

BENGAL 4th Dec 1930

HISTORY
OF
The Eden Hindu Hostel.

Part I & II.
(1889—1900)

RAI SAHEB KUNJABIHARI BASU M.A. B.L.

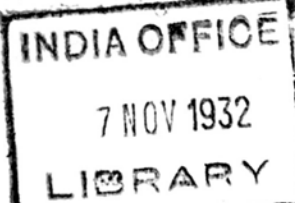


Hare Printing Works—Calcutta :
1930.

Price Rs. 2/8

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PUBLISHED BY
HARE PRINTING WORKS.
3/B, LALA BAGAN ROAD, CALCUTTA.
1930.

10L.1947. a. 2170

Printed by
Shosi Bhushon Bhattacharjee
HARE PRINTING WORKS.
3-B, Lala Bagan Road, Calcutta.

16059141

FOREWORD

It was my earnest desire to leave some permanent record about the early History of the Eden Hindu Hostel with which I was connected as its first Superintendent, and I thank God that the ambition has been fulfilled at this late stage of my life when almost all my contemporaries have gone to their rest.

Though there were some Govt. Schools in the mofussal, such as Barasat, Birbhum, Dumka etc. with which there were attached Student's Boarding Houses, the Eden Hindu Hostel in Calcutta was the first of its kind in Bengal. Its utility was widely appreciated as was evidenced by the starting of such institutions in connection with every college in our province.

The idea is gaining favour so rapidly that the time is not far distant when every institution in Bengal will have its own boarding house, play ground and other amenities on the lines of schools in England.

Being connected with the Department of Education for the best part of my life (1870—1905) I could not help introducing in this booklet some relevant matters about the Government policy of the time bearing upon the introduction of residential system in our educational institutions and I hope they may prove interesting.

It is gratifying to me that the boarders of my time still cherish an affectionate remembrance of

their old superintendent who in turn ever prays for their long, happy, and prosperous life.

I regret that for obvious reasons it has not been found practicable to publish all the reminiscences of the old boarders that I have been favoured with, but I hope that a later edition may be published by some one in future in a more elaborate and upto-date scale.

In conclusion, I am thankful to my friend Babu Bhujagendra Mustaphi of the Judicial service for his unstinted help in encouraging me to write and publish this History and in editing the same. In fact, without his hearty co-operation I could not have published the reminiscences of my old boarders in a presentable shape.

With Bejoya greetings to all concerned,

Barasat
Bijoya Dasami
1930.

KUNJABEHARI BASU.

ERRATA.

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OMISSIONS.

Page. 16. Medical : Doctors H. C. Sen and Satyendra Nath Sen were for sometime madical officers of the Hostel.

Page 41. Literary : In some of the wards there were debating clubs in conuection with which Poetry competitions were held from time to time. Boarders of diferent wards took part in such competi-tions. Ramani Mohan Ghosh started in 1894 a bilingual magazine *অক্ষর* which was published for some years. Amar Nath Dutt started a magazine *অজল* with the help of Annada Charan Sen. Nalini Kanta Sen and Charu Chandra Banerji.

Page 72—Letters : My Son Sachindra was in the Eden Hostel in your time. He is now an Advocate of the Patna High Court, practising at Cuttack, and living apart from me.

Priyanath Chatterjee
Pleader, Cuttack.

History of the Government Eden Hindu Hostel

Peary Charan Sircar Street, Calcutta.

Representations were made to Sir Ashley Eden by guardians of mofussal students in Calcutta, about the insanitary and immoral surroundings of the students' messes. They had to arrange for their meals and cleanse the utensils, leaving little time for study. Even a renowned physician and his mess-mate a noted pleader of a district court bar had to do the same manual works. To remedy such a deplorable state of things a meeting was convened at Belvedere, then the residence of the Lieutenant Governors of Bengal on 6th March 1879 to raise subscriptions. Appeals were made to the Divisional Commissioners (in Government Circular No 16, dated 2nd June 1879) and a Board of Trustees was formed consisting of the following gentlemen :—

Sir Alfred Croft Kt., K. C. I. E.,

Director of Public Instruction, *President*

Members.

Maharaja Sir Jyotindra Mohan Tagore
 Raja Peary Mohan Mukherji.
 Maharaja Durga Charan Law.
 Rai Bahadur Dr. Kanailal De
 Babu Nilmoni Mitra B. C. E.
 Babu Jadu Lal Mullick, Millionaire

Joint Secretaries.

Mahamahopadhyay Mahes Chandra Nayaratna
 C. I. E. Principal Sanskrit College.
 Rai Bahadur Radhika Prasanna Mukherji C. I. E.
 Inspector of schools, Presidency Division.

On the advice of Nayaratna Mohashay, backed by the Raja's Manager Babu Jadu Nath Ray M. A., the Raja of Maisadal (Raja Joti Prasad Garga Bahadur) paid down Rs. 32,000/- as his donation towards the project. In fact, he was made a Raja on account of his princely gift. This led some other rich men to come forward with somewhat smaller offers, but those were not accepted. Government made a free gift of bricks and *surkis*, also the cost of site (a lakh was paid to the heirs of Madhab Chandra Datta for the busti land) and the cost of furniture amounting to Rs. 520/- besides that of utensils. An allowance of Rs. 30, 50, latterly 100 a month was sanctioned for the officer of the Hostel. 15 rooms with 25 beds were constructed to begin with.

Old 1st & Ground floor building.

Dimensions of the rooms in feet

10 rooms	24×15	$4 \times 10 = 40$
4 „	24×32	$12 \times 4 = 48$
1 „	24×8	$3 \times 1 = 3$
		<hr/> 91

The cost of the new block was entirely borne by Government (1889-90).

The total accommodation was thus raised to 300.

Tiffin was at first supplied to the boarders for which they paid Rs. 6/- a month each in order to prevent bad or objectionable outside articles. Two boys (they are both dead!) got from their father, through me, Rs. 10/- *per capita*. For some reason the practice was given up, and licensed vendors were allowed to come to the hostel premises to sell from room to room. The result was satisfactory.

To further lighten our work, the system of *monitors* was introduced with Sir Alfred Croft's approval. They were elected by votes, block by block (1890), 6 by all the student boarders. The rules were printed and circulated among those concerned.

[No. 102.]

[FILE $\frac{1-H}{1}$ 34]

No. 4209, dated Calcutta, the 23rd December 1896.

From—E. M. KONSTAM, ESQ., Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, General Dept.,

To—The Director of Public Instruction, Bengal.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your

letters Nos. 4638 and 943T., dated respectively the 27th August and the 23rd October 1896, in which you submit the following proposals for the consideration and orders of Government :—

- (1) That a Resident Medical Officer of the rank of Assistant Surgeon may be placed in medical charge of the Eden Hindu Hostel, as is the case with the Sibpur Engineering College ;
- (2) that the municipal rates and taxes on account of the hostel land and premises may henceforth be paid from the Provincial revenues ;
- (3) that the head-money payable by Government may be continued at the rate of Re. 1 a boarder up to a limit of Rs. 1,800 a year, in lieu of Rs. 1,200 per annum sanctioned in 1892, the remuneration of a Joint-Superintendent rendered necessary by the enlargement of the institution being met out of the increased grant ; and
- (4) that the receipts and charges of the hostel may be brought to account in the same way as are the receipts and charges of the hostel attached to the Sibpur Engineering College.

2. In reply, I am to say that the proposal to appoint an Assistant Surgeon to the charge of the

Hindu Hostel does not commend itself to the Lieutenant-Governor. Such an appointment may be justified for the Engineering College, in which the presence of such an officer is always necessary to attend promptly to any accidents that may occur to students working in the Workshop. But the conditions of the Hindu Hostel are different ; and in cases of ordinary sickness, two daily visits from the medical officer should be sufficient. Besides, it would be necessary to provide for an Assistant Surgeon's quarters on the hostel premises. The Lieutenant-Governor is therefore unable to entertain the proposal for the appointment of a whole-time medical officer for the hostel. His Honour considers that it will be sufficient if the Government allowance is fixed at Rs 50 a month, the Managing Committee should be able for this remuneration to secure the services of a thoroughly qualified practitioner, who would visit the hostel twice a day or oftener in cases of emergency. I am accordingly to convey the sanction of Government to the grant of this allowance.

3. The second proposal, as to the payment of municipal rates and taxes from Provincial revenues, is also sanctioned with effect from the 1st January 1897.

4. As to the third proposal, I am to say that, having regard to the increase in the number of boarders, and the extreme importance in an institution of this kind of securing constant and efficient control,

the Lieutenant Governor is pleased to sanction the increase of the capitation grant from Rs. 1,200 to Rs. 1,800 a year. This sum will provide an allowance of Rs. 600 per annum for the Joint Superintendent, who has already been appointed to assist the Superintendent in the management of the institution.

5. As to the mode in which the accounts of the hostel should be kept, I am to request that the procedure followed in the Sibpur College should be adopted in this case, namely, that all receipts be paid into the treasury, and all expenditure be defrayed by bills on it. This procedure will take effect from the 1st April 1897, the existing method being meanwhile maintained.

[No. 23]

[FILE $\frac{1-H}{3}$ 4.]

No. 66T.—G., dated Darjeeling, the 30th April 1897.

From—E. M. KONSTAM, Esq., Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, General Dept.,

To—The Director of Public Instruction, Bengal.

WITH reference to your letter No. 2449, dated the 6th April 1897, I am directed to say that, in modification of the Government orders contained in paragraph 5 of this office letter No. 4209, dated the 23rd December 1896, the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to sanction the continuance, during the year 1897-98, of the existing method of keeping the accounts of the Eden Hindu Hostel, under which all the receipts of the institution are remitted to the Bank of Bengal

in the name of the Superintendent and all payments are made by cheques on the Bank, the monthly accounts being audited and passed by the Board of Visitors, of whom the Principal of the Presidency College is the President.

[No. 100]

FILE $\frac{1-H}{1}$ 25

No. 470T.G., dated Darjeeling, the 26th September 1896

From—M. FINUCANE, ESQ., Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Dept.,

To—The Director of Public Instruction, Bengal.

With reference to paragraph 3 of your letter No. 4638, dated the 27th August 1896, I am directed to enquire why the sanction of Government was not obtained to the appointment of a Joint-Superintendent of the Eden Hindu Hostel. Such sanction, it would seem, was necessary, seeing that the additional amount of Rs. 600 per annum will have to be paid by Government.

2. I am also to enquire whether a whole-time man could not do the work on Rs. 100 without entailing any additional expense on Government.

[No. 101]

FILE $\frac{1-H}{1}$ 26

No. 943T., dated Darjeeling, the 23rd October 1896

From—C. A. MARTIN, ESQ., LL.D.

Offg. Director of Public Instruction, Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
General Department.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your office letter No. 470 T. G., dated the 26th September 1896, enquiring why the sanction of Government was not obtained to the appointment of a Joint-Superintendent of Eden Hindu Hostel, and whether a whole-time man could not do the work on Rs. 100 a month without entailing any additional expense on Government.

2. In reply, I beg to state that Superintendents of Hostels who are paid head-money or capitation allowance from the budget provision under the head of "Boarding Hostel charges" are appointed by the Director of Public Instruction in the case of hostels attached to Government Colleges, and by the Inspectors of Schools in other cases. The present Superintendent of the Eden Hindu Hostel was appointed by the Trustees of the institution with the consent of Sir Alfred Croft, as will be seen from his letter to Government, No. 6334, dated the 17th November 1890. Subsequently, at the instance of the Accountant-General, Bengal, Government was moved to accord sanction to the payment to him of head-money up to a limit of Rs 1,200 a year. It appears, therefore, that the sanction of Government is not required to the appointment of a Superintendent or Joint-Superintendent of a Hostel.

3. As regards the other point raised in the letter under reply, I beg to state that the management of

so large an institution, as the Eden Hindu Hostel, can hardly be intrusted to a single person, even though he be a whole-time man. The duties of the Superintendent are onerous and multifarious, including, among others, mess arrangements, keeping of accounts, maintenance of discipline, correspondence with the guardians of the boys, keeping in safe custody their money and valuables which necessitates the opening of personal accounts with the boarders. It was on these grounds that Sir Alfred Croft had sanctioned the appointment of a Joint-Superintendent of the Hostel in consultation with Mr. Pedlar, who has been intrusted with the supervision of the institution since the commencement of the current session. I beg to quote below a note from Mr. Pedler whom I consulted on the point. He writes :—

“The experience of the last three months has shown that even with the 200 boarders who have resided in the hostel, there has been ample necessity for both a Superintendent and a Joint-Superintendent. After the Puja vacation the number of residents will probably be nearly 300, and it would be impossible to carry on the work with only one Superintendent. Hence the smallest controlling establishment possible will be that which has been arranged already.”

The hostel was ready for occupation in 1887. It was opened in June of that year with 60 boys and myself as Superintendent. An addition of 62 beds was made in 1889 by the construction of the first floor on the old block. In 1895 there was a proposal

of raising a third storey which was partly constructed but the contractor had to abandon the project eventually as the foundation was too weak for the same. Thereupon, in 1896, a new three storied building was raised entirely at Government cost. The number of seats was thus raised to 300. All available space being occupied, including even the store room and the snug loft over the stairs in which lived a fifteen rupee Scholar named Dwijendranath Chaudhury. There were placed three scions of the Zemindar family of Barui-pore, in my room *viz.* Sibadass, Tarakdas, and Haridas Rai Chaudhury. The small room over the passage to the west gate, since, closed, was occupied by Shyamadas Mukherjee, Premchand student, and Satischandra Sinha, B.Sc, one of the founders of the Bengal Chemical and Pharmacautical Works who died of an accident in the Company's premises No. 90 Upper Circular Road.

The site of the new block was purchased from Babu Madhab Chandra Datta of Colootollah for a lakh of rupees. Considerable amount was raised from mofussal Zemindars. The hostel was open to students of all Schools and Colleges including Medical, but since it was made over to Government by the Trustees with all liabilities, it was reserved for students of Presidency College and its attached Schools.

Appointment of Superintendent.

Thus wrote Sir Alfred Croft.—

“ It is a hard job to control and keep in good temper and discipline a body of 300 boys and young men, in all stages of education from the Entrance (and below it) up to the M.A. Class. A man must have for such a post not only natural aptitude and acquired experience, but academic position, force of character, and conciliatory temper. These qualities are combined in the present Superintendent, Babu Kunja Behary Bose, M.A., Head-Assistant in my Office, who was unanimously selected by the Trustees for the superintendence of the Eden Hostel on account of his successful management, for many years, as Head Master of the Barasat Zilla School, and of the attached hostel, the best managed institution of its kind in Bengal.” So Government appointed me Superintendent of the Institution on head money at Re. 1 a month with free board and lodging. To enable me to discharge my duties the better, Sir Alfred Croft had given me a letter to the Principal of the Sibpur Engineering College, to let me see how that institution was managed. Nayaratna Mohashoy drove me to the College. We heard certain complaints made by the late Nagen Chandra Mitra who afterwards became District Engineer, Cuttack. Certain suggestions made by us were adopted at the instance of the Head-Clerk Rai Saheb

Purnachandra Chakrabarti. At the College I met my pupil Bankubehari Mukherjee, C.I.E., Lecturing in Mathematics. He afterwards became first grade supervisor P.W.D. To him Government had entrusted the supervision of the construction of the several blocks of the Hindu Hostel, with Mr. Tusler as his assistant. The latter was pleased to see me there, as we had often met at the Baraset School. Banku has since settled in a decent commodious house (No. 5 Bepin Mitra's Lane). He died on the 9th August, 1929.

Mr. C. R. Wilson, English Professor in the Presidency College, who used to visit the Hostel of his own accord, at a dinner party in the Government House, talked disparagingly of the affairs of the Hostel. Mr. Anandamohan Bose, our country's pride being the first Bengalee to become a wrangler, whom I used to bring to the hostel from his house in Dharamatala Street, gave quite a different account of the institution. The varying accounts led Sir Charles Elliot to inspect the hostel. He was well pleased with what he saw and ordered certain improvements to safeguard better discipline, viz., putting ironbars outside the windows, increasing the number of Darwans to two, and raising the compound wall. His Honour expressed a wish to see the boarders play *Kapati* in Belvedere, which was done in great zest, His Excellency himself participating in the game. (1892).

Subordinate Staff.

I was fortunate in having as Sircar Babu Sridhar Mitra (Satis Sinha's maternal uncle). He had held similar post in the Lalbazar Hostel opened by Babu Peary Charan Sircar on his transfer to the Hare School. Peary Babu was in fact the founder of Students Boarding house in Calcutta. The one at Barasat (1846) was the first institution of the kind in this part of the country. Sridhar Babu's experience was of great help to me in keeping the accounts and making bazar purchase. He was certainly underpaid at Rs. 15 a month.

With the increase of the number of the boarders a 2nd sircar Priyanath Ghosh was appointed on Rs. 10/- per mensem, on the recommendation of Nayaratna Mahashoy to keep accounts of the utensils and to deal out the rations.

I found it irksome to discharge my multifarious duties even with the assistance rendered by the above-named colleagues. So I took my ex pupil Surendra Nath Gossain, then a medical student, as a help mate. I paid him Rs. 30/- a month out of my headmoney. On the completion of the new three-storied block, another assistant had become a necessity. My choice fell on Babu Kesab Chandra Ray who came with a *chit* from my revered Professor Babu Amarnath Bose. The Secretaries were averse to the selection on account of his slipshod dress and inexperience ; he was subse-

quently found to be of invaluable service to me and, but for his hearty co-operation, I would have succumbed to my dual duties, or to abandon the hostel. My friend is now a C. I. E., and is the life and soul of the "Associated Press". He has lately married a widow and is very well off. We cherish mutual affection and respect. I paid him a small monthly allowance out of my headmoney. Surendra left the hostel on passing the L. M. S. Examination and became an eminent physician. He wrote several books on various subjects. He was elected President of Ayur-vedic conference at Lahore his thesis being "Malaria in Bengal." On his advice I had adopted the contract system for the supply of food-stuffs, thus diminishing our worry and trouble considerably. Fisherman Nibaran took the contract system for fish ; rice, ghee, spices were entrusted to a neighbour grocer of good repute, potato to a gentleman of Posta, and Dal to Bullav Brothers of Bowbazar. Things were brought and weighed in the Hostel, in the presence of certain boarders by rotation.

Surendra having left, Pandit Shamacharan Mukherjee, retired Sanskrit Professor of the Presidency College, who used to teach Sanskrit to Mr Tawney, C. I. E., was appointed by him as A. D. P. I., in Suren's place on a monthly allowance of Rs. 30/-. A more conscientious person than Sham Babu could hardly be found. He counted the collection for remittance to the Bank muttered *Mantras* and if the

collection tallied with the total account he bowed over the bag and sped to Senate House to inform the Registrar Trailokhya Babu of the fact. How long could such a man remain in a post on such a low pay? He resigned on his nephew Monmotho Mukherjee, M. A., B. L., being married to the only daughter of Mr. Durgagati Banerjee, C. I. E. the first Bengali Collector of Calcutta.

The authorities of the hostel were on the look out for a successor of Pandit Mohashoy. Sir Alfred Croft picked up Babu Kally Nath Mukherjee, retired 4th Master, Sanskrit collegeiate school and recommended him for confirmation as joint Superintendent on Rs. 50/-. He wrote to Government as follows :—"Thsough not a University man, Babu Kally Nath has proved very successful in the discharge of his hostel duties" He was, therefore, confirmed in the appointment in 1898 after officiating in the post for one year.

Medical Officers

Dr. Hem Chandra Sen, M. D., a kinsman of Brahma Bandhab Kesav Chandra Sen, was our first Medical Officer. He worked for only a fortnight and gave up the job inspite of the Principal Dr Bomford's advice to the contrary.

The next man was Dr. Sashibhusan De of the De family of College Square. He died of drowning in Saheb Bandh at Purulia with his nephew on his way back from Ranchi.

Then came Dr. Amullyacharan Bose of Guru Prossad Choudbury's Lane. He had extensive practice and died of plague as the effect of examining a plague patient.

The last in my time was Dr. N. Das with English qualification who married Kumudini Kastagir. He died of Pthisis at Monghyr after I had left the hostel

Nature of my work in the hostel.

A slip came from the Principal of the General Assembly's Institution (where I was educated in the College Department under Dr. Ogilvie) that boarder Surat Chandra Chatterji of the 2nd year class was irregular in attendance. Warned Sarat and wrote to his father at Kusthia, where he was the Subdivisional Magistrate.

9th January 1892. A currency note for Rs. 100/- was received from Nabakrisna Banerji, pleader, Sylhet, for expenses of his son Indubhusan an inmate of the Hostel.

Two Brahman boarders, relation of my much-respected Professor of Philosophy Nilambar Mukherjee came to my room quietly to deposit Rs. 2000/- in cash for payment to certain persons as hush money for naibship of a big Zamindary. Informed the Secretary's of the same who learned further particulars from the boys.

Round at 9 P.M. talking with the boys about their

examinations. This was done almost daily. Boarder Sati Mohan fell from the swinging rope. Doctors were sent for. It was a miracle that he did not die then and there.

A book was opened to prevent fraud in taking meals by outside boys as boarders' friends. It was shown to the Visiting Secretary who was shocked at such conduct. The result was that "friends" were charged for their meals. But even that had to be abandoned for misbehaviour of a guardian.

Visitors.

The work of inspection of the hostel was entrusted to the Secretaries, no outsider being appointed for the purpose. Nayaratna Mohashay often came at night. Once at 11 P.M. he saw that meals were not finished by all the batches. He was shown a heap of hand-made bread being baked. He ordered an extra charge of Rs. 2/- for bread. That considerably diminished the number of bread-eaters but the doctor's work was greatly increased.

Our first outside Visitor was Justice Gurudas Banerji. A life-long friend of students, he used to come to the hostel every Friday afternoon on his way home from the High Court, unasked by the authorities. Boys crowded round him in the Veranda of my room. He asked them if the cooking was satisfactory; if the answer was "yes" he gave the nine cooks a rupee each and the head cook two rupees as *bakshis*.

On a negative answer, he took me aside, and advised me how to remedy the defects. I was his pupil in the General Assembly's Institution (now "Scottish Churches College") and all along he liked me. To write all about the interest he took in the welfare of the boarders, would necessitate a long chapter. Only an instance or two more will suffice for the present purpose. Justice Banerji had asked me to arrange for a 'New Year' feast which had cost him Rupees One hundred. Babu Raj Kumar Sircar, sage of Northern Bengal, a very spare-eater had come to the hostel to see his sons Jadu Nath and Bejoy Kumar and was asked to take his meal at the hostel, as also the Headmaster of Ranchi Zilla School whose sons are Baijulal (now Executive Engineer, Behar) and Kanti Chandra Bose, merchant in Jessore-Khoolna. Of Jadu Nath (now Sir) little need be said. He was Premchand scholar and Vice-Chancellor of our University, a life-long student and writer of some noted books. Bejoy Kumar was Rurki passed Engineer in C. P. but has given up the appointment and is now practising Engineer in Calcutta.

Sir Gurudas had inaugurated a novel system in the hostel by which boarders' votes were taken by ballot as to their conduct in the hostel. Those who got the larger votes were given prizes in books. They were Jadu Nath Sircar of the ground floor, old block I, Kristo Chandra Bhattacharya of old block II (Rai Bahadur, P. R. S., Principal, Hooghly College), Surendralal Ghose, first floor, (C. I. D. Officer, Patna,

Rai Bahadur) hailing from Ramsagor, Bankura. The new three-storied block was not then constructed. I too was given some valuable books for successful management of the institution.

Dr. Banerji had once taken myself and one of my best friends Acharya Akshoychandra Sircar, author of Nabajiban, Grabu, Dasa-Mahabidya (Edition shortly to be out) to his house in Garpar where we were scrupulously taken care of. The next morning, we went to our Chinsura friend at Welford Busti.

Our second visitor was Bhai Pratap Chandra Majumdar, follower of Bramahnanda Kesav Chandra Sen. He used to come to the hostel on Sundays and seated in one of the large rooms up-stairs, delivered very interesting lectures which he called "sandwich talks". We all relished them especially the Bramho boarders, foremost among whom was Debendranath Sen, M.A., who used to go to Majumdar's house on certain evenings to hear his sermons. Mr. Sen afterwards became Principal of the Behar National College which was entirely taken over by Government. He is now a Rai Bahadur and believed to have been enjoying pension (1929). A good disciplinarian he had rendered me excellent service in the maintenance of order and discipline in and outside the hostel.

A couple of Reverend gentlemen of the Oxford Mission came now and then, Revd. Mr. Douglas being one who regaled us with English songs. One is still ringing in my ears. It was a pretty long song on the "Cuck-oo". The other was Revd. Father Whitehead.

Last though not the least, who came on my invitation was Mr. Ananda Mohan Bose our country's pride, being the first Wrangler, Barrister of Bengal. He had a unique career in our University and was liked alike by the Government and his countrymen. More about him in connection with the hostel has been stated before.

Rai Bahadur Gunaviram Barua came to see his grandson in the hostel. He was removed therefrom on our supplying Liverpool salt instead of a peculiar one used in Assam. Achyutananda Chowdhury, Harekristo Das, Prasanna and Tarunram Phookan also were our contingents from that country.

Exclusions.

School boys were excluded from the Hostel, it being considered undesirable that they should live in the same room with youths. Two of them I remember,—Binode Banerji and Girija Banerji. The former was the only son of the Manager under the Dighapatia Raj, stationed at the northern bank of the river Padma.

Next were the Medical students, of whom there were 18, the reason being their irregularity in taking meals, night duties, and loud reading. Law students had undesirable habits. They read little and disturbed the regular students, their removal was accordingly indispensable.

Women servants were replaced by male ones, for among other reasons, theft of kitchen utensils.

Library.

Binode Banerji above referred to, fell into an unlighted pit and was insensible for three days. His father came and lodged complaint against the contractors, Rai Bahadur Kshetranath Banerji and his son Haripado. Engineer Mr. Guyther threatened to deprive them of the contract ; but they escaped that punishment by paying a fine of Rs. 100/-. That formed the nucleus of our Library.

Another equal amount was paid by Babu Rameswar Malia coal mine magnet of Raniganj.

A sum of Rupees two hundred was paid by Babu Rashbehari Mukherjee, a Zaminder of Uttarpara, on the occasion of his daughter's marriage with boarder Chunilal Banerjee (well known pleader at Bhagalpur) He died in 1929. Books were also sent from the office of the Director of Public Instruction as in other Government Colleges.

Exclusive Institution.

In 1896, the hostel was in debt to the Contractors on account of certain extra works executed by them to the tune of Rs. 4000/- for which they threatened to sue the Trustees none of whom volunteered to pay the money. Each and every one of the non-official members was able to pay it off, but they did not,

because of the agitation in certain quarters against the admission of Subarnabaniks into the hostel. The matter was settled quietly by myself in taking the boy in and making him take meals in a separate room with myself. The boy was Chunilal Mullick, son of Brahmamohan Mullick, Inspector of Schools Burdwan Division.

I privately told Mr. Tawney, O. D. P. I. that the debt could be cleared from accumulated savings in the Bank of Bengal, amounting to Rs. 4120/-. He was struck with surprise and ordered me to issue a cheque in favour of the Contractors Rai Bahadur Kshetra Nath Banerji and his son Haripada and nephew Rai Bahadur Beharilal Banerji. This created a stir among a section of the boarders who rushed into the Newspapers, the Indian Mirror (since defunct) and Reis and Rayyet. They claimed that the money was theirs and should have been spent to feed them better. This was brought to the notice of the authorities in a note dated the 19th December 1889.

At the first meeting of the Sub-committee of the Eden Hindu Hostel held in the Hostel Building on the 7th instant a petition was presented to the Joint Secretaries about certain charges as to indifferent supply of food. On enquiry on the spot the Secretaries reduced them to specific ones. One of them was that the *dal* was watery, without ghee or spices. The other was that the pieces of fish doled out, were unequal in size and the heads were reserved for favourites. Whether the fact was

unknown to them or there was wilful suppression, no fish head was taken from fisherman Nibaran who himself cut the fish into the required number of pieces for the inmates, including the menial staff. Another complaint was that cheaper pulse (*Kalai dal*) was oftener given than *mugdal* (costly one). The matter was easily settled by production of a routine showing the *dals* for each meal of the week. Some other complaints such as the payment of Superintendent and his Assistants' salaries etc., were easily disposed of. On return from office in the evening, I found that the petition was missing. Some of the petitioners having withdrawn it. They said that they had signed the petition without knowing the contents thereof. The agitators were thus non-plussed. Mr. Alfred Croft noted "I am surprised at a paper like Reis and Rayyet lending itself to such an agitation."

The complaints were reiterated in the *Indian Mirror* of Mr. Narendranath Sen, C. I. E. whose family house was almost next door to the Hostel. He wrote that a mere clerk should not have been placed at such a responsible post and that the complaints required thorough investigation. I was then bed-ridden with kidney complaints and knew not what was going on downstairs. Later on Sarkar Mahashoy came with pale face and said "Raja Peary Mohan and Nayaratna mahashoy had taken away a quantity of rice and ghee, what for no body knew" My anxieties were increased and I became unconscious

with renal colic. Meanwhile an article had appeared in the Editorial columns of the Daily News publishing the Sub-committee's report with the full approval of Sir John Edgar, the Chief Secretary and a private letter was sent to the Editor. Finally I was telegraphed for to come to Darjeeling where I worked for 2 months revising Transfer Rules for schools, and drawing up similar Rules for colleges and criticising District Board Education Budgets.

Auckland Villa

Darjeeling

2nd September 1896

My dear Kunja Babu,

Your second letter afforded me satisfaction and relief equal to the anxiety which your first letter caused me to feel. I am indeed heartily thankful that you are out of danger.

We must not let you suffer or run any risk for want of the best medical assistance, so if you will allow me to take upon myself the payment of any fees for Dr. Mackenzie, I shall be very glad to render you that small service.

With best wishes,

I am very truly,

A. Croft;

This is an heirloom published to show to my countrymen the true relationship between the

employer and the employed not only as master and his assistant but also that of guardian and ward.

N. B. The needed money (Rs. 200/-) was sent to me that night by brother Panchanan Mukherjee of the Hare Press unasked. K. B. Bose.

Fee Collections.

These were fixed at any day of the month to our great annoyance. On representation to Sir Alexander Pedler, only two days in the month were fixed for such payments, and the college second clerk, Akhil Chandra Gupta was appointed to the post on a remuneration of Rs. 10/- a month. That was very unfortunate for him as it led to his incarceration for 3 years for defalcation of college money. His arrest at a Nepal Post office by C. I. D. Inspector Babu Jogendra Nath Mitra was a clever one as he had never seen him before. Jogen Babu used to come to the Hostel occasionally after boarders had taken their supper and met them in the big room to discourse with them to get out what they had in their minds. In this way he found out a boy who had stolen Rs. 25/- from a comrade's trunk. We did not know that a detective was placed at our gate who once traced a truant from college to a house of ill-fame. The boy was turned out from the hostel, intimation being given to his guardian, a pleader in C. P.

Cliptomania—Red bordered dhoties were missed

from time to time ; one day some of the boarders agreed to examine the contents of their trunks and in one of them the missing clothes were found and the culprit was sent out bag and baggage, taken to the Howrah station and booked off for home in the Hooghly district.

Another had stolen Rs. 25/-from chest. It was detected by Girindra Nath Datta, M. A. student of the Sanskrit College, who afterwards became Assistant Dewan, Hutwa. The culprit's guardian a pleader in C. P. was informed and he drove the boy away from the house.

The street on which the hostel stands was named after Peary Charan Sircar, though his family house was away therefrom at Beadon Street, because he was the founder of the first student boarding in Bengal at Barasat. While Headmaster on transfer to Calcutta, he had established a hostel at Bowbazar of which Babu Jogyeswar Ghosh Head clerk to the Presidency Inspector of schools was the Superintendent, and Ras Behary Ghose, Akshoy Chandra Sircar amongst others were the inmates. There was a debating club in it attended by Chandranath Bose and Raj Krishna Mukherjee. The latter told me on coming back from the first meeting that he found a Chinsura boy who had passed the Entrance Examination the first of his year and who had read most of the Bengali books of the time. He was Acharya Akshoychandra Sarkar, writer of the *Grabu* and *Dasamahabidya* in Bankim Babu's *Bangadarsan*

and editor of Sadharani weekly paper and of Nabajug. I was fortunate in having the old Durwan and Sarkar in the Eden Hostel.

In 1906, a year after my retirement from service, some of the old boarders saw me with a proposal to accept my post in the hostel on somewhat higher salary. I told them that thereby I would stultify myself in as much as my object in leaving the hostel was to look after the education of my younger children. There the matter ended.

My successors in the Hostel

1. My first successor was Babu Ambica Charan Mukherjee, retired Head master of the Birbhum Zilla School. He did not stay long as he was troubled by insomnia.

2. He was succeeded by Rhedoy Babu, Demonstrator, Presidency College, who went away for domestic reasons.

3. Then came Mahamahopadhyay Kaliprasanna Bhattacharya, retired Principal of the Sanskrit College. Some of the boarders took a fancy to molest him for an imaginary prospective action of his and he resigned in disgust.

4. The post was then offered to a senior teacher of the Hindu School. He came one day to see what his work would be. But he did not turn up again. He told to a friend that his nephew who was fed and clothed by him was not amenable to control, and it

would be effrontery on his part to attempt governing 300 youths, sons of other men.

5. My boss in D. P. I. Office, Babu Ambica Charan Bose of blessed memory accepted the post but died soon of heart disease.

6. Hem Chandra ;Datta Gupta of Krishnagar was the last. I know of mysterious suicide of his nephew in the hostel at the anniversary of which this year there was so much trouble.

It may not be out of place to mention an extraneous matter.— —

In 1890, the Minister of Education in France had asked the D. P. I., Sir Alfred Croft, to furnish him with an account of the indigenous games as played by students in Bengal. A slip was sent to me with a Note "Can Kunja Babu say anything about this" A.C. 2/3.

The D. P. I's choice fell on me as I was in charge of an institution having boys from most of the districts of Bengal and some out Provinces as Nagpur C. P. 6 (one named Vinyak), one from Ceylon and 3 from Assam.

On receipt of my Note, D. P. I. was pleased to write "A very interesting and valuable account. It should be printed and appended to the (Extract appended) Gymnastic Report. I should also like to have it read before the Asiatic Society.

Please see me at 3 P. M. and I will go into some points that I do not understand". A.C. 31/3/90.

My account covered some 21 games such as Ha-

do-do, Kapati, Budhimonto, Choo, Gadi, Blindman's Buff etc.—

*Extract from D.P.I's Gymnastic report to Govt. **

* * * * *

A good deal of good may be done by encouraging indigenous games among the younger boys of schools. They are very similar to many European games, as will be evident from an interesting note on this subject written by Baboo Kunja Bihari Bose, formerly Head master of Baraset Zillah School, now an assistant in this office, which is herewith enclosed. One advantage of these games is that they require absolutely no outlay. There can be no doubt that the multiplication of hostels may indirectly give a stimulus to physical education. Boys who come to school from villages three or four miles distant from a school have no time to play or practice gymnastics. They have to leave the school as soon as it is closed, in order to reach their homes before nightfall. Besides during their time of residence in the hostel, students are withdrawn from the influence of their parents and guardians, and so enabled to throw off the foolish superstition that physical activity is degrading to all persons claiming to be regarded as gentlemen.

The system of peripatetic gymnastic teachers is said to have been tried in the Presidency Circle. It does not seem probable that it will be productive of good commensurate with the outlay. Little can be done in a flying visit by the best of teachers. The other proposal of the Indian Association, that a]

general competition in athletic sports should be held at the headquarters of a district, appears to be more reasonable. Such competitions are those mentioned in paragraph 8 as having been instituted at Baraset by Mr. Harry Lee. They consist of flat races, hurdle races, wide and high jumping, &c., and evidently excite a great deal of interest. It is obvious that many people will take interest in these sports, who cannot be roused to enthusiasm by an athlete vaulting over a bar in a backyard. After all, it is meetings of this kind that make athletic sports popular in England. The proposal that Government should supply sets of gymnastic apparatus is open to objection on financial grounds. I have already remarked that net-grant schools with surplus balances will find no difficulty in obtaining them. Special grants may, perhaps, be made to schools whose financial position is not so favourable.

Charles Tawney.

Offg. D. P. I.

Extract from No. 3—371-383, dated Simla, the
17th August 1889.

RESOLUTION—By the Government of India,
Home Department.

* * * * *

IN the letter addressed by the Home Department to Local Governments and Administrations on 31st December 1887, their attention was drawn to the

growth of tendencies unfavourable to discipline, and favourable to irreverence, in the rising generation in India ; and the Governor-General in Council formulated, for the consideration of Local Governments and Administrations, certain suggestions with the object of counteracting these tendencies. The recommendations related both to schools and colleges. For the former it was suggested—

- (1) that gymnastics and field exercises should be recognised as part of a regular course of school training, and that a system of marks and prizes for efficiency in gymnastics should be introduced ;
- (2) that punishments for breaches of discipline should be arranged so as to fall on the offender, and that with this aim the imposition of tasks, deprivation of privileges, a judicious use of the rod in the case of young pupils, and finally expulsion in cases of aggravated and persistent misconduct, are more suitable forms of punishment than fines ;
- (3) that good conduct registers should be prescribed, extracts from which should be sent to the parents and guardians of the boy at stated intervals with the definite opinion of the headmaster on his character and behaviour, and that

prizes for good conduct should be awarded at the end of each year ;

(4) that hostels and boarding houses should be established at the larger schools and colleges in large towns and cities for the accommodation of students whose families are not resident in the place where they are being educated ;

(5) that selected boys from the higher classes of schools should be appointed monitors for the purpose of maintaining discipline during and, as far as possible, out of school hours ;

(6) that any boy who, through want of diligence and attention to study, fails to rise to a certain class by the time he has reached a certain age should be required to leave the school ;

(7) that inter-school rules defining the conditions under which pupils should be allowed to pass from one school to another, should be extended to all schools aided or supported by public funds, as a condition of the continuance of such aid ; and that the Senates of the Universities should be invited to use their influence to procure the adoption of this system in schools and colleges

which do not receive aid from Government ;

- (8) that the provision of efficient training schools and colleges for teachers should be made a first charge against the educational grant, that the employment of teachers in all schools should be gradually restricted to those who have given satisfaction during a course of training, and that trained head-masters should be introduced from England for definite periods of five to seven years for selected schools ; and
- (9) that teaching having a direct bearing upon personal conduct should be more generally resorted to. The Government of India, while admitting that this is provided for in some aided schools by religious instruction, and that even in some State schools religious instruction can under well-recognized restrictions be granted out of school hours, considered that this was not sufficient ; and it therefore, in concurrence with the Secretary of State, desired that consideration should be given to the proposal of the Education Commission that an attempt should be made to prepare a moral text-book based on the fundamental principles of natural religion.

In regard to methods for encouraging respect for authority in colleges, it was pointed out by the Government of India that an improvement in this matter in schools would naturally reproduce itself in colleges which students would enter with habits formed and characters developed by the wholesome discipline of the schools. The Governor-General in Council, however, pressed that an effort should be made to impart moral instruction in colleges, and, with a view to improving the supervision of Principals and Professors over students in colleges, suggested the adoption of the following regulations—

- (a) that weekly meetings should be held by the Principal and the Professors to consider questions of discipline ;
- (b) that the Principal should have the power of ordering the expulsion or rustication of a student, and of fining him for disorderly conduct ; and
- (c) that every Professor should have the power of suspending a student for a limited period of time, and of fining him without reference to the Principal.

Transfer of the Eden Hindu Hostel to Government as an Appanage of the Presidency College.

This was accomplished sometime before my retirement from the institution as Superintendent, while Mr. Charles H. Tawney, C. I. E., was acting as Director of Public Instruction 1897-8. The reason of the assumption of direct state control was the apathy and unwillingness of the Trustees to bear the maintenance charge of the buildings. The seat rents realised from the boys varying from Rs. 2/- 4/- and 6/- according to the situation of the room in the ground, first and second floor were insufficient for even the annual petty repairs.

There was a proposal for a boarding for Presidency College boys. As according to statistics it was found that Presidency College boys formed majority of the boarders it was proposed that the Eden Hindu Hostel might be converted into Presidency College Boarding. Some opposition was naturally apprehended but at last the Trustees (Maharaja Durgacharan Law C. I. E., Mohamohopadhyaya Mohes Chandra Nayaratna C. I. E. and Rai Radhika Prasanna Mukherji Bahadur C. I. E.) agreed and Government took up the control and maintenance of the institution as from 1896.

The Trustees were relieved of worry and trouble in a matter uninteresting to them, they being all residents of Calcutta but there was a discordant note in certain quarters.

Dr. C. A. Martin., D. P. I.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

EDUCATION—NO. 6T.—G.

Darjeeling, the 26th April 1895.

From C. E. Buckland, Esq.,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 2467, dated the 15th April 1895, and its enclosure, I am directed to say that the Lieutenant-Governor has no objection to taking over the land and buildings of the Eden Hindu Hostel on the conditions mentioned by the Trustees in paragraph 2 of their Resolution, and authorizes you to have the necessary deed drafted by the Government Solicitor, reconveying the property to the Secretary of State, to be used together with any additions that may be made thereto hereafter for the purposes of a hostel for Hindu students of the Presidency College and other institutions.

2. As regards the suggestions made by the Trustees in paragraph 3 of their Resolution, I am to observe that, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, it would have been preferable for Government to be free of the pledge to provide accommodation for a certain number of students not belonging to the Presidency College and attached schools, but he understands that the number of such students is less

than 40, and that they belong either to the Sanscrit College, Medical College, Free Church Institution or the General Assembly's Institution. An enquiry should be made, and the actual and average numbers of boys and their colleges for the last three years reported to Government.

3. His Honour agrees with the Trustees that the Superintendent of the Hostel should be a Hindu gentleman, unless and until experience shows that an Englishman is required to maintain discipline. Hitherto sufficient measures have not been taken to preserve discipline. The windows on the ground-floor will now be iron-barred, and a wall, over which boys and young men cannot easily climb, will be built round the premises. This addition will strengthen the Superintendent's hands. As the present Superintendent, of whom you speak most highly, is about to retire, I am to request that you will set about selecting a successor to him from among the Professors of the Presidency College. The Superintendent's quarters are to be improved by being placed on the first floor, and these quarters, His Honour considers, will be found to be adequate for an English officer, if a native is found incapable of maintaining a high standard of discipline and order.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

C. E. BUCKLAND,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Arbiter of Passes.

The failure of a boarder at any of the University examinations for a few marks only was of great concern to his fellow boarders and sympathisers especially to S. D. Mookerjee (Dr. Lit.) Surendra Nath Ghosal had earned nearly full marks in Science subjects but was short of two marks in another subject ; at the Examiners' meeting Mookerjee pleaded successfully for him. One Bose was reported to have been plucked in Sanskrit ; Mookerjee saw the Examiner at Hoogly and had the papers re-examined and Bose was given 2 marks more than the pass mark. There were some others of this kind.

Sickness in the Hostel.

It is strange that among so many persons in the hostel there were (up to 1900) a few cases of serious illness, two only proving fatal.

Myself caught malaria and had to stay for two months at Kurseong when Trailokya Babu of the Senate House undertook my duties in the hostel as work of love.

Boarder Hemanta Kumar Raha (now Rai Bahadur) got small pox and we all nursed him by rotation assisted by Nayaratna Mohashoy under the direction of Dr. R. L. Dutt.

My assistant Keshab Chandra Roy (now of Associated press) had Small pox and was removed to a rented house but the boarders nursed him.

Balendra, son of Mr. Mahendra Nath Banerjee, Govt. pleader, Darjeeling and nephew of millionaire Jagadananda Mookerjee of Bhowanipore had typhoid fever and his condition caused considerable anxiety but he was cured by Dr. Aumlya Charan Bose (then not attached to the hostel), the nursing being done by the boarders.

There were three cases of plague (after my time) of which two proved fatal. One of these was one of the Guha brothers from Mymensing, another was Giriudra Nath Chatterji, son of Mathura nath Chatterji of Darjiling. Mahatap Chandra Ghose (now Deputy Magistrate Kaisari Hind Medalist), son of Mr. Mohim Chandra Ghose (Retd. Dy. Magistrate of Howrah) was also attacked with plague. In all these cases the nursing was done by the boarders while the treatment was by Dr. Nil Ratan Sircar (now Sir).

My Gains.

The amount I got as head money was nothing in consideration of what I learnt from the boarders themselves; habit of study, patience in trying circumstances, cheerfulness in adversity, loyalty and obedience to rules, mutual confidence and fellowship.

Discipline.

I wonder how I kept control over so many young men. There were some who needed no looking after. Most of the guardians were previously known to me

and some of them were my personal friends ; while others came with recommendations from influential men. Three came with a letter from Babu Gooroodas Banerjee, Law lecturer, Berhampur viz. Radhabenode, Radhakumud (P. R. S.) and Radhaprosad Mukherjee (Dy. Magistrate). Six Nagpuris were sent from Raipore by my brother-in-law Ambika Charan Ghose ; one had brought a *chit* from D. P. I., namely Ashutosh Mukherjee, Zemindar of Chapra, now leading a peaceful life in joint family with his younger brother Dr. Bejoy (V. L. M. S.) ; Anukul and Amulya were sons of Babu Peary Lal Ray of Barisal Bar whom I knew at Sanitarium, Darjeeling. The boarders generally were amenable to control and discipline while there were some—not many—who required constant watching and looking after.

Two wards of Court—Nripendra Nath Rudra and Jatindra Mohan Ray Chowdhury, Landholders of Rungpore—were placed in my charge. They occupied the room next to mine.

Objectionable practical joke—A mischief with a touch of humour was committed by certain boarders. The tuft of hair of an orthodox Brahmin boarder who was then in the M. A. Class (now a pensioner and Rai Sahib) was cropped while he was asleep and exhibited in a prominent place with a placard—“Rape of the lock” There was a great commotion over the incident. The culprits however could not be traced though some of the contemporaries of the aggrieved boarder were suspected.

Sports and pastimes.

The boarders were given facilities to play cricket, football and tennis. Revd. Mr. Douglas and several outside students took part in the games and tournaments.

Saraswati Puja—Formerly there were several pujas in different wards but in 1897 it was decided by the boarders to hold a combined Puja with one idol. Since then the function is celebrated annually on a grand scale.

Letters from Friends and old boarders.

Bose Institute
93/1 Upper Circular Road,
Calcutta.

DARJILING,
9th October, 1928.

My dear Kunja Behary Babu,

I am very pleased to hear from you and thank you for your congratulations.

Let me know how you are and how you spend your time. You ought to write a history of your experiences and reminiscences. With kind regards.

Yours sincerely
J. C. Bose.

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Yours sincerely
J. C. Bose.

High Commissioner
for India
London.

42, Grosvenor Gardens,
LONDON, S.W. 1.
The 17th February, 1928

Dear Mr. Basu,

It gave me very great pleasure to receive your letter of the 11th January. I am delighted to find that you are strong and well and interested in so many different things. I had read your "Anglo-Bengali Proverbs" with very great interest, and if you publish the other books which you mention in your letter, I shall be delighted to read them.

We have had a rather unpleasant winter but I am glad to say that I have kept pretty well. I look forward to seeing you when I return to India.

With very kind regards and thanking you again for your letter.

Yours sincerely,
Atulchandra Chatterjea.

Rai Bahadur
Kunja Behari Basu,
Baraset, 24 Parganahs.

36-1, Elgin Road, Calcutta,
14th February, 1928.

My dear sir,

Your letter of the 11th instant. Is your History of Baraset out? I would very much like to see it. My speech on 'Hartal', was not properly reported—but the speech with some amplification will be

printed in two or three weeks time. As it is a legal matter, you may not find it sufficiently interesting—Trust you are keeping well.

Yours sincerely,
N. N. Sircar.

36-1, Elgin Road, Calcutta,
18th December, 1928.

My dear sir,

I am indeed very thankful for your kind letter of congratulation which I very much appreciate. I trust you are in good health.

Yours sincerely,
N. N. Sircar.

Maidens Hotel
Delhi, Jany. 14th

My dear Mr. Basu,

May I thank you for your very kind letter of congratulation? It is very good of you to write.

I often think of you in my wanderings and recall all we did together. This is no small comfort.

It is bitterly cold today—goodbye.

Yours v. sincerely,
K. C. ROY.

Ravenshaw College, Cuttack,
26-10-1928.

My dear Sir,

Accept my Bijoya pronams and kolakuli in this letter. You are one of those very few who were friends of my grandfather and continued to be friend of his family. It gives us pleasure to remember the old days and times when you used to come to our house after the Bijoya and partook of refreshments. If you ever come to this side then kindly stop at my humble place. We are pretty well.

Yours affectionately,
Devabrata Mukherji.

MONGHYR E. I. R. 21. X. 24

My dear sir,

I gratefully received your kind blessings. Pray accept our Bijaya respects. You are the link between the present and the past and so you were happy at my promotion. I have however been reverted till March, as some I. C. S. Officers had to be provided with districts. However, whatever I have got has been due to my father's blessings and the good wishes of friends like yourself. Trusting you are doing well.

Ever affectionately Yours
Charu.

4, Nilambar Mukerjee Street,
Ca'cutta, 23rd October, 1929.

MY DEAR RAI SAHIB,

I am right glad to receive your very kind and affectionate note of the 22nd instant and indeed it gives us pleasure beyond measure to think that we are still in your mind.

1. Babu Surendranath Chaudhuri, M. A. was our Agent at Khulna.
2. I cannot locate the Bose I. M. S., who was, as you say, my father's competitor. If you will kindly let me know he was a competitor in what, I shall probably succeed in letting you know his name.
3. The boarders of the Eden Hindu Hostel who were my father's contemporaries were late Deshbandhu C. R. Das, Sir B. C. Mitter, Rai Bahadur Rajendranath Roy (Dist. and Sessions Judge Retd.) and a host of others whose names are not known to me.

May you live long to bless us with your Puja greetings for many many years to come.

If I am of any service to you kindly do not hesitate to write to me.

Yours affectionately,
SATYENDRA.

[The writer is in error in respect of two personages named as Eden Hostel inmates. He had

premonition of death which took place on the 12th
December, 1929.—K. B.]

Gill Villa, 4, Pritam Road,

DEHRA DUN, U. P.

13th October, 1929.

My dear sir,

I was duly in receipt of your kind post card before I left Calcutta. I am come here with family for a change. We are under the shadow of a great calamity in consequence of the death of my darling youngest daughter who was married only in July 1927 and died in July last after suffering for over 6 months following child birth. God knows when, if ever, consolation will come to us. My wife is disconsolate. We intend returning to Calcutta by the second week of November after visiting Hardwar, Benares and other places.

I admire your energy at this age in getting up a History of Eden Hindu Hostel. On going down to Calcutta I shall see you one day and do my best in finishing the volume and publishing the same.

The climate of Dehra Dun is nice just now and the scenery excellent. Durga Puja is celebrated by the Bengalee community here with great pomp. One of the promoters belong to Dakshinpara (Baraset) and is related to Dindayal Babu.

My Bejoya pronams to you and loving Bejoya

greetings to Pulin and others. Trust you are all well.
With respects and regards,

Yours affectionately,
Bhujendra Mustaphi.

CALCUTTA,
17th November, 1929.

My dear sir,

I got your kind P. C. at Dehra Dun. I came back last week via Delhi and Agra.

On my return journey I travelled with Professor Hemchandra Das Gupta and had a long talk with him about you and your books. I am thinking of organising a reunion of old hostel boarders.

Today I had a talk with Mr. Swan about yourself. I intend going up one day to see you soon.

Trust you are all well.

With regards and respects,
Yours affectionately
Bhujendra

Small Causes Court, Calcutta
Dec. 13. 1928.

My dear Sir,

It is indeed gratifying to hear from you and far more to be favoured with a letter in your handwriting. It is an admirable idea to write out Eden Hindu Hostel reminiscences which will be very interesting specially to boarders of the last century. I admire your energy. Last year some of us meant to hold an reunion of old boarders in the Hostel premises but the sad and sudden death of Ramani Mohan Ghosh at Delhi gave a quietus to the idea. I am thinking of raking it up again.

Yours affectionately
Bhujendra.

Maliara P. O. Dt. Bankura
22. 6. 19.

My dear Kunja Baboo

Many thanks for your kind letter of the 16th inst. which came redirected from Puri which I left on the 31st of May. I am very sorry to hear that our old friends of the Hostel have most of them gone before. Yes I have retired and got an invalid pension of 600 pounds per annum. I generally remain at home going out for a change once or twice in the year. I have on the whole improved in health since my retirement. Sailaja is an Asst. Headmaster at a Mozafferpore private school.

Romaprosad is a Homoeopathic practitioner but a rolling stone. My eldest son Gunamoy was a Dy. Magistrate first at Alipore then Bogra then Krishnagar then Burdwan where he now is. My second son Rupamoy is a Munsiff officiating now at Amta. My youngest son Sukhamoy is preparing for the M.A. Examination in English. I am very glad to hear that you are still keeping good health. Sailaja and Roma are both at Mozafferpore now and you will find them there. I am sorry I could not see Rasamoy Baboo at Puri. Hoping this will find you all right.

I remain,
Most Sincerely yours
Digambar Chatterjee.

গৌহাটী
২০।১০।২৯

শ্রদ্ধাস্পদেষু

বহুকাল পরে আপনার আশীর্বাদ পত্র পাইয়া পরম আনন্দ লাভ করিলাম। আপনি যে এখনও এ অভাজনকে মনে রাখিয়াছেন ইহা আমার পরম সৌভাগ্য এবং আপনার অসীম দয়ার পরিচয়। ৬ গুণাভিরাম বরুয়ার একমাত্র ছেলে শ্রীযুত জ্ঞানদাভিরাম বরুয়া সম্প্রতি গৌহাটী আইন বিদ্যালয়ের প্রধান অধ্যাপক।

আশা করি আপনার সর্বপ্রকার কুশল। আমার আন্তরিক শ্রদ্ধা গ্রহণ করিবেন।

আপনার স্নেহাকাজক্ষী
শ্রীতরুণরাম ফুকন।

13-6-29.

শ্রীচরণেষু,

আপনার পত্র পাইয়া বাধিত হইলাম। আপনাদের আনন্দের কারণ হইতে পারিয়াছি ইহাতেই আমি অধিকতর গৌরব অনুভব করি। নিঃস্বার্থ কাজ করিলে তাহা কখন নষ্ট হয় না। সুতরাং ভবিষ্যতের বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সংস্কার হইবে এরূপ যে আশা করিয়াছেন তাহা যুক্তিসঙ্গত।

আমি সপরিবারে দার্জিলিং আছি। ৫৬ মাস থাকিব। এখানে আমি বেশ আছি। ইতিহাস লেখার কাজ আবার আরম্ভ করিয়াছি। আপনার স্বহস্তে লেখা চিঠি দেখিয়া শরীর ভাল আছে বুঝিতে পারিলাম, এবং তজ্জন্ম খুব সুখী হইলাম।

বিনীত শ্রীযদুনাথ সরকার।

যদুবাবুর ২য় পত্র। 4 Nov. 1929.

I have been very much touched by your remembrance of me and kind greetings on the occasion of the *Vijaya*. We are all doing well. Our residence here (Darjeeling) has restored me to that health which I had lost during my two years' strenuous work at the Calcutta University.

May you enjoy many more years of repose and health.

From Dr. Bankim Chandra Sanyal.

Retired Civil Surgeon C. P.

19, Shivrula, Benares City

May 2, 1929.

My dear Sir,

Many thanks for your kind letter. It is so very kind of you to remember me, still. I have not only retired from service but also from practice of my profession as well. Still I have to do a certain amount of gratuitous work among my old acquaintances here. My son Anukul chandra is now a Munsiff at Kalna. As to my reminiscences of the Eden Hindu Hostel, I have still got a fairly good recollection of the happy days I passed there under your fatherly care.

I had served as a Medical officer in different provinces where I met many of my hostel friends and acquaintances, and even now I occasionally come across with them among the Durga Puja tourists here. I joined the Eden Hostel in 1890 and left it in 1895 when I passed the M. B. Examination. The late lamented Dr. Surendranath Goswami of Bhajanghat, then a medical student, was the assistant Superintendent Babu Sridhar Mitra was the Sirkar Mohashay with Priyanath Ghose as his assistant. "Gosain" was head cook, and Hari Uriya was our servant.

From Sir Atul Chandra Chatterji I. C. S.
High Commissioner for India.
London

The 11th November, 1925

My dear Mr. Basu,

It has given me very great pleasure indeed to receive your kind letter of the 24th September written with your own hand, and also your book on Anglo-Indian Proverbs. I have read it with very great interest, and I am sure, it will be of much assistance to students and others.

I hope that you will be spared for many years yet for service to the country. Please accept my kindest regards.

From Rai Hemanta Kumar Raha, Bahadur M A., C.I.E.
Deputy Director General of Post Offices in India, Simla
10 July 1926

It was a great pleasure to get your letter. Many thanks for kind congratulations and good wishes. I happen to be at Simla in connection with a Conference but expect to be back in Calcutta on the 17th.

Trusting you are keeping very fit.

From Dewan Bahadur
Hiralal Bose, 83 B Park Street
17. 11. 28.

My Dear Sir

I am very grateful for your *Bejoya* greetings which I can only take as your blessing. May you still be spared to us to be able to give us your

choicest blessings. Atul is now Dy. Chief Engineer to the Calcutta Improvement Trust, 6 Clive St.

Re. Dr. Surendra's appointment, I have been trying but nothing seems to come out of it. This is due to competition I am certain.

Yours affly

H. L. Basu.

Chisurah 19/12/28

My dear Sir,

I cannot fully express the delight I had on hearing from you. I heard of your work from Babu Ashu Tosh Pal. I am sorry to say that I do not know the whereabouts of the gentleman you wrote about. I do not remember the names of my room mates except Sasi Bhusan Mustafi who is now a pleader in Suri Dt. Birbhum. Our Hostel days, when you, sir, were the Superintendent, were really very pleasant. But we had no end of troubles after you left. I fully remember your fatherly affection for us and our abusing your kindness. But we loved you so much and respected you though we troubled you. Your successor was not so kind to us. I remember when you sat with us in the dinner hall and asked the cook to give me more fish as I had a peculiar way of asking for it. Sir, it is really a pleasure to remember those good old days. I pray to God for your health and long life. What are your sons doing now ?

With respect

Yours affly

Gopal Das Ghose.

11, Baitakhana 2nd Lane
Calcutta

24th Nov. 1929.

My dear Sir,

I don't know how to express my feelings of joy on getting your kind affectionate letter. I have just retired but I have not yet been able to adapt myself to my new life. Father is well and is very glad to hear of you ; his *Bejoya namaskar* to you. Our *Bejoya pronams* to you.

At times I go to the Eden Hindu Hostel and cannot but think of you and our happy life we lived there. I am glad to know that you intend to write a history of the Hostel ; it will be our duty to help you in this work. I shall shortly send you a reminiscence of the hostel in detail. I attend the yearly reunion of old students of Presidency College. I have thought several times how we would enjoy if we can have re-union of the old boarders of our dear hostel. My respectful affectionate *pronams* at your feet.

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Sarat Chandra Banerji,
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Told to my son Dr. Haradhan Basu "I was at the Eden Hindu Hostel of which Kunja Babu

(your father) was Superintendent. Convey my *pronams* (obeisance) to him. Though I am a Brahmin, he is my *Guru* (preceptor).

“আপনার পিতাকে আমার প্রণাম দিবেন। যদিও আমি ব্রাহ্মণ, তবু তিনি আমার গুরু”।

From Dr. Durgapada Ghose
Registrar, Medical College,
Calcutta
18 Raja Nabakrishna St.
19. 12. 29

My dear Sir,

I am so glad to hear from you. I am in the Medical College again. For 5 years I was one of the Surgeons in the Campbell Hospital. My grade pay is now 350/. Ganga (brother) has got a post in the stores and Audit Dept. in Delhi. It is so kind of you to remember me.

12 Ashu Biswas Road
Bhawanipur
May 6th 1928.

My dear Sir,

I cannot express my joy and gratification at receiving your very kind letter yesterday afternoon. I am quite aware of your gladness at my entrance into my new house. As one of the few—alas how very few—surviving friends of my father and a well-wisher of mine from my childhood, your advent into my house will be eagerly looked forward to by

Yours affectionately
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Yours affectionately
Naren
(Advocate)

57 Patuatola Lane, Calcutta.

5. 11. 28

Respected Sir,

Kindly accept my Bijoya Pronam and those of my sons, wife and daughter in return for the 'asis'. The expression of sentiment and endearment conveyed in your letter is refreshing. I can not forget it especially as it comes from the pen of one whom I have looked upon with highest respect ever since the days of my childhood. May God give you full health at this age. As regards Uma's marriage I have not as yet settled anything.

Yours affectionately,
Jatindra Nath Bose

Calcutta, the 2nd Nov., 28

Dear Sir,

Kindly accept my respect. My love to your children and grand children. I shall probably go to Barasat during Kalipujah if health permits and see you there. As regards the enquiry you have made I beg to state that I retired as a Sub-Engineer 1st grade P. W. D. Bengal. I was a lecturer of Mathematics of C. E. College at Shibpur. The following original works of importance I made in P. W. D. (1) All the court buildings including Commissioner's offices on Fairy hill at Chittagong (2) I made all the buildings for the new District in Angul in Orissa (3) After earthquake of 1896 I made all the new Government buildings in the districts of (4) Jalpaiguri

(5) Rungpur and (6) Bogra. I made special works in (7) Dalhousie Square Park in Calcutta. I constructed the whole of (8) New Presidency Jail at Alipore. I was only for a short time probably 4 or 5 months engaged to help Mr. Trusler in the construction of Eden Hindu Hostel Calcutta. (9) I did the additions and alterations in Duff College Calcutta for accommodation of Police Office there. I am a Vegetarian. I never tasted fish or flesh in my life. During my 34 years service I was at Behar for about 5 years and at Orissa for about 6 years and the rest in Bengal.

Yours faithfully,
Banku Bihari Mukerjee.

Behari Shah Lane, Moradpur, Bankipur.

5. 3.

My dear Sir,

Sometime ago you asked me for a short note about myself since I joined the Eden Hindu Hostel, while you were the Superintendent there. My position is so very insignificant that I feel diffidence in giving a note.

Being unsuccessful in the B. A. I entered the Police Department as a Sub-Inspector in 1905.

While in the Eden Hindu Hostel I twice received the good conduct prize awarded by Justice Gurudas Banerjee. One of the books is still with me, containing your handwriting on it.

In recognition of my services I was promoted

to the selection grade last year. This year my name has been included in the list of Rai Sahibs.

I hope Sir this will serve your purpose. Kindly excuse me for the delay in writing to you which was mainly due to pressure of work.

Yours Sincerely,
Surendralal Ghosh

34 Puddopukur Road. Calcutta.
17. 5. 29.

My dear Sir,

Your card has reached me after redirection. I am here for the treatment of my grandchildren (daughter's sons) and I think I will have to be here for a fortnight more.

I am the Dewan to the Raja of Gauripur, Dt. Goalpara, Assam—a zamindary estate with an area of 600 sq. miles and an income of about 7 lakhs. As Dewan, I am in charge of the State administration. The Raja shahib is specially interested in Education and has a High School, a Sanscrit tol, Girl School &c. and helps in all schools in his Estate and I have done my best to further his wishes in all these. I was a Vakil of the High Court before I went to Gauripur and took up that service at the invitation of the Raja Bahadur when my father retired. I am now 56.

I am so flattered to find that you still remember me with such solicitude. With respectful regards,

Yours affectionately,
Dijesh Ch. Chuckerburty

Purbachal Burdwan.

1st December, 1929

My dear Sir,

My Bijoya pronams to you and greetings to Pulin. Your esteemed letter of the 27th November with blessings duly to hand. It is so kind of you to remember your old wards at this distance of time and I gratefully appreciate your kind wishes. My son has been perfectly restored to health and will appear at the next B. A. examination from the Presidency College. He is also staying at the Eden Hindu Hostel. I meet Rohini Babu often and he lives close to my house and I hear of you from him now and then.

I am jotting a few lines of my reminiscences of my hostel life as desired by you. Rest all right Hoping this will find you in good health.

With Sincerest regards

Yours affectionately,

Amarnath Dutta

From Rai Sahib

Sasi Bhushan Bhattacharji

Dy. Magistrate.

Chittagong

6. 3. 29.

Thanks for your kind letter. I am the younger brother of Late Babu Nibaran Ch. Bhattacharji munsif who died prematurely and who had to reside in the Eden Hindu Hostel in his younger days. Perhaps you have forgotten that. We met each other

several times at Alipore & also at Barasat, while the late Rai Bhupendra Nath Mukerjee Bahadur was the S.D.O.

I am right glad to find that you have been keeping well. With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sashibhushan Bhattacharjee

Bankipore

Sept. 14, 1928

Dear Sir,

Your very kind letter came duly to hand a few days ago. I had an attack of influenza from which I have just recovered. I am very sorry to hear that you had an attack of dysentery. After I got your letter I happened to meet Babu Siddheswar Sarkar who requested me to let him know when you would pass through Patna Junction on your way to Chapra. Srijut Surendralal Ghosh, Police Inspector is well known to me. He is a very good man and one of his daughters can sing extremely well. May I request you to stay for a day here on your way to Chapra? You will be delighted to see the new town which is changed almost beyond recognition. The new college buildings are well worth a visit. How is Pulin Babu? With my best regards.

Yours affectionately,

Ashutosh Chatterji

Chandbazar, The University, Lucknow. 21. 1. 30.
My dear Kunja Babu,

I am very glad to hear from you now and then. In your history of the Hostel I hope you will refer to the boarders who have distinguished themselves now in life.

I and my brother Radha Kamal (my youngest brother) are both professors, drawing Rs. 1200 *plus* an allowance of Rs. 150. Recently the Govt. of Baroda awarded me the title of ইতিহাস শিরোমণি with a prize of Rs. 7000 and a Gold Medal for my Historical works. My Premchand Roychand studentship also amounted to Rs. 7000.

One of my books 'The Fundamental Unity of India' published in London has an introduction from the pen of the present Prime Minister of England, Mr. J. Ramsay Macdonald. Another *Local Govt. in Ancient India* which was published by Oxford University has an Introduction from Lord Crewe, Ex-Secy. of State for India who had annulled the Partition of Bengal. A third book of mine on *Harsha* has been the first book by an Indian to be published in the famous *Rulers of India Series of Oxford*.

A biography of mine appears annually in the *Who's Who London*.

I hope to see you hale and hearty at Barasat when I go to Calcutta in May. I have bnilt a house in Calcutta at 6 Ekdalia Road, Ballygunge.

Yours affly.,
Radhakumud Mookerji.

Hooghly College,
March 4, 1929.

My dear Sir,

Your affectionate congratulations are more valuable to me than the honour itself.

I trust this finds you in excellent health. Sarada Babu is still in service.

Yours affectionately,
Krishna Chandar Bhattacharjee.

Burdwan,
24th Nov. 1929.

My dear Sir,

I am very happy to receive your kind letter and to feel from your writing that you have been still going strong. May you still be spared to us in health and happiness.

My father is well in health now. He desires me to send his compliments and best wishes to you. Kindly accept my pronams.

Yours affectionately,
Santosh Kumar Bose.

Grand Trunk Road Burdwan.
The 30th April 29

My dear Sir;

My joy knows no bounds to receive your letter and still more to think that you have remembered one of the oldest students at the Eden Hindu Hostel

(64)

under you. This is something of real paternal affection.

Yours sincerely,
Gouryprosad Bhattacharji.

Comilla.

15th September 1928.

My dear Sir,

I am indeed very glad to receive your much esteemed note of the 10th instant which came to hand only this morning.

I shall be going to Bindhachal for a change by the second week of October. If I stay in Calcutta I shall be glad to go to Barasat one day to look you up.

Please remember me to your son Pulin. Hope you are doing well and will give us an opportunity of celebrating your centenary.

Yours sincerely,
Satish Chandra Roy.

Bhagalpur,
The 19th April, 1929.

My dear Sir,

Your kind card reminds me of the old old days when we all used to reside in the Eden Hindu Hostel under your kind supervision. I retired from Govt. service in 1926 and am now serving as an Asst. Manager of the Banailly Raj. Dijesh is at Gauripur in Assam and not in Ramnagar.

(65)

It gives me so much pleasure to see and read your handwriting and to learn that it has pleased God to keep you in good health. May you live long & be happy is the sincere prayer of

Yours obediently,
Sures Ch. Chakrabarti.

Hazaribagh,
6. 1. 29

My dear Sir,

I am glad to learn you are writing a History of the Hindu Hostel & wish I could help you in the matter but owing to my chronic bowel troubles I can scarcely concentrate my mind to anything.

Kali Pada Rai was of late very ill of Typhoid fever and is still very poorly in health. With pronams,

Yours affectionately.,
Suresh Ch. Mitra.

Patna,
4. 1. 29

From Dr. Mithilesh Ch. Ghosh

Your kind favour of the 2nd instant with New Year greeting—thanks ever so much. What a pleasure it gives me to see your handwriting to convey blessing. How fondly I cherish it.

Hope this finds you well.

Yours sincerely,
Mithilesh Ch. Ghosh.

জলপাইগুড়ী

১৩।৪।২৯

শ্রীশ্রীচরণ কমলেশু—

আশীর্বাদ পত্র যথাসময়ে পাইয়াছি, উত্তর দিতে বিলম্ব হইল জ্ঞাত
ক্ষমা প্রার্থনা করি। বারাসত গিয়া আপনার সহিত সাক্ষাৎ করিয়া
শ্রীচরণ দর্শনে সুখী হইব। কলিকাতা গিয়া আপনাকে পত্র লিখিব
এবং চা কোম্পানীর অংশ ক্রয় সম্বন্ধে সাক্ষাতে আলোচনা করিব।

আশা করি আপনারা কুশলে আছেন।

প্রণতঃ

শ্রীঅন্নদাচরণ সেন

Ranchi,

18. 10. 28.

My dear Sir.

Received your letter. Dhanapati is at Puri. Dear
Ashu is no more. He breathed his last in August last
suffering only two days. His son was attacked with
cholera but recovered and Ashu succumbed. Bankim
Banerji I learn is a professor in the Dacca College.
Hope you are in good health with family members.

Yours affly,

Basanta.

Rangpur

6. 11. 21.

My dear Sir,

I am extremely glad to receive your kind letter
after a very long time. Need I tell you that it

জনপাইগুড়ী

১৩।৪।২৯

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Yours affly,

Basanta.

Rangpur

6. 11. 21.

My dear Sir,

I am extremely glad to receive your kind letter
after a very long time. Need I tell you that it

revived the memories of by-gone days when you used to treat us with parental care and affection.

Kindly accept my respectful Bijoya pronam and convey my love to your children.

We are well. Trusting this will find you all in excellent health.

Affectionately Yours,
Jogesh Ch. Sircar.

1, College Row, Calcutta.

21. 11. 28.

My dear Sir,

It is a matter of pride to me that you still remember me so affectionately. You nurtured Eden Hindu Hostel most tenderly and carefully in its childhood & it is quite in the fitness of things that you should come forward to describe its nature & influence on the student community of Bengal. The dreams of Sir Charles Elliot are fully realised now in the power & influence which the Hindu Hostel & the University Institute are exercising on the College & social life of Bengalee Students. It is a very happy idea of yours & it will meet with universal approval. With my Bijoya greetings & affectionate regards.

Yours affectionately,
Barid Baran Mukerjee.

Dumraon,
26th Oct. 1929.

My dear Kunja Babu,

It is indeed very kind of you to remember to send me your Bijoya greetings. My most respectful and warmest greetings to you.

We are all well. I am sorry there is no opening for your son just now here.

With kindest regards,
Yours very sincerely,
J. N. Gupta.

3 Palit Street,
P. O. Ballygunge
12. 9. 28.

My dear Kunja Babu,

I am much relieved to hear you are 'rallying' from the attack of dysentery. I shall try to see you before you leave for Chapra.

I shall try to send you some mango grafts on Sunday from Mihijam.

Thanks for your kind wishes. The greatest reward of one's work lies in the admiration of friends like you

Yours affectionately,
S. D. Mukerjee.

কুড়ুল গাছী পোঃ (নদীয়া)

১১।১২।২৮

বহু মাণ্ডাম্পাদেষু ।

যথাবিহিত সন্মান পুরঃসর নিবেদন ।

মহাশয়ের স্নেহ ও শুভ কামনা সম্বলিত পত্র যথা সময়ে প্রাপ্ত হইয়া অতি পরিতোষ প্রাপ্ত হইয়া দয় ময় ভগবানকে পুনঃ পুনঃ ধন্যবাদ দিলাম । শ্রীভগবানের একমাত্র দয়াতে আপনি অদ্যাপি আমাদের মঙ্গলের জন্ত কামনা করিতে পারিতেছেন ও শ্রীদয়াময় ভগবান চরণে আমাদেরও একান্ত কামনা যে আপনি সুস্থ শরীরে ও অন্ত সর্বপ্রকার সুখে পরিবৃত্ত হইয়া সুদীর্ঘজীবী হইয়া জীবন যাপন করিতে থাকেন । আমরা নিশ্চয় মনে জানি যে আপনি আমাদের চালক ও অকৃত্রিম শুভাকাঙ্ক্ষী । আপনার আদর্শ কখনও আমাদের হৃদয় হইতে মুছিয়া যাইবে না । এখন আপনার শরীর কেমন অনুগ্রহ করিয়া পুনরায় শীঘ্র লিখিয়া খুব আনন্দিত করিতে আশ্রা হইবে । পূজার অব্যবহিত পর হইতে আমাদের পারিবারিক পীড়ার তাড়না অল্লাধিক ভাবে অহরহ বর্তমান । আমার নিজের জ্বর দশ বৎসর হয় নাই তবে অল্পের পীড়াতে ক্রমে শরীর জীর্ণ করিয়া আনিয়াছে । আপনি Eden Hindu Hostel সম্বন্ধে treatise লিখিতে আরম্ভ করিয়াছেন জানিয়া বড় আনন্দ ও আশা হইল । যে হেতু উপযুক্ত হস্তে ভার ন্যস্ত হইয়াছে বিশেষতঃ ঐ Eden Hindu Hostel প্রসঙ্গে কত পুরাতন ভিন্ন ভিন্ন বিষয়ের অন্ধশতাব্দীর অধিক কালের আপনার অভিজ্ঞতা ও বহুদর্শিতার পরিচয় দেশ কাল ও সামাজিক সংশ্রবের কথা থাকিবে ।

শ্রীমদ্রাজ চরণ গাঙ্গুলী

(70)

14/2, Serpentine Lane,
Calcutta.

27th March, 24

My dear Sir,

What a sense of gratification your very kind letter gives me today ! Some 15 years ago, you happened to read one of my articles published in the 'Navya-bharat' and you wrote a letter of appreciation to me when I was at Cooch-Behar. Your heart is so full of kindness towards me ! For more than 15 years, I served the state of Cooch Behar as professor of sanskrit in the Victoria College, and when in 1916 the Post graduate classes were opened by the Calcutta University. I was appointed professor of Vedanta and Hindu philosophy and has since been serving in that capacity.

You always entertain a deep feeling of affection for me, and it has been a matter of great gratification to me in receiving your kind letter after so long a time. May Heaven bless you with long life and prosperity. I am anxious to learn what your sons are doing and I feel a longing desire to see you once more.

Yours affectionately,
Kokileswar Bhattacharji
Sastri.

(71)

From Rai Sahib Church Road, Bhagalpur.
Surendra Nath Basu 16. 11. 28

You will be glad to hear that my son has returned from England and is doing well. He has improved in his health considerably. He is now on the lookout for a job as an expert in Pottery. He has stood first in his practical Examination there and has got very nice Certificates,

Monghyr, 21 7. 29.

My dear Sir,

It is very gratifying to learn that you still remember me.

I am still going on as an Advocate but the old days are gone. I am also thinking of retiring soon. I am indeed glad you are doing well. Your fatherly care towards us helped us a good deal in preparing ourselves for the world. Kindly accept my heartfelt gratitude for it. Hoping to hear more of you, how you pass your time. Praying for your long life and hoping you are quite well.

Yours affly,

Tara Bhushan Banerji.

Department of Industries, Bengal.

40/1A, Free School Street,

Dated Calcutta, the 20th Nov.—1929

Dear Sir,

Allow me to introduce myself as the 2nd son of the late Babu Dina Nath Sen, whom you knew

for a long time. I am attempting to write a life of my father and am getting materials for that purpose. I am anxious to learn what special work he did in his official capacity, as Inspector of Schools. I am told that he had a hand in preparing the original grant-in-aid rules and he moved to raise the emoluments of teachers in rural schools. He also tried to introduce the Bengali language as the medium of instructions in High Schools, which was rejected by Govt.

I am now working as Inspector of Technical Schools in place of Mr. Everett. I was thinking to come and see you in your home but will await your reply before doing so. Begging to be excused for the trouble,

Yours very sincerely,

A. N. Sen.

From Hem Sunkar Ray

P. O. Teota (Dacca)

19. 11. 29.

I am right glad to receive your affectionate note and am pleased all the more to learn that my Reminiscence was the best out of 67 you have been favoured with. I may add two more names to those that I have already given to you :—

1. Babu Girija Nath Mukerjee.

(Poet) Ranaghat.

2. Babu Tarini Krisna Sen B. L. Pleader

Manikganj (Dacca)

Trust this finds you all right.

LIST OF BOARDERS.

Abinash Chandra Sen	Bankubehari Mukherjee
Amarendra Nath Bose	Basanta Kumar Banerjee
Amar Nath Dutta	Brojendra Kumar Ghose
Ashutosh Mukerjee	Barid Baran Mukherjee
Atul Chandra Bose	Basanta Kumar Mitra
Abinash Ch Chakrabarti	Bhringeswar Srimani
Annada Charan Sen	Basanta Kumar Raha
Akhil Bandhu Guha	Bejoy Kumar Sarkar
Ashutosh Paul	Bibhuti Bhusan Mukherji
Abinash Ch Mukherji	Bankim Chandra Ghose
Aswini Kumar Maitra	Binod Behari Ray
Ashutosh Chatterji	Brojo Kishore Prosad
Amritalal Chatterji	Bhujenda Nath Mukherji
Atul Chandra Chatterji	Bosanta Kumar Paul
Ananta Lal Ghosh	Battokristo Pramanick
Ashutosh Mazumdar	Binod Behari Sarkar
Aswini Kumar Mukherji	Bhupendra Narain Ghosh
Ananta Kumar Sanyal	Brajendra Nath Singha
Anath Nath Pal	Charu Chandra Sinha
Achyutananda Choudhury	Chandra Bilash Mukherjee
Amulya Gopal Ray	Charu Chandra Mitra
Amulya Deb Pathak	Chuni Lal Sanyal
Amulya Chandra Ray	Chunilal Mullick
Amulya Charan Nandi	Chunilal Banerji
Bhujagendra Mustaphi	Chandra Sekhar Ray
Bejoygopal Sarkar	Dijesh Ch Chakrabarti
Baidyanath Dutta	Durga Pada Ghose
Bon Behari Bose	Dhanapati Banerji

Dwarka Nath Mukherji	Jnanendra Nath Gupta
Debendra Nath Ghose	Jagadiswar Bagchi
Debendra Nath Banerji	Jnanendra Nath Mitra
Dwijendra Nath Mukherji	Jotindra N Raychoudhury
Debendra Nath Mukherji	Jugal Kisor Tripathi
Fanindra Nath Mukherji	Jogendra Nath Sinha
Fanindra Nath Mitra	Jotindra Nath Samanta
Girindra Nath Banerji	Jyotish Chandra Dey
Gopal Das Ghose	Jagadish Chandra Sen
Gunindra Nath Mukherji	Kalimohan Sen
Gauri Prosad Bhattacharji	Kalidas Bose
Gagan Chandra Mukherji	Kedar Nath Ray
Ganendu Bhusan Mitra	Kalipada Ray
Girijabhusan Sarkar	Khetra Behari Ghose
Gadadhar Das	Khirod Chandra Bhuyian
Haripada Datta	Kamala Prosad Chatterji
Hem Chandra Chatterji	Kali Saday Ghosal
Hemanta Kumar Raha	Kristo Ch Bhattacharji
Hiralal Mitra	Kokileswar Bhattacharji
Hem Chandra Das Gupta	Khetra Gopal Sircar
Hiralal Bose	Kunja Behari Ray
Hare Krishna Das	Kristo Chandra Chatterji
Harendra Nath Mukherji	Lalit Mohan Banerji
Hem Sankar Ray	Lal Behari Das
Harendra Nath Das	Labanya Mohan Sanyal
Indu Bhusan Banerji	Monindranath Bhattacharji
Jamini Mohan Mitra	Mithilesh Chandra Ghose
Jogesh Chandra Sarkar	Mohit Chandra Ghose
Jogeswar Srimani	Mohim Chandra Ghosh
Jadunath Sircar	Monindra Kristo Bose

Mahatap Chandra Ghose	Rajendra Ch Chakrabarti
Mohitosh Biswas	Romesh Chandra Sen
Manindra Kumar Basu	Romesh Ch Chakravarty
Nirad Kristo Roy	Rash Behari Mukherji
Nabo Kumar Hazra	Ramaprosad Chatterji
Narendra Kumar Bose	Rajendra Nath Mukherji
Nripendra Nath Rudra	Rakhal Chandra Ghosh
Nishi Kanto Dutta	Ranjit Chandra Lahiri
Narendra Nath Banerji	Sarat Chandra Chatterji
Nagendra Nath Ghose	Satish Chandra Ray
Nani Gopal Chatterji	Sati Prosad Sarkar
Nagendra Nath Chatterji	Saroj Kumar Datta
Nrityagopal Chaki	Syamadas Mukherji
Nabogopal Chaki	Surendra Nath Ghosal
Nirmal Chandra Ghosh	Susila Kanta Mukherji
O. V. Laxman Rao	Surendra Kumar Bose
Preclal Tribedi	Sibadas Ray Chowdhury
Pulin Behari Bose	Surendra Kumar Bosu
Prafulla Kumar Chatterji	Shankar Laxman Gokhale
Pramathanath Bhattacharji	Surendra Lal Ghose
Prafulla Kumar Dutt	Surjya Kumar Guha
Pramathanath Chowdhury	Sukumar Raychowdhury
Priya Nath Bhattacharji	Subodh Kumar Sen
Priya Nath Chatterji	Sisir Kumar Ghoshal
Prafulla Chandra Ghosh	Satis Chandra Ray
Probhat Kumar Chatterji	Surendra Nath Ghose
Prasanna Kumar Hazra	Sarat Chandra Banerji
Radha Prosad Mukherji	Surendra Mohan Maitra
Radha Kumad Mukherji	Suresh Chandra Mitra
Rajendranath Chakrabarti	Sailaja Prosad Chatterji

Surendra Nath Bose
 Sashi Bhusan Mustaphi
 Sisir Kumar Chatterji
 Surendra Kumar Bose
 Sarat Kumar Raha
 Santosh Kumar Bose
 Saroj Nath Bose
 Suresh Ch Chakrabarti
 Surj Narayan Sahaya
 Surendra Nath Mukherji
 Surendra Lal Ghose
 Sashi Kamal Maitra
 Susil Kumar Mukherji
 Sukumar Sen Gupta
 Subodhkumar Sen Gupta
 Sisir Kumar Ghosal
 Surendra Nath Ghose
 Surendra Nath Chatterji
 Surendra Nath Chatterji
 Srish Chandra Bose
 Satyendra Nath Shome

Satish Chandra Ghose
 Surendra Nath Mukherji
 Sarat Chandra Bose
 Surath Kumar Bose
 Satyabrata Chatterji
 Surendra Nath Mukherji
 Sudarsan Chakrabarti
 Saradaprosad Bhattacharji
 Satis Chandra Banerji
 Sachikanta Mukherji
 Tularam Paitandi
 Tarini Ch Bhattacharji
 Tarabhusan Banerji
 Tarini Ch Majumdar
 Tarun Ram Phukan
 Tarabhusan Mukherji
 Upendra Nath Mukherji
 Upendra Nath Ghose
 Upendra Chandra Basu
 Vinayak Mureswar Khare
 W. D. Duriswami Pilai

The Eden Hindu Hostel.

PART II.

Rai Saheb Nalini Mohan Das Gupta.

P. A. to D. P. I. Bihar.

Brother Rai Saheb Kumud Mohan Das Gupta who was a Superintendent of Police retired in 1926 ;

I am not in very good health, but still I shall try to send you a few lines by way of reminiscences of the Eden Hindu Hostel.

Mustaphi (Mitra)—Zaminders of Sukhria (Hooghly) and Birbhum. Made donation to Eden Hindu Hostel.

Bhujagendra—Sub-Judge.

Shoshibhusan—Pleader, Suri.

Indubhusan—Pleader, Burdwan. (Dead)

Chakrabartis of Jagulia (Barasat.)—4th. generation permanently settled in Chapra. First Bengalee to come there. Surendranath—Deputy Magistrate. (Dead.) Rajendranath—Retired Civil Surgeon practising at Patna. Birendranath—Pleader, Chapra, Extensive Criminal Practice.

Ghosh.

Settled at Howrah. Founder Mohim Chandra Ghosh—Deputy Magistrate. Sons :—Mohit Chandra was Collector of Bogra Now S. D. O. Khowlna. Mithiles Chandra—Civil Surgeon Comilla. Mohatap—Deputy Magistrate. Manick—Bar-at-law.

Dases of Chinsurah.

Bhupati Das was in England with State Scholarship, Qualified in Chemistry, I. E. S. Committed Suicide at Dacca. Dr. Pashupati—died of septic poison in operating an ulcer in Sambhu Nath Pandit Hospital. Dhanapati—Advocate, Patna High Court, a son inlaw of Dr. K. C. Das of Chapra.

Datta.

Dasarathi—Deputy Magistrate Kinsman of Naba Gopal Datta Supervisor P. W. D. Haripada Datta of Dhaphdapi, Baruipur, Attorney. Father Late Mahendra Nath was Deputy Inspector, Rangpur.

From Narayan Chandra Mukherji.—Gondalpara.

Retired 2nd Master, Hare School,

Novr. 11-1930.

Late Rai Bahadur Paran Chandra Ghose was never a Mayor of Chandernagor, but his brother late Aghore Babu was a Mayor. Paran Babu's son Narendra Nath, who too is dead, was Manager under Messrs. Kerr Tarak & Co. at their Delhi Branch on Rs. 500 a month. He was a Graduate and your ward in the Eden Hostel. A scion of this Literary family

named Satyendra is a pleader in the Hooghly Bar. You may have seen Narendra at Delhi in 1902 when you had been there with Sir Alexander Pedlar F. R. S. You had mentioned many interesting incidents of your fortnight's stay at Delhi.

Surendranath Ghosal—Medalist 41 Chakrabaria
Road, Elgin Road P. O.

My chums were Krishna Chandra Bhattacharji, P.R.S, Bijoygopal Mukherji of the Education Service and Rasik Mohan Bhattacharji, District Judge, retired from Alipore. My only son Panchugopal is now Senior Professor of Narsing Dutt College, Howrah. Kesav Chandra Ray, Asstt. Supdt. is a C. I. E. now in England. Such is *Kismet* from the hands of God !

From Rai Bahadur Jugalkishor Tripathi
(Retired Deputy Magistrate.)

Bonaigarh P. O.
Via Panposh B, N. Ry.
The 18 th January 1931.

My Dear Sir,

It is with agreeable surprise that I have received your affectionate note of the 10 th instant. I well remember the happy days I spent at the Eden Hindu Hostel under your fostering care and guidance. You were always kind and affectionate towards me. Indeed your charming and genial personality is still green in my memory, and I need hardly describe with

what feelings of sincere gratification I find myself again in touch with you after a lapse of so many years,

Yes, I am a pensioner recalled to active service, You do not say anything about yourself. But I presume you are happy and prosperous and enjoying your well-earned retirement. May I hope that you will again find time to visit Chaibasa. You may in that case put up in my house, and I shall some how arrange to meet you there.

I am very glad indeed to learn that you are engaged in writing a history of the Eden Hindu Hostel. I wish I could give you particulars of the boarders of my time, but having spent all my life in out of the way Native States, I have been more or less out of touch with the outer world, and I am afraid I can throw very little light on the subject.

Rai Bahadur Ramani Mohan Ghosh who rose to high rank in the Postal Department is unfortunately dead. He was one of my room mates. Babu Ashu tosh Pal was, I believe, until lately a sub-Judge in Bengal. Narendra Kumar Basu—another room mate of mine is now a distinguished Advocate in the High Court. There are others whom I remember, but of whose whereabouts I know nothing. You will of course remember that Sir Jadu Nath Sarkar and Rai Bahadur Dr Bankim Chandra Ghosh were also boarders of the Hostel.

Ranchi Boarders.

Roy Brothers—Ashustosh, Pleader. Kedarnath, contractor. Tharpakna House, Ranchi.

June 26, 1927.

My dear Sir,

I received your welcome letter the other day. The sight of the old familiar hand-writing which we so loved and dreaded, called back the memories of the happy days in the Eden Hostel, for which our hearts must often yearn in vain.

It was really very kind of you to think of me and the rest of us at Ranchi, and be the means of solace to me. You are verging on 80, and it is likely that you would suffer from ailments incidental to old age. But by the united prayers of us, you would get rid of them, and live long now that you are free from the turmoils of Hostel life.

I showed your letter to Basanta and Sarat and they asked me to convey to you their respectful regards, and the remembrance of the happy days they passed under your kind supervision. We regret we did not adequately return your kindness. We often think of you.

You may remember how Basanta kept efficient control over his brothers Dhanapati (Pleader) and Sarat (Sanskritist), and how he used to train "Swis Drill" to batches of fellow boarders every afternoon in rotation.

You have asked about my sons. Well the eldest is

here ; the 2nd is now reading in the B. A. class of the St. Xavier's college, the 3rd Prabhat kumar has just passed the I. Sc. Examination, in the first division, the fourth is in Calcutta, trying to secure admission into the Medical College, Belgachia. The 5th is at home as an urchin.

Yours ever affectionately
Ashutosh Roy.

N. B. January 1931—It breaks my heart that Ashu is no more! One of his sons had got cholera. In nursing him dear Ashu was attacked by that fell disease and succumbed but the son revived. Kedar is now looking after the family property,

K. B. Basu.

Barasat Boarders.

Banerji brothers Dwijendranath, Pleader, and Khitendranath B. L. The latter has settled in Calcutta (Williams Lane) and has donated Rupees 8000 in Govt. securities to the University for the purpose of creating an endowment for the award of a scholarship of the Value of Rs 8/- a month for 2 years tenable in a College, a gold medal, and a prize of books on the following conditions :—

- (1) That the scholarship be awarded to a student of the Barasat Government school passing the Matriculation in the 1st Division, but who does not gain a Govt.

Scholarship. The scholarship be called Thakurdas Banerji Scholarship (grand father of the donor).

- (2) That a prize in Sanskrit books of the value of Rs 25/- called Prasanna Mayi Devi (grand mother) Prize be awarded every year publicly at the Convocation to the female student who gains the highest marks in Sanskrit at the B. A. Examination.
- (3) That a gold medal of the value of one hundred Rupees be awarded publicly every year at the Convocation of the Senate for conferring Degrees to the only or the best D. L. of the year, if any, or failing him, to the student who stands first at the M. L. Examination, or failing him to the student who stands first at the final B. L. Examination. The medal to be named (uncle) "Kedar Nath Banerji Medal." Dr Nares chandra Sen was the first winner of the Medal.

Effect was given to the above from 1911 ; the winners' names are published in the University Calendar.

Khitendra and his (Kabyatirtha) son Benyak are well married. Father makes good use of his money. The medal may in time be won by Khitendra's son who has just passed M. A., first in the first Divison.

Haripada Banerji Kinsman of Kedar Babu is a reliable person in E. B. Railway Office, Sealdah.

Our trusted Secretary, Central Co-operative

Bank, Prabodhchandra Mukherji. He too is a pleader like *Govinda chandra Chatterji* who has the unique distinction of giving up practice and has been building Cottages for persons of small income.

From—Rai Bahadur, Tripuracharan Guha,
Civil Surgeon, Motihari.

Dated 21. X. 1930.

My dear Sir,

It is very much gratifying and pleasant to hear from you now and again, May you live long to anjoy a happy and prosperous life. My uncle Rai Saheb (fellow boarder) Aswini kumar Guha is now at Barrackpore with his son Sudhansu Kumar, Sub Deputy Collector.

As regards the old members of the Eden Hindu Hostel, I may say that I was a boarder there in the year 1891—92 in Room No 3 with Narendra nath Banerje, Binode Kanta Banerji ; my uncle Annada Charan Guha occupied Room 4, Bankim Chandra Ghose Room 5 and Sir Jadu Nath Sircar occupied a small room in front of my room quite alone. Sir Charles Elliot L. G. visited the Hostel once during my stay there, His Honour used to take great interest in country games, and actually saw us at play (Ha Do Do) in the hostel compound ; I remember His Honour especially appreciated my good skilful game and mentioned about it to other distinguished visitors present to witness the game.

We were entertained by Sir Gurudas Banerji

(Justice) at his house at Maniktala on several occasions and also by Sir Jotindra Mohan Tagore at a garden party at the "Emerald Bower."

Krishna charan Banerji occupied Room 10, Nalini Babu (Rai Bahadur now) and his brother Kumad Babu (also a Rai Bahadur) of Police Department. Ours were all happy days there, and you were much respected and revered by the students.

From—Hem Sanker Ray,

Zemindar of Teota, Dacca,

24/10/30.

My dear Sir,

Yes I remember all the names you have mentioned ; you have missed Rai Bahadur Dr Bankim Chandra Ghosh, for some time, my private tutor. He has since retired from Govt. Service.

[Hem had joined the Hostel at the age of 9 with his brothers Girija and Biroja and had to leave it when the authorities issued orders for exclusion of school boys from the institution. An exhaustive *list of boarders of the old block was sent in by him* which is now missing. K. B.]

From—Sures Chandra Chatterji,

Pleader, Kushtia. 10. 1. 30.

Writes about his ill health, adding that he was able to earn his livelihood chiefly because he was under paternal control in the Eden Hindu Hostel.

From Rai Bahadur Surendra Nath Mukherji

Additional District and Sessions, Judge, Patna.

October 4, 1930.

My dear Sir,

I heartily reciprocate your kind Bijoya Greetings and wish you and yours happiness and all the joys of life, and I cherish with gratitude your kindness towards me, and I shall be, so happy to see you when you are passing Patna. (Brother) Phani is now P. A. to the Commissioner here but has been unfortunate in losing a daughter quite recently. Bara Dada (Upendra) is doing well as Contractor at Bhagalpore our native town.

[Surendra has an adamant heart, He had lost his I. C. S. passed son in England of which no mention was made in the letter. K. B.]

Raha brothers—Rai Bahadur Basanta Kumar Retired Dy. Magistrate. Settled at Bankura School-danga. Rai Bahadur Hemanta Kumar C. I. E. Retired Deputy Director General Post and Telegraph. Settled in Dacca, his native district. Rai Bahadur Sarat Kumar Commiseioner of Excise. Settled at Baliguug Calcutta.

Ashutosh Pal of Hooghly, retired Small Cause Court Judge, Sealdah ; Suprapara.

Bhringeshwar Srimani, Attorney of good repute. Land holder, Fr. Chandernagore. Settled in Calcutta, Raja Dinendranarain Street. Brother Dr. Jogeswar—Extencive practice at Chandernagore.

Dr Romesh Chandra Sircar. Public man at Natore.

Sarat Chandra Chakrabarti B. L. Son of the Govt Pleader, Faridpur. Sarat is maternal cousin of friend K. C. Roy C. I. E. of the Associated Press.

Gopal Gobinda Ray, Zeminder, Pubna (Deaf)
 Pramatha Nath Coal Marchant Birbhum. (Lame)
 Jogendra Nath Sinha. Licence officer Calcutta Corporation Jitendranath Bose, (Dead) High Court
 Hiralal Mukherji, Vakil. (Dead) Brother a Doctor.
 Sons of Govt. Pleader, Rangpur. Sailaja Chatterji, son of Govt pleader, Mozaffarpur, now a school master there ; cousin Roma—Looks after the Zemindary.

Bhujendra Nath Mallik, an agnate of the Palchoudhris of Ranaghat

Indubhusan Banerji B. L. son of (Ramgoti Nayaratna Headmaster Hooghly Normal School Author) practising somewhere in Ranchi, Native of Anulia, Ranaghat.

Girindra Nath Banerji Pleader Hooghly.

Rai Saheb Tarini Bhattacharji of Bhatpara Retired Head Asst, P. W. D. Bengal.

Bibhutibhusan Pal of the rich Chetlongi family of Krishnagar.

Jogendra Nath Moitra, Advocate, Durbhanga.

He has just been engaged in a riot Case in the interior of the district of Mozafferpore for 2 years on Rs 2000/- a month plus Rs 225/- for board, lodging

and Travelling expenses. I had lately met him on my way from Chapra, when he could name only Jadu Nath Sircar and Kristo Chandra Bhattacharji as fellow boarders, and Mr. K. C. Ray as Asst. Superintendent, adding that he could not remember anything more as he had left the hostel over 40 years ago.
January 24, 1931.

Royal Societies Club
St. James's Street, S. W. I.
July 16, 1924.

My dear Kunja Babu,

Your most kind letter has given me very great pleasure. It is very gratifying to me that you remember my stay at the Eden Hindu Hostel under your guardianship. I am deeply touched by your kind wishes and congratulations. It will be always my endeavour to deserve the kindness and esteem of my friends, and to serve my country to the best of my ability.

Yes the news of the death of Sir Ashutosh Mukherji was a great shock. Bengal could ill spare him.

I hope you are in excellent health and will long continue to take an interest in the welfare of all who had been under you.

With kindest regards,
yours sincerely,
Atul Chandra Chatterji.

Punstall Hall.

Nainital, dated the 1st May 1919.

Dear Mr Basu,

It was extremely kind of you to write to me and I appreciate very highly your kind wishes. I well remember the time I was at the Eden Hindu Hostel under your guardianship.

My younger brother is now a District medical officer on the G. I. P. Railway.

Yours sincerely,

A. C. Chatterji.

Some outside non—Hostel friends and well wishers.

Bhowanipore,

21st. September 1902,

My dear Kuuja Baboo,

I have much pleasure in introducing to you my friend Baboo Bhubhon Mohon Ghose in whose welfare I am much interested. His book has been approved by the Central text Book Committee, and the only favour he wants is to have it included in the list for English Schools. The matter is in your hands, and I hope you will help him.

Yours Sincerely,

Ashutosh Mookerjee.

77 Russa Road North

Bhowanipore

The 21st February, 1905.

My dear Kunja Baboo,

The wedding of my daughter is fixed for Monday

next, I shall be greatly obliged if you will kindly come down and join me on the occasion.

Yours Sincerely,
Asutosh Mookerjee.

N. B. Not only did I respond to the call, but the entire staff of the Hindu family Annuity Fund (Prankristo Bose, Khetra Mohan De &c) of which he was the Chairman, had Joined me and a rich man of Chorebagan had followed us in sympathy with the movement having a girl widow in his family.

Hostel

17 Roshanara Mansions
Subzimundi, Delhi
February 5, 1927

My dear sir,

Mr K. C. Ray is a member of the Assembly, and I meet him daily. A daughter has been born to him and he is well and happy. My son is reading in the Presidency College and will appear at the F. A. in March.

Affectionately yours
Amarnath Datta.

Hazaribagh
11. 7. 27.

Yes I had to retire from service before my time owing to ill health. Kalipada Ray (of the E. H.)

lives in front of my house. He will shortly reply to your letter,

Retired Civil Surgeon
Gaya.

With kind regards
yours affectionately
Sures Chandra Mitra.

From Boarder friend Joges Chandra Datta

P. A. to the Commissioner, Patna.

Gaya, March 24, 1929

My dear Sir,

Your kind letter was as much a pleasure as a surprise to me. I find that I still occupy a soft spot in your big heart. For this I am grateful to you beyond measure.

Of my 2 sons, one is a B. L. and the other has just finished his apprenticeship with Messrs Gillanders Arbuthnot Co. He is trying for an appointment in the Customs Department.

Yours respectfully
J. C. Dutta.

Hostel friend Jogendra nath Banerji, Retired head godown keeper, E. B. Railiway, Sealdah.

From Rai Bahadur, Bhupendra nath Mukherji
(was in the Eden Hostel, and S. D. O. Baraset)
29 Kasundia Road. Howrah

8-6-27

I always received paternal care and affection at your hands from my boyhood. I shall come to see you on Sunday next direct in my motor car.

Rai Bahadur Bhuban Mohan Chatterji (E. H.)
Writes from Sambalpur of which he was Dy.
Commissioner.

July 10, 1921

Sambalpur is second only to Ranchi in climate and is even better than Ranchi in scenery. I am living in the upper circuit House, the best place in the town with the Mahanadi and the whole town in front and the hill range around. Fine quality of rice is available here. Big forests abound in this district and big games too. People come here from distant places for shoot.

Eden Hostel boarder Ambika Charan Ukil originator of Co-operative business among fellow countrymen was well versed in that line. By persuasion and arguments, he succeeded in floating 10 rupee shares for a cloth shop which is now run by some of his friends. At times he worked as a cooly in far off Railway stations to support himself. He was the founder of the Ukil's School at Dacca. He died a premature death,

Boarder Ambika Charan Dutta. Was S. D. O. Basirhat, Diamond Harbour and Sealdah. Latterly Magistrate of Pubna. Was first in the Agricultural Examination.

Eden Hostel friends from Purulia :—

Ambujakhya Sircar, Pleader. Father too was a pleader and left some property. He was manager of

the Chhotanagpur Carrying Company from whom I had purchased the Company's premises on the opening of the Ranchi Railway.

Kashipati Chakrabarti, Pleader died by drowning while accompanying a bride groom's party by train.

From Rai Bahadur Satyaprasanna Ghose,
Public Prosecutor, Dacca. Father—Rai Bahadur
Kalliprassanna Ghose was a regular Contributor
to Bangadarsan of Bankim Chandra Cheatterje

Bandhab kuti

Dacca. 3. 3. 31

I am grateful to you for your kind wishes and inquiries. It was really a providential escape for me. If the missile that was hurled on me could strike my head, I would have been finished then and there. The case against the assailant is still proceeding, and sufficient precautions are being taken against the recurrence of the attack. The culprit has already been transported for life in another case in which I had conducted the prosecution Hence his grudge against me. Your letter reminds me vividly of the pleasant days that I passed in the Eden Hindu Hostel 40 years ago under the kind and affectionate treatment that I then received from you.

19 December 1923

Rumleigh Bere Aston

Devon.

My dear Kunja Bihari,

From your letter of the 5th September, which I

am sorry has remained so long unanswered, I was glad to hear that you continue in fairly good health, also that your family are doing well both physically and mentally.

I can give you a fairly good account of myself, though I have been on and off under the doctor's care for the last 2 or 3 months, but there is nothing serious the matter with me except old age and all my friends tell me that I do not look as old as I am, namely 83 within a month or two. My Secretary thanks you warmly for all your good wishes, and thinks you will be glad to learn that a grateful Government awarded her the Red cross war service medal, for her nursing work.

My nephew in the Imperial Bank, has been for some time past in charge of the Delhi Branch whence I expect he will come home on leave next year, Probably, his retirement will soon follow, as he has completed the full term of service, and it is very doubtful whether he will be transferred to Calcutta. So that I am afraid he will not have much chance of making the acquaintance of you, or any members of your family.

We have had a very wet and dreary Summer, and autumn, but today there is bright sunshine much as we used to welcome in the December days in Calcutta. In spite of the weather the garden and its bright flowers have been a continued joy to me, throughout the year, and I hope to renew the pleasure next spring and summer.

With very kind regards from my secretary and with my hearty good wishes for the New year, believe me my dear Kunja, your sincere friend.

Winnefred, C.

C. A. Croft

From Rai Saheb Surendra Nath Ghose M. A.
Brother of Mr. N. N. Ghose, Author of
England's Work In India.
76 Cornwallis Street
Calcutta 25-10-1930.

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter and I received your blessings with bowed head.

I am in poor health and for some months past I have been practically bed-ridden.

I often think of the past, and the memory of the paternal kindness with which you always treated me while employed in the Director's office is an abiding solace.

You have enquired about my sons. My eldest son is a medical practitioner in Calcutta. I believe he takes an interest in his patients, a human interest, apart from the question of fees, but of course the earliest work in a profession constitutes a period of strenuous uphill struggle.

My second son has the certificate of an electrical Engineer. He is employed in the Kharagpur Workshop of the B. N. Railway.

My youngest son is still at College preparing for the M. A. and Law examinations

with best regards,
I am,
yours affectionately
Surendra Nath Ghose.

[The writer is a millionaire as a Coal-mine owner in Jharia. hailing from his native Villag Jagulia—Barasat. He now lives at No 32 Judge Court Road, Alipore, Sir Rasbehari Ghose's residence, which he has purchasdd. The trend of his letter is typical of the thoughts of our old men who live on the reminiscences of the past not over his buyoant youth as with eyes to the future, One of his sons had gone to England to study Mining Engineering, and has come back with a first class certificate. The Colliery is now being managed by him. K. B.]

Kanta Road, Gonder Hills
Ranchi

December 17, 1930.

প্রিয় কুঞ্জ বাবু,

আপনার বিজয়ার সম্ভাষণ চিঠি পেয়ে খুবই আনন্দিত হইলাম।
আমার কোলাকুলি ও সম্ভাষণ গ্রহণ করুন।

আমার একপুত্রের Appendicitis operation পর স্বাস্থ্যের জন্ম এখানে দেড় মাস থাকিব। সমবয়স্ক মানুষ সব চলে গেছে, এই অবস্থায় সমবয়স্ক কোন বন্ধুর চিঠি পাইলে কত কথা মনে আসে। আপনার সঙ্গে বিরেশ্বর মিত্র মহাশয়ের বাসায় (Mitra Institution Boarding) কতদিন কত রকমের আলোচনায় সময় কাটাইয়াছি তাহা এখন স্মৃতির কক্ষে রয়ে গেছে। থাক ওসব কথা। এবার যখন বাড়ী ফিরিবেন খবর যেন পাই, নিশ্চয়ই আপনায় বাড়িতে দেখা করিব। শরীর ও মন এখন কি রকম? আমার একরূপ চল্ছে।

ভবদীয়—শ্রীবিপিণ বিহারী বসু।