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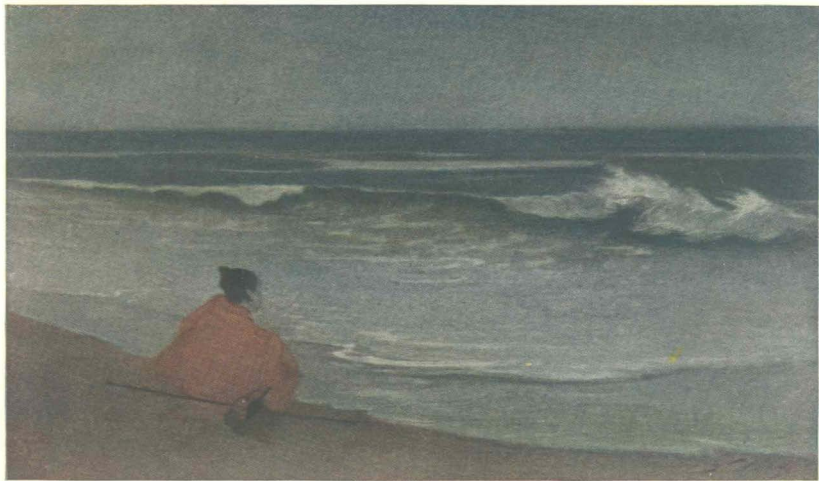
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1915

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THE FOOTFALLS

We hear them, O Mother !
Thy footfalls,
Soft, soft, through the ages
Touching earth here and there,
And the lotuses left on Thy footprints
Are cities historic,
Ancient scriptures and poems and temples,
Noble strivings, stern struggles for Right.

Where lead they, O Mother !
Thy footfalls ?
O grant us to drink of their meaning !
Grant us the vision that blindeth
The thought that for man is too high.
Where lead they, O Mother !
Thy footfalls ?

Approach Thou, O Mother, Deliverer !
Thy children, Thy nurslings are we !
On our hearts be the place for Thy stepping,
Thine own, Bhumi Devi, are we.
Where lead they, O Mother !
Thy footfalls ?

CONTENTS

	PAGE
THE HISTORY OF MAN AS DETERMINED BY PLACE	1
THE HISTORY OF INDIA AND ITS STUDY . . .	6
THE CITIES OF BUDDHISM	26
RAJGIR: AN ANCIENT BABYLON	37
BEHAR	53
THE ANCIENT ABBEY OF AJANTA	60
THE CHINESE PILGRIM	138
THE RELATION BETWEEN BUDDHISM AND HIN- DUISM	152
ELEPHANTA—THE SYNTHESIS OF HINDUISM . . .	164
SOME PROBLEMS OF INDIAN RESEARCH . . .	175
THE FINAL RECENSION OF THE MAHABHARATA .	189
THE RISE OF VAISHNAVISM UNDER THE GUPTAS .	204
THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NORTHERN PILGRIMAGE	215
THE OLD BRAHMANICAL LEARNING	227
THE CITY IN CLASSICAL EUROPE: A VISIT TO POMPEII	247
A STUDY OF BENARES	257

ILLUSTRATIONS

COLOURED PLATES

THE PILGRIM	<i>Frontispiece</i>
From Water-colour by GAGANENDRA NATH TAGORE	
	FACING PAGE
BUDDHA AND THE LAME KID	41
From Water-colour by NANDA LAL BOSE.	
THE BIRTH OF BUDDHA	80
From Water-colour by ABANINDRA NATH TAGORE	
MOTHER AND CHILD	132
From Drawing by NANDA LAL BOSE of the Fresco painting at Ajanta	
BUDDHA ON THE THRESHOLD OF RENUNCIATION .	136
From Drawing by NANDA LAL BOSE of the Fresco painting at Ajanta	
WORSHIP	275
From Water-colour by NANDA LAL BOSE	

PLATES

GENERAL VIEW OF AJANTA CAVES	60
AJANTA: FRONT OF CAVE NINETEEN	62
AJANTA: INTERIOR OF CAVE NINETEEN	67
AJANTA: SCULPTURE IN CAVE TWENTY	71
THE FIRST SERMON AT BENARES	84

I FOOTFALLS OF INDIAN HISTORY

	FACING PAGE
SARNATH BUDDHA	87
FRESCO PAINTING AT AJANTA	90
Photo by Messrs. JOHNSTON AND HOFFMANN	
FRESCO DESIGNS OF AJANTA	93
Photo by Messrs. JOHNSTON AND HOFFMANN	
COMPARTMENT FROM THE THIRD ARCHWAY OF THE EAST GATEWAY AT SANCHI	95
CAVE AT KARLI	96
Photo by Messrs. JOHNSTON AND HOFFMANN	
BUDDHA'S LOTUS THRONE SUPPORTED BY NĀGAS (KENHERI CAVES)	99
OLD INDIAN CLAY SEAL FROM BODH-GAYĀ	100
RELIEF FROM MUHAMMAD NARI, IN YUSUFZAI	115
GAUTAMA ON THE PADMĀSANA	117
FROM LORITAN TANGAI	
OLD NEPAL STONE FIGURE OF GAUTAMA BUDDHA	118
BUDDHA VISITED BY SAKRA AT THE INDRASAILA	120
AJANTA: PILLARS OF CAVE NUMBER SIXTEEN	127
AJANTA: VERANDA OF CAVE NUMBER SEVENTEEN	128
AJANTA: INTERIOR OF CAVE NUMBER TWENTY-SIX	130
CAVES OF ELEPHANTA	164
Photo by Messrs. JOHNSTON AND HOFFMANN	
BENARES	158
Photo by Messrs. JOHNSTON AND HOFFMANN	
THE GHĀTS, BENARES	269
Photo by Messrs. JOHNSTON AND HOFFMANN	