

shared in due course by my own Assamese fellow countrymen who form an essential factor of the greater Indian brotherhood.”

Borooah's passionate devotion to the cause of Sanskrit learning displaced all other ties from his mind. He was extremely reserved and uncommunicative, and did not like to court ephemeral glory and reputation by playing to the gallery, or by making speeches at the slightest provocation. As a silent and unpretentious worker, who maintained the lofty tenure of his mind and the steadfastness of his purpose in the midst of the career, Borooah occupies a place of honour in the rank of the selfless servants of India. What he could do had he not died at the age of thirty-nine reminds us of the measureless potentialities of the glorious “might-have-beens” of the world of which Borooah is a remarkable example.

Here we cannot resist the temptation of quoting the beautiful words of Borooah's great contemporary, Bolinarayan Borah—one of the pioneer Indian Civil Engineers from Cooper's Hill, England,—“Sri Borooah's singleness of purpose was his great characteristic. The industry and application which it demanded made him lead a too sedentary life. He sought little recreation, relief, change and variety. He burnt his candle at both ends, had naturally to pay the inevitable penalty. His life was a meteoric flash and blaze, which burnt up the substance in its lightning course, dazzling mankind for a moment and disappearing for ever from view.”