

# BANGABASI COLLEGE MAGAZINE.

प्रणिपातेन परिप्रश्नेन सेवया

By Reverence : By Questioning : By Service

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1917.

## THE MONTH.

With this number the Magazine enters the fifteenth year of its existence. As the oldest Magazine of the Province it may congratulate itself on its continuity in a country where monthly magazines often cease to exist after a spasmodic life of a few years. It is further matter for congratulation that since the starting of this Magazine, various Colleges both in and outside the Province have started Magazines of their own and quite recently the two premier Schools of the metropolis have followed suit. We eagerly look forward to the day when there will be no College in India without a Magazine of its own ; indeed, this hope receives a new impetus in the recent appearance of two new College Magazines—the **Ravenshavian** and the **B. M. College Magazine**, for the first issues of which we offer our best thanks to the Editors thereof.

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The College closed for the Christmas holidays on Thursday the 21st December 1916 and re-opened on the 3rd January 1917. The 2nd and 4th Year Classes have finished their work with their teachers and will now devote themselves to home-study. The 1st

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and 3rd Year Classes have now taken up their tutorial and laboratory work in earnest and the weekly exercises will now help them in mastering their subjects in a systematic way. We trust that the strict observance of the rule that,—absence from, and unsatisfactory work in these periodical exercises will stand in the way of the students' promotion to the next higher class—will act as a wholesome check on the idle habits of our freshmen.

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His Excellency the Viceroy accompanied by His Excellency the Governor and the Director of Public Instruction paid a visit to the attached messes of the College during the last Christmas Vacation and at his request was conducted through almost every room of the mess buildings. The boarders in their respective rooms were individually questioned about their courses of studies, their prospects of passing University Examinations, the sanitary condition of their residence, the districts from which they have come and other matters of a cognate nature. His Excellency also handled and inspected some of the text-books and newspapers lying on the tables of the students, made approving references to some of them, asked of the names of others which were written in Bengalee or Devanagri and expressed a hope that they would pass the University examinations. The kind and sympathetic interest shown by His Excellency in the affairs of the students evoked from them a response of a spontaneous out-burst of ringing cheers amidst which His Excellency left evidently pleased with what he saw.

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The Annual Convocation of the Calcutta University for conferring Degrees was held on Saturday the 6th instant at the Town Hall. The special feature of the Convocation this year was the august presence of the new Chancellor His Excellency Lord Chelmsford, who in the course of his speech made the important announcement of the appointment of a Commission next cold weather for overhauling the entire question of education in the Province. We are extremely grateful to His Excellency for the distinct note of sympathy evinced throughout the speech, and especially in his pro-

nouncement on the profession of Teaching which we deem it at once a pleasure and a privilege to quote in another part of the Magazine.

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Another sound pronouncement was made by His Excellency the Viceroy in opening the Conference of Directors of Public Instruction on the 22nd instant. We are fully in sympathy with the view propounded in the speech and we have great pleasure in quoting the most important portion of it on a later page.

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### OUR SARASWATI PUJA.

The Annual Saraswati Puja was celebrated in the College with due pomp and ceremony and many hundreds of College and School students offered oblations of flowers (*pushpanjali*) to the Goddess of Learning with hearts full of *bhakti*. The formalities of the worship over, the usual feast came off after mid-day and it was enjoyed fully by the youngsters; batch after batch of merry feasters squatted down on the floor in true oriental fashion and fell to with keen appetite. The feast went on till 8 P. M. and then at last the long labours of the purveyors of food ceased. Great credit is due for conducting the entire affair to Srijut Kalidas Mullik, Senior Professor, Srijut Hiralal Basu and other Teachers of the School, Srijut Benodbehari Ghosh of the clerical staff and last not least, an active band of College and School Students without whose hearty co-operation and ungrudging labours the work could never have been carried through with signal success. It is only to be regretted that the same zeal and energy were not to be found in a large number of students whose apathy and aloofness must be condemned as quite out of keeping with the *esprit de corps* that should be the distinctive feature of College-life.

*N. B. We have purposely delayed the publication of the January issue in order to have the pleasure of recording this account of the College Saraswati Puja in it, instead of waiting till the next issue.*

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