

cripts of the British Museum, London, he took two year's furlough from November 1881, and sailed for England. He carried on his investigations in England, and in this undertaking his great helpers were Prof. Cecil Bendall, the Keeper of Oriental Books in the British Museum, Mr. Nicholson, the Bodleian Librarian at Oxford, and Dr. Reinhold Rost, the learned Librarian of the India Office. After collecting sufficient materials Borooah returned to India in October 1883.

In 1885, Borooah was appointed Fellow of the Calcutta University, and was attached to the Faculty of Arts. Two years after he was placed for the second time in charge of the Noakhali District in Bengal; and there by his learning, benevolence, sympathetic treatment of the people, and various acts of public utility Borooah won the heart of the people. Schools and markets were established in Borooah's name, and tanks were dug in the interior parts of Bengal and named after him. The learned *Burra Saheb* of Noakhali used to place at his gate always a man with a few baskets of rice, and any beggar would have his share at any hour of the day. When Borooah went out to the *Mofussil* he had with him an additional cart loaded with provisions and food which he distributed among the needy folks as they clustered round to catch a glimpse of the Indian magistrate. All these sound romantic and legendary, but it was for this reason that Borooah's name had spread an irresistible charm over the hearts of the people of Bengal. Borooah helped many poor students with books and money, and educated a meritorious Bengali student even in England. He had a staff of erudite Sanskrit *Pundits* whom he paid handsomely. This learned *congerie* of orthodox *Pundits* helped Borooah in the mechanical portions of his literary endeavours. As an official too, he won the trust and confidence of the Government.

In the winter of 1888 Borooah became ill. A sudden attack of paralysis, aggravated by an ill-advised sea-bath, disabled him, and he took leave for three months. He went to Calcutta, lived at the Ballygunge residence of his old friend, Sir Taraknath Palit, and placed himself under treatment of the best allopathic, homeopathic, and *Ayurvedic* physicians of the day. But even their united efforts failed to cure that fell disease. Borooah passed away in the afternoon of the 19th January, 1889.

*Literary Works:* Borooah's literary career spread over a period of twelve years only; and considering the shortness of the period, the character of his productions, both in their qualitative and quantitative aspects was simply marvellous. His *English-Sanskrit Dictionary* appeared in three volumes between 1877 and 1880, and for many years it was the only work of its kind written by an Indian. On the completion of this *magnum opus*, Borooah was congratulated from all quarters, including among them the illustrious names of Lord Northbrooke, Governor-General of India, and Prof. F. Max Muller. To the second and third volumes of his Dictionary, Borooah prefixed two other original and useful works, viz., his *Higher Sanskrit Grammar* and *Ancient Geography of India*.

This was followed by an edition of Bhavabhuti's *Mahaviracharitam* with Borooah's lucid commentary in Sanskrit called *Janakiramabhasya*, after his beloved brother Janakiram Borooah. Borooah's next literary ventures were, first, a critical dissertation, named *Bhavabhuti and his place in Sanskrit literature*, which contained an exhaustive treatment of the *Ramatic* drama, besides Bhabhuti and his age; and secondly, *A Companion to the Sanskrit-reading under-graduates of the Calcutta University*, being a few notes on the Sanskrit texts selected for the F.A. and B.A. Examinations. Small though in bulk, the latter books are an important contribution to Sanskrit scholarship. Borooah's comments were suggestive rather than detailed.

The next literary enterprise of Borooah was, to quote Mr. R. C. Dutt's words, "a Sanskrit grammar of formidable size and erudition." In 1881, Borooah projected the compilation of *A Comprehensive Grammar of the Sanskrit Language: Critical, Analytical and Historical*, in twelve volumes