

... (1912) General
... after the Marathi poet, a perspective of what the
rich landscape of city, Shillong

The Marathi poet was a Marathi speaking Jewish poet,
he not only played a significant role in developing
post-independence Indian verse in English, but also inspired
a great number of poets and writers of Indian origin
to explore Indian English literature. He considered himself
Indian, despite being his Jewish origin. His poetry is not
one kind of either flower or crown, but India as it is
now. He has not a modern urban middle class India
as a place one which he can assert his existence.
A lot of his poetry speak about his native city
Bombay (now Mumbai) where he worked for a long
period as professor in different colleges and universi-
ties. His self consciousness about one's place in the
world play a major role in many of ^{his} poetry
collections.

"Shillong" is Eshel's one of most beautiful
creations where he records the city, Shillong from
"a stage of the capital of corporate America to in the
British empire to its independence as a separate state
in Durgalaya. As we all know that the state Meghalaya
was formed in 1972 by carving out the districts of the
United Assam hills and Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills from
Assam. It is now the capital city of Durgalaya. Eshel
presents before us a picture of the city, Shillong with
a deep and minute observation. He explores its diverse
features, the quiet environment, the quiet rivers, the
pasture down, the grand pine and cedar trees, the
chilly blocks, the abundant clouds and above all its
wild flowers and fragrances.

The poet witnesses a completely different
experience that the city dwellers cannot understand.
The real landscape of Shillong seems imaginary to