

SECTION III.—COLOURED, PAINTED, STAINED, AND GILDED WOODWORK.

Bengal Committee.

Necklaces (2). Lacquered wood. From Monghyr.
Candlesticks (2 pairs). From Benares.
Bracelets, broach, and earrings. Coloured wood.
From Monghyr.

N.W. Provinces Local Committee.

Croquet sets (3). From Benares.
Candlesticks (2 pairs). From Benares.
Toys, swings, &c., &c. From Benares.

Lala Hurmak Rai, Hushyarpur.

Fancy articles, boxes, &c. turned in *shisham* (Dalbergia) wood and lacquered in various colours.

The following is an outline of the process:—The object to be lacquered is turned from hard wood, usually *shisham* or box. After being smoothed and cleaned it is again fixed in the turners' frame (a kind of lathe worked by hand), and made to rotate. The sticks of lacquer colour ("batti") consisting of a mixture of lac, resin, colouring matter, and, it is said, a certain proportion of sulphur and bees'-wax, are then applied to the rotating object; the heat produced by friction is sufficient to soften the lacquer composition, which attaches itself to the wood, producing, however, a dull and streaky appearance. When sufficient colour has been applied, the surface of the article is skilfully rubbed with a piece of bamboo having a fine edge, by which the colour is evenly distributed, and a polish produced, which is finally completed with oiled rags.

To produce the mottled appearance so much admired, a colour stick of a rather harder composition than that used for producing a uniform colour is lightly pressed against the rotating

object, so as to detach a point here and there. This is repeated with sticks of different colours, and when sufficient colour has been laid on, the object is polished with bamboo edges and oiled rags, as stated in the preceding paragraph.

(Abstracted from Baden Powells' Manufactures.)

Dr. Leitner, Lahore.

Two Sind lacquered wooden boxes.
Kashmiri painted wooden box.

Several specimens of Pakpattan woodwork (Panjab). This kind of work is fully represented elsewhere in the section. The Sind work, if coarse in colouring, makes attempts at the delineation of figures, which the Pakpattan and Hushyarpur work of the Panjab does not.

Government of Bombay.

Lacquered boxes. Single and in nests.
Lacquered Bezique box, box with set of squalls, &c.
Lacquered croquet set and humming tops.
Lacquered napkin rings and card trays.
Lacquered rulers and map cases (nest of 5).
Lacquered flower vase, with nest of boxes (5) in centre; on pedestal. (Two in number).
Gold lacquered boxes (2 nests of 8 each). By Kurumchund Moorjmul, Haidarabad, Sind.

By Mahomed Jaffer Butcha, of Haidarabad, Sind.

Lady Frere, London.

Lacquered map case.

Col. Michael, London.

Lacquered Burmese box.
Lacquered tray. From Kurnool.

GROUP IX.—STONE, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS INDUSTRY.

SECTION I.—STONE AND CEMENT WARES.

NOTE on the STONE INDUSTRIES of AGRA. By H. G. Keene, Fellow of the University of Calcutta, Author of the Moghul Empire, The Agra Guide, &c.

Agra, with the neighbouring country from Gwalior round by Jaipoor to Delhi, has long been the seat of several very beautiful arts, which may be thus classified:—

1. *Munubbut-karee*.—The art of inlaying [part, pass II, of *nubt*, an Arabic word signifying "to plant," "to cause to germinate"].*

2. *Jalee*.—Pierced screen work in marble or sandstone.

3. *Soap-stone* carving.—A new art.

* So SHAKESPEAR. The *Ghais-ool Loghat* and other Asiatic authorities regard the word as referring to things raised from the ground, like plants; it would thus imply *relievo*, such as the images on friezes, cameos, or coins. The Hindoo word is *mehchi-kari*, "adhesive work," perhaps a corruption of *pur chankuri*, the Persian term.

Before describing each of these in detail it will be as well to give a brief sketch of the history of architecture, as it exists in this tract of country, as the mother art to which the decorative arts are in the main subsidiary.* The practice of uniting soap-

* DATES OF HINDOOSTANEE ARCHITECTURE.

	DATE, A.D.
Foundation of 1st Pathan School under Kootub-ood-Deen Aibuk, about	- 1200
[Principal specimen <i>Tomb of Altumsh</i>]	- 1235]
Second School or period of Toghluq Shah	- 1320
[P.S. <i>Tomb of T.S.</i> ; Roof in a flat dome slightly pointed expressive of their arch, about the same date.]	
Third Pathan period, S. Shah [P.S. <i>Killa Kona Mosque</i>]	- 1540
Commencement of Moghul School (under Akber)	- 1556
P. S. Fort at Agra, from 1566 to about	- 1630
Turning point of Moghul architecture when Hindoo work was eliminated by Shah Jahan	- 1640
Earliest Colouring, about	- 1540 (Completion of Inlaying of Itmad-ood-Dowlah - 1620)
Jam'a Musjid Khas Muhul of Agra	- 1630-7) at Agra, 1639
Taj Muhul	- 1630-1648 (to Taj Compt. - 1648