of ideal infant splendour and rank. Lady Jane Grey, however, in silver-grey cotton, and cotton-backed black velvet, may be made to look as demure as a Puritan Maiden, both of which I commend to the notice of

calico ball, together with Mother Hubbard, in her pointed hat; or a Witch, not so very unlike, having cats and serpents cut out in black cotton, and stitched or pasted on to the scarlet cap. There are so many those who contemplate taking part in a juvenile suitable characters, the only difficulty is which to select.









WANDERERS IN AFGHANISTAN.

E are at Shikarpur, on the road to Afghanistan, in the valley of the Indus, in the Land of the Five Rivers. All the world is at peace, and we are seeking safe convoy to the city of Cabul, the capital of the Amir, Sher' Ali Khan Barakzi, away beyond the Sulimani Moun-In these tains. days of rapid

travelling, it is not very difficult to reach this Indian town. Bombay can be voyaged to most luxuriously, and from Bombay to Kurrachee is a brief journey. From Kurrachee to Kotree there is a railway. Thence there are steamers on the Indus to Sukkur and beyond, and Shikarpur is twenty miles beyond Sukkur, where it is proposed to bridge the great river to Rooree, on the other side, with the rocky island of Bukkur as the resting-place in the middle of the

We are now in a thoroughly Eastern town, away from the life of the West. True, the "Sahib" is here, with his pith helmet and his puggaree, his lordly stride and his unmistakable air of master. The Sahib Collector is punishing the evil, and leaving the well alone, but above all gathering the dues of the great Maharanee and her Soubhadhar, the Viceroy in Calcutta. There is also the Sahib Captain, chaffering in the bazaar about some trifle which only a few years ago his predecessor of the army of Runjeet Singh would have taken with scant courtesy and no aches of conscience. But the "plunger" of Jacob's Horse goodnaturedly wearies himself with cheaping a few rupees off the sword he is buying from the Lahore armourer, and meantime treads gingerly lest his spurs should scratch the rank crop of naked legs in their vicinity.