

p. 30, says: "In the meantime the Company had in 1673 succeeded in coming to an agreement with the inhabitants of Bengal, whereby the protracted hostilities were brought to an end, and the Danes once more came into possession of factories on the Bengal coasts." Thaarup, however, though his summary comes down to the end of the last century, never mentions Serampore; and Valentyn (*op. cit.*, p. 162), writing *circa* 1725, and describing the various European factories on the Hughli, simply says: "The Danes have here only an ordinary house, two miles lower still than the French factory" (at Chandernagore).—Yours very truly,

DONALD FERGUSON.

Croydon, April 29.

6. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROBLEM.

SIR,—In India and beyond the boundaries of it there are many objects of antiquity, the origin and circumstances of the growth of which have yet been obscure to the scholar, and far from being definitely known to the ordinary traveller.

Every summer dozens of European ladies and gentlemen and many eminent Indians pass through the long and ever-winding Jhelum Valley Road, with high mountain walls generally on the right and the powerful stream flowing in an almost ever-changing form on the left. Many such travellers must have halted at the Dak Banglow of Rampur, and noticed a very large workshop near it. Just a little higher up from the State workshops, on the right side of the road, is to be found a very large temple built of blocks of well-cut stone of cubical form. The building is of a rectangular form, and having altogether a compact appearance. The height will not be less than some of the noteworthy temples of Brindaban, to which pilgrims and travellers resort by hundreds. There is nothing about the face of it except its immensely tall doorway with a pair of pillars on either side. A balcony or shade, strongly

built of stone pillars with very high floor, surrounds the whole of the inner compound. The temple proper is very near to the back row of the buildings. The height of the floor of it must exceed six feet, and a staircase slopes down just on the middle of the front. The doors are worn out, apparently untouched by carpenters and ironsmiths for centuries. Just on the opposite side of the buildings, across the road, is to be found a large wooden house for brahmin priests of the temple.

The temple is called by travellers and the people of the locality the temple of Bhūnear. But it is more popularly called Pandu Mandir. Judging from the antiquity of the building, the architecture of it is of no small interest.

It is probable, indeed, that this temple in the Kashmir territory is one of the most ancient Hindu temples in and beyond the frontiers of India. Cannot some archaeologist inform us, through the pages of this Journal, what this ancient temple is?

M. N. CHATTERJEA.

7. QUERY, "SÁGRI."

SIR,—I shall be much obliged for information as to the use of the word *Ságrī* or something like it, to mean a 'shark' or 'dogfish,' in any¹ language, but especially in Arabic. I find it, in the dictionaries, applied to the skins of such fish, to those of horses and asses prepared in imitation, and even to their backs and cruppers. All authorities seem to agree that 'chagrin' in the sense of 'annoyance' is a metaphorical word, originating in the use of shark-skins to rasp down or smooth wood.

One would expect an Arabic word like *Ságrī*, meaning 'a shark,' to be the origin of the Persian, Turkish, and European words; the more so as the inhabitants of the south coast of Persia are very largely of Arab descent and speech. There seem to be few or no Caspian fish of the sort.

¹ I have two French instances and two Italian.