

IRONCLAD CASTE.

Its Rule Among the Hindus Absolute and Unchangeable.

THE POWER OF THE BRAHMAN

All the Wealth of the World Would Not Enable a Lower Caste Hindu to Wed into His Family or Touch His Hand—Tyrannical Social Divisions.

Caste distinction in India is a thing difficult for a foreigner to comprehend. All the racial or religious distinctions which separate European nations from each other and divide them within themselves do not equal the number of classes into which the Hindus are divided by what is known as "caste."

The 200,000,000 Hindus are made up of diverse racial elements and speak about nineteen developed languages and over 100 dialects. They are again divided into over 3,000 castes, most of them with subcastes. One of these castes, the Brahmans, is split up into more than 800 subcastes, of which none will intermarry and few will eat together.

The term "caste" includes so many things that it is difficult to define it. There are, however, two properties essential to a true caste—first, there is no entry except by birth; second, marriage outside the caste is absolutely forbidden. To preserve the purity and maintain the exclusiveness of the society many minute rules of conduct, many restrictions on food and many ceremonial observances are imposed on the members and enforced by penalties which cannot be evaded, against which there is no appeal and which in extreme cases follow the offender beyond the grave.

But that is not all. The relations of castes to each other are as much a matter of religious observance as the rules for their internal regulation. The Brahmans are the highest admittedly and undoubtedly superior to all the rest. After them come those who are acknowledged to be twice born. The less honored follow in a graduated descent until the untouchable and un-speakable are reached at the lowest depth.

It may be urged that the separation between the Brahman and, let us say, the Kurni market gardener is no wider than that between the peer of the United Kingdom and the coal miner. There is this essential difference—that it is impossible for an Indian to change his caste. The coal miner may be elected to parliament, may become a cabinet minister and if he can make money enough may marry his son to a duke's daughter.

The Kurni must remain a Kurni. All the wealth of Croesus will not enable him to make an alliance with a Brahman family or to touch a Brahman's hand. The members of a caste may and in some cases do raise themselves in the sight of other castes by adopting more elaborate ceremonies and more scrupulous observances.

A half civilized Gond, for example, may find himself brought into contact with Hindus as the plow encroaches on the forest. He tries to raise his position and add to his self respect by adopting the exclusiveness of his Hindu neighbors. He will even outdo them if he can, and if the Hindu is scrupulous about his food the convert will wash the very wood with which his dinner is cooked.

No endeavors of this kind, however, will avail to lessen by a hair's breadth the distance between him and the caste Hindu or even to induce the Hindu barber to look upon him as a client whose chin he may shave and whose toe nails he may pare without degradation.

Another point connected with caste which has a very practical bearing and must be taken into account is the power of coercion which it gives to the brotherhood. If a man is excommunicated by his caste fellows nobody in the caste will marry him or will accept water from his hands or will eat with him.

If he is married his wife will not touch him or speak to him. He is dead to his family. The priest will not perform ceremonies for him. The village barber will not shave him, and the washerwoman will not wash his clothes. These are the methods of bringing pressure on the man. The strictest boycott which Irishmen have invented is mild compared to the final sentence of a caste punchayat.

A system like this is a stern fact which has to be faced. There is not a police case or a civil case or a trial at the sessions, there is hardly an appointment to an office in India of whatever degree, in which the matter of caste has not to be considered. It forces itself into every assessment of land revenue, into every adjudication of rent. It affects the administration of justice, the proceedings of municipal and district councils.

The influence and power of the Brahman and the idea that he is above the law and is not to be punished as other people are still alive, although a century of British justice has done something toward eradicating them. On the other hand, the suggestion that a man of a lower caste might rise to an equality or nearer to an equality with members of a caste above him is unthinkable. Where the low caste men are, there they must remain. If they behave themselves it will be made up to them in a future existence.—London Spectator.

Polliteness is a locksmith and opens many difficult doors.

GREAT SALT LAKE.

An Immense Fresh Water Sea Some Thousands of Years Ago.

In glacial times Great Salt Lake was a magnificent fresh water lake the size of Lake Huron—that is, about 18,000 square miles—and had its outlet into the Port Neuf, the Snake and the Columbia rivers. This was at least 10,000 years ago, but since that time the climate has become arid, and not enough water has fallen over the Great Basin to supply that lost by evaporation. Consequently the lake has ceased to flow from its outlet and gradually dried up from over a thousand feet deep to fifteen feet and from 18,000 square miles in area to less than 1,700.

It is now seventy miles long and about thirty wide, but is beautiful still and is the home of myriads of sea birds and other waterfowl. It is the great resort of the people of Utah, for from 3,000 to 5,000 visit its shores daily in the summer, and many bathe in its waters. The lake contains about 7,000,000,000 tons of salt.

When the lake is high the salt is so diluted that it has gone down to 11 per cent. When it is low, as it was not many years ago, it reached saturation which for the mixed ingredients of the water is 36 per cent.

There is nothing mysterious about it any more than there would be about a teaspoonful of salt in the bottom. If a tablespoonful of water were put in the cup on the salt it would taste very salty, but if the cup were filled to the brim with water it would not.

The salt has come from the water of the rivers flowing into it since it ceased to flow from its outlet. All river water contains salt, and the annual evaporation of from two to five cubic miles of this water leaves large quantities of salt behind, and so it has accumulated for thousands of years.

A DREAM JOURNEY.

It Was a Very Long One, but it Took Only a Few Minutes.

"Dreams are curious things," remarked the amateur psychologist. "Time does not seem to enter into their composition at all. For instance, the other day I was sitting on the porch of a hotel with a friend of mine smoking after lunch. It was a drowsy day, and conversation lagged. Presently I saw my friend nodding in his chair. He had dozed off, holding his lighted cigar in his left hand, which was folded over his right. His left hand relaxed, and the end of the cigar came in gentle contact with the right hand, inflicting a slight burn.

"The devil it won't!" exclaimed my friend, waking with a start.

"The sentence sounded so incongruous that I burst out laughing. 'Won't what?' I asked.

"How long have I been asleep?" he asked.

"Not more than a couple of minutes," I replied.

"It doesn't seem possible," he said. "During that time I had a dream that pretty nearly took me around the world. I sailed for Southampton, did England, France, Switzerland and a part of Italy, then through the orient to India. It was in India that I became much interested in one of the native snake charmers. He had the snakes crawling all over him and offered me one to fondle. I told him I was afraid it would bite me. He assured me that it wouldn't, and I took the reptile in my hand. It promptly fastened its fangs in me. I said, 'The devil it won't!' and dropped it, and then I woke up."

"I explained the episode of the lighted cigar," concluded the amateur psychologist, "and we both laughed."—New York Sun.

Southey's Industry.

Southey probably deserves to rank as the most industrious of authors. In the greater part of his life he spent fourteen hours a day in composition. He had six tables in his library. He wrote poetry at one, history at another, criticism at a third, and so on with the other subjects upon which he was engaged. He once described to Mme. de Stael the division of his time—two hours before breakfast for history, two hours for reading after, two hours for the composition of poetry, two hours for criticism, and so on through all his working day. "And pray, Mr. Southey," asked madam, "when do you think?"—London Chronicle.

"Come Across."

"Do these Englishmen understand American slang?"

"Some of them do. Why?"

"My daughter is to be married in London, and the duke has just cabled me to come across."

"Well?"

"Does he want me or my wad?"—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Two Tales in One.

Six-year-old George's father had taken him to a circus, and that night the mother asked her little son what he had seen.

"Mamma," said George, all excitement. "I saw a great big elephant with two tails, and he was eating with one of 'em."—St. Louis Times.

Three of a Kind.

Duprez, the great but ill favored French tenor, was once walking from the Grand Opera House in Paris with the baritone Barollet, who was not an Apollo either. They happened to meet Perrot, the dancer, a man of very great ability, but short and thin and so ugly that a manager once said he could never engage Perrot unless for the Jardin des Plantes (zoological gardens), as he engaged no monkeys.

Perrot told them the story, and when Duprez laughed at him Perrot said: "Why, surely you need not laugh. If I am ugly I am certainly not so ugly as either of you."

"You monkey," said Duprez, "this difference shall soon be settled." And, seeing a stranger pass who appeared to be a gentleman, "Monsieur," said he, "will you be so good as to arbitrate in a little difference of opinion between us?"

"With pleasure," said the stranger, "if I can."

"Well," said Duprez, "just look at us and say whom you consider to be the ugliest of the three."

The gentleman looked for some time from one to the other and then said, "Gentlemen, I give it up; I cannot possibly decide." And went away roaring with laughter.

Better Late Than Not at All.

The pastor of the little country church had been much annoyed by having the members of his congregation straggle in long after the service had begun. One Sunday morning, when he felt that further forbearance with this fault was impossible, he decided to rebuke some conspicuous offender. About twenty minutes later than the proper hour there entered a mild mannered little woman, one of the regular attendants of the church, but quite incorrigible in her tardiness. The minister looked up, fixed her with his spectacles and remarked:

"Sister, you are very much behind time. I hope you will not be so late in getting into heaven."

"The little woman looked up, smiled sweetly and without a trace of confusion replied placidly:

"I shan't care about that, doctor, so long as I get there."

And now the pastor feels that the smile that went round the church somehow spoiled the effectiveness of his reprimand.—New York Tribune.

Chinese and the Morse Code.

Difficulties of the Chinese language were ably demonstrated when the problem arose of adapting it to telegraphy. How was it possible to apply the Morse alphabet to a language which has no alphabet at all, but consists of nearly 44,000 characters? Then it was impossible to treat Chinese phonetically, writing down the sound of the Chinese words in European letters and translating them into Morse dots and dashes, because no such system could deal with the Chinese niceties of intonation. The ingenious solution came from a Danish professor. He simply codified the 7,000 commonest Chinese characters, representing each by numerals. Thus the Chinese word for "cash" became 0030 in the code, and the operator had only to send the code signal for that.

Rachel's Onion.

I was amused by the observations of a retired actress who sat beside me at the Conservatoire examinations and in an undertone thought aloud as the recitations went on.

"Why so much weeping and wringing of the hands?" she said of a candidate attempting Andromaque. "How she spoils her nice young face in attempting to force tears from her eyes! At this distance nobody could scent an onion in her pocket handkerchief. Rachel resorted to that trick in 'Adrienne Lecouvreur,' and the tears flowed freely without facial contortions. I heard it said that as she left the stage she gave the onion she held to Prince Napoleon to eat in salad and that he did so."—Paris Letter to London Truth.

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Notice.
John F. Wilcoxson will take notice that on the 22nd day of July, 1910, P. H. Sullivan, a justice of the Peace, in and for Lincoln County, Nebraska, issued an Order of Attachment for the sum of \$19.50, in an action pending before him, wherein William Dowson is plaintiff and John F. Wilcoxson defendant, that property consisting of money in the hands of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, a corporation, has been attached under said order.

Notice to Delinquents.
Notice is hereby given that the rental upon the lease contracts to the following described school lands in Lincoln County, Nebraska, as set opposite the names of the holders thereof, is delinquent and if the amount which is due is not paid within 60 days from the date of this notice said contracts will be declared forfeited by the Board of Educational Lands and Funds and said forfeiture will be entered of record in the manner provided by law.

Notice for Publication.
Serial No. 9234.
Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at North Platte, Neb., August 23, 1910.

Notice is hereby given that Albert Doebke, of North Platte, Neb., who on Feb. 14th, 1905, made Homestead Entry No. 2048, Serial No. 9234, for all of section 5, township 15 N., range 31 W. of the sixth principal meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before the Register and Receiver at North Platte, Nebraska, on the 15th day of October, 1910.

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LEGAL NOTICE.
Nora Balch, Plaintiff, vs. Carrie L. Michael and C. P. Michael, her husband, G. W. Verley and Adeline Verley, SHERMAN, Wilberger and Emm. G. Wilberger his wife Henderson, Hollingsworth and Hollingsworth, his wife, and unknown, J. F. Little and Livonia L. Little his wife, W. Miller, Defendants.

NOTICE
Lizzie Gantt, Charles A. Perry, deceased will take notice that on the 20th day of July, 1910, Henry Waltemath, plaintiff herein, filed his petition in the District Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, against said defendants, the object and prayer of which are to quiet the title of the land in and to the defendants described tract of land, to-wit: Beginning on the southwest corner of Lot 1, in Block 102, of the original plat of the City of North Platte, Nebraska, running through the same northerly direction on the west line of said lot, 40 feet and 4 inches, thence easterly westerly along the north line of said lot, 30 feet more or less to the center line running north and south, thence southerly parallel with the west line of said lot, 4 feet and 4 inches to the south line of said lot, thence westerly on the south line of said lot to the place of beginning, and to exclude each and all of the said defendants from their interest, title or claim in and to said property and to join said defendants from asserting any claim in said premises as against the plaintiff herein and to enter judgment thereon interfering with plaintiff's possession thereof.

Serial No. 01912-02131.
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
United States Land Office,
At North Platte, Nebraska, July 13, 1910.
Notice is hereby given that George H. Schaeffer, of Myrtle, Nebraska, who on Nov. 22nd, 1908, made homestead entry No. 19710, Serial No. 01912, for the southeast quarter and on July 10th, 1904, made H. E. No. 2605, Serial No. 02131, for the southeast quarter, Section 6, Township 16 N., Range 29 W., of the 6th Principal Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before the Register and Receiver at North Platte, Nebraska, on the 15th day of October, 1910.

SHERIFF'S SALE.
By virtue of an order of sale issued from the district court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, upon a decree of foreclosure rendered in No. 3323, wherein David F. Adams is plaintiff and Albert A. Adams and the Southeast quarter Section 33, Twp. 16, Range 31, are defendants, and to me directed, I will on the 10th day of September, 1910, at 1 o'clock p. m. at the east front door of the court house at North Platte, Lincoln County, Nebraska, sell at public auction to satisfy said decree, interest and costs, the following described property, to-wit: Southeast quarter of Section 33, Township 16 North, Range 31 West (the 33rd Lincoln County, Nebraska). [Tax Sale Certificate.]
Dated North Platte, Neb., August 1st, 1910.
L. L. MILTONBERGER, Sheriff.

CONTEST NOTICE
Department of the Interior,
United States Land Office,
North Platte, Nebraska,
September 7, 1910.
A sufficient contest affidavit having been filed in this office by H. C. Bartholomew contestant, against homestead entry No. 2123, made Aug. 1, 1905, of section 15, Township 38, Range 27, N. Range 32 W. 6th P. Meridian, by David Monteith contestant, in which it is alleged that David Monteith has never established residence thereon; that he has failed to improve or cultivate said tract in any manner; that he has abandoned said tract for more than six months; last past said parties are hereby notified to appear, respond and offer evidence touching said alleged facts in cross petition, on Nov. 7th, 1910, before the Register and Receiver at the United States Land Office in North Platte, Nebraska.

The said contestant having, in a proper affidavit filed Sept. 7th, set forth facts which show that after due diligence personal service of notice of said contest cannot be made, it is hereby ordered and directed that such notice be given by due and proper publication.

NOTICE.
The Somerset Syndicate, the unknown owners of the southeast quarter section 21, township 10 north, range 31 west, 6th P. M., A. B. 151, George Carter, Marie P. M. All, George Carter, Marie Carter, Emma Chandler, executor of the estate of D. E. Chandler deceased, Marie Emma Chandler, John William Dysdale, Charles Elliott, John Leonard, Fred Leonard, Erick William Shorrey, Edward W. Sims, George F. Truman Sr., E. Tydenam first and full name omitted, Wallace, Robert Wallace, A. Willing first and full name unknown, John Witherspoon, John E. L. Oden, Mrs. Sarah Colman, and William Anderson Miller, contestants in and against S. S. Davis and D. E. McConnell against said defendants, filed her cross-petition against all of said defendants, praying for the object and prayer of which are to quiet the title to the land in and to the defendants described tract of land, to-wit: The southeast quarter of section 21, township 10 north, range 31 west, 6th P. M. and for subsequent interest thereon, and to enter judgment in interest and costs and attorney's fees and to be relieved from the payment of the sum of \$2,000 for which sum the cross petitioners are liable for interest on the above named defendants in cross petition be required to pay the sum found due or that said premises may be sold to satisfy the amount so found due.

You are required to answer said petition on or before the 15th day of September 1910.
Dated August 13th, 1910.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION
Serial No. 9239.
Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at North Platte, Neb., August 11, 1910.

Notice is hereby given that Mary Facka, of North Platte, Neb., who on July 3rd, 1905, made homestead entry No. 2030, Serial No. 9239, for all of section 12, township 12 N., range 31 W. of the sixth principal meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before the Register and Receiver at North Platte, Nebraska, on the 15th day of October, 1910.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION
Serial No. 9241.
Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at North Platte, Neb., August 11, 1910.

Notice is hereby given that Adam E. Donaldson, of North Platte, Nebraska, who on Sept. 13th, 1905, made homestead entry No. 2041, Serial No. 9241, for the west half, southeast quarter, section 22, township 15 N., range 31 W. of the 6th Principal Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before the Register and Receiver at North Platte, Nebraska, on the 15th day of October, 1910.

LEGAL NOTICE.
Nora Balch, Plaintiff, vs. Carrie L. Michael and C. P. Michael, her husband, G. W. Verley and Adeline Verley, SHERMAN, Wilberger and Emm. G. Wilberger his wife Henderson, Hollingsworth and Hollingsworth, his wife, and unknown, J. F. Little and Livonia L. Little his wife, W. Miller, Defendants.