

THE RAIN OF SWĀTĪ.

We all know that if in the asterism of Swāti a drop of rain fall into an oyster it becomes a pearl. Indian district officers also know how important the Swāti rain is for the spring crops. The *cātaka's* longing for it is a commonplace. It has, however, other virtues which are not so well known. Witness Malik Muḥammad in the *Padumāwati* (p. 119 of Rām Jasan's edition) :—

jōgi ka bahuta chanda aurāhī | būda sewātī jaisa parāhī ||
paḍahī samudra khāra jala dhī | paḍahī sīpa saba mōtī hōhī ||
paḍahī puhumi para hōi kacūrū | paḍahī kadali para hōi kapūrū ||
paḍahī mēru para awīrita hōi | paḍahī nāga-mukha mahā bikha
sōi ||

“Many are the wily guises of a Yōgī, many as the forms taken by the raindrops of Swāti.

If they fall into the sea, they become salt water; if they fall into an oyster, they all become pearls.

If they fall on the ground, they become zedoary; if they fall on the plantain tree, they become camphor.

If they fall on Mount Mēru, they become ambrosia; if they fall into a *nāga's* mouth, they become poison.”

G. A. GRIERSON.

CAPTAIN THOMAS BOWREY.

Mr. Donald Ferguson says, in a communication printed in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* for July, 1907, that “Sir Richard Temple made good use of the Fort St. George Factory Records, but, strangely enough, seems to have overlooked the volumes of the *Diary and Consultation Book of the Agent, Governor, and Council of Fort St. George* for 1682–5, as edited by the late Mr. A. T. Pringle.” At p. 331 of my edition of Bowrey's MS. are to be found the following entries in the “List of Fuller Titles of Books and Manuscripts quoted in the Footnotes and Introduction”:—

“(1) Pringle, A. T., ‘Selections from the Consultations of