

and at last reached Nimtollah at 12-30 P.M., where the mortal remains of the great Professor were laid on a pyre and sandal wood and soon consumed by the sacred flame.

APPRECIATIONS.

By the death of Professor Lalit Kumar Banerjee, Bengal has lost a veteran educationist. Generations of students sat at his feet, and listened with admiration and profit to his unfolding of the beauty of literature and his analysis of the master minds of English, Sanskrit and Bengali literature. But that does not constitute his only title to eminence. He had a passionate love for Bengali literature which has certainly been enriched by his sparkling wit and pathos. His analysis of the female characters of Bankim Chandra is at once brilliant and instructive. With an analytical mind he combined keen power of observation, and obscure traits of human character and commonplace incidents were made vivid by a touch of his magic pen. His almost inexhaustible fund of knowledge extorted unstinted admiration of his students as Professor Lalit Kumar would go on quoting parallel passages from more than one author and in more than one language to create in their minds a real taste for literature and its beauty. He was a nationalist in the best sense of the term, and with his vast erudition combined plain living and high thinking. Bengal is poorer today by his death. We offer our sincere condolence to the bereaved family.

—*Liberty.*

The passing away of Professor Lalit Kumar Banerjee of the Bangabasi College, Calcutta, has removed from Bengal one of the most distinguished educationists of the province. Born in an orthodox Brahmin family of the district of Nadia, he inherited the traditional passion for learning as well as the simplicity of habits and character of an Indian

Brahmin. He had a most brilliant academic career being one of the very best students which the Calcutta University has ever produced. The bright prospects of highly paid Government service were open to him. If he had liked, he could have without much difficulty secured one of those prize posts under the Government coveted by and available to the people of his time. But Mammon worship was never in his line. He had no attraction for a life of luxury and wordly honours. He was one of that bright galaxy and distinguished alumni of his day who voluntarily embraced poverty and giving up every other avenue of more lucrative employment made teaching in non-Government colleges as their calling in life. And what is more remarkable is that even when the first flush of youthful idealism in him passed away and he was making a hard struggle with poverty, time after time he resisted the temptation of more attractive offers of service under the Government Educational Department and stuck to the line he had chosen.

The success of Professor Lalit Kumar Banerjee as a teacher is well-known. For about 40 years batch after batch of students sat at his feet and highly profited from his inspiring discourses on English language and literature. Indeed his great scholarship, his unique power of exposition and keen interest in the welfare of his students combined with a rare sense of duty spread his reputation as a teacher far beyond his own province and made him an idol of the student community of our University.

His contribution to the Bengali literature was also considerable. The vast range of his study enabled him to enrich the critical side of this literature as not many other writers have enriched it. His chief claim to distinction, however, rests not on his serious productions but on his compositions produced in a lighter vein characterised at once by a sparkling wit and good-natured humour which causes mirth without inflicting pain.

As a man Professor Lalit Kumar was noted for fearless independence and straightforwardness, who knew and had the courage to call a spade a spade. This trait in his character occasionally made him appear as somewhat rude to those who did not know him. But those who had the privilege of his intimate acquaintance always found him as a very warm-hearted friend and a true gentleman. He was an out and out nationalist and though he never took part in any political gathering, his ardent sympathy for the cause of advanced type of nationalism was remarkable. By his death, the educational interests of the country have undoubtedly suffered a great loss. We offer our heartfelt condolence to his bereaved family. May his soul rest in peace.

—A. B. Patrika.

A CONDOLENCE MEETING AT BANGABASI COLLEGE.

The following resolution was passed at a meeting of the students and the staff of Bangabasi College held on Monday (Dec. 2).

The teachers and students of Bangabasi College in meeting assembled place on record their deep sense of sorrow at the sad and irreparable loss the College has sustained by the untimely death of Prof. Lalit Kumar Banerjee, who, by his whole-hearted devotion to the work of the College for the