Inspector-General of Irrigation to the Government of India. Photographs of the cenotaph 'show a substantial structure, consisting of

a canopy supported by four stone columns, surmounted by a cast iron coronet, the inscription encircling the base of the canopy. Underneath were conduits supplying water into a raised basin.' It stood in Mount Road, facing the gates to Government House Park. The sisters were told that it was taken down some years ago, probably post-Independence, but what has happened to it since? Can anyone familiar with old Madras help Dr. van der Lande, and tell her anything else about the cenotaph's surroundings and appearance, or whether Lt. Col. Anderson is mentioned in any family diaries?

Mrs Zelide Cowan comes from a family where three generations, on both sides, were born in India. Her paternal great-grandfather, James Henry Fairley, who died in 1904, was headmaster of the Lower School, Engineering College at Roorkee, and a relative, Tom Dixie, was Inspector of Works at Godagari, in East Bengal. He died on 9 November 1912 in the railway hospital at Katihar. Her maternal great-grandfather, Peter Barrie, lived in Calcutta, Lucknow, Dehra Dun and Mussoorie and was buried in the latter in 1921. He seems to have been a builder, and put up Broome Hall (later the Isolation Hospital), and he owned Zephyr House Lodge, among others. He was married twice, firstly to Isabella, who died at Lucknow in 1890, and secondly to Millicent Bickers, who died in 1947 and was buried either in Lucknow or Dehra Dun. All the men in Mrs. Cowan's family were engineers and 'all the girls married engineers, except for my grandmother and my mother'. She is searching specifically for information on the graves of Tom Dixie, Peter Barrie and his two wives.

Francis Frederick Smith, born 1844, was one of four brothers who all went out to India in the mid 19th century. Very little is known about him other than that he married and had a son, Marcell Conran-Smith. Both he and his wife, unnamed, drowned when the PERSIA was sunk in 1916. Pamela Hood, nee Conran-Smith asks 'What did he do? Who did he marry and where? We do not know!' She would welcome any information.

Rob Wilson, a newly joined BACSA member, has been researching on his own for some time at the India Office Library and Records on his ancestral families, the Woods and the Wilsons. He has found that Roger Woods came to India from Ireland in 1836 and served in the Public Works Department as Sergeant. He was promoted Sub-Conductor in 1857 and tragically died at Lucknow on 19 August that year defending the Baillie Guard Gate in the Residency. He had two children, one of whom, according to family legend, 'fetched water for the troops' during the 1857 siege. This was Albert, who later married Emmeline Newbury in Lahore in 1881. But what was the date of Albert's death, what was his mother's name, and the name of his sibling? The earliest Wilson found is Archibald, a bombardier in the Horse Artillery who on retirement became 'Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests' at Yeotmal. Details of his children are

sought, including, unusually, the twins Edward and Robert, born 1856 in Bangalore and who both worked for the railways.

Andrew Maxwell-Hyslop, a free-lance film maker, has set himself a challenging task. He wants to make a film about the famous Skinner family, and is in touch with the last of the Skinners in India, Lt. Col. Michael Skinner, a BACSA member, but is also seeking photographs and anecdotes on other family members. In addition Mr. Maxwell-Hyslop has the tricky task of finding sponsors for the film. Information please to BACSA Secretary, on all these queries.

What's In A Name?

Quite a lot it seems, when it comes to renaming places in the sub-continent that had British connotations. Although some of us might regret the passing of these old names, we are sensible enough to realise that it is entirely up to the countries concerned to decide what names they prefer today. So it was a surprise to find a strong condemnation of name changes in Pakistan, by the historian Abdul Hadi Khan, published in the national newspaper Dawn. Mr. Khan noted how Lyallpur (named after the Governor of the Punjab, Sir James Lyall), had become Faisalabad, how Minto Park and Lawrence Gardens in Lahore were now Iqbal Park and Bagh-e-Jinnah, and how the names of Frere Road and Frere Hall, after Sir Bartle Frere, a former Commissioner of Sindh, had vanished. Mr. Khan's reasoned article is that you cannot erase history simply by changing names. It was, after all, British administrators who founded Lyallpur, developed in a formerly arid region, and made Karachi the famous port it is today. It was Sir Bartle who, as a civil engineer, provided Karachi's inhabitants with their first continuous supply of pure water, and who developed a proper drainage system, who designed and built the Arts College, and the splendid Empress Market. Not only are British names being changed, but Hindu names are being Islamicized, and whole chunks of history omitted from school books, as though the Mughal dynasty was followed immediately by the uprising of 1857, to be followed straight away by the freedom movement that led to Independence. Here Mr. Khan does have a very serious point, and he concludes 'We have to understand that the evolution of a nation's history is a natural and continuous process. There is no choosing between the moments of splendour and the periods of disgrace, larger than life heroes and loathful villains. The facts must remain facts: their sanctity must remain supreme.'

And to remind us that name-changing is not exclusive to the sub-continent, a correspondent, Arthur Black, sent in a little note about the oddly named Carnatic Hall, now the site of Liverpool University's Halls of Residence. In 1778 the Liverpool privateer MENTOR, 400 tons, 28 guns and a crew of 102,

sighted the French East-Indiaman, the CARNATIC. This was during a spat between France and England, which was extended to her possessions in India, as soon as the news reached Calcutta. The CARNATIC seemed to have 74 guns, but the ship's carpenter on the MENTOR thought some, at least, were wooden dummies. When challenged, the French ship surrendered. It was carrying an immense cargo, said to have been worth £400,000 in those days. A box of diamonds alone fetched £135,000. 'Liverpool rang its bells, feasted the victors and vanquished alike', and the ship's builder, Peter Baker and his son-in-law James Dawson became extremely rich men. (Obviously no nonsense about making an Income Tax Return on this one!) Peter Baker subsequently bought Mossley Hall, a medieval relic, rebuilt it and renamed his new house 'Carnatic Hall'. Baker later became Mayor of Liverpool.

Notice Board

Chowkidar readers may already have heard the good news that the Library of the Royal Commonwealth Society is to be bought and kept together. At one point it was feared that it might have been dispersed. It would indeed have been tragic had it been split up, because part of its very attraction is the links that naturally exist between different countries of the former British Empire. For example, accounts of Chinese immigration to Canada and Australia are documented here, together with over a thousand items on the British Mandate in Palestine, the creation of Israel and the success of Jewish communities in the new Commonwealth. All this in addition, of course, to the better known holdings (it is particularly strong on Africa), including irreplaceable diaries, letters and memoirs from the British Association of Malaya. The new Library is to be housed at Cambridge University, which already has a Centre for South Asian Studies. Although half the £3 million has been raised to buy the Library, money is still needed and donations should be sent to the Appeal Co-ordinator Mrs. Heather Honour, Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0NL.

'The East Indies Telegraph' is the name of a newsletter produced by Geraldine Charles, and aimed specifically, although not exclusively, at Anglo-Indians. Its objective is to provide a point of contact for those interested in family research, and a forum where people can comment, share information and problems regarding their research. Already Ms. Charles is receiving letters from the large Anglo-Indian communities in Australia and Canada, and it is encouraging to learn from one of the news items that a similar newsletter is being produced in Calcutta. A database will be used to put genealogical researchers in touch with each other. More details from Ms. Charles, 68 Greenway Close, Friern Barnet, London N11 3NT.

Supt. H.J. Storer tells us that he is always interested in acquiring any good quality (British manufacture) insignia of the Indian Police, and in particular, the Bengal Police. Letters please to 4, Deanswood Court, Cheltenham, Victoria, Australia 3192.

A successful BACSA outing took place last September to Sezincote, the highly original re-creation of a 'Mughal' building in Gloucestershire. The house was designed for Sir Charles Cockerell, a member of the East India Company, and all the details had to be approved by the artist Thomas Daniell to ensure authenticity. Daylesford, Warren Hastings' house is nearby, but it is not open to the public. An excursion was made to his burial place in the churchyard. The very handsome urn which marks his grave was restored a few years ago and the photograph on page 100 shows Rosemarie and Theon Wilkinson, with other BACSA members, gathered around it.

And lastly, the good news! BACSA can now accept payment for books and subscriptions in rupees as well as sterling, which will make life a lot easier for our Indian members.

Tailpiece

'A gravestone with a difference, but an "Indian" connection you might find amusing', writes BACSA member Sally Dyson, who recently visited Dublin. There in the basement of the Royal Hospital she found a memorial to Vonolel 'for 23 years the charger and faithful friend of Field Marshal Lord Roberts of Kandahar. He [the horse] had the honour of being decorated by the Queen with the Afghan medal with four clasps, the Kandahar Star, and the Jubilee medal. He died at the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, June 1899. "There are men both good and wise who hold that in a future state, dumb creatures we have cherished here below, shall give us joyous greeting when we pass the Golden Gate, is it folly that I hope it may be so?" Who could disagree with these sentiments, or not concur with a recent letter in The Daily Telegraph in which the writer said if animals didn't go to heaven, she didn't want to either? It would be a luxury to enumerate animal graves in the sub-continent, when human graves vanish quickly enough, but are there any existing examples of 'faithful friends' who accompanied their masters and mistresses on often lonely postings?



Above: The Collector's tomb at Hosur (see p. 91)

Below: The BACSA outing at Warren Hastings' tomb, Daylesford (see p. 99)



Left: Ellen Newcomb's tomb at Cawnpore (see p. 89)

Below: Chittagong Old Cemetery, recently restored (note new wall)



Books by BACSA Authors

[These can be ordered via BACSA, at no extra cost to the purchaser]

Company Paintings: Indian Paintings of the British Period Mildred Archer

This is a catalogue of approximately 2,600 paintings held by the Victoria & Albert Museum, a large number of which came from the East India Company's Museum in London. Others were donated after various Indian exhibitions in Europe, so popular in the 19th century. Sensibly, the book has been organised by area, rather than subject matter or chronology, thus allowing the reader to appreciate the development of the many regional schools which flourished or developed during 300 years. This is however, no mere list of paintings, but the definitive and scholarly result of ten years' work in the V & A's Indian Department by Dr. Archer, the foremost authority on Company paintings. From her Introduction we learn (to the surprise of many, I suspect), that the earliest paintings for Europeans date from the 1540s, when Portuguese settlers commissioned Indian artists to depict their countrymen and women in the costumes of their region, occupation and caste. These illustrations predate the impetus given by the Emperor Akbar to Mughal painters who developed 'a brilliant new style', influenced to some extent by the many European pictures brought by Jesuits to the Delhi Court. These subtle nuances then filtered through to the regional schools, so that local artists later producing Company paintings were not working in an entirely alien medium. Many such works were commissioned by Europeans, often Frenchmen, like General Ventura, who got Imam Baksh Lahori to illustrate the fables of La Fontaine, an imaginative act. Others, beautifully illustrated here, were speculative ventures, painted to inform both Europeans and Indians of the customs and habits, wild-life, flora, architecture, festivals, nobles and eccentrics of the sub-continent. 'The Sheep Eater from Surong at his Breakfast' must definitely count among the latter, as in cartoon strip fashion he is shown 'lifting the sheep from the ground with his teeth', 'devouring the hind quarters' etc. The shawl goat of Bhutan by Zayn al-Din, formerly in the collection of Lady Impey (1749-1818), illustrates the 18th century fascination with the natural world, and the Company's own explorations, for the goat was brought back by George Bogle from his mission to Tibet in 1773 (not 1775, as given on p97). The last chapter lists paintings on 'other media', that is on glass, ivory, shell and mica. The latter was a favourite for 'sets' of occupations, Hindu deities, modes of transport, ascetics, servants and entertainers, in fact, the 19th century equivalent of the cigarette card, and unfortunately, almost as ephemeral. A rich and splendid book that will stimulate interest in the V & A's Indian collection. (RLJ)

1992 V & A Museum: Indian Art Series, £25 plus £3.50 postage pp240

Hindu Art Richard Blurton

To all those who are interested in Hindu art but lack the knowledge of religious, historical and geographical details necessary for a fuller appreciation, this book by a curator in the South and Southeast Asian collections at the British Museum, will prove invaluable. Defining his subject as 'the sculpture, painting and ritual objects used in the service of the many Hindu gods and goddesses', the author first examines the way in which Hinduism has combined strands of ideas from such influences as the Harappan civilisation, the Vedas and early Sanskrit texts, Buddhism, Jainism and tribal practices

with the inherent beliefs of devotion, pilgrimage and gods in many forms, and incorporated these in its art. He also traces the architectural development of the temple and studies its present-day role and layout, before moving on to a detailed analysis of the art itself. Separate chapters are devoted to Shiva, Vishnu and the Great Goddess to whom most other deities have some relationship. Each aspect of their artistic depiction is made more meaningful through a fascinating exploration of their characteristics and those of their various forms or incarnations, their iconography and the web of mythology which surrounds them, whilst in the regional and chronological survey of the final chapter, specific examples of temple architecture, sculpture and painting are described in order to highlight shared influences and individual styles. The author's great knowledge of Hindu art and his enthusiasm for it make the book both highly informative and enjoyable to read. I particularly like the sense he conveys of an ancient tradition on the one hand, on the other living, thriving and continually developing religion. It could equally well be dipped into for reference - there are maps of India on which to locate the places mentioned, a glossary of frequently used Indian terms and thorough indices. The text is closely mirrored throughout by more than 150 illustrations, which are remarkable not only for their quality and the accompanying explanatory notes, but also for their wide range of subject matter. Included are gold Kushan coins from 1st Century AD, popular posters of local deities, a festival chariot, examples of Vaishnava metal stamps, paintings on cloth and wood, examples of architecture and sculpture and much more. There is the bonus that a large proportion of this material can be seen at first-hand in the British Museum. (CM)

1992 British Museum Press £14.95 plus £2.25 postage pp239

Amaravati: Buddhist Sculpture from the Great Stupa Robert Knox

The release of this splendid catalogue by the British Museum happily coincided with the historic refurbishment of the entire Oriental Gallery at the end of 1992. The sculptures that are the subject of the book have not been on display for nearly 30 years, and their inclusion in the new gallery is a special treat for visitors interested in the early Buddhist art in India. The sculptures once belonged to a single monument in the small town of Amaravati in Andhra Pradesh, near Guntur. Its discovery and excavation, and the dispersal of its sculptures in India and in Britain, echo much of the development of archaeology in the sub-continent. The sculptures formed part of a stupa, normally a semi-circular mound whose solid core contains a small relic. No provision exists to enter the stupa, and worship consists of proceeding around the monument in a clockwise fashion. Figural sculpture appears on a circular fence around the stupa and large flat slabs embellish the outside of the stupa itself. Four evenly spaced gateways pierce the railing, and these also contain figural sculpture. The only surviving example that resembles the stupa at Amaravati is the celebrated Great Stupa at Sanchi in Madhya Pradesh. The Amaravati stupa was constructed sometime during the 2nd to 3rd centuries AD over an older base.

The hundreds of surviving pieces from Amaravati are largely divided between the Madras Museum, which has roughly two thirds of the total, and the British Museum. The installation in London simulates a large segment of the railing and drum. Its immense size, the dramatic lighting, and its commanding position at the north end of

the long hall make this display in some ways the centrepiece of the new Oriental Gallery. The sculptures depict scenes from the Buddha's life, such as his birth, the departure from the palace, and the defeat of the demon king Mara. The material is a light, cream-coloured limestone that lends itself to high relief sculpture. An entire chapter documents the monument's discovery and the fascinating route that led from Amaravati to London. The stupa was first noted by a local raja in the late 18th century who removed some of the stones for local building projects. Colonel Colin Mackenzie visited the site in 1797, and it was largely his efforts that led to the eventual preservation of the sculptures. Over a hundred pieces were shipped to Britain in 1859 to the India Office where they languished for a year in storage. The works were acquired in 1880 by the British Museum where Sir Augustus Wollaston Franks took a keen interest in their display. In the last War the pieces were held in storage and did not reappear until the early 1950s when they occupied the area where the gift shop is today. In the 1960s the fragile nature of the limestone led to the decision to place the pieces in storage until the proper atmospheric conditions could be provided to protect the works. The greater part of the book is a catalogue of each of the individual objects, their subject matter, style and inscriptions beautifully illustrated in colour and black and white. For those interested in the early Buddhist art of India, this catalogue is an indispensable work. (DMS)

1992 British Museum Publications £40.00 plus postage pp247

A Very Ingenious Man: Claude Martin in Early Colonial India Rosie Llewellyn-Jones

'The only form of fiction in which real characters do not seem out of place is history.' Irritating though many of Oscar Wilde's rather contrived obiter dicta may be, this particular example is eminently applicable to the work reviewed. Dr Llewellyn-Jones is an historian, with impeccable scholastic credentials, and has written a meticulously researched and documented historical work, but there can be no doubt that the subject of her literary labours - Major General Claude Martin of Lyon and Lucknow - was a very real character, as large as life, and at times quite distinctly larger - so much so as to seem sometimes quite improbable. During the decades following the Independence and Partition of the sub-continent, writing books about the British Raj in India became a thriving literary industry. Its products varied widely in quality, but concentrated almost wholly on the events of 1857 and the period that followed. Works dealing with the earlier years, during which the foundations of the Raj were laid, are comparatively few in number, and historical biographies even fewer. Titles such as *The Fountain of the Elephants*, Desmond Young's life of Benoit de Boigne, *Coote Bahadur* (Sir Eyre Coote) by EW Sheppard, *Sikander Sahib*, Denis Holman's life of James Skinner of Skinner's Horse, and various biographies of Clive and Warren Hastings (notably those by TGP Spear and CC Davies) come to mind. It is to this select group of biographies that this life of Claude Martin clearly belongs. Prudently the author has not assumed that all readers will be equally conversant with the historical context in which it is set - India in the 18th century, and the relations between the East India Company and the Kingdom of Avadh. So the opening chapters, dealing pithily with the Anglo-French struggle for paramountcy in Southern India, the ascendancy of the former, and the subsequent expansion north westwards from Bengal of British power, following the Battle of Buxar (October 1764), are not only essential as a background to the main concerns

of the book, but also intrinsically valuable for their insightful and lucid analysis of a rather confused situation.

The following chapters trace the career of Claude Martin from his birth in January 1735 in Lyon, to a middle class family of skilled artisans, and subsequent journey to India as a private in the French Army, to his death in Lucknow in September 1800 in a fabulous palace-fortress cum mausoleum, under a gravestone that records his eventual rank as a Major General in the Army of the East India Company. Martin's career was not without vicissitudes, since at one stage he was cashiered, along with others, for his participation in the so called 'White Mutiny' at Monghyr in October 1766 and threatened with deportation. Subsequently he scraped a living as a surveyor of the remoter regions of Bengal, before being reinstated and ultimately pardoned as were his fellow culprits. After extending his surveying operations to Avadh in 1773, and settling in Lucknow at the Court of Nawab Asaf-ud-daula, Martin's fortunes took an upward turn, and he was on his way to becoming a man of substance or Nabob - as financially successful adventurers were then called. He established a network of influence that included Governors General in Calcutta, the Court of Avadh, and extended, through his acquaintance with condottieri like Benoit de Boigne, to the domains of Indian princes outside the ambit of British influence. However, it was not through political influence that Martin achieved his vast fortune (Rs 40 lakhs at his death), but by his industrious and financially shrewd participation in a variety of activities. Not only was he Superintendent of the Nawab's Artillery Park, but a landlord of houses that he built on a number of choice sites in and near Lucknow. From these he derived a steady income, and his own house was used to store the riches of wealthy Indians and Europeans in those troubled times. They were prepared to pay 12.5% ad valorem for this service. Further, Martin was an indigo planter, and exporter of various goods to the West. Irrepressibly inquiring of mind, he experimented with hot-air balloons only shortly after the Montgolfier brothers' pioneering efforts in France, cast medals and coins, was a patron of the Arts (his house Farhat Baksh - in Lucknow being a veritable museum), and eventually a philanthropist, whose bequests not only benefited his relatives in far-away France, but supported a variety of charities in India. However, his main memorial is in the form of three schools - in Lyon, Calcutta and Lucknow - all called La Martiniere, where their Founder's munificence is recalled annually on 13 September - the anniversary of his death. It is not for nothing therefore that Dr Llewellyn-Jones has dubbed Martin a 'polymath'. Nevertheless, although clearly admiring his achievements and multifarious talents, she has been strictly objective in including less savoury aspects of Martin's character - unbridled greed (backed by meticulous accountancy), sycophancy towards those in positions likely to advance his own cause, coupled with a readiness to ditch former associates when necessary, a reprehensible indulgence in paedophilia, and a level of snobbery frequently characteristic of the nouveau riche. Notwithstanding all these blemishes, Martin's eventual (if posthumous) use of his somewhat ill-gotten gains in some measure redeems him and sets him apart from other predatory Europeans with no redeeming features at all, and therefore, apart from being in truth 'a very ingenious man', it would be fitting to dub him a 'kindly condottiere'. (WTR)

1992 OUP India £15.95 pp241

A Fatal Friendship - The Nawabs, the British and the City of Lucknow By the same author, and first published in 1985 has been re-issued in paperback 1992 OUP India £4.95 pp284. Both books available in the UK from April 1993 from OUP Bookshop, 116 High Street, Oxford, OX1 4BZ.

Emergency Sahib Robin Schlaefli

The sub-title of this book is 'Of Queen's, Sikhs and the Dagger Division', in all of which the author served as an Emergency Commissioned Officer. After the conventional experiences of an English public schoolboy and a short period of insurance broking, he enlisted in August 1940. Ultimately he was commissioned into the Queen's Regiment with which he served on the north-east coast, awaiting the invasion of Britain. He was accepted into the Indian Army and after the usual convoy experiences, followed by the shock of Indian railway journeys common to most ECOs, he joined the Machine Gun Battalion of the 11th Sikh Regiment in Nowshera. A wartime battalion of Sikhs and Punjabi Muslims, between whom there was never any friction, they did not see action in Burma until early in 1945, after which they had more than their full share, with others of the 19th Indian (Dagger) Division, slogging down to Mandalay, crossing the Chindwin and Irrawaddy rivers against stiff opposition. The Division was the first into Mandalay, because, according to the author, their fire-eating General, 'Pete' Rees [father of BACSA's President], was determined to beat the gun and ignore General Slim's schedule in which this honour was reserved for the 2nd British Division also battling its way south to Mandalay, whereas the reviewer in the 2nd Division thought it was a political decision for an Indian division to be first. Of such stuff are military legends made! This excellent book is better than most war memoirs in that the author sets personal experiences in their global and sub-continental context, which should benefit post-war readers. Another good feature is that India is seen not just as a backdrop to the war in Burma, as many people saw it at the time, but as a place of interest in itself, and the author writes with a sensitive appreciation of India's sights and sounds and people, and with great understanding of his own men. The only minor criticisms are that the photographs are not captioned underneath and the reader has to refer back to a separate list, and there are too many avoidable printer's errors. The pictures, as well as the maps, are excellent. (PC)

1992 R.J. Leach & Co. London £16.95 plus postage pp160

Field Security - Very Ordinary Intelligence AA Mains

Mains's first step on the ladder of 'Field Security' was attendance at a Command Intelligence Course in 1939. He was bored with peace-time soldiering and decided that a change from regimental soldiering would be a good idea. Luckily he did well in the course and, despite objections from his Commanding Officer, found himself appointed as an Instructor at the Intelligence School which was about to be established in Bombay. Mains was posted in due course to Iraq where trouble was brewing. The author has described his work in Iraq as 'routine unit security and the more glamorous counter espionage. The Counter Espionage part of our work was much more interesting'. Iraq, in retrospect, had much to offer a young officer, but it was India and Burma that were to be Mains's next posting. He took part in the retreat from Burma. That, however, is not described here, but in another of Mains's books *Retreat from Burma* -

an Intelligence Officer's Personal Story. Assam and the lines of communication fill up another two chapters and were in sharp contrast with his previous appointment, affording him a splendid opportunity to widen his horizon in a place where not a lot was understood about the value of Field Security. The time that Mains spent in HQ 14 Army enabled him to see a lot more than usually fell to an officer, but it could scarcely be described as Intelligence work in the strictly operational sense.

The scene now changes and, in August 1944, an officer who had held Intelligence appointments since 1939, was back at regimental duty almost 2,000 miles west of Burma. The battalion of his regiment which he joined was stationed in Baluchistan. So different were the duties which came his way, he has devoted a whole chapter to this part of his story. After some 18 months in a Gurkha battalion, the scene for Mains is once again that of Intelligence, but this time it is in Central Command at Agra. The war was drawing to a close. Political problems in the sub-continent were on the increase and, as so often happens after prolonged military campaigns in a major war, there was a degree of unrest, even mutiny, in some parts of the Armed Forces. The causes were many and varied, and kept Mains busy in Intelligence duties unconnected with some of his previous Intelligence appointments. The story which Mains has to tell covers a number of aspects connected with the main title of the book. 'Field Security' was something new in the early days of the Second World War, and much of what he has to say will be of interest. But the book in reality is the autobiography of a young officer of the Indian Army who had developed an interest outside regimental soldiering. 'Field Security' is the main title of the book, but the sub-title 'Very Ordinary Intelligence' may be the view of many who read the book. (TML)

1992 Picton Publishing Ltd. Queensbridge Cottages, Patterdown, Chippenham, Wilts. SN15 2NS £12.95 plus postage pp181

The Art and Architecture of Freemasonry James Stevens Curl

This huge and handsome volume touches only very indirectly on the sub-continent, indeed the word 'India' does not appear in the index, yet it postulates ideas that will set the traveller and historian thinking. As the author says, his book is merely a preliminary study of the connections between Freemasonry and Architecture, though it is one that is likely to remain the standard work, given the great amount of research carried out. At times, certainly in the earlier chapters, the very weight of research does not make for light reading and a thorough knowledge of Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* is necessary to follow the author's argument that this is a Masonic opera. But the chapters on the origins of the garden cemeteries, including the great Pere-Lachaise, Paris, will interest BACSA readers. Curiously Curl does not mention South Park Street Cemetery, Calcutta, which predates Pere-Lachaise by 30 odd years and which certainly fulfils his criteria of Masonic emblems with its pyramids, neo-classical tombs, obelisks and regular paths, the earliest landscaped cemetery in India. We know that there were several Lodges in Calcutta and indeed throughout India, many East India Company officials were Masons, including the vicar of St. John's Church, Calcutta, and the Governor General Cornwallis, who hosted fund raising suppers to support charity schools for Anglo-Indian orphans. Interestingly Sir Robert Rollo Gillespie, whose memorial column at Meerut was illustrated in the last *Chowkidar*, is commemorated here (pp214-6)

by another fine obelisk at Comber in Ireland, which is awash with Masonic symbols, including the Plumb-Line, the Apron, and the All-Seeing Eye. Curl explores the symbiotic links between Freemasonry and the Enlightenment, drawing many examples of romantic French gardens with their grottos, pyramids and rustic huts, although I am sorry he missed my favourite, the mysterious Desert de Retz, near Paris, with its extraordinary giant 'broken' column. Pursuing his theme that there is often more Masonic content to buildings than we think, the author does perhaps neglect other non-Masonic influences. For instance, he does not properly acknowledge the enormous excitement caused by discoveries at Herculaneum and Pompeii which encouraged interest in neo-classical decoration in its own right. But these are minor quibbles and the author is to be congratulated on his unique and innovative work. (RLJ)

1991 BT Batsford, Ltd. £50.00 plus postage pp271

Intrepid Itinerant: Manuel Godinho and His Journey from India to Portugal in 1663
John Correia-Afonso and Vitalio Lobo

It is well-known that Bombay was ceded to the English King by the Portuguese, under the terms of the marriage treaty between Charles II and Catherine of Braganza in 1661. Less generally known is that the Portuguese Viceroy in India, Antonio de Mello de Castro, strongly disagreed with this course of action and that he tried to persuade the King of Portugal, Afonso VI, to change his mind. Towards the end of 1662, the Viceroy sent the Jesuit priest, Manuel Godinho, on a secret mission by the overland route, to deliver his letter of protest to the King. Godinho reached Lisbon some ten months later. Although the mission itself was to fail, Godinho's journey resulted in the publication of one of the great works of 17th century travel literature. Manuel Godinho's book, *Relacao do Novo Caminho* [Relation of the New Route], was first published in Lisbon in 1665, since when there have been three more editions in Portuguese. This is the first complete edition in English. Godinho's vividly detailed account of his journey from India to Portugal has been translated by Vitalio Lobo and Fr. John Correia-Afonso and produced with an explicit historical introduction and extensive notes by the latter. Godinho himself was a remarkable man. Having entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus in Portugal in 1649, he was sent to India in 1655 and subsequently became 'Father of the Christians at Thana', near Bombay. He was probably just 29 years old when he was appointed envoy to the King by his Viceroy. Little more is known about his early life but, from his text, it is possible to appreciate his talents. He was an astute observer with an enquiring mind and a zest for adventure. Above all, his text was based largely upon his own, rather than second-hand, observations, and even in his prologue he claimed: "I shall not write anything of which I have not been an eye-witness".

Throughout his travels he records details about the topography, the changing scenery, the prevailing social, religious and economic conditions of the people with exceptional clarity. Considerable information about the complex trading activities of the various nationalities in places that he visited are included, while his shrewd comments on contemporary events and about the people whom he met, make for equally compelling reading. In addition, he gives a fascinating insight into the planning of each stage of his route. This was invariably fraught with danger, more especially since the purpose of his

mission had to be kept secret. It was in December 1662 that Godinho left Bassein for Surat. The first eight chapters out of a total of 30 are devoted to this early stage of his momentous journey. They include vivid descriptions of Bassein, Daman, which he entered disguised as a soldier, and especially of Surat, where he was delayed while waiting for a suitable ship. BACSA members in particular may be interested to know that Godinho recommended a visit to the Dutch and English cemeteries to see the "design and fine finish" of some of the mausoleums. Having changed into 'Muslim garb', he sailed for the Persian Gulf in February 1663. His onward journey included visits to Gombroon (Bandar Abbas) and Kung, where he decided to take the quicker but more perilous route through Persia. As a result, his story becomes increasingly thrilling as it unfolds. In Aleppo, for example, he was accused of spying and almost imprisoned. After many adventures in the desert, he finally sailed from the port of Alexandretta to Marseilles and journeyed eventually to Lisbon. Those readers who do not understand Portuguese may be deeply grateful to the editors for having selected this travel classic, and for having made it available to a much wider public through this delightful translation. It clearly preserves the charm of Godinho's original account, in a most attractive and scholarly publication. (PR)

OUP India (available at OUP Bookshop, 116 High Street, Oxford, OX1 4BZ) £12.95 plus postage pp253

Sons of John Company, the Indian and Pakistan Armies John Gaylor

This volume is the result of years of dedicated research by the author and reflects his great interest in the Indian Army and the depth of his knowledge. The author records the lineage of the former units of the old Indian Army from 1903, through 1914-18, 1922 and the various changes to the current titles, serving in India and Pakistan. The work has a Foreword by Field Marshal Sir John Chapple GCB, CBE. It covers all the units of the old Indian Army, Cavalry, Infantry and the Corps. It gives details of the lineage, class composition, battle honours and a brief record of war service, as well as the locations of the Regimental Centres before, and at the time of, Partition. The line drawings of the badges are clear and add interest to the accompanying regimental entries. The chapter on the Volunteers, the Indian Defence Force, and what subsequently became the Auxiliary Force (India) is an important part of this work and gives details of the many 'volunteer' units. There are five Appendices covering uniforms and badges, rank structure, tables of units and the Anglo-Indian Force of 1916. A bibliography is also included as well as a very comprehensive Regimental index. The book aims to show how the Indian Army was created, and what happened to it after Partition up to the present day, and it is to the author's great credit that he has achieved this and more. It is a fascinating book, full of interest and information that the researcher will find invaluable. Illustrated. (AH)

1992 Spellmount Ltd. Publishers £28.00 pp408 plus postage from the author at 30 Edgeborough Way, Bromley, Kent BR1 2UA.

South Park Street Cemetery, Calcutta: Register of Graves and Standing Tombs, from 1767.

This is the work of many willing and dedicated hands over a period of more than seven

years. The moving spirit in Calcutta was Maurice Shellim, supported by a number of active members of APHCI (the Association for the Preservation of Historical Cemeteries in India) which he helped found, and those who assisted in completing the photographic survey - Laura Sykes and Jean Williams. In London the task of co-ordinating the groundwork and relating it to the earlier records fell to Wynyard Wilkinson who also prepared the computer print-out. This survey, with plan, includes the names of over 3,500 people and provides a focus of interest on the standing tombs so that there is a means of reference to the precise site of each with its appropriate photograph held in the BACSA archive and available on request. BACSA owes a debt to the ten sponsors who came forward and enabled this publication to be available to researchers and family historians.

1992 BACSA £19.50 plus 50p postage pp136

In the Shade of Kanchenjunga Jennifer Fox

The story of Darjeeling from 1814 to the coming of Tibetan refugees in 1957. Not just a book about planters, but a sensitive, evocative history with a personal flavour. Dances and laughter, interspersed with War, cyclones and floods are described, together with the author's experiences on the Tukvar tea estate.

1993 BACSA £9.00 plus £1 postage pp176

Dehra Dun - Chandranagar Cemetery Aylmer Jean Galsworthy

Inscriptions and biographical notes. Graves are listed by year of death from 1820 to 1912 and endowments from 1888 to 1951. Also lists of Army personnel, civilians, stonemasons, etc.

1993 BACSA £9.00 plus 50p postage pp144

Meerut: the First Sixty Years (1815-1875) Alan Harfield

Inscriptions and Burial Registers. Also a complete listing of the British and Indian Regiments that served there, along with a history of the garrison and biographical notes.

1992 BACSA £18.00 plus £1.50 postage pp360

Quetta - Monuments and Inscriptions Susan Maria Farrington

Covers all the known cemeteries with their monuments and inscriptions. Also a section on the town's history, the Staff College, railways, churches and the horrifying 1935 earthquake. A plan of all the graves.

1992 BACSA £15.00 plus £1.00 postage pp270

To be reviewed in our next issue: Fidelity and Honour: the Indian Army from the 17th to the 21st Century by Lieut. Gen. S.L. Menezes and Thangliena: a life of T.H. Lewin by John Whitehead

Books by Non-Members (that will interest readers)

[These should be ordered direct and not via BACSA]

Molly and the Rajah: Race, Romance and the Raj Edward Duyker and Coralie Younger

In spite of the rather catchpenny title, this is an extremely interesting, well-researched little book that adds considerably to our knowledge of early 20th century attitudes towards race and colour (among Australians, British and Indians), and has the bonus of a love story as well. Molly Fink, born in Melbourne in 1894, was the beautiful daughter of an unsuccessful Jewish lawyer. Contemporary schoolfriends who were interviewed for this book remember her as a striking extrovert, and 'not quite a lady'. But when the Raja of Pudukkottai, a tiny Indian state near Trichinopoly, met her in a Sydney hotel in 1915, it was love at first sight. The couple married that year, to the horror of white Australia, a society not generally known for its own aristocratic connections. The Raja Martanda Bhairava Tondaiman, 20 years older than his bride, had had several liaisons with Englishwomen in India, naturally condemned by the British Government, but at the same time was unable to find an Indian bride because his ancestors were low-caste Kallars. The newlyweds' visit to Pudukkottai was a disaster. Its subjects resented the fact that they had been deprived of a proper 'Indian' marriage, with all its festivities; the British simply refused to recognise the marriage by pretending that Molly did not exist; and the Raja's relatives tried to poison her with oleander, when they learnt she was pregnant. The couple fled to Europe where they led the peripatetic life of rich socialites until the Raja's unexpected death in 1928. He was cremated at Golders Green cemetery in London, his only son Martanda, carrying out the prescribed Hindu ceremonies. As for Molly 'in her widowhood, for all the dignity of her bearing, the heroism turned more and more to hedonism'. She drifted around the Cannes 'set', a friend of Cecil Beaton (who of course photographed her), of Noel Coward and Elsa Maxwell. Later she turned to drink and died in London in 1967, her son dying without heir in Italy in 1984. It is a sad story, and a reminder of the prejudice that people from different races often encountered when they married, even if one was a wealthy raja. (RLJ)

1991 Australian Mauritian Press, PO Box 20, Sylvania, NSW 2224, Australia (obtainable from the publishers at £15.00 including airmail postage, or £12.00 for seairmail postage) pp130

Quartered Safe Out Here George MacDonald Fraser

Few people who enjoy a good yarn can be unacquainted with the Flashman books by the author. Known collectively as 'The Flashman Papers', they tell the story of an absolute rotter, expelled from Rugby for a start, who then engaged in nearly every stirring adventure of the 19th century, from the Charge of the Light Brigade to the retreat from Kabul and the Indian Uprising of 1857. It was remembered enjoyment of these tales that attracted me to a very different story, Fraser's account of his own small part in Burma in World War II. As a very young soldier with the 17th Indian (Black Cat) Division, he fought with a group of Cumbrian borderers, pushing into Japanese-held territory and spear-heading the final assaults before the atomic bombings brought the war to a conclusion. But as he points out, these great dramas were, at the time, of little import to men whose concerns were to survive, to scrounge, to find somewhere dry to

sleep, and to obey orders without knowing the rationale behind them, in short, the lot of the common soldier from immemorial time. 'I didn't even know where I was on VJ Day... at private soldier level you frequently have no idea where you are, or precisely how you got there, let alone why.' It was the comradeship of Nine Section that bound together men asked to carry out almost impossible tasks, and it is from Fraser's vivid descriptions that 'Grandarse', Wattie and Wedge, with their peculiar Cumbrian accents, come alive. I particularly liked 'Captain Grief' 'a prize specimen of a type in which the British Army has always been rich... no doubt he was at Hastings, and will be there, eccentric as ever, when Gabriel sounds the last rally: a genuine, guaranteed, paid-up head-case.' This is not a book for the military tactician, nor the liberal historian pontificating on the horrors of war, frightful though some of the incidents are, but for the reader who wants to know what it actually felt like to be a private soldier in Burma towards the end of the War. Warmly recommended. (RLJ)

1992 Harvill (Harper Collins Publishers) £16.00 pp225 paperback £8.99 plus postage (May 1993)

Two useful reprints have recently come out: Services of the Bengal Native Army to 1895 by Lieut. A. Cardew. A full history of the BNA with Regiments, Battles, Lists of Officers, Honours and Awards. £35.00 pp580 and The Army in India and its Evolution including the formation of the Air Force in India. Government of India publication 1924. £25.00 pp284. Both books available from Picton Publishing Ltd. Queensbridge Cottages, Patterdown, Chippenham, Wilts SN15 2NS.

Please note that unsolicited reviews will not be considered for publication by the Editor unless accompanied by the book reviewed.





DEHRA DUN
Chandranagar Cemetery