

See India

With Me

JANE A. TRACY

SEE INDIA WITH ME

By

Jane A. Tracy



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DEDICATED TO
PROFESSOR ALBERT E. BAILEY
WHO SO INTELLIGENTLY CONDUCTED MY
SMALL PARTY THROUGH INDIA THAT I AM
ABLE TO PRESENT THIS BOOK
TO THE PUBLIC.

THE AUTHOR.

Preface

WITH the war-racked world still unsettled and unhappy, few, if any, tourists have planned a visit to India for any length of time for pleasure, so this account of my trip may be as interesting as though a number of years had not passed since the tour was taken.

My party of four traveled ten thousand miles throughout India in a private railway car. This was novel indeed, but a success from start to finish, for we became acquainted with India in a way few tourists have opportunity and, at the same time, lived under sanitary conditions, in comfort, in a home on wheels—which impressed not only the railroad companies from whom we secured the cars, but many people whom it was our pleasure to meet in places visited. When we sought opportunities to return courtesies, one request was, "Let us dine with you on your car that we may see how you live." Sixteen guests was the limit at any one time, and rarely did we dine alone, thus making our evenings delightful with merriment and jest. During the five months passed in India we were guests at only five hotels: in Bombay, Calcutta, Simla, Darjeeling, and Madras.

Sincere appreciation is here expressed for the kindness shown us by the many Station Masters. Often the car would remain several days in some stations, a week or more in others. These gentlemen were untiring in

PREFACE

their effort that all sanitary laws should be complied with and our creature comforts well looked after. Every window and door was screened and curtained, tanks kept filled, and electric light bulbs frequently renewed. From eleven to three o'clock each day the car was run into the station to avoid the heat, and later placed outside in the quiet of the train yard for the night.

A general letter from the railroad officials was given us to present to each Station Master on arrival, but this was unnecessary for they were always on the platform as the car rolled into the station, with a warm welcome and a desire to further our interests. Notice of the day and hour of departure must be placed in their hands twenty-four hours before. Only one or two trains were not at our disposal. Our manner of living was under our personal supervision, and during the months lived on the car there was no illness or accident.

My memories of India are delightful and I trust those who read my story may be impressed that travel in India, or any other country where living conditions seem impossible, may be free from many difficulties if gratuitous advice is accepted.

When stating facts regarding India, I have quoted from well-known writers: Fergusson, Sarstacht, Von Olrich, Colonel Cunningham, Dr. Burnell, and others.

JANE A. TRACY.

Contents

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. Off for India	1
II. Bombay	11
III. Our First Car	21
IV. Ajmer	38
V. Udaipur	43
VI. Chitorgarh and the Deserted City of Chitor	48
VII. Nearing the Vale of Kashmir	53
VIII. Life on the House-Boat	60
IX. Srinagar	71
X. Up the River	80
XI. Peshawar and the Kyber Pass	90
XII. Lahore	98
XIII. Amritsar	107
XIV. Simla	112
XV. Delhi	115
XVI. Delhi (Continued)	126
XVII. Agra	137
XVIII. Agra (Continued)	145
XIX. The Pink City	157
XX. The Old Gawlior Fort	163
XXI. Cawnpore and Lucknow	166
XXII. Allahabad	170
XXIII. Benares	178
XXIV. Calcutta	192
XXV. Across India	202
XXVI. Madras	212
XXVII. Ceylon	228

Illustrations

	<i>Facing Page</i>
Houseboat on the Jhellum	60
Our Home on Wheels in India	90
Where Stood the Peacock Throne	130
Tomb of I-Timad-Ud-Daula	142
Bathing Ghats and Monkey Paradise at Jaipur	158
The Elephant Which Took Us to the Deserted City Amber	238