Dr. E. W. LEITNER
Principal (1864–1886)
CHAPTER I.

(The Principalship of Dr. Leitner, 1864-1875.)

1864-1865.

The College was opened on January 1st, 1864, under the sanction given by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, to the establishment provided for it in the budget of 1863. Its establishment was confirmed by the Supreme Government on April 15th, 1864, and later on in the same year the institution was affiliated to the Calcutta University for Examination in Arts. Alongside of the establishment of the College, Dr. G. W. Leitner of the Freiburg University, who was then Professor of Arabic and Mohammedan Law at King's College, London, was nominated as Principal, and Professor W. H. Crank, who had been a Principal of the La Martinière College, Lucknow, and was then studying at University College, London, was appointed to the chair of Mathematics. As it was foreseen that Dr. Leitner could not assume his charge till late in the year, Mr. C. W. Alexander, B.A. of Trinity College, Cambridge, was provisionally appointed to the post. Mr. Crank was the first to arrive, and landed in the last week of February. As Mr. Alexander was overworked by his twofold duties as Inspector and Principal, he was relieved of the latter by Mr. Crank, Professor of Mathematics. Mr. Crank continued officiating till the arrival of Dr. Leitner, in November of the same year.
The College was temporarily situated along with the zilla school in a portion of Raja Dhyuan Singh's Haveli. A couple of rooms on the first floor consisted of the Boarding-House. The only consolation for the College being held in that house was that the meagre staff of the College was very occasionally helped by the school teachers, especially by the Headmaster, Mr. Beddy, whose praises Dr. Leitner very loudly sings in his first few reports.

The first College class consisted of 9 students, all Matriculated from the Calcutta University, two of whom left after a very short time.

Almost all the students of the College received scholarships from the very beginning, though regular funds were not available till the second or third year of the life of the College. These stipends were of the value of Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 per head, during the year 1864, and out of this stipend Rs. 2 were deducted for tuition fee. At the end of the year, however, it was felt that the sum was not a sufficient inducement to keep the students away from many lucrative posts under Government, which were then to be easily secured by the Matriculates, so the rate was increased to Rs. 16 and Rs. 20 per mensem. But these scholarships, which hardly deserve the name, were not granted without the Government taking their full worth in return. The scholars were required to teach for three hours daily, in one or other of the local branch schools. The first examination for which the College sent up candidates, was the F.A. of the Calcutta University in 1865. For this, lectures were delivered in English, History, Philosophy, Mathematics and Arabic. The chair of Arabic was created by the Director of Public Instruction, and Mr. Alumdar Hussain was appointed to it. Dr. Leitner, in his first report, much appreciates the ability,
zeal and character of the said Moulvi. Early in 1865 Dr. Leitner established a Debating and Essay Society in the College, and a Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge for the local gentry. His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor very much appreciated the usefulness of both these institutions. Mr. T. H. Thornton, Secretary to the Punjab Government, remarks "The formation by Dr. Leitner of a 'Society for Diffusion of Useful Knowledge' with a view to encouraging knowledge for its own sake, is worthy of commendation, and the Societies for Debating and Essay-writing set on foot among the students will doubtless lead to improvement in English composition and conversation, a matter greatly to be desired in Government educational institutions."

The curriculum of the Calcutta University was one which entirely depended upon cram work, to which Dr. Leitner was mortally opposed. From the very beginning up till late in 1868, Dr. Leitner carried an incessant crusade against the system of cram and paraphrase, and, as we shall see later on, succeeded in persuading the authorities to substitute translation into Vernacular and Essay-writing for his candidates. In the meanwhile he taught the subjects half-heartedly, and this, combined with other circumstances, resulted in a steady fall of numbers. In his report of year 1865-1866, Dr. Leitner much regrets the apparent failure of the College, and ascribes the decrease in the number to the following:

1. Want of enthusiasm for higher education.
2. Indefiniteness of Government support.
3. Unattractive nature of the subjects taught.

From a note in the report made by the Director of Public Instruction, it would appear that the students on their side, were dissatisfied with the instruction given in the College. This is not surprising when we consider
the size of the staff and the number of hours of tuition. The three College Classes had *ninety hours* tuition a week given by a staff of three! Dr. Leitner remarks: "More than thirty hours a week no man can teach with anything like interest in his work," and a modern generation would be inclined to repeat this statement in a still more emphatic form. There was still much connection between the zilla school and the College, and the head-master of the former, Mr. Beddy, assisted in the teaching at the latter. At the end of the academical year 1865-1866, the College consisted of 16 students, one of them, Sanjhi Mull, to whom we shall have occasion to refer later on, continuing to monopolise the Mathematical Honours of the Department.

1866-67.

During the greater part of the next year, Dr. Leitner was absent upon a philological enquiry, on the northern border of Kashmir. During his absence Professor Jardine of the Delhi College officiated and earned the cordial appreciation of the Director. It would appear from the latter's report that the relations between Dr. Leitner and himself were not as cordial as they might have been, and he speaks of the "deficiencies in the classes" which Professor Jardine endeavoured to remedy during his brief administration. The number of students still remained at 12, and the Principal's report deplores the lack of an adequate number of scholarships. Students were leaving and "grasping at Rs. 30 a month" in spite of warning. The standard of scholarship was not yet very high, five out of the six candidates failing in the F.A. Examination. During this year there was an unsuccessful attempt to start a Law Class. Athletics were beginning to play their part in College life, and football was played throughout the winter "with wonderful
energy and spirit,” and there were cricket tours to Amritsar. Another development was the settling the rules for “leave”, always a difficult matter, upon a more strict and definite basis.

1867-1868.

During the next year came a change of Directors. Major Fuller, under whose rule the College had hitherto been, was “swept away by a sudden rush of water on the road between Murree and Rawal Pindi.” His place was filled by Captain (afterwards Colonel) W. R. M. Holroyd, who was destined to hold the office for many years. The very full report which Dr. Leitner submitted in this year, and the comments upon it by the Director, seem to argue that a more cordial relationship was now likely to exist. Although during this year the numbers in the College had fallen to eight the year was one of great activity. First of all the College produced a graduate, L. Sanjhi Mull, who successfully passed his B.A. Examination in this year. The Government “with a wisdom which will do much to stimulate students to continue their studies for their Degrees,” to quote from the Principal’s report, soon afterwards appointed him a Tahsildar in the Delhi district. He is still happily with us (1914) full of years and honours, a retired District Judge and a Rai Sahib. Our oldest graduate has contributed to this work a few memories of his student days, of which we publish a selection. He began by passing the Calcutta Entrance Examination in 1862, and his success was accompanied by, to quote his own words, “a wonderful event, which I am sorry to mention. Our Headmaster, Mr. Beddy (Headmaster of the zilla school, Editor) who was a very able and nice man failed in the said Examination only in the subject of the History of India.”

There is no record of his subsequent success but we
can only hope he had better luck next time. Dr. Leitner is described by his old pupil as a "thorough gentle-
man of very great linguistic knowledge." Professor Crank, the Professor of Mathematics, is characterized as a "cheerful and jolly old man." But we must not omit the remarkable story, nay rather tragedy, of the "Director, the Professor and the Mathematical Problem." We will let the Rai Sahib tell the story in his own words.

"A painful event happened in the year 1867, for which I feel very sorry even now, viz., some Mathematical questions of difficult nature were sent by the Director of Public Instruction to Professor Crank for solution. The Professor ordered me to solve them, and I did so, and he having examined all my answers but the last one, and thinking that the last one might also be right, sent the answers to the Director, who got them published in his own name; but unfortunately the last solution of mine was wrong, and for this reason the Director was severely commented upon by some English papers. The result was that the Director became angry with the Professor to whom he wrote to say that he (the Director) would come to the College to-morrow and see how the Professor had solved the last answer. That very day the Professor came to the College with his face pale and sorrowful in appearance. "What is the matter, Sir, that you appear so sad?" said I, "the Director is angry with me for the wrong solution, he might remove me from here" was his reply, and then he explained everything to me. I again tried to solve the last problem and my answer came out right. The Professor was glad to see it, but he was thinking how to answer the Director. "Dear Sir, put the blame on my head and thus you will be safe," said I. "No, I cannot do so lest you may lose your stipend" (he drew a small salary as a College monitor.—Editor) was his answer. At this very moment the
Director came in and asked the Professor to solve the problem, but the latter being a very nervous old man remained stunned. I at once stood up and solved the problem rightly and said “it was I whose answer was wrong, and thus I am alone blamable and not the Professor, who has now solved it right. I now ask your pardon.” The Director smiled, and having said “Take care in future,” went away.

The year is also noteworthy for the fact that Dr. Leitner succeeded in emancipating the College from “some of the most obnoxious Calcutta rules,” against which he had fought so long. This primarily involved the substitution of Translation from and into English and Précis and Essay writing for the existing system of Paraphrasing, described by him as “an abuse of synonyms confusing to the minds of those who uttered them and a general reproach on our Education.” The appointment of a Professor of Natural Science is also suggested during the year. In reviewing the success of the year, Dr. Leitner refers to the Director’s support of the “Lahore University Movement,” which shows that even thus early the need of a separate University was being recognised. The smallness of the number of students retained on the rolls is explained by “the exceptional openings, at Lahore, for employment.” Athletics appear to have flourished, and there was a Sports Meeting in the Lawrence Gardens, in which several institutions took part. It differed little from a meeting of to-day, except that the “Standing” Long and High Jumps were included.

1868-1869.

The next two years in the life of the College are characterised by the first great influx of students since the day of its establishment. The number of under-
graduates was more than quadrupled in 1869 and increased to sixfold in the next year. It seems that the strenuous efforts and incessant hard labour of Dr. Leitner for the last five years in the cause of the College and popular education in general, began at last to bear fruit. But more can be ascribed to the cordial relations between the Principal and the authorities that now came to be established, as we have pointed out elsewhere. Heretofore Dr. Leitner and the authorities had viewed the education in the Punjab from precisely different points of view.

Dr. Leitner with his clear-sightedness and touch of orientalism, was in closer sympathy with the people of the Punjab, and understood the pros and cons of the means that could really succeed in making Western education popular in the Punjab. The authorities who were less acquainted with Indian minds and institutions, held the number on rolls and percentage of success in the Calcutta University Examinations as the only standard of the usefulness of the College. Their eye was ever attracted by glowing statistical tables, a matter of secondary importance to Dr. Leitner. He had always complained of lukewarm support from the Government, and absolute want of discretionary power in his hands. And he was right to some extent. It was admitted on all hands that the opening for an English-knowing youth in the Punjab, were great, and the temptations of lucrative appointments under the Punjab Government were such as could be hardly resisted, and yet stipends of Rs. 10, or Rs. 20, trifling in comparison with the cost of tuition and inspection, were refused to a majority of candidates who, without them, had no means of livelihood to enable them to stop at the College and prosecute their studies. Dr. Leitner in his report remarks, "The College was blamed when its students preferred practical work
and salary to the advantage of practising self-denial and filling our returns.” A little further he goes on “to supply educated or half educated men for an eager increasing and perhaps necessarily indiscriminating demand, may or may not be one of the main objects of the institution of a College in this Province, but it can be assumed with some reason that it is not always reconcilable to send men out of the College for the service of the State and the public, and yet at the same time to keep them at the College.”

These and other difficulties, trifling in their nature as they were, succeeded to a considerable extent, in the words of Professor Jardine “almost in the extinction of the College” during the last two years. But in the years under review measures were adopted by the Principal in conjunction with the authorities, which counteracted to a great extent the obstacles in our way, and resulted in the conspicuous progress that we have already remarked.

The students who had left the College, attracted by various posts, were beyond all hopes of retraction, but from a constant intercourse with Englishmen, they became fully alive to the importance of knowledge. And when Dr. Leitner, with the approval of the Director of Public Instruction, sent a circular to them inviting them to rejoin the College as casual students, a large number caught at the proposal and were admitted. “The alacrity which these casual students have shown to pay—and not to be paid—for an education they can appreciate” remarks Dr. Leitner, “will induce us to increase the appliances of the College, so as to meet all the higher educational requirements of the station and, indeed, of the Upper Punjab.”

Among this first casual class of Government servants are included the names of some of those who afterwards
distinguished themselves as brilliant Government officials. Out of these the most noteworthy is the name of Rai Bahadur P. Premnath who retired as a Deputy Examiner of Public Works Department, and North-Western Railway combined, an office never yet held by any other Indian official. The increases in the fees corresponding with that in numbers was naturally great. The total was Rs. 450 against Rs. 120 in 1868. Thus the Government allowed the College to appropriate the stipend fund of the College. Our first B.A., L. Sanjhi Mull, whom we have already mentioned, was appointed a Tahsildar and two seats in Durbars were conferred by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, on graduates in the Punjab. These were practically definite promises of lucrative and honourable appointments to those who might have the courage to struggle on till they had taken their degree, and stimulation to persevere in their studies to those who cared for "izzat," if not for lucrative appointments.

Study at College was further popularised by the energy and public spirit of Mr. Baden Powell, Judge of the Small Cause Court, Lahore, who, for some time, delivered law lectures gratuitously in connection with the College.

During the year, as a result of the increased stimulus noted above, the numbers of the College showed a marked increase, and reached a total of 27, besides a number of casual students. This year saw the departure of the Professor of Mathematics, Mr. Crank, whose health had been breaking down for some time, and who retired on pension. Dr. Leitner himself proceeded on leave, and Mr. Ellis of the Delhi College, reigned in his stead for a period of six months. In a valedictory address Dr. Leitner pays a warm tribute to the high character and patriotism of his students, and it is interesting to find him stating that "it was with some
difficulty that some of them were prevented from volunteering in almost any capacity for the Abyssinian Expedition.

1869-1870.

This year saw a new arrival in the person of Mr. T. W. Lindsay who succeeded Mr. Crank in the chair of Mathematics. The numbers had risen before the end of the year to 45, and ten students obtained Government scholarships. To the report of this year is attached an interesting table showing the posts obtained by students of the College. The posts were in various Government offices, and work out at an average of Rs. 81-8-0 per month, a high average, considering the value of the rupee at that time.

A great part of the report is taken up by a spirited dispute as to whether two students of the zilla school were fit for matriculation or not. Dr. Leitner thought they were, the Headmaster thought they were not, and the Headmaster carried the day. Dr. Leitner returned before the end of the year, full of energy, and ready to wage war upon the work done in his absence. Cricket in the College was apparently flourishing, as the College XI succeeded in securing the "prize belt," whatever that may have been.

1870-1871.

In this year the attendance at the College rose to 45, a higher figure than had been previously reached. An important change in higher education took place in the Punjab. Up to this time students of the College who desired to take a degree had to present themselves for the examination of the Calcutta University. But there were objections to this. The distance was great, the examination took a long time, and, further, the courses prescribed were not popular in the colleges of the Punjab.
A movement was therefore initiated for the establishment of a University in the Punjab, and the first step was the establishment, in 1870, of a Punjab University College, to which the existing colleges were to be affiliated. This was a step in the right direction, but its further development was checked, for the time, by the refusal of the Supreme Government, who considered the demand for education in the Province to be still too fluctuating and uncertain, to allow the College to confer degrees. It was at first merely empowered to grant certificates of merit, to grant scholarships and to expend money in strengthening the existing colleges. The result was unsatisfactory. The bulk of the teaching work of the new College fell on the already overworked staff of the Lahore College, and there arose a system of dual examinations, students presenting themselves for the examinations, both of the University College and of the Calcutta University. As the examinations were held at different times in the year and were quite different in character, college teaching was disorganized and efficiency suffered. We shall see from the reports of succeeding years how the various Principals felt the difficulty, until it was finally removed by the establishment, in 1882, of a University of the Punjab, with full power of conferring degrees. In the meantime for good or ill, the University College came into being, Dr. Leitner combining the function of Registrar of this College and Principal of the Lahore College.

In this year the College commenced the series of migrations which ended in its arrival on the present site. The old building in the city had long been found unsatisfactory, and in April 1871, the College removed to a large bungalow in Anarkali, part of which survives in the present Ice Factory. The following description of it is given by an old student of the day: “The Boarders
(27 of them) lived in the two rooms on the upper floor and in the out-houses. All the ground round about was a vast jungle overgrown with trees and containing a number of ponds (what about malaria? Editor). Here and there loafers roamed about playing on flutes.” This last must have been somewhat of an obstacle to successful lecturing. However, here they remained for some years, till another move was made.

1871-1872.

During this period the College was mainly under the control of Mr. C. Pearson, who was an Inspector of Schools and who exchanged appointments, for the time with Dr. Leitner. The number of the College in its new home remained the same as in the previous year—45. The whole of these students, with two exceptions, were scholarship-holders. The Government, Maharajah Dhillip Singh, and the Punjab University College were the donors of these, paying between them nearly Rs. 8,000 a year. With the establishment of the Punjab University College had come the recognition of the examinations of the latter body. But as the Punjab University College had as yet no power of conferring degrees, students who desired to graduate, had still to take the Calcutta University Examinations. The result was a double set of examinations during the year, which was found to be confusing and unsatisfactory. To quote Mr. Pearson’s report: “The present double standard of examination causes some waste of time and is hardly conducive to regular study in other respects.” And later he remarks: “The chief defect in our administration at the present time is a want of steady continuous work, owing to interruptions of various kinds, the unsettled state of our relations to the two Universities, and too frequent examinations.” Besides the Principal and Professor
Lindsay, the College also now had the services of Dr. Stulpnagel, who taught History and Philosophy. The Principal of the College still continued to discharge also the functions of Registrar of the University, and the dual office seems to have been extremely exacting. An old student of the period, Rai Bahadur Mul Raj, thus describes Mr. Pearson: "A great disciplinarian, punctual " in his habits, yet kind-hearted. He once gave a "student the cost of new clothes and other necessaries " from his own pocket, when his goods were stolen from " the College," Mr. Pearson further " introduced the spirit " of regularity in the students whose habits were apt to " grow lax under the awful yet fickle temperament of " Dr. Leitner." During Mr. Pearson's régime, gymnastics were introduced into the College, and in the same year we hear of the appointment of the first Boarding-House Superintendent. It was at this time also that two important institutions of the College were introduced. The Debating Club and the system of House Examinations, both held weekly. What the modern generation would say to the latter is doubtful. Let us quote the same old student once more, as to the methods of teaching in those days. "Principal Pearson asked the "students to bring translations from the Vernacular, " daily, and corrected the exercise books of all the students. "He also invited the students to his house and gave them " extra lessons."

1872-1873.

Dr. Leitner returned to the College in this year, but his health broke down and he was obliged to go on leave. His place was taken by Mr. Lindsay, who found, as Mr. Pearson had done, that the dual system of examinations conducted by two University bodies was an intolerable nuisance. There was little or no alteration in the
numbers of the College, but in the year its location was once more changed. The old house was given up and a new one called Rahim Khan's kothi on the site of the present Veterinary College, was leased, "an arrangement attended with some inconvenience which renders the speedy erection of suitable college buildings highly desirable." The boarders at first lived in out-houses, but subsequently a small house, in Bansmandi, known as Chota Lal's kothi, was hired for them. The students living in this house were under little or no control. Hence they occasionally managed to get into mischief, as the following incidents will show:

Early in winter of this year a barat or marriage party put up in the vicinity of the Boarding House. The kothi was naturally the biggest house in the vicinity and the baratis asked the students for a loan of their hall for a dance in the evening. The boys, who were practically a republic without a president, promptly agreed to such a wholesome proposal. In the evening when the guests had all assembled and the dance was just commenced, a row broke out between the students and the baratis about seats. The students, who thought themselves the lords of the place, desired to occupy the first seats, and the guests, who probably did not fully realise their indebtedness to the students, could not tolerate this. In short, the dispute ended in blows, and because blows can be given with a greater confidence by those who are in the eye of justice and law defending "their own hearths" than those who are aggressors, the guests received a sound hammering and went away crying and aiming volleys of vociferous oaths at the boys from a distance. The boys were not quite sure how the baratis proposed to proceed, but the probability was that they would go to the nearest Police Station and report the incident. This would result, not only in
their being *chulued* before a Magistrate, but would help a great deal in their speedy expulsion from the hostel, where they had entertained a marriage party without the Principal's permission. This was too much for the students of those days, and some cunning brain, as there are always cunning brains amongst every class of men, suggested a very feasible plan. According to this, the panes of all the doors were broken and the doors were hammered by clubs and feet, so as to give them an appearance of having been fearfully and forcibly knocked in. This having been completed in a clever manner, some of the boys at once proceeded to the house of Dr. Leitner. The Doctor was open to visits from his boys at any time of day and night. He heard their sad story and forthwith wrote a letter to the Superintendent of Police narrating the incident. Nothing very unpleasant, however, came out of it as a reconciliation came about between the marriage party and the boys.

An equally interesting story about this time is mentioned by an old boy, which shows that the spirit of harmless practical jokes was then as common in the students of this College as it is to-day. The story relates that there was one Lala Pera Lal in this College, who in the words of the author, was a "credulous, superstitious fellow." He believed in the power of magic and of astrology, and his disputes with his colleagues on these topics were numerous. Mr. Pera Lal lived in the main Boarding House in Bansmandi. One fine morning an astrologer who probably had not consulted his own stars that day, happened to peep into one of the rooms of this latter Boarding House. The boys hailed him in and kept troubling him with interrogations for over two hours and then asked him to show a clean pair of heels, without giving him a penny. The astrologer complained loudly and bitterly, till some one feeling pity for him,
suggested a plan to kill two birds with a solitary stone. He taught the astrologer the complete genealogy and biography of our friend Mr. Pears Lal, and directed him to the main Boarding House to relate the thing to Mr. Pears Lal, as the outcome of his own supernatural powers. This was accordingly done. Mr. Pears Lal was very pleased with the astrologer, whose match, as he professed the next morning, he had never seen, and gave him some two or three rupees. In the evening Mr. Pears Lal ran to the Branch Boarding House to relate the visit of the astrologer to his friends who listened quietly through and then, to his great anger and mortification, explained to him the truth of the matter.

In this year the College was honoured by a visit from the Viceroy, Lord Mayo, who was accompanied by the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Donald Macleod. His Excellency personally examined the senior students, and gave them an essay to write, rewarding the two best students with a prize. The various forms of athletics appear to have been in a fairly flourishing condition, and a further development was that of a College Library, which came into existence about this time.

1873-1874.

The College was still administered during this period by Mr. Lindsay, Dr. Leitner being still on long leave. The number of students in the College in this year fell to forty, owing to the amount available for scholarships falling off by some Rs. 2,000. In this year the College secured its first success in the M.A. Examination of the Calcutta University, Hukam Chand obtaining a 3rd Class. The graduates of the College were beginning to distinguish themselves in the various Government departments. During the year one became an Extra Assistant Commissioner, and others gained scholarships at Rurki. One also obtained a fellowship at the Punjab University.
College. The relations of the Lahore College and the Punjab University College were still unsatisfactory, and form the basis of the lengthy report of the Officiating Principal for the year. The system of dual examinations was still continuing and matters had been made more complicated by the fact that the University College had recently revised its Examination scheme and considerably revised its standard in some subjects. The result of this was to put a heavy burden upon the College, with its comparatively small staff, and the officiating Principal recommended complete separation as the only remedy. While unable to support this, the higher authorities recognized the difficulty, and in his report the Director remarks that "the appointment of one or two University College Professors, should funds hereafter be available, to support the work of the Lahore College Staff would prove of immense benefit." The College was still in its old building, but there were already rumours of a move to a new site and a new home.

1874-1875.

The College still continued under the direction of Mr. Lindsay, and its numbers showed a slight increase, rising to 49. Of Professor Lindsay, his old pupil R. B. Mul Raj writes:—"He taught with great zeal, and his relations with his pupils were very friendly. He gave them extra lessons and invited them to his house and took them for a ramble through the heavens in his telescope." The records of the year are full of the deeds of the same old student. "Mul Raj passed in the 1st division of the B.A. Examination. He subsequently presented himself for the M.A. Honours Examination, where he gained 3rd place in the 2nd division. This is the first occasion on which a student from the Punjab has passed the M.A. Examination immediately after the
other, and such a thing has rarely happened in the Presidency. Mul Raj gained the Gold and Silver Arnold Medals, which had never before been won by a student of Lahore College.” In this year, a number of the students having expressed a desire to learn a little Science, it was arranged that they should attend lectures at the Medical School. To quote one who attended: “The Medical School was then in low barracks built on the site of the present Government College building. I attended the lectures for three years, but the others left finding the subject unpalatable.” An important change in the Colleges of the Punjab was foreshadowed in this year. For years the Delhi and Lahore Colleges had existed side by side, but division spelt inefficiency and weakness, and a project for their amalgamation was under consideration. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor referred to the matter in his minute on the Director’s report and in stating that he had referred it to the Senate of the University College at Lahore for opinion, mentioned “that it had been advocated on the ground that the funds at the disposal of Government cannot efficiently maintain two colleges like those of Delhi and Lahore, and that consequently it is better to have one good College with a sufficient number of Professors than two, in which the teaching power is wasted on a very small number of students.” This year was associated with a tragic event in the history of the College. In June 1875, Professor Lindsay made over charge to Dr. Stulpnagel and proceeded on sick leave in the s.s. “Coromandel.” But the ill-fated ship was never heard of again and perished with all on board. The following reference to his death occurs in the Annual Report: “An able scholar, a painstaking tutor, a strict disciplinarian, and, moreover, a friend to all his pupils, who were in consequence greatly attached to
him, the College has sustained a heavy loss by his untimely death."

R. B. Chuni Lal (District and Sessions Judge, Mianwali District) who entered the College in this year, contributes the following reminiscences of his College days:

"I matriculated at the Calcutta University in December 1873, from the Amritsar Collegiate School and joined the Lahore Government College as Maharaja Dalip Singh Scholar, in 1874.

"In 1874 there were altogether about 30 students in all, the five classes under the officiating Principal, Mr. Lindsay, during the absence on leave, of Dr. Leitner, the permanent Principal, and the Professorial Staff consisted of purely Indian Graduates, with the exception of Dr. Stulpnagel, Ph.D., who took the classes in History and Philosophy. Among the Indian Professors was Lala Siri Ram, M.A., who subsequently rose to be the Diwan of the Alwar State. The majority of the students were boarders and resided in the out-houses of the bungalow in which the College was located, and were as happy in the small out-houses as if the same were comfortable rooms leaving nothing to be desired.

"Perfect contentment and harmony prevailed among the students inter se and between them and their Principal and his staff of Professors and the whole institution enjoyed the blessings of a happy home under the fostering care of the Principal, who was in the strictest sense in loco parentis to the students and the young members of his professorial staff. The two Oriental Professors, Pandit Bhagwan Das, the well-known Sanskrit grammarian of the Punjab, and Maulvi Muhammad Hussain Azad Shams-ul-Ulma who
enriched the Urdu Literature by his original works of
great linguistic value supplied to the place of spiritual
guides in the household and used to entertain the
students at fruit parties given at their expense,
immediately the College closed for Summer Vacation;
I have not known happier days in my life than those
passed under the above auspices.

I must not omit, in this connection, to mention that
the College community above described, enjoyed the
blessing of having for its family doctor a philanthropist
who never spared himself, whatever the hour of need,
and who paid a visit to the sick among the students
most readily and ungrudgingly, and attended the sick
with a paternal care and solicitude all his own. I am
referring to the saintly Civil Surgeon Colonel Penny,
whose beneficence will never be forgotten.

I may here insert an anecdote which will illustrate
the naive and jocular humour in which the saintly Prin-
cipal of my earlier college days, Mr. Lindsay, and his
Assistant Dr. Stulpnagel, who was impatiently desirous
of filling the Principal's chair during the period of Mr.
Lindsay's intended leave, which the latter was putting
off for one reason or another, indulged:—

One day grown quite impatient of the delay on the
part of Mr. Lindsay in proceeding on leave, Dr.
Stulpnagel put the question:—'What is it that makes
you put off your departure on leave, which you so
badly need?' The answer Mr. Lindsay made was that
the seasonal inconvenience and the perils of the voyage
made him hesitate. Dr. Stulpnagel tried to assure the
Principal that if he once started he would roll like a
ball and the worthy Principal rejoined in the feelingly
witty words which eventually proved to be fatefully
and prophetically true, 'but like a ball of ghi.'
"As ill luck would have it Mr. Lindsay proceeded on leave with his family and children, making over charge to Dr. Stulpnagel, but never reached home. The ship in which he travelled home was wrecked, and the noble soul with his loving wife and much loved girls found a watery grave, which event cast a gloom over the College. It was very painful subsequently to receive a visit from the venerable and aged father of the deceased, who visited Lahore to wind up the affairs of his deceased son.

"The College in those days could boast of a skilled painter, a rather elderly student in the highest class, Sardar Gurmukh Singh by name, who continued to fill one of the Fellowships in the Oriental College till his death. Sardar Gurmukh Singh consented to enlarge a photo of Mr. Lindsay in oils, to be taken home by the latter. Mr. Lindsay, I heard reminding the painter of his self-imposed duty by putting the question—'Have you been able to devote a few hours of your valuable time to that ugly face?'

"The College continued to enjoy the enviable peace described above, during the short period that Dr. Stulpnagel graced the Principal's chair, and then during the palmiest days of the institution under Dr. Leitner, the permanent Principal, till that peace was marred by the amalgamation of the Delhi Government College with ours, under the Principalship of Dr. Leitner, the worthy Principal of the Delhi College, Mr. (afterwards Dr.) Sime having been appointed Vice-Principal and Professor of Philosophy, and the most warm-hearted Professor, Mr. R. Dick of the Delhi College, becoming Professor of English.

"Messrs. Sime and Dick were great friends, and were
among the best of the educationalists the Province has seen. They invariably came prepared with the day’s lecture and the notes which the students took down from their dictation stood them in good stead at the University Examinations, if well mastered, and rendered all reference to the text-books unnecessary, the subject got so deeply instilled into the mind in the class-room.

However, the amalgamation disturbed the peace and harmony so far enjoyed, and a spirit of insubordination to the Head of the Institution crept in, which led to the rustication of a most brilliant student who had to leave the Province for education abroad, which ruined his health and affected his brain and incapacitated him for any useful work for the rest of his life.

The effect of the amalgamation alluded to above, may serve as an object lesson and a subject for contemplation and useful study in connection with (1) the disparity of the temperaments of the upcountry students as compared with their contemporaries of the country from which the old Delhi College drew its students, and (2) the effects of climate and surroundings on habits and character of the youth.

Good old days cannot be forgotten, and force their memory upon us when the simplicity in habits and dress and the respect for authority and age pervading then come to be compared with the artificial habits, love of show, costly costume and false idea of liberty, resulting in unbecoming impatience of control and disciplinary rules that prevail now. In fact, high thinking and plain living was the rule of conduct then, and quite the reverse is the rule of conduct now. The pinch of the habits and manners of the students is most markedly felt by their parents and guardians.
"Naturally, the higher traits of character possessed then, found a response in the College authorities, who wielded much greater influence with the Civil authorities, and no exercise of interest and influence was spared by them to advance the prospects in life of their wards.

"The learned Principal, Dr. G. W. Leitner, obtained some of the highest appointments of trust open to Indians, in the various departments of Government, for his students, and repeatedly sounded the note of warning which was at the time unheeded, as to the perils involved in the raw youths visiting foreign countries for the purposes of study, with no provision for their supervision and guidance, while there, in the absence of the elders and tutors who had exercised direct supervision on their conduct in this country. He also proposed the introduction of the Panchayats into the Punjab, as President of the Anjuman-i-Punjab, Lahore, and invited opinions on the subject through the press, and issued an English translation of the collected opinions with his own introduction in a book form. Nothing, however, came out of the proposal.

"We had a College Club in the deliberations of which the students of all the five classes took part. The lectures and speeches in this Club were confined to the literary, moral and historical subjects, and politics never formed a subject of discussion. The reason for the exclusion of politics, as then stated and as will remain true for all time, was that the subject was for specialists who had made it their life-long study, and not for raw youths to whom a little knowledge of the subject could not but be a dangerous thing."
"Dr. Leitner was in the truest sense the Founder of the Punjab University. It was he who obtained from Lord Lytton, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, in 1876, on His Excellency's visit to the Government College, the promise to raise the Punjab University College to the status of a University, the promise having been specifically based on the hope that the students from Hunza and Gilgit, in the Oriental College, will be the pioneers of our civilization in the virgin fields of the Frontier which fields were not accessible to the influence of any other University in India. This promise was formally confirmed at the Imperial Assemblage of 1877.

"The College should be proud of having had for its first Principal an educationalist of the calibre and high abilities of Dr. Leitner who was the founder of many institutions, who gave the Punjab a University of her own and who threw open the hitherto closed portals of the Law College, and placed within the reach of students admission to the Bar of the Province and the opportunity to build fortunes till then never dreamt of.

"The present-day College is ahead of the College of the good old days in having a regular provision for games and physical exercise, which is absolutely necessary to ensure a mens sana in corpore sano. There was no regular provision, in the College of my days, for physical exercise and out-door games, and they were as good as unknown."

1875-1876.

Dr. Stulpnagel continued to act as Principal of the College until Dr. Leitner arrived in March. The numbers showed an increase and the total now reached
67. Two extremely important changes took place in this year. The scheme for the erection of a separate University in the Punjab assumed a definite form and was sent to the Government of India by whom it was ultimately to be approved, and this change involved the abolition of the Delhi College and its absorption into the Lahore College. The reasons for this later step have already been referred to in a previous year. The increase of numbers in the College emphasized the weakness of the staff, and we find the Principal complaining that he had to teach for “five hours a day,” together with all his staff. The result was the appointment of an Assistant Professor. That the College was already growing extremely popular is evident from the following: “The Government College (this term and that of Lahore College seem to have been indifferently used—"Editor) differs in some respects from all other similar colleges. It is not merely a local institution but essentially a provincial College. There are few large schools in the Punjab which are not represented by some students, (then follows a list of about 20 schools—"Editor).”

Both Dr. Stulpnagel and Dr. Leitner attack once more the system of dual examinations, the end of which, as we have seen, was already in sight.

An old student of this period, Pandit Sheo Narain, R. B. (an Advocate of the Chief Court of the Punjab), contributes the following interesting account of the College and its staff on his arrival in 1876:

“I came from Jalandhar to Lahore about the beginning of January 1876, to join the Government College. It was not the Lahore of to-day, but an old-fashioned town with a few additions which may be called modern. I shall describe Lahore elsewhere according to my recol-
lections of 1876. Here I am asked to reduce to writ-
ing my reminiscences of College life. I shall never
forget the double-storied third class carriage by which
I travelled. On alighting from the railway train I
noticed only one Palki-gari at the railway porch, which
used to be in those days on the east side of the station.
The porters attended to European travellers only, so I
had to carry my brief belongings under my arm. Pass-
ing from the Landa Bazar (a sobriquet for a bald bazar
with mostly thatched stalls) I reached the house near
Yaki Gate where I was to take up my abode. Within
a couple of days of my arrival I was taken to what was
then known as Dr. Rahim Khan’s kothi, then used as
Government College before its transfer to the present
magnificent edifice. That kothi still exists near the present
anatomical rooms. I was presented to the officiat-
ing Principal, Dr. Stulpnagel, whose imposing appear-
ance made me rather nervous, which was soon got over
when he addressed me a few short and encouraging
words. In a few days our class was formed and instruc-
I confess he was too learned for me, I could scarcely
follow him in his demonstrations on the board; all the
boys looked upon him as a Mahadeo, his reticent and un-
ruffled temperament inspired an awe in his pupils. The
English hour used to be very dry and dreary. Mr. Staines
who taught English, generally dealt in Latin roots of
words. Philosophy was comparatively more interesting
to me; Dr. Stulpnagel, who taught it, had a special
knack of analysing every psychological phenomenon in
a manner which was his own. The Doctor wore a dark
flowing beard, and a pair of gold spectacles on his nose
added dignity to his face which was pleasant and
affectionate. He frequently enlivened his lectures by
sparkling wit and well meaning sarcasm, which was
taken in good part by all his pupils. Indeed, he loved
"his pupils and they reciprocated his love ten-fold."

On return from home Dr. Leitner resumed his Principalship, and Dr. Stulpnagel was relegated to the Professorship of Metaphysics. It was not the good fortune of junior classes to attend Dr. Leitner's lectures. He sometimes went out of the usual course to lecture to us on Philology. The learned Doctor was a great Orientalist and a great authority on Shakespeare. It will be news to many to know that his lectures on Shakespeare attracted the Commissioner of Lahore, Colonel Ralph Young, who found time to attend his lectures as if he were a student of the College. The Doctor enjoyed a continental reputation for his linguistic and literary accomplishments. He was a power in the Punjab, dreaded by all, superior or inferior in rank to him. That he was a man of versatile genius is undoubted. Could anybody believe that during the temporary absence of the Principal of the Law College, he was able to lecture to us on Jurisprudence in Kapurthala House, known as Kuri Bag, which he temporarily occupied. He was a champion and a tower of strength for his pupils, whom he ruled and loved with terror and affection, characteristic of an autocrat of olden days. Nobody could afford to disobey his orders or otherwise incur his displeasure. All the pupils, while they depended on him for all kinds of support, dreaded him to a degree. He tolerated no cheek or impudence or even laxity in discipline, he could not put up with any nonsense. The redoubtable Doctor once actually chastised a student, but in those good old days pupils had not forgotten the adage: "The tyranny of the master is better than the love of the father." (Jaur-i-ustad beh az mehr-i-pidar).

I have now to mention a personal reminiscence. The
Doctor wrote a thesis for an Oriental Congress in Europe; I was selected for fairing it; it proved eventually an investment for me. The Doctor bore me in mind, and of his own accord bestowed on me a higher scholarship which technically was not my due. In short, there was in him a well balanced combination of authority, discipline, affection and sympathy. It is a pity the Doctor left the Punjab a disappointed man. Unfortunately he took up an attitude regarding the constitution of the Punjab University (of which he was the author) which led to bitter controversies, unnecessary to dilate upon here, out of which the Doctor came out worsted. Perhaps he was not wholly wrong, though erring on the side of over-zeal for Oriental Classics. After his departure from the land of his labours, the Oriental College appreciably languished for lack of support and want of interest. Efforts are being recently made, I am glad to observe, to re-instill into it fresh vigour and vitality. I will here take leave of him, and as a tribute to his memory acknowledge my personal thankfulness to him for many an act of grace and kindness.

Now let me turn from the explorer of Dardistan to the father of Urdu prose, to the pioneer of sober and elevated Urdu poetry, to the great linguist of Hindi and Persian literatures, to the Historian of great Akbar—popularly known as Professor Azad, whose father, Mohammad Baqar was the first journalist in Urdu in Northern India in pre-mutiny days. The memory of the Professor is still green, and he will live in the works he has left behind. There is not a pupil of his who does not remember his great personality; I, for one, cannot conceive pleasanter hours than those spent in the periods of Professor Azad's lectures in Persian. He taught, instructed and entertained at the same time.
The hour with him was a regular intellectual treat; all the pupils felt a sort of disappointment every day, when they left his room. Would anybody believe in these days, that the Professor often treated us to iced lemonade in the Ice Factory itself. In those days there used to be a *Mushayarah* or a symposium of poets in the Anjuman Hall, whither all the pupils repaired to sound a chorus of applause at each line or stanza read by the Professor in the Assembly where Hali was his great rival in the field, whose merits the Professor never recognised. But it seems that Hali's muse soared higher in the realm of patriotism and has given him a greater renown. The Professor was very fond of extracting Western ideas from his English-knowing pupils, and clothing them in his own happy and felicitous words, of which he was unquestionably an unrivalled master. Some years after, when the writer chanced to meet the Professor, he noticed a copy of "Mussadus-e-Hali" in the writer's hand; he burst forthwith a taunting remark as follows: "Hallo! you are reading this book! If you wanted anything sweet you should have gone to a confectioner; if you wanted anything saltish, you should have gone to a baker; but you seemed to have gone to a man who parches gram; what is the good of reading such colourless poetry?" I kept quiet. I need hardly say that rivals in any field, particularly in the field of letters, are seldom free from jealousy. I value, however, both of these poets in their respective spheres. I may be biased, but I can say confidently that Urdu literature would not have been what it is if Azad had not lived. I am sure whatever he wrote will live, unlike many a didactic composition of an evanescent or fugitive interest.

There was a comical side of the Professor too, which I cannot omit. He wore a choga, one sleeve of
which he kept out of use and slung at his back, and a pony which he had for riding, never ridden in my presence, always followed him. This was the *Maulvi sahib ka ghora*, in the Urdu Primer.

With these reminiscences we may well bring the first part of our chronicle to a close. The year was the last under the old conditions. The new year was to see the College removed to the present buildings, and this change, together with the other important reforms about to come into operation, was to mark the beginning of a new epoch with which this chapter is hardly concerned.