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Amrita Bazar Patrika

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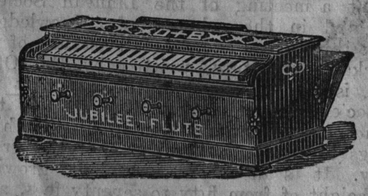

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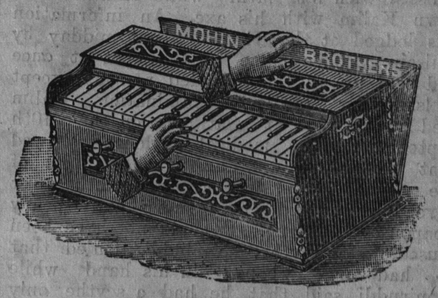

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GRADUATES IN ASSAM EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In whatever respects a state High School of Bengal may be compared with a state High School of Assam, it presents a painful contrast. The efficiency of its teaching staff, its library and its furniture are such as can never fall even to the lot of the first grade State High Schools in Assam, though the Assam schools are far ahead of schools in other provinces of India in so far as the results of the Entrance examination are concerned, as was conclusively shown by the last quinquennial report by Mr. (Now Sir) Cotton on the progress of education in India. If the number of graduates existing on the staff of any Government High School be the standard by which its efficiency should be measured, the State High Schools in Assam are sadly wanting in it. In a Bengal school almost the whole teaching staff is found to consist of graduates, whereas in Assam the highest number of graduates that even the premier school in the province can boast of does not exceed 3. This deficiency of graduates in Assam High Schools cannot be accounted for by saying that the progress of education in Assam has not yet reached that stage at which it can adequately supply the demand of graduates in educational service, when one district alone, namely, Sylhet, annually turns out graduates sufficient in number to fully satisfy the limited want of Educational Service as well as to supply the higest demand of graduates for Executive Service of the province. Indeed there are many graduates in the province, specially those of studious habits, who would have naturally preferred Educational Service to forensic profession, the prospects in which are so precarious now-a-days or to an appointment in Subordinate Executive Service in which a man has to lead a constantly wandering life, had there not been some latent defect in the Education Department which serves as a scarecrow to graduates willing to enter this department. And this defect lies in nothing more than the pecuniary prospects of High School teachers. It is the niggardly policy of Local Government with regard to High Schools that is responsible for the sad want of a sufficient number of graduates in Assam State High Schools. It is rather curious that claims of High School teachers have never yet engaged the attention of any of the long succession of Chief Commissioners who have hitherto ruled the destinies of this benighted province. It even escaped the notice of the comprehensive eye of Sir Henry Cotton, a more benevolent ruler than whom has perhaps never hailed in this province.

While Executive Service, Local Boards, Education both Primary and Collegiate, and the condition of the ill-paid and ill-treated coolies in tea gardens, all pressed their claims upon his consideration one by one and had themselves duly weighed, secondary education did not receive even a passing notice from him. It was naturally expected by those who were disappointed in Sir Henry Cotton that the administrative blank left by him would be filled up by his illustrious successor in office. But under the present administration also there have not been yet the slightest indications which can hold out any hope to High School teachers that their desires will be ever fulfilled. Though the teachers of Primary Schools in the province have received the most sympathetic consideration at the hands of the present ruler of the province, the claims of High School teachers remain yet as unrecognized as ever. Under the existing system the salary of a Head Master of the State High Schools ranges from Rs. [illegible] to Rs. 200 and that of subordinate teachers from Rs. 20 to Rs. 75. The subordinate teachers of Government High Schools from a master upwards are mostly now graduates. It must be said to the credit of the present [illegible] of Public Instruction in Assam that [illegible] through the [illegible] policy, systematically him f[illegible] last few years, [illegible]ment has

High Court.—Jan. 4.

CRIMINAL BENCH.

(Before Justices Geidt and Mookerji).

A MURDER CASE FROM KHULNA.

Kulsam, the complainant in this case, became a widow about two years ago, and belonged to the same family as the two accused persons, Kafiluddi Shaik and Maniraddi Shaik, who were two brothers, belonged, they being the sons of her husband's elder brother. Within a year of the death of her husband Kafiluddi began to make himself unpleasant to her and in "Ashin" before last forcibly erected a hut on her portion of the court-yard, for which he had to pay a fine on her complaint, and afterwards to give her a "kabulyat." In last "chaitra" he assaulted her and got to be imprisoned for three weeks. He was released on the last day of "chaitra." The family held some lands in common, on one of which the present occurrence took place on the 5th September last. The case for the prosecution was that in "kartik" last year, Kulsam with the assistance of Kalim, whose son subsequently married Kulsam's daughter negociation for which had been going on for sometime past, broke the ground in question for the growing of jute. After the usual ploughing, in which her future son-in-law joined, jute was sown in "Baisakh" last, which became ready for sickle about the date of occurrence. At 1 "prohar" in the morning of that date, the cutting was being done by Kalim, his son Maizuddi and Mulsam's co-sharers Jab Bux, Isabdi and Mauzzal and others, when Moniruddi came armed with "lathi" and interfered, followed by his brother Kafiluddi, who came with an axe. An altercation followed, in the course of which Moniruddi struck the reapers and Kulsam with his "lathi" while Kafiluddi cut down Kalim with his axe. An information was lodged at the Thanah about midday by Kulsam. Police came to the spot at once and sent up all the wounded persons except Kulsam, for medical examination. Kalim died in hospital at Satkhira on the 10th September. The medical evidence showed that the death was due to the effects of the wound to the left arm-pit which must have been caused by a sharp and heavy weapon such as axe. It could not have been caused by a scythe. Kafiluddi denied that he had any weapon in his hand while Moniruddi said that he had a scythe only (not a "lathi") which he flourished and did not know if he hurt any body therewith. The dying declaration of Kalim was recorded in the presence of the accused Kafiluddi. Kalim stated that Kafiluddi wounded him with an axe and Moniruddi struck him with "lathi". Kafiluddi and Moniruddi were placed on their trial before a Deputy Magistrate, who found that a "prima facie" case had been made out against the accused and committed them to take their trial before the Court of Sessions. At the Sessions Court the trial was held by Mr. B. C. Mittra with the aid of two Assessors. The Judge agreeing with both the assessors found Kafiluddi guilty under Sec. 302 I.P.C. and sentenced him to death. Agreeing with both the assessors the Judge found Moniruddi guilty under section 323 I. P. C. and sentenced him to three months' rigorous imprisonment with a fine of Rs. 30, in default to undergo three months' similar imprisonment. The whole of the fine when realized would be given to Kulsam, as compensation. A reference was made to this court by the Sessions Judge for the confirmation of the death sentence. An appeal was also preferred by Kafiluddi against the order of the Sessions Judge. Both the appeal and the reference came on for hearing together.

Mr. Douglas White, Deputy Legal Remembrancer, appeared for the crown. Babu Narendra Kumar Bose, vakil, appeared for the defence.

Their Lordships after hearing Babu Narendra Kumar Bose delivered judgment dealing with the facts of the case. In conclusion their Lordships observed: "Considering that the blow was inflicted in the [illegible] of an altereation and considering also [illegible]i and Kafiluddi were both [illegible] the evidence of the [illegible]inion that it is [illegible]treme

Scientific Notes.

THE ANIMALS OF AFRICA.

The recent discoveries of wonderful new types of extinct animals in the tertiary deposits of the Fayum Desert of North-Eastern and their bearing on the origin of the modern African fauna, are discussed by the present writer in the October number of the "Quarterly Review" in an article with the above heading. The new evidence shows unmistakably that the Proboscidea (elephants and mastodoms) and the Hyracoidea (the "coney" of Scripture and its relatives) were developed in Africa itself; but it does not appear to invalidate the long accepted theory that the bulk of the modern African fauna is of northern origin. It might, however, have been added that, in view of the discovery of certain antelope and other remains in the later tertiaries of Africa, the migration may have been somewhat earlier than commonly believed. Probably, indeed, there have been several migrations of African types to the north, and of European and Asiatic types into Africa. In this connection it may be mentioned that Dr. C. W. Andrews, the chief describer of the extinct Fayum fauna, has brought to notice in the November number of the "Geological Magazine" a remarkably fine smell of the giant land-tortoise, Testudo ammon" of the Upper Eocene beds of the district in question. This appears to be the earliest of the big land-tortoises, and may have been the ancestral type from which those of Madagascar, Mauritius, and the Mascarene Islands, together with the extinct Indian species, were derived.

EXTRAORDINARY GRASS FRUIT.

The exhibition of an extraordinary grass fruit at a meeting of the Linnean Society was noted in the columns of "Knowledge" nearly three years ago. A full account of its remarkable structure, written by Dr. Otto Stapf, is now published in the last part of the Society's Transactions. The fruit is the product of "Melocanna bambusoides," which belongs to the tribe Bambuseæ of the grass family. It is an arborescent plant, growing to a height of from fifty to seventy feet, and is a native of Eastern Bengal and Burma. Unlike the ordinary fruit of the Gramineæ, which is small, often almost minute, and albuminous, that of Melocanna" is sometimes as much as five inches long and two inches thick, globose or ovoid in shape, and exalbuminous. It is also remarkable in being viviparous, germinating before it falls from parent plant, but this does not appear to be a constant character. Its pericarp, instead of the thin, membranous or crustaceous body of the usual grass fruit, serving practically only a mechanical function, is very largely developed and is fleshy, and serves partly as a reservoir for food material, a function which is shared by the scutellum, though this body retains its original character as a haustorium. Some albumen or more correctly, endosperm, is formed in "Melocanna," but Dr. Stapf shows that at an early stage it collapses "and is finally crushed into an apparently structureless film, wedged in between pericarp and [illegible]llum.

[illegible] OF JUPITER.

There is a class of comets of great interest to astronomers, but for the most part offering no spectacular attractions even in the telescope. These are the comets of short period, which may be looked upon as regular inmates of the solar system. Most of them owe their position in the system to the compelling influence of the great planet Jupiter, who on this account may assert his just right to the epithet of Zeus of old, "the Cloud-Compeller." The most remarkable member of the Jupiter family of comets is Enacke's which was rediscovered on September 11th last by means of a photograph taken at Dr. Max Wolf's observatory at Heidelberg. Three other members of the same family were discovered by one observer, Herr Tempel, at Milan. Of these three, the one of shortest period, originally discovered in 1873, is known as Tempel's Second Periodic Comet, and has just been observed at its sixth return since its original discovery. It is an object of the most extreme faintness, and the difficulty of its detection is increased by its position, as it is very low down in the southern sky, and sets shortly after the sun. The rediscovery was made by M. Jevelle at the observatory at Nice, founded by the munificence of M. Bischoffsheim, the great telescope of which observatory is one of the three largest in Europe. If M. Javelle had not succeeded in seeing the comet now it would probably have escaped observation altogether at the present return. But its detection was only possible from the extreme precision with which its orbit had been predicted by M. Coniel. The comet is at present passing from the constellation of Sagittarius into that of Capricornus, but it is probably too faint and too low down in the sky to be within the reach of eye-observation with any telescope in the British Isles.

The Government of India have sanctioned the execution of the Mopad Tank Irrigation Project in Nellore District. The main proposal in connection with this projectis to make a reservoir by damming the Manneru, a minor river in the Nellore District, the waters of which are at present not utilised for irrigation. The site of the reservoir is near Pamur in the Vonkatagiri Zemindary. The drainage area of the river at the site of the dam is 250 square miles, and it is proposed to make the reservoir large enough to hold 2,091 millions cubic feet, equivalent to a run off of 3.69 inches of rainfall from the whole area. The water will be impoundd by means of an eartsen bank the maximum height of which will be 70 feet where the river bed is crossed. The surplus will be discharged over a saddle in the chain of low hills through which the river passes. Irrigation will be carried out by means of a channel taken off from the right flank of the reservoir. It will be about 24 miles long and is designed to irrigate 17,500 acres of "dry" lands. The engineering features of the project are simple and present no difficulties. The most interesting thing about it is the proposal to irrigate dry crops. This is an experiment which as hitherto not been attempted in the Madras Presidency. The Mopad Project, which is situated in one of the worst portions of Nellore, which in its turn is one of the Districts most readily affected by famine in this Presidency, presents a splendid opportunity of carrying out this experiment. The total cost of the project amounts to Rs. 12,10,500, including indirect charges. This sum, although a comparatively small one when placed alongside the estimates of the more heroic Tungabhadra and Kistna Projects is, the largest that has been sanctioned for an irrigation work in the Madras Presidency since the P[illegible]ar.

THE SYLHET UNION.

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION MEETING.

The 27th annual prize distribution meeting of the Sylhet Union was held on Wednesday evening at 5 p.m. in the City College Hall, Calcutta. Sir Henry Cotton K.C.S.I., presided and there was a good gathering in the Hall. The student community mustered strong and the Hall was packed up to its utmost capacity, a good many standing outside for want of room. There was a fair sprinkling of Indian ladies in the Hall.

Amongst those present on the occasion we noticed Sir Gooroodas Banerjee Kt., Mr. Bipin Chandra Pal, Mr. B. C. Seal, Lt.-Col. S. N. Borrah, the Hon. Mr. J. Choudhuri, Babu Umesh Ch. Dutt, Dr. Sundari Mohan Das and others.

Punctually at 5 p.m. Sir Henry entered the hall accompanied by Sir Goroodas Banerjee.

On taking his seat on the dais Sir Henry called upon the President of the Union to present the annual report to the meeting.

Dr. Sundari Mohan Das, President of the Union, with a few preliminary remarks as to the origin, scope, progress and history of the Union as also what the Union had done in the matter of female education, presented the annual report for adoption.

Sir Henry next called upon the ladies present to sing the opening song which was done in accompaniment of a harmonium and a violin. It was well suited to the occasion. It called upon the young generation to rise, awake and be up and doing to promote the cause of their country.

Sir Gooroodas being called upon rose amidst loud cheers. He congratulated the Union on their good fortune of having been able to hold their annual meeting under the august chairmanship of Sir Henry Cotton, whose object, he said, was to bring about a union—a higher union—a union between the newer and older generation. He next congratulated the Union on the good work they had done. He said that though its direct work was to encourage female education its indirect object was to bring closer together the scattered citizens of Sylhet who were living in the metropolis. Sir Gooroodas urged that unions are necessary even for administrative purposes. He concluded by wishing the Union every success.

Moulvi Abul Kassim, Mr. J. Choudhury and Babu Bepin Chundra Pal next addressed the meeting.

Sir Henry then rose amidst loud and deafening cheers. He said that he had some disadvantage of rising to address the assembly after so eloquent a speaker as Mr. Pal. He spoke very highly of some noted orators of Bengal. Nevertheless he would, he said, try his best to speak on the subject that had brought him there. He had great pleasure in presiding over he meeting and he readily acknowledged the warm reception that had been accorded him. He said that in his official career he was ever ready to preside over prize distribution meetings of independent schools and colleges, and observed that the Sylhet Union meant the union of Sylhatees of Calcutta, nay, it meant more. Its object, he said, was to further female education in the district of Sylhet which was very backward in point of education, but then it was slightly improving from the low condition in which it had hitherto been. The work done by the Union was though not very large and important it was work in the right direction. Sir Henry next observed that the most important thing in India was the dissemination of education among the boys and girls—the mothers of future generation and as such they should share the primary, secondary and higher education of the country. He said he had just come from Bombay and that he was struck with the number of ladies present in the Congress pandal whose number was not less than 500. He praised the Parsees and said that though their number was not very large in the whole of India they had by dint of earnestness and perseverance prospered most of all other nations in India. The Parsee ladies were very advanced in education and he added that he had seen sights that would amaze the audience. He had seen Parsee ladies driving motor cars and bogies and remarked that the Union should have them as its ideal and try to attain it. He then dilated on what he had done in the matter of education in Sylhet during his regime there and congratulated the Sylhatees on the success achieved by Babu Gooroo Saday Dutt—a Sylhati—at the last I. C. S. Examination. He then regretted the death of Babu Joy Gobind Shome, the late President of the Union, and impressed upon the youngmen present the value of earnestness, perseverence and singleness of purpose. He waxed eloquent as he went on and addressed the youngmen as "my boys" and brought home to their mind that many things depended on them and that they should always try to train themselves in a way so that they might in the long run succeed in doing their duty by their country. The speaker then wished prosperity and success to those present collectively and individually and especially to the Sylhet boys and members of the Sylhet Union. He then resumed his seat amidst loud and continued cheers.

Lt.-Col. Borrah then proposed the usual vote of thanks to the chair. It was heartily supported by Rai Sarat Chandra Banerjee Bahadur, a retired Government officer who had served under Sir Henry Cotton. He said that like Clemency Canning Sir Henry should be nick-named Leniency Cotton; for, said he, when in the course of his official duties he had to send any representation to the Government through Sir Henry for things rather hard for the ryot Sir Henry would say—"Remember, I am always on the side of leniency."

The proposal was received by the audience with acclamation and ringing cheers for Sir Henry rang and reverberated through the air for minutes together.

Sir Henry again thanked the audience for the warm reception they had accorded him and observed that that reception was more welcome to him than any formal reception as it showed the spontaneity of their hearts.

With a closing song sung by the ladies the proceedings came to a close. The closing song was as suited to the occasion as the opening one. It very pathetically asked Mother Ind to get up, put off her niggardly dress and be as benignant as she once had been.

With vociferous cheers for Sir Henry the gathering dispersed.

Some of the embroidery, needle and carpet work of the girl-examinees of the Union were exhibited which showed great skill and workmanship on the part of the girls.

The Agricultural Conference at Pusa will open on the 6th instant and promises to be a very representative gathering.

SEPTIC TANKS IN BENGAL.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

GREAT IMPROVEMENT NEEDED.

The Committee appointed under the presidency of Col. Browne to report on the working of the existing septic tank installations in Bengal have submitted a provisional report to the Government of Bengal. The final report cannot be submitted until the dry weather flow in river has been determined but certain definite conclusion have already been arrived [illegible]

The results of the personal examination by the Committee of the effluents discharged into the rivers are on the whole satisfactory. The effluents are found to be slightly opalescent fluids containing no perceptible solids of a slight greenish tinge in colour and in some cases give off a faint odour of sulphuretted hydrogen. They were subjected to the incubator test and were found to be non-putrescible. They varied somewhat in purity and freedom from odour, those from the Gouripur and Port Gloster Mills being the most satisfactory.

The chemical analysis of the effluent from the Gouripur Mill made by the Chemical Examiner to the Government was considered by him to be satisfactory. In regard, however, to the proportions of nitrates and albuminoid ammonia which indicate the extent to which the liquid has been purified by oxidation, the results compare unfavourably with the reports of similar analyses made in England. The degree of purification obtained even in the Gouripur effluent cannot therefore, be looked on as entirely satisfactory.

The biological characters of the effluents examined by Dr. Cook are not very satisfactory, the numbers of colon bacilli found in them being as large as that ordinarily met with in crude sewage. There is considerable bacterial contamination of the river water near the outfalls of these effluents, although this is found to have largely disappeared in the immediate neighbourhood of the Pultah intake. The extent to which pathogenic micro-organisms survive in the septic tank has been investigated by Major Drury, I. M. S. and Captain L. Rogers, I. M. S. It was found that whilst the process in inimical to some of these organisms, others survive, so that the effluents are considered to be potentially dangerous. Still more unfavourable results wer abtained by Dr. Houston, Bacteriologist to the London County Council, in England. He considered that the effluents from the bacteria beds ought to be regarded as hardly if at all more safe than the raw sewage before treatment. A similar opinion has also been expressed by the Royal Commission on the disposal of sewage.

The extent to which sewage effluents diffused and purified in rivers have been specially investigated in the case of the Thames, by Professor J. Clowes, D. S. [illegible] by Dr. Houston, and the results they obtained justify the belief in the case of the river Hooghly any pollution, caused by the discharge of septic tank effluents into it, must disappear very rapidly. No record of observations of the volume of fresh water passing down the Hooghly could be discovered. A careful enquiry was, therefore, instituted to ascertain the quantity of fresh water at the present time. The investigation cannot be completed before the close of the cold weather, but results already point to the probability that in the months of February and March the fresh water discharged of the Hooghly does not exceed 2,000 cubic feet a second.

The Committee are deeply impressed by the great advance in Sanitary Science and by the necessity of the septic tank system if its chief objection could be removed. The chemical composition of the effluent may be brought by suitable improvements up to the standard attained in England. The only danger is that arising from bacteriological pollution. During the greater part of the year this pollution in all probability rapidly disappears, and produces little, if any, effect on the drinking water supply of Calcutta and Howrah. Moreover this supply is filtered by the Municipal authorities. The action of Government must, however, be determined by the Maximum pollution which occurs during the dry months, and the Committee feel that they have no option but to decide that effluents which are not subjected to bacteriological purification are potentially dangerous if discharged into a river whose water is used for drinking purposes.

Their conclusion therefore is that the effluent in their present condition should not be emptied into the river above the water works or so near the water works as to affect the water supply. The precise point below which a line should be drawn, cannot be stated until the observations on the extent of flow of the tides have been completed. But for the present they recommend that no discharge of the effluents without such purification should be permitted at any point below Tolly's Nalah. If it is hereafter found possible to effect the requisite purification by means of sand filters, or if the effluents can be disposed of otherwise than by being discharged into the Hooghly the question will be reconsidered; but otherwise, in view of the sentimental objections which exist and of the desirability of keeping the water of the port as pure as possible, the Committee are of opinion that the rule now suggested should be adhered to. The sentimental and religious objections to the pollution of the Hooghly have not been discussed, but it will be seen from the minutes of evidence that a difference of opinion exists regarding the latter, and the real objection appears to be sentimental rather than religious, and to be largely due to ignorance of the transformation effected in the nature of the sewage by its passage through the septic tanks. They conclude, therefore, that the opposition would probably subside, if the real facts were brought home to the public, so that the great utility of the new system might be recognised.

The complete report appendices occupies sixty pages in current "Calcutta Gazette" all the points of investigation are to be set out.

The roads into Kashmere are blocked by remarkably heavy snow and all traffic is suspended except the carriage of mails.

It is believed that the Nawab of Bawalpur is bent upon annexing Jhandoul. A movable column meanwhile stands ready at Nowshera to proceed to Chakdara in case serious fighting occurs.

Colonel MacMahan has completed his demarcation work in Seistan, and will return to India by the end of this month. The awards regarding the disputes about the Helmand water-rights, which should please the Persians and Afghans alike, will be announced without further delay.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

High Court.—Jan. 6.

CRIMINAL BENCH.

(Before Justices Geidt and Mookerji).

KILLING ONE'S OWN SONS.

Their Lordships delivered the following judgment in the reference case in which a woman of Mymensing was charged with causing the death of her two sons. Maijin Bibi was charged with having caused the death of her two boys, aged 5 and 2 years respectively and with having thereby committed murder. The trial was held before the Sessions Judge of Mymensing sitting with a jury. The jury returned a verdict of "not guilty" and on being questioned by the Judge stated that they found that the accused had killed her two sons, but that she was not responsible for the act owing to homicidal impulse." The Judge then put to the jury this question: "Do you find the accused at the time of committing the act, was of unsound mind and incapable of knowin the nature of her act," and they replied "Yes, of unsound mind." The Judge disagreed with this finding of the jury and has accordingly submitted the case to this Court with the opinion that she should be convicted of murder.

From the evidence it appears that the father and his step-mother heard the children's screams, and going into the house they found the youngest child dead with his throat cut, and the elder with some ghastly wounds about his face to which he succumbed two days later without recovering consciousness. The accused was not at home and was absent all night. Next morning a search was made for her. She was found hiding in a jute field and attempted to escape. Being caught and taken home she admitted to the Panchayet that she herself admitted to the Panchayet that she herself had wounded the children and subsequently produced a blood-stained dao as the instrument with which she had done the deed. She repeated this confession in detail before a Magistrate the following day. It is true that she subsequently denied having killed her children; but from the evidence, which there is no reason to distrust, it is quite clear that it was the accused who put an end to her children's lives, and we see no reason to differ from the finding of the jury to this effect.

It remains only to consider whether the jury were right in their further finding that by reason of unsoundness of mind the accused committed no offence. The law on this point was correctly explained by the Sessions Judge who pointed out to the jury that as regards the defence of insanity set upon her behalf, it was not difficult to find merely that the accused was of unsound mind, but they must go on further to point that by reason of that unsoundness of mind she was incapable of knowing the nature of the act, or that she was doing what is either wrong or contrary to law.

The plea of insanity was set up by her pleader for the first time at the trial in the Court of Sessions. The only evidence as to the deficiency of her mental capacities was to the effect that she was of a capricious temper, and that in her fits of anger she sometimes had gone without food, had thrown mney into water and had broken the earthenware pots and plates. On the other hand the Civil Surgeon, who is superintendent of the jail in which the accused was confined while under trial, has deposed that on several occasions on which he had seen her he had observed nothing to indicate that she was not sane, and no report had been made to him that she had behaved in any but a rational manner. We may add that on 27th September last the Court directed that she should be placed under medical observation for a period of two months, and a report submitted at the end of that period as to the state of her mind. Accordingly on the 1st December, Dr. Murray submitted a report in which he says that she has been under observation since the 1st September throughout in a perfectly sane and rational manner and that she is at present in a sound mind.

The inability of the accused to control her temper under control no doubt does indicate an ill-balanced mind, but the fact that directly after the deed, she absented herself from house, remained away all night, hid in a jute field, and then tried to escape from those who searched for her, are sufficient to negative the idea that she was incapable of knowing the nature of the act or that she was doing what was either wrong or contrary to law. As far as we can judge, the finding of the jury was probably based on the absence of any sufficient motive for the deed, their minds being influenced by passages on homicidal impulses read to them as reported by the Sessions Judge, from Gibbon's Medical Jurisprudence. But it is not sufficient for an acquittal, that the accused was acting under a homicidal impulse. For the reasons above given we are unable to find that by reason of unsoundness of mind she did not know the nature of the act or that she was doing what was wrong or contrary to law. We accordingly convict Miajan Bibi of murder and direct that she be transported for life."

Korea, anxious to test the fighting quality of her own troops, has decided to send three Battalions to Ham Heung, on her north-east coast, to expel the Russians.

The first meeting of the Board of Agriculture for India recently formed by the Imperial Government, takes place at Pusa this week. It is expected that the Imperial and Provincial delegates will meet in conference for four or five days befoe dispersing.

Mr. Benjamin Aitkin, lately returned from Fiji, delivered a lecture at Lucknow on "Fiji and its People" in the course of which he said the islands were eighty in number, the largest of which was eighty miles long. The land belonged entirely to the people who sometimes rented or sold it to speculators, but never cultivated it. The Fijians lived principally on fish and bananas. No grain grew on these islands and no animals were to be found there. The absence of animal food accounted to a large extent for the cannibalism which formerly was so prevalent. The mountainous nature of the islands was opposed to the introduction of railways. Almost the entire population, some 200,000, were Christians. The people built their own churches and houses and were very energetic, but could not be induced to turn their thoughts to trade. The islands possessed a newspaper and the people were educated in their own tongue, but there was a party who were desirous that education should be imparted in English. The islands are over-ridden by foreign traders.

COMMERCIAL NOTES.

A large timber depot is being established by the United Provinces Government at Kheri for the Lucknow-Bareilly section of the Rohilkhand and Kumaon Railway.

We believe that the Bengal authorities have had under consideration the question of offering an award to the inventor of a machine for treating natal indigo seed which is now being tried in connection with the experiments in Behar.

The cotton mills in the Central Provinces are finding a great market for their piece in the amalgamated Province of Berar. According to the latest statistics of trade the mills last year supplied 83 per cent. of the Indian twist and yarn and 40 per cent. of the Indian piece-goods imported into Berar.

According to a recent official report the kerosine oil produced by the Assam oil-fields is finding an increasing market in the Central Provinces where it is said to be competing with the foreign article. The Assam oil goes there via Bengal which during the last official year sent a much larger quantity than it has hitherto done.

The Punjab Government are offering for sale in February next some 1,200 acres of valuable waste land in the Lahore and Chuman tahsils of the Lahore District. The lands are partly irrigable from the Bari Doab Canal. Trees and under-wood and all other products whatever of the above lands will be included in the sale, save and except all mines, minerals, coals, gold-washings, earth-oil and quarries in or under the lands.

There is a large and increasing export trade in oil-cake between the Central Provinces and Berar and the Bombay Presidency and Bombay Port, and apparently the whole of the imports into the latter are shipped out of the country. Last official year Berar exported 66,000 maunds or three times as much as the Central Provinces, and it is stated as curious that while nearly the whole of the Berar consignments go to Bombay Port, most of the Central Provinces output is sent to Bombay Presidency possibly to be shipped by merchants.

A great exhibition of fruit from British Colonies has been held at the Hall of the Royal Horticultural Society, Westminster. Owing to the differences of seasons the display is confined to Canada, Nova Scotia, British Columbia and the West Indies. A similar exhibition on behalf of Australia, South Africa and other Colonies will be held in March. Fruit, brought from the Colonies in cold storage chambers, is now landed in England in excellent condition nearly all the year round.

The New York "Journal of Commerce" states that a German firm of artificial silk manufacturers are making arrangements to establish a mill in the United States. Whether artificial silk can or will be made in the United States to compete with the European product has not yet been demonstrated, remarks the "Journal," but there can be no doubt that there is a market for it. Attempts to manufacture it in the United States have been made, but the results have not been very satisfactory, owing, it is said, to lack of expert knowledge and assistance.

A Bombay official report just published mentions that in consequence of the abundant cane crop in Mauritius, exceptionally large shipments of Mauritius sugar were put on the Bombay market in 1903-04 at a price cheaper by 5 per cent. than that of best sugar, while during the same period supplies of sugar from Java and Egypt also increased. The result of this business was that in the railborne export trade in sugar of the Presidency in 1903-04 there was an increase of 35 per cent., compared with 1902-03, the exports to the United Provinces, Rajputana and Central India being specially noticeable.

The canal irrigated "rabi" or spring crops of 1904-05 in the United Provinces are already showing a very satisfactory increase in area compared with that of the crops of 1903-04. At the end of November the total irrigated area was 504,719 acres as against 371,925 acres for the corresponding period of 1903. Wheat, sugarcane, barley, grain, other food grains and miscellaneous crops all contribute to the increased area, the increase in wheat, sugarcane and mis- especially large. The prospects for the spring harvest for the May next...

RADIUM AT THE BOMBAY EXHIBITION.

A novel and highly interesting exhibit has just been added to the Exhibition on the Oval in the shape of a piece of that wonderful substance "Radium," the discovery of which has caused such a stir in the scientific world. Messrs. Kemp and Co., have placed a piece of this rare metal in their stand at the Exhibition, and it should prove of great interest to medical men and all others who are thus afforded a unique opportunity of seeing free an exhibit of such a rare and interesting character. Considering there is not an ounce of Radium in existence, and, taking into consideration the enormous cost of this substance, the opportunity of seeing even a small portion will undoubtedly be greatly appreciated by all engaged in medical and scentific operations.

Radium is at present in its infancy. What will be the outcome of its application in the future remains to be seen, and already some remarkable results have been achieved in "Lupus," the Radium rays being used to effect cures. The great cost and scarcity of the substance have, however, up to the present prevented any large field of experimental work, but there is no doubt its future application will achieve great results in the medical world. Even with the small quantities which Messrs. Kemp and Co. have secured at great cost the rays can be fully demonstrated, and the exhibit is one of an extremely interesting character.

Orders have been issued by the Mysore Durbar for the abolition of the Plague Observation system from the 1st of January.

It is reported that a Chinese syndicate has in contemplation the inauguration of a fast steamship service between Shanghai and Tientsin. Three boats are to be built at a cost of about £60,000 each, with a guaranteed speed of twenty knots, and to accomplish the trip from Bund to Bund in thirty-six hours. The boats will carry first-class as well as third-class passengers. In addition to this there are to be also built three river steamers in the building of which special attention will be paid in regard to passenger accommodation and speed.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

The secretary of agriculture has transmitted his eighth annual report to the president in opening his report the secretary enumerates some of the more important features of the year's work. Among them are extensive co-operation with agricultural stations; the taking of preliminary steps to conduct feeding and breeding experiments; the war waged against the cotton boll weevil and against cattle mange; plans for education of engineers in road building; the production of a hardy orange, a hybrid of the Florida orange and the Japanese tufoliata; valuable research in successful shipping of fruit abroad; the value of nitrogen-fixing bacteria; successful introduction of plants suited to light rainfall areas; establishment of pure food standards; the extension of agricultural education in primary and secondary schools; the extension of instruction to our island possessions to enable them to supply the country with $200,000,000 worth of domestic products now imported from abroad.

While expressing the hope that the time will come when it will be possible to forecast weather for coming seasons, that time has not yet arrived, and the secretary utters a warning on the subject. During the year arrangements were perfected for a generous increase in the number of daily telegraphic weather reports, and the secretary reports several submarine cables laid. The weather bureau has now 158 stations completely equipped, while 150 steel towers with improved equipment for displaying storm warnings are now installed along the shores of the Great lake and the Atlantic and Pacific seacoasts.

Experiments recently reported upon by the bureau of animal industry show conclusively that it is an error to conclude that cattle cannot be infected with human tuberculosis. The secretary urges the necessity of a rigid enforcement of the public regulations looking to the control and eradication of this disease in cattle. The bureau distributed 74,000 doses of tuberculin in 1904. The blackleg vaccine for cattle distributed by the bureau continues to give satisfaction. During the year 1,000,000 doses of this vaccine were issued, and over 10,000 persons reported highly satisfactory results. The number of animals that died after vaccination was reduced to the very low figure of 0.44 per cent of the number treated.

The secretary reports great advances in the improvement of plants and methods of growing them, for which he gives due credit to this bureau. Since the bureau of plant industry was organized three years ago it has been necessary to increase its force nearly 50 per cent, and it now employs 500 workers, 60 per cent of whom are engaged in scientific investigation and its application to the farm, the orchard, and the garden. The bureau is striving to train young men for this work.

Special efforts have been made to encourage the study of plants in the public schools. The secretary argues that our system of elementary education leaves no impression on the child's mind of the importance value, and usefulness of farm life, while in many ways he is brought early into contact with facts pointing to the value of commercial life. He calls attention to the rapid advances made in agriculture along all lines, and notes the need for bright young men in this field, which he believes offers opportunities as great as in any other. The distribution of seed is being handled in such a way that encouragement of plant growing will be a feature of it in connection with public school work.

The present situation as regards forestry in the United States the secretary regards as exceedingly hopeful. The lumber industry seems to be awakening to the fact that lumbering with reference to future as well as present profits may be good business. The general adoption of forestry as an established policy now depends primarily on business conditions. Extensive investigations of forest conditions are still urgently needed. Studies which individuals cannot undertake, but which must be made if the wealth-producing power of the country as a whole is to be brought to the highest point, need to be prosecuted in the public interest. The furtherance of that part of this department's work which is directed toward informing the small owner how he can to advantage practice forestry on his own account is of the first importance.

In the line of tobacco investigations, which are carried on by the bureau of soils, the most important work during the year was the experimental growing of Cuban seed on certain soils in Texas, Alabama, Carolina. Samples of tobaccos grown were submitted to the trade, and the leaf was found to have considerable merit in regard to flavor and aroma and pronounced it to be superior filler yet grown in this country. Alabama filler leaf is considered fair... judgment of the success of this ven... however, must await further advices from dealers and manufacturers. Growing of the Cuban type of filler has also been tried in Ohio. The most important work in Ohio, however, has been the further introduction of the bulk method of fermenting cigar tobaccos. Over 655,000 pounds were fermented in 190... over 4,000,000 pounds in 1903, while in 1901 the quantity so fermented exceeded 10,000,000 pounds. Considerable demand has been made the past year upon the bureau to assist the growers of the heavy export types. Experiments have been undertaken to grow the tobacco with different fertilizers and under different methods of culture to see which will give the best financial results. It is yet too early to give the results of the present season's work.

In 1903 the bureau had practically ceased its work in Connecticut in the production of shade-grown tobacco, but in 1904 it has conducted an experiment at Tariffville, Ct., where a crop has been produced on a four-acre plot. Tobacco of this type was exhibited at the Louisiana purchase exposition and received a grand prize as a leaf of the high- excellence for cigar wrappers. The secretary presents a table which shows that 134 bales of Connesticut shade-grown tobacco have been sold for domestic use at an average price of $1.26 plus, the highest price obtained being $1.75 per pound for light wrappers. One hundred and forty-four bales were sold for export at an average of $0.34.—"Spring Field Weekly."

Lord Curzon will proceed to Assam about the 12th of February for a few days shooting.

Sir James Bourdillon commenced his tour to Coorg on the 4th instant, and left Bangalore at 5 p. m. on Wednesday for Tarikere. As far as is at present arranged, the Resident will reach Mercara on the 3rd February, his movements after that date not being settled. Lady Bourdillon accompanies Sir James on tour.

A DINNER AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

His Excellency the Viceroy entertained the Delegates of the Conference of Indian and Ceylon Chambers of Commerce to dinner at Government House on Thursday evening, 5th January.

At the end of dinner the Viceroy, after the health of the King-Emperor had been drunk, proposed the following toast:—

Gentlemen,—If I may judge from the newspapers, commerce has been so very articulate during the last two or three ... that you will probably welcome, and resent some respite this evening I can assure you therfore that I shall cut the speech-making part of this entertainment down to the narrowest possible limits. At the same time I cannot deny myself the privilege of welcoming you here, and of saying how greatly I esteem the honour that you confer upon me by coming as my guests tonight. It seems to me an excellent thing that representative members of the Chambers of Commerce of India should meet in Conference at Calcutta as you are now doing. You exchange useful ideas and you pass resolutions relating to the commercial and industrial condition of the country. The interests that are represented by the gentlemen who are sitting at this table are, in my judgment, very important ones, for they are commensurate with the whole field of economic development upon which the future prosperity of this country so largely depends. (Hear, hear.) Your meetings therefore and your discussions concern a much wider class than the members of Chambers of Commerce alone, because they affect the interests of the country at large. (Applause.)

From a careful study of your proceedings in the morning's newspapers I am glad to note how general a recognition there now appears to be of the community of interest between Government and Commerce in this country (applause), and of the extent to which both the Supreme Government and the Local Governments endeavour to cooperate with your aims. (Applause.) We do not hear so much now-a-days as we used to do about the alleged antagonism between Government and trade, about the indifference of Government to commercial interests, and the crass obtuseness of the official mind. (Laughter.) Speaking as an official myself and on behalf of many other officials, I willingly recognise our stupidity (laughter), but I decline to admit that we have any monopoly of stupidity. (Laughter.) I am not going to make the claim this evening that, as time goes on, Government is becoming more intelligent; neither will I flatter you by suggesting that commerce most broadminded. Rather I think we may say that by an inevitable and mutual approximation both Government and commerce recognise the identity of their common interests and learn the advantage of understanding each other's attitude and point of view. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

I rejoice particularly that it has been my good fortune to be the head of the Government which has taken what I think may be described as the most practical and far-reaching step that has been adopted, at any rate in recent years, for the furtherance of commerce in India. (Hear, hear.) I allude of course to the creation of an independent Department of Commerce with a separate Minister at its head. (Hear, hear, and applause.) In this country we are often supposed to be very backward and torpid in the movement of our ideas, but here at any rate, I think we may claim to be a little bit ahead of some other parts of the British Empire, for at least we may boast of having created a Ministry of Commerce before Great Britain has found it necessary to provide herself with the same commodity. (Applause.)

Now, Gentlemen, some of you may perhaps be inclined to think that the creation of a new Department is a very simple thing. A note from the Viceroy, or from an Hon'ble Member of Council, or from a Secretary, is put in at one end of the machine, a handle is turned, and out comes the finished product of Mr. Hewett at the other. (Laughter.) Well, I have observed that those who are outside of great concerns, whether they be those of business or of Government, are rather apt to think that everything inside proceeds with an almost mechanical rapidity and accuracy, and that with the minimum of labour is produced the maximum of result. And yet I do not think that any of those who have experience of the working, either of business or of commerce, will bear out that impression. It is certainly not true of Government; I do not believe it to be true of business; and least of all is it true of a country like India, where my experience is that any novel proposal cannot be carried through without a prodigious amount of exertion. (Hear, hear.)

So it has been in the present case. You may know, if you recollect the by-gone history of the case, that we first went up to the Secretary of State with a proposal for a Commercial Bureau. He rejected it because it was too large. I think it argued a creditable amount of spirit that we replied to that challenge by going up with a still larger. (Hear, hear, and applause.) The fact is that the further we conducted our investigations the more we found that our administrative machinery in India was altogether inadequate for the duties that are required from it, that the division of labour between the different Departments of Government was antiquated and unscientific, and that we were exacting impossible tasks from overworked men. (Hear, hear.) This necessitated a complete revision of the work of the various Departments of the Government of India and it soon brought us face to face with the absolutely in is pensable creation of a new Department. We had to redistribute the work of the other Departments, to extract from them that which belonged more distinctly to your functions and your needs, and slowly but surely to build up the new structure from the base. Then we had to go to the Secretary of State and to procure his assent, not only to our proposals themselves, but to the introduction of legislation in the British Parliament: because, anomalous though it may seem, it is the case that you cannot add to the functions of the Government of India, or, at any rate, you can not create a ney Department, without passing a Bill through the Houses of Parliament at home.

These were the preliminary stages. When I went home last summer I found the Secretary of State, as he had been throughout, most sympathetic, but there was still considerable doubt as to whether the requisite legislation could be squeezed through the House of Commons, and I remember on one occasion being roused up from my sick-bed in England to go down to that Chamber to haveafew words of tenderexhortation with a few Hon'ble Members who were supposed to be not altogether favourably inclined towards our Bill. (Laughter.) The upshot of it all was that the Secretary of State passed his Bill, the Department was constituted, and them we were face to face with the momentous question of how to fill it. Now, Gentlemen, I have never concealed my own desire, and I know that it was shared by the Secretary of State, that we should, if possible, have appointed a business man to be the head of a business concern, a commercial man to be the first Member for Commerce in India, an expert to guide and control our ignorance. Six months were spent in the euort to satisfy that desire; but just as it is one think to take a horse up to a trough and another thing to compel him to drink, so it is one thing to ask a man to come out to India, even for a post with the magnificent opportunities and the not inconsiderable emoluments of this, and another thing to persuade him to accept it. Accordingly it was with no great surprise, although it was with regret, that soon after I came back to India the other day I heard by telegram from the Secretary of State that he had not been successful in his endeavours, and that there was no alternative but to appoint a Civilian. As soon as that decision was announced to me all doubt and hesitation was at an end. For I knem that I had in Mr. Hewett, who is seated at my left tonight (applause), a Civilian possessing quite exceptional abilities and breadth of view, a man who was already in close touch the commercial community, not in Calcutta but in other parts of the country (applause), and a man possessing so much versatility and power of assimilation that, backed by the knowledge which long official experience must have given to him, he would in a very short time be discharging the duties of his new office in a manner satisfactory to the business world. (Applause.) I believe, Gentlemen, from indications that have fallen from you at the meetings of your Chambers during the last few days, that you share these feelings (applause), and I confidently look forward to the time when the new Department will be shaped by Mr. Hewett, with the sympathy and insight with which I credit him, into a form that will make the mercantile community in India quite content that the missing expert did not appear upon the scene. (Applause.) I will only say in conclusion that it marks one of the few remaining milstones that lie before me in India that I should have been able to see this new office, in the creation which I have taken so deep an interest, started in my time, and I bespeak for the new Department and for the first Hon'ble Member who presides it the generous and sympathetic assistance of the community at large. (Loud applause.)

I now propose the toast of the Delegates of the Conference of the Indian and Ceylon Chambers of Commerce, and I will couple it with the name of the Hon'ble gentleman who sits upon my right. Mr. Apcar is a man peculiarly fitted for the honourable post on which he occupies to-day by reason of his distinguished position in the mercantile world, by reason of tastes and pursuits (applause) with which we all sympathise (applause) and which we hope have been a source of as much profit to everybody at this table (laughter) as they are alleged to have been to himself (laughter), and as enjoying a popularity not more widely spread than it is thoroughly deserved. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

HIGH OFFICIALS ROBBED.

A Correspondent from Hafizabad writes to the "Tribune":— Even the high officers are not spared by the thieves. In the first week of November last Mr. Douie, the Settlement Commissioner was touring in the Hafizabad Tehsil in company of the Settlement Officer, Mr. I.C. Lal Lala Atma Ram, the Tehsildar of Hafizabad Sardars Jamiat Singh and Dhian Singh, the Settlement Tehsildar and Naib Tehsildar also joined the camp of the Commissioner. At Wanike, where they were encamping, 2 clever and professional thieves entered the camp at night when forwarding tents were being packed up for next stage. Of course no one suspected them to be thieves, but all thought them coolies assisting the peons in packing up the luggage. Thus they got information about the tents of each and every officer putting up there. First they entered the tent of the Settlement Commissioner and removed some suits of the clothes then in the tent of Lala Atma Ram and did the same. But they were not contented with the clothes only and entered the tent of Sardar Jamiat Singh which was pitched at a corner. It was of course a mere chance that the Sardar was carrying with him in steel trunk the ornaments of his family who had gone home for a short time. The steel trunk, it is said, was kept in a camel truck which was left open. The thieves searched the tent and succeeded in removing away the steel trunk in which the ornaments to the value of over two thousand rupees were deposited. This was almost the whole property of the Sardar which he had saved during his service as an exceptionally honest member of the Settlement. It was of course a sad thing for Sardar Jamiat Singh to report the matter to the Thanna. There was great confusion in the camp owing to the removal of the Officers' clothes and this led all the Officers to try to trace the culprits. Though this occurred in the jurisdiction of Wanike Thanna, yet it was proposed to depute the best detective and an energetic officer available and consequently. Sardar Chatar Singh, the Deputy Inspector of Hafizabad, whose detective abilities are beyond any question, was selected for the purpose. He hunted the thieves and got clue of them with the greatest difficulty. Both the thieves are sweepers by caste and of Jhang District. They are said to be clever and professional thieves. Both the thieves were caught and the clothes of the Settlement Commissioner and the Tehsildar have been recovered from one thief together with property worth about Rs. 200. The second thief, in whose possession the rest of the property was, has escaped from the custody of Sergeant Sardarbeg (God knows how) and is still at large. The Police is after him, but there is little chance of his being re-captured.

Mr. D. Nursing Row, B.A., B.L., Registrar of the General and Revenue Secretariat is to be appointed Under-Secretary to Government of Mysore, and with a view to this appointment he has been deputed to the Revenue Board Office, Madras, in order to make himself acquainted with the system of working there with a view to its introduction in the Mysore Revenue Department. Mr. Nursing Row will also be deputed to Bombay and other places to study the working of the Revenue systems in vogue there.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

SUPREME LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SECOND SITTING.

A meeting of the Supreme Legislative Council was held at the Council Chamber, Government House, on Friday at 11 a.m.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, presided and there were present:—His Honour Sir A. H. L. Fraser. K.C.S.I., Lietenant-Governor of Bengal. His Excellency General Viscount Kitchener of Khartoum, G.C.B., O.M., G.C.M.G., Commander-in-Chief in India, the Hon'ble Sir E. F. G. Law, K.C.M.G., C.S.I., the Hon'ble Major-General Sir E. R. Elles, K.C.S.I., K.C.S.I., the Hon'ble Sir A. T. Arundel, K.C.S.I., the Hon'ble Sir Denzil Ibbetson, K.C.S.I., the Hon'ble Mr. H. Erle Richards, the Hon'ble Mr. Gopal Krishna Gokhale, C.I.E., the Hon'ble Mr. E. Cable, the Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Muhammad Sahib Bahadur, the Hon'ble Mr. H. Adamson, C.S.I., the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur B. K. Bose, C.I.E., the Hon'ble Sir Rameshwara Singh, K.C.I.E., Maharaja Bahadur of Darbhanga, the Hon'ble Rai Sri Ram Bahadur, the Hon'ble Mr. L. A. S. Porter, the Hon'ble Mr. A. D. Younghusband, the Hon'ble Mr. L. Hare. C.I.E., the Hon'ble Mr. H. A Sim, C.I.E., and the Hon'ble Nawab Fateh Ali Khan, Kazilbash, C.I.E.

PARTITION OF BENGAL.

The Hon'ble the Maharaja of Durbhanga asked:—(1) Will Government be pleased to make any declaration stating whether it has come to any decision on the question of the partition of Bengal? (2) What is the nature of such decision both as regards the districts to be severed and the administration to be given to the new province?

The Hon'ble Sir Denzil Ibbetson replied:—No decision has yet been come to on the subject.

SINDH INCUMBERED ESATES ACT.

The Hon'ble Sir Denzil Ibbetson moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Sindh Incumbered Estaes Act, 1896.

He said:—It is proposed to deal with this matter in this, and not in the provincial Council, because the Act which it is proposed to amend was passed in the Imperial Council; and because the provisions of sections 5 and 9 of that Act, which it is now proposed to extend, apply to all course throughout British India, where as the extension if the amending Act were passed in the local Council, would apply only to the courts of the Bombay Presidency.

The following is the full text of the Statement of Objects and reasons:—

The object of this Bill is to remedy certain defects in the Sindh Incumbered Estates Act, 1896 (XX of 1896), which have been disclosed by experience. An explanation of the amendments proposed will be found in the annexed "Notes on Clauses."

"Notes on Clauses."

"Clause" 2 (a) will extend the benefit of the Act to certain holders of jagirs who do not receive sanads.

"Clause" 2 (b).—It is found inconvenient, and appears now to be unnecessary, to ascertain, for the purpose of determining whether a person is a "zamindar" within the meaning of the Act or not, what assessment was paid by him between the years 1891 and 1896. No time limit for the making of applications is fixed under the present Act, as was done by section 4 of Act XX of 1881. It is proposed, therefore, to substitute (as the test) the amount of assessment paid by the applicant during any of the five years next before the date of his application.

Clauses 3 and 4.—One of the objects of the Act has been frustrated by the institution of suits against the sureties of debtors whose estates have been taken under management. The amendments proposed in clauses 3 and 4 will remove all doubt as to the protection afforded to sureties, in cases in which they have not expressly undertaken a liability to meet proceedings carried on after an order of management has been made.

Clause 5.—The power of recovery given by section 10 is extended to meet certain doubtful cases which have arisen, e.g., the recovery of the difference lost on resale after default by the original purchaser, or of advances of takavi to cultivators on an estate.

Clause 6 (b) removes a limitation which is now thought unreasonable. The mere fact that a lease has been in operation for a specified time is no guarantee of its fairness and no reason for protection against the scrutiny of the manager.

Clause 6 (c) provides for the payment of compensation, when equitably due, where the manager sets aside or cancels a lease. In order to avoid undesirable litigation, the manager's decision as to the amount of compensation to be awarded is made final, subject to the appellate and revisional jurisdiction conferred by Chapter VI of the Act.

Clause 6 (c) also adds a sub-section to section 22, to render effective the power to set aside or cancel leases by giving the manager the same power of summary eviction in such cases as he has under section 21 in respect of other incumbrances.

The Hon'ble Sir Edward Law introduced the Bill and moved that the Bill together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons relating thereto, be published in the "Gazette of India" in English and in such other languages as the Local Government thinks fit.

The motion was put and agreed to.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES LOAN ACT.

The Hon. Sir Edward Law moved for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Local Authorities Loan Act, 1879.

He said:—

Under the terms of section 8 of the Local Authorities' Loan Act, 1879, the Rangoon Port Commissioners can borrow money under the prvisions of that Act alone. It is proposed by the Rangoon Port Bill, which was introduced in the Burma Council on the 21st ultimo, to empower the Commissioners to borrow under the provisions of that Bill; and the object of the present measure is to remove the bar imposed by the Act of 1879, so as to give full effect to that proposal.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Sir Denzil Ibbetson introduced the Bill and moved that the Bill togethe with the Statement of Objects and Reasons relating thereto, be published in English in the "Gazette of India" and the local official Gazettes.

The motion was put and agreed to.

PAPER CURRENCY ACT.

The Hon'ble Sir Edward Law moved for leave to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Government Paper Currency.

He said:—

The primary object of this Bill is to consolidate the acts relating to the Government Paper Currency. The opportunity has at the sametime been taken to propose certain amendments in the existing law.

The Law as originally formulated in the Indian Paper Currency Act, 1882 (XX of 1882) has been materially modified by a number of enactments, of which the following are still in force, namely,—The Indian Coinage and Paper Currency Act, 1893 (VIII of 1893). The Indian Paper Currency Act (Amendment Act), 1896 (XX of 1896.) The Indian Coinage and Paper Currency Act, 1899 (XXII of 1899). The Indian Paper Currency Act 1900 (VIII of 1900). The Indian Paper Currency Act, 1902 (IX of 1902). The Indian Paper Currency (Amendment) Act, 1903 (VI of 1903).

The present Bill repeals all these enactments as well as the main Act of 1882 and reproduces their provisions in a consolidated form. Such of the amendments of the existing law proposed in the Bill as appear to be of sufficient importance to require explanation are described in the "Notes on clauses" annexed, while the "Tabular statement" shows how each provision of that law has been disposed of in the process of consolidation. The most important provision in the Bill is clause XX which raises the amount of the reserve that may be invested from ten to twelve crores of rupees and permits the whole or part of the investment to be made in securities of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. The former of these measures is held justified by the increase which has taken place in recent years in the circulation of currency notes; the latter is considered to be desirable because the value of the rupees has been fixed on a sterling basis, and sterling securities may sometimes be more readily realisable than rupee securities.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Sir Edward Law introduced the Bill and moved that the Bill together with the Statement of Objects and Rtasons relating thereto, be published in the "Gazette of India" in English and in the local official Gazettes in English and in such other languages as the local Governmtnts think fit.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Council was then adjourned till Friday the 27th January.

VARIETIES.

The vicar of Hurley, fishing in the Thames, landed a pike, in the stomach of which were 123 minnows and other tiny fish.

Astronomers at the Lick Observatory report the discovery of a crack on the moon's surface. It runs along the foot of the Alps, and is thought to be about eighty miles long.

Hundreds of people have been wolf-hunting in Northumberland of late. Two months ago a wolf escaped from a private collection near Newcastle, and has been playing havoc amongst the sheep in the Fell district. Horsemen have pursued the animal for miles over the snow, but he always kept out of rifle range.

AN ACTION FOR A MILLION OF RUPEES.

Mrs. Isabella de Silva, widow and executrix of the estate of the late Mr. N. D. P. Silva, has taken out an extraordinary injunction from the Supreme Court, Colombo, against Mr. Jacob de Mel of "Villa de Mel," the well-known plumbago merchant to be served on him and on his agent at Kurunegala, Mr. Simon de Silva, restraining them both from tunnelling or containing to tunnel from their adjacent plumbago pit into the plumbago pit belonging to Mrs. de Silva on an estate called Ketakellegaha in the Kurunegala District.

It seems that Mr. Jacob de Mel and Mrs. de Silva are adjoining plumbago pit owners, and an action has already been begun in the District Court of Colombo by Mrs. de Silva claiming some Rs. 570,000 as damages for plumbago which she says has been undermined by Mr. de Mel's men from her property. The case is pending, and is to be tried some day this month. In the meanwhile it is alleged that the underground encroachments have continued to such a serious extent that Mrs. de Silva says she fears that she will sustain irremediable damage of over Rs. 500,000. Such a case of extreme urgency has been provided for in our Procedure Code, and the Supreme Court has the power of intervening with an absolute injunction, and that power has before now been exercised. The total damages demanded amount to nearly a million rupees.

THE "SILCHAR" DEFAMATION CASE.

AN UNQUALIFIED APOLOGY.

On Wednesday, the 4th instant, before Mr. D. H. Kingsford I.C.S., the Chief Presidency Magistrate, the defamation case in which Babu Aghore Chandra Sen, late manager of Deno Nath Dutt, charged Babu Bidhu Bhusan Roy, editor of a vernacular fortnightly paper called the "Silchar," with having defamed him in a certain issue of the said paper by casting aspersions on his character, and the particulars of which have already appeared in these columns, was called on for hearing.

As the case was called on, Babu Jotindra Mohon Ghosh, Vakil, with Babu Devendra Nath Ghosh rose for the complainant and said that the accused was in the Court. Then Bidhu Bhusan Roy stepped into the box. He said that he had wronged Babu Aghore Chandra for which he much regretted. He then filed a printed vernacular petition to the Court in which he made an unqualified apology to Babu Aghore Chandra and retracted every thing he wrote or said about the complainant. He also very much regretted his actions, and undertook to publish his apology in all the leading papers of Sylhet and Tipperah as also in six leading Calcutta papers and his own paper the "Silchar" in six of its issues:

On receiving the petition the Court asked the defendant.

"Is this your apology?" Defendant:—Yes, Sir.

Court:—Is this your signature?

Defendent:—Yes, Sir.

Court: Do you publish this apology in papers?

Defendent:—Yes Sir, in all the papers mentioned therein.

Court to complainant:—Are you satisfied and willing to compromise?

Complainant:—Yes, Sir.

Court:—Have you accepted the apology and pardoned him

Complainant:—Yes, Sir, I have accepted it and pardoned him.

After this the case was allowed to be withdrawn.

TELEGRAMS.

—:(o):—

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Jan. 3.

News of the fall of Port Arthur is now published in Russia and has had a depressing effect, but the papers exhort the nation to support the Government in prosecuting the campaign and show that Russia is a great nation.

London, Jan. 3.

The scene of the negotiations for the capitulation was in the big Eagles Nest fort near Erhlungshan. Colonel Reiss acted for Russia and General Ijichi for Japan. The proceedings were characterised by the utmost harmony, formal courtesy quickly melling into informal good fellowship. The envoys complimented each other on the splendid bravery. The terms of surrender include that privates go to Japan as prisoners of war.

London, Jan. 3.

The sufferings of the defenders were indicated in a despatch from Stoessel to the Tsar on the eve of capitulation, in which he says:—"The position of the fortress is most painful. Our principal enemies are scurvy, which is moving down the men, of whom only a few are not affected, and the eleven inch shells which know no obstacle, and which we must passively endure because we have no protection a number of high officers have been lost, including, out of ten Generals, three dead, and three wounded Shis is some indication of our enormous loosses."

London, Jan. 3.

All messages arriving in London late on January 3rd contain various inspired suggestions in the direction of peace and emanating from Washington representing President Roosevelt as anxious to mediate, but he cannot move until he is approached by both belligerents. Nothing whatever of a confirmatory nature been received in London, where the peace rumours are not credited.

London, Jan. 3.

Admiral Foelkersham's squadron has anchored in Passandava Bay, Madagascar. Admiral Rezzdvestchentski is now at Antongil, Madagascar, both provisioning at Nossibe, Mojonga, and Tamatave. It is believed they will rendezvous at Diego Suarez.

London, Jan. 3.

A poignant note was struck in accounts of Russian survivors by a Naval Officer at Chifu, who said to Reuter's correspondent.

The news that Stoessel was prepared to treat for surrender was received by the soldiers with utmost relief. For a month past severe wounds have been welcomed by them, because it meant relief from incessant fighting and tunnelling on half rations.

"It is mere handful of broken men who surrender and on the debrisstrewn desert which the Japanese gain, not one of Port Arthurs magnificent public works remains. General Stoessel still wanted to fight, and only yielded to the entreaties of his staff, who pointed out that the men were utterly worn out and had no ammunition.

"For months we held Port Arthur with bayonets alone, for instance at Erlungshan, where the garrison died fighting machine guns with the bayonets. General Nogi has taken Port Arthur with artillery and tunnels, his rifle bullets were seldom effective. The capture of Metre Hill, which cost us 5,000 men, was the beginning of the end."

London, Jan. 4.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says the terms of surrender are contained in eleven articles:—They declare that the garrison and officials are prisoners.

All forts and war material shall be transferred to the Japanese, and should the Russians destroy any, these negotiations shall be annulled, and Japan will take free action.

The Russians shall give plans of the fortifications and the positions of the mines.

Considering the gallant resistance that has been made, Russian officers are permitted to keep their swords and private property, and on giving their parole will be allowed to return to Russia.

The rank file in uniform with their portable property under their respecti... shall assemble at a place ind...

Japanese Sanitary ... be retained to assist ... and wounded.

The Tsar has can... troops in the provinc... Petersburg immediat...

Russian officers ... Stoessel's army at P... thirty-five thousand ... thousand were killed ... and wounded, and ... forts. Of these ... were unable to fight ... per cent. of the ... combat. This remarkable fact is due to wounded returning to the front.

Reuter's correspond... that H.M. cruiser ... Wei-hai-Wei for P... tons of medical supp... sick and wounded. ... beds and a hundred t... sions and cargo was ... night, following the ... the errand of mercy.

London, Jan. 4.

General Stoessel, telegraphing to the Tsar his formal surrender, says:—"Great Sovereign forgive. We have done all that was humanly possible. Judge us, but be merciful."

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says the Tsar has cabled to General Stoessel giving the officers the option of parole or imprisonment.

London, Jan. 4.

The Tsar has returned to St. Petersburg.

London, Jan. 5.

H. M. S. "Andromeda" has returned to Wei-hai-wei. The Japanese would not allow stores to be disembarked or the ship to approach land on the ground of undiscovered mines.

London, Jan. 5.

The Russians march out of Port Arthur tomorrow, and the Japanese make their formal entry on the 8th instant.

London, Jan. 5.

The old established Rus... and the new liberal paper the "Nashidovi" have been warned and penalized owing to articles regarding the fall of Port Arthur and declaring reforms are essential to Russia's rehabilation, the "Nashidovi" also strongly urged for peace.

TELEGRAMS.

—:(o):—

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Jan. 5.

France replying to a representation made by Japan regarding the coaling and victualling of the Baltic Fleet at Madagascar says, there is no danger of the non-observance of neutrality and that local authorities have received strict instructions in the matter.

London, Jan. 5.

Lord Selborne speaking at Wolverhampton said that we regard Russians and Japanese with the profoundest respect. It was comparatively easy to admire the Japanese; they are our allies and we do admire them without restraint and reserve but it would ill become us if we did not admire the Russians equally.

London, Jan. 5.

Reuter wiring from Tokio says:—General Nogi reports that the total surrendered number is 48,000, of whom 16,000 are sick and wounded. The transfer of the forts and batteries is completed. It is impossible to move the majority of the sick and wounded. The Japanese are hurrying food and medicine thither.

London, Jan. 5.

With reference to the statement that there will be an enquiry into the surrender of Port Arthur, the "Novoe Vremya" declares:—"Let us have a Court-martial by all means and then we shall discover why the fortress was not supplied with food and munitions, and who are Russian's real enemies, they being infinitely more dangerous than the Japanese."

London, Jan. 6.

It is probable that Japan will send the Port Arthur prisoners back to Russia.—"Englishman."

London, Jan. 6.

"New York Herald" St. Petersburg Correspondent states that Admiral Rezdvestchenski's Flagship has struck a rock and gone to bottom.

Admiral Rezdvestchenski is to be recalled. Imperial Decree appoints Skrydloff member of Council of Admirals.

(Later.)

The yoss of Admiral Rozhdestvensky's flagship Kniaz Suvaroff is absolutely denied at St. Petersburg.

London, Jan. 6.

The "Standard," St. Petersburg correspondent says, the Tsar and his Ministers met in Council in the Palace to-day and decided to prosecute the war energetically, and provide Kuropatkin with 200,000 troops before the end of February.

(Later.)

Reuter's Tokio correspondent wires that General Tossel has given his parole and returns to Russia, via Nagasaki.

Generals Nogi and Toessel had a two hours' conference at Por Arthur yesterday, and priposed to distribute the sick and wounded among the hospitals at Chinese ports.

GENERAL.

London, Jan. 5.

Signor Tittoni, the Italian Foreign Minister, has been seized with cerebral congestion, due to a severe cold while on a shooting excursion.

London, Jan. 6.

The British Consul's mountain residence near Tangier has been attacked by robbers. The gaurds drove them off.

London, Jan. 5.

The Nigretia has been condemned as a prize

London, Jan. 5.

The death is announced of the singer Belle Cole.

London, Jan. 6.

Lord Milner leaves Africa in August.—"Englishman."

NEWS LATER THAN THE MAIL.

RUSSO-JAPANESE WA...

PORT ...

... Dec. 18.

...PANESE ...NCING.

... Japanese ...ncing against the Tai-yang-kau Itzu... ...uzhan forts along Pigeon Bay. They are sapping through the frozen ground. The Japanese naval guns on 203-Metre Hill are covering the infantry's advance on the western side.

THE SUNKEN WARSHIPS.

General Stoessel states that the water-tight compartments of the Russian warships in Port Arthur were opened a month ago. He declares that these warships, half submerged, sustained the Japanese plugging fire without injury to their engines, though their upper works have been destroyed. Their guns, he says, are ashore, and the list of some of the vessels is the result of their having been sunk in shallow water and of their swaying about according to the current. If, he adds, Port Arthur is captured the vessels can be easily destroyed.

PLEA FOR THE HOSPITALS.

General Stoessel has requested General Nogi to refrain from bombarding the Port Arthur hospitals, and has furnished him with a plan of the town, indicating their positions.

JAPAN AND CHILI.

Much resentment is felt at Tokio at the disposition which is shown by the South American Republic of Chili to sell warships to Russia. The Government is being urged to inform Chili that Japan will claim an indemnity, and that she will retaliate on the first opportunity.

THE SHA-HO REPORTED JAPANESE REPULSE.

French despatches from Mukden state that the Russian cavalry repulsed a Japanese turning movement on the left bank of the Kouen-Ho. According to the same authority, the Marquis Oyama has contracted 15,000 men, with 16 guns, at Ishan-chan and Sei-Yamatso, whence he is threatening General Rennenkampf. The Japanese appear to have removed the bulk of their forces from Yentai.

BALTIC FLEET.

CAPTAIN KLADO.

The Czar has ordered the release of Captain Klado, of the Baltic Fleet, who, it will be remembered, was recently placed under arrest for a fortnight for criticising the Ministry of Marine. Captain Klado has been the recipient of thousands of visiting cards, telegrams and letters of sympathy from all parts of Russia. Crowds of citizens gave the Captain a great ovation on his return to his residence.

TELEGRAMS.

—:(o):—

INDIAN TELEGRAM.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

FALL OF PORT ARTHUR.

JAPANESE CONDITIONS ACCEPTED.

(From the Japanese Consul.)

Bombay, Jan. 3.

General Nogi reports: General Stoessel's proposal has been accepted; terms and process of surrender to be negotiated between respective delegates at noon on the 2nd inst. Marshal Yamagata telegraphed General Nogi under Imperial Command that His Majesty appreciating the self-sacrifice and devotion which General Stoessel fully displayed for the cause of his fatherland desires that due honours of a soldier be accorded to him.

The second report runs thus:—Tungkekwan shan and "G" forts were blown up at 12-30a.m. on Monday by the enemies themselves who evacuated therefrom. We occupied the same forts and heights n. and m. southward thereof. Almost all Russian ships in harbour or harbour entrance were blown up on Monday morning by the enemies themselves. Our operations were suspended since the morning pending the conclusion of negotiations for surrender. Admiral Togo decided on the 1st inst. under command of the Imperial Government that blockade of the Liaotung peninsula shall only be maintained hereafter on the coast lying westward in a straight line drawn from South entry of point to Wedger Head. The Imperial Government decided not to allow for the present any ships except those in their service to enter Talienwan without special permission of the Naval or military authorities concerned.

A report received this morning states that negotiations concerning conditions of render were brought into conclusion at p.m. All conditions proposed by ... Nogi were accepted. Details not received yet.

CAPITULATION OF PORT ARTHUR.

Allahabad, January 5.

"Pioneer's" London correspondent writes under date January 4:—

It is unofficially reported that Engl... will retain Wei-Hai-Wei, holding that Russia maintaining a claim to Port Arthur constitutes a theoretical occupation, sufficient to satisfy the terms of one lease.

"Echo-de-Paris" states that Gen... Stoessel wired to the Czar stating that ... intended to blow up the town and ... the remnant of the garrison in ... The Czar then ordered the surrender.

Mr. Bennett Burleigh gives ... ment of a messenger who has ... Chifu. He says that the exhaustion ... ammunition rendered the ... by cannon a farce. Conflicts ... the bayonets became brutal but ... Men grappled in rage, tore each other ... beasts, biting clawing and gouging ... the Japanese could have taken ... weeks ago but only after Erlungshan ... covered our feebleness. Had they ... their men in strength, they could ... rushed the positions anywhere.

CONDITION OF PORT ARTHUR.

Bombay, Jan. 4.

The Port Arthur Army reserve ... has been maintained in the ... lation there are 10,000 ... civil and ... batants, whereof 20,000 are sick and ... There are some ... provisions but sanitary ... terials being exhausted, the Japanese ... busy ... ving aid. General Nogi reports ... ushan and other forts were delivered ... at 1-30 p.m. as guarantee of capitulation.

PARS FROM "PIONEER."

Allahabad, Jan. 4.

Details regarding the Secretariat staff to be attached to the Indian Railway Board still remain to be settled. The Board will assemble in Calcutta early in February.

The state of affairs in Bajour due to aggressive attitude of the Nawagai Chief remains unchanged. The severity of the winter is somewhat against hostilities except on a small scale.

Sardar Inayatullah Khan will probably reach Peshawar during the 3rd week of the current month journeying after short halt direct to Kabul.

A highly important railway development is due to take place this week namely, the opening of the new line from Agra to Delhi, thus giving the G. I. P. Company direct communication on their own system and under the control of their own officers between the latter centre and Bombay. The influence of the new extension ought to be very plain reflected in the next accounts.

PLAGUE MORTALITY IN THE UNITED PROVINCES.

Allahabad, Jan. 4.

The most striking fact about the plague returns for the current season is the rapid spread of the disease in the United Provinces. For several years the progress made by plague in this part of India, was slower than elsewhere. Even two years ago, only fifteen districts were infected. By the Christmas this year, the United Provinces for the first time heads the list of plague deaths, 6,822 persons dying of the disease during week ending 24th December. No fewer than 41 out of of 48 Districts are infected and nearly all the chief towns report deaths from plague. Cawnpore heads the list of infected towns with 295 deaths, Bareilly follows with 186 and Allahabad, Aligarh, Lucknow and Mirzapur each report more than 100 deaths in seven. Ghazipur with 946 deaths and Muttra with 721 are fortunately not approached by other districts, though in Aligarh 486, Ballia 396, Saharanpur 396, Allahabad 343, Mazaffarnagar 300. The figures are rapidly mounting up. A fortnight previous Muttra districts reported only 41 cases. The jump to over 700 indicates either a large amount of concealment in the early days of the infection or a far more rapid increase than usual.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 8, 1905.

A DISSERTATION ON TITLES OF HONOUR.

THE New Years Honours List contains very few Bengalee names, and our profound thanks are due to the Government for the same. There is a prevailing notion to the effect that, Orientals are very fond of these gewgaws. This is a mistake. On the other hand, there is no doubt, an average European official or non-official will attach greater importance to a decoration than an average Indian. It seems also that this vice of hankering after titles follows the British flag everywhere. For instance, in Canada, as in India there are men who are called "loyalists" and who love a title of honour as keenly as any Khairkhan does in India. Indeed, a Canada paper, 'Man Dealer', says that the prefix of 'Sir' to his baptismal name is so appreciated by the "loyalist" in Canada that he would not mind spending lots of dollars for it.

To the credit of the vast majority of the people of India, be it said, however, that they put very little value upon titles of honour. As a matter of fact, they do no good and prove no proposition. Does a title of honour make its holder happier than before? And does the bestowal of a distinction prove that the man thus honoured is really a worthy man? We think, no one will admit these propositions.

On the other hand, the worth of a man in India is not measured by the distinctions conferred on him. A simple Babu is oftentimes more respected than a Rajah or a Maharajan. Then, are not some of our titled men regarded with contempt by the public? As a matter of fact, these titles of honour are secured almost always by those alone who have been able to please some high European patrons.

Let us be a little more explicit. Has it ever been seen in India that a man was honoured with a title of honour simply for his own worth? Of course there are many men of merit amongst title-holders; but, almost all of them obtained these titles, be cause, they had been able to win the good graces of some high authorities. It must therefore, be admitted that the possession of a title of honour does not necessarily show the worth of the holder.

Here is a proposition. As in Canada so in India, the Government will never agree to distribute its decorations to those who are not "loyalists". And the loyalist, in the opinion of the Government, is he who will render it service on special occasions. When the whole country bitterly opposed the Age of Consent Bill, Rajah Doorga Charan Law supported the Government, and he was made a Maharajah. Amongst the advanced Parsees if any body deserved a distinction at the hands of the Government, it was Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji. But he loved his country too well and therefore was not a "loyalist." Hence he was ignored and Sir Pherozeshah Mehta was honoured, because, the latter had secured the favour of the Government by his loyal services.

Let us take up another proposition, namely, that a title of honour does not make a man happy. We may improve this proposition by adding a rider to it to the effect that, not only does it not increase the happiness of the holder but oftentimes brings misery upon him. The husband of the late Begum of Bhopal, Nawab Siddique Hossein, very naturally got a Nawabship from the British Government. And what first thing that Sir Lepel Griffin did to humiliate Siddique Hossein was to withdraw the title of honour conferred on him.

Are not our own Rajas and Maharajahs now and then threatened by the authorities with similar punishments? We all know it is not at all a difficult matter for an Indian to offend a District Magistrate. If the offender be a simple Babu, the Magistrate cannot easily do him any harm; but if he is a Rajah, he has only to intimate to the unfortunate individual that his title is in danger to make him fall at his feet. Poor Rajah Harrish Chander of Mymensingh is now dead. We very well remember the day when he came to our place, pale and trembling, and bewailed his sad fate, because, he had, somehow or other, incurred the displeasure of his District Magistrate, and the latter had threatened to report to Government to divest him of his Rajaship.

But the greatest suffering of the titled man consists in the inroads made upon his private pockets. First of all, in addition to salaams, he has, as a rule, to spend a pretty large amount of money to purchase a distinction from Government. In the next place, he is bound to pay subscriptions to all the sane and insane projects started by men in authority. Thus, to hold a title is oftentimes to ruin one's self. If the subscription paid by a title holder does not come up to the expectation of the man in authority he is forthwith visited with official displeasure. So, you see, a wise man does not accept a title of honour with gratitude; for it has its severe penalties. The recipient of the honour has to lose his God-given independence; sometimes he is made to act the part of a traitor to his country to please the powers that be; and on many occasions he has to spend money at the bidding of another, after worthless, and, perhaps, mischievous projects.

A simple Babu, when he becomes a Rajah, may possibly, for a few days, if he is weak-minded, find some pleasure in the change of his position. But this happiness does not last for ever, specially when he soon comes to discover to his disgust that the bauble is a mere 'white elephant," to feed which he has to starve himself. Then again, in several cases, the recipient thinks that he has been disgraced and not honoured by the title conferred on him. For instance, our well-known townsman Kumar Manmatha Nath Mittra is already called a "Kumar"; but the Government was pleased to confer an inferior title of Roy Bahadoorship upon him! Neither could he decline the "honour' for fear of offending the authorities. But in his heart of hearts he is bound to feel that the Government, through no fault of his, only humiliated him in the eyes of his countrymen by going to honour him.

Here is the pronouncement of that deep philosopher and practical philanthropist upon titles of honour—Count Tolstoi. He himself has of course given up his title of "Count" long ago and he questions the sanity of those who feel happy when a distinction is bestowed upon them. He expresses surprise that, "an absolutely sane man, simply by being given a bit of ribbon, suited to some coquettish girl, and a title of General Chevalier of St. Andrew, or some other foolishness, can at once be made proud, arrogant, and happy; and that if he lose or fail to obtain the gewgaw or title, he becomes miserable and depressed to the point of falling ill'. When you taste a sweet fruit you enjoy some kind of physical pleasure. The possession of gold may also carry some happiness with it. But what sort of pleasure is enjoyed by the recipient of a title is known only to his class. Those who are troubled with title-mania ought to read the words of Tolstoi, quoted above, over and over again.

As we said, we are very glad that, of late, the Government has almost ceased to confer titles of honour upon our countrymen, specially the Bengalees. It is the Europeans who should monopolise all these Government distinctions. There is no doubt they love these glittering glass beads much more than the Indians, and we have not the slightest objection if their ambition in this respect is satisfied to their heart's content.

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN MERCHANTS

THE European merchants of India had a Conference of their own, which sat at the rooms of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce on the 3rd and 4th of January, under the presidency of our retiring Finance Minister, Sir Edward Law. Delegates from the Bombay, Karachi, Madras, Upper India, and Ceylon Chambers of Commerce attended it. The Conference was not like our Conferences and Congresses. There was more work than talk. And only those were allowed to talk who had mastered the subjects upon which they were asked to speak. The speeches were marked by very little eloquence, and "cheering" was absolutely nil. But each speech is a mine of valuable information.

In short, unlike the promoters of our Congresses and Conferences, the merchants did not transport themselves into the region of the dream-land, but were fully alive to the fact that they belonged to a mundane world of stern realities, and consequently they should speak like practical men. Elsewhere we reproduce a portion of the speech of Sir E. Law, so far as it relates to agriculture; and one will find it not only deeply interesting but eminently instructive.

Of course there are very good reasons why we are dreamy and they are wide-awake. We do not live but drag on our existence. Ninety-five per cent. of our people either starve, or keep their bodies and souls together on half or one-fourth rations. We are without leaders, and most of our so-called leaders are selfish and calculating. Self first, and country afterwards, is the rule with them. Our ideal patriot is he who can make declamatory speeches or write inflammatory articles. In other countries the lives of their patriots are written after their death; here, the Sradh ceremony of an Indian patriot is performed while he is yet in the land of the living. Self-extinction, self-abnegation, self sacrfice are virtues unknown here. On the other hand, malice, jealousy, internecine quarrels are eating into the vitals of the people. We thus live in the dream-land and our main work is imagination.

The European merchants, on the other hand, are full of life and energy. They have wealth, position, power and influence. They know how to unite and sink private differences. Every one of them is not a leader, and those who are in leading positions know how to maintain them by self-restraint. There is no hailstorm of claps when their president, or any of their prominent members, enters their meeting hall; they do not put their president in a carriage and drag it like horses; unlike ourselves, they do not indulge in this sort of foolishness, but as sensible and practical men, they sit down and listen attentively to the speeches delivered, and set to utilize for their common benefit the knowledge and information contained in them. They have thus no opportunities of dreaming and building castles in the air. As long our Congress and Conferences will remain only talkative bodies, and are not based on practical business lines, so long they will not grow but languish; and we shall go on dreaming as we are dreaming these twenty years.

As regards agriculture, if it is not treason to say so, it seems to us that the Russians are doing much better in Asia in this respect than their more enlightened rivals in India. The rulers here know full well that India cannot revive its manufactories; indeed, if the truth be told, the rulers themselves, forgetting their responsibility, so managed the affairs of this country that it was reduced from the first manufacturing country in the world to a purely agricultural one. The rulers are fully aware that India's only hope of existence now lies in the development of its agricultural resources. But though fully aware of these facts, they have done nothing in this direction. This is a positive fact.

If Siberia was a dreary waste, Russia has succeeded in making it a garden of Eden. How? By agriculture. What Russia did was to import agricultural implements from America and utilize them. Shiploads of these implements were imported for this purpose on every possible occasion, for the ice-bound ports are not always open. Russia has been so much benefited by these implements that she spends vast sums of money upon them annually. It is said that, in due course, Siberia will be able to supply the whole world with wheat.

But what is India doing? What we need are good cattle, good implements, good manures, good water-supply and some knowledge of the art of making the land yield a bumper harvest. Our cattle have, however, fearfully deteriorated, and are fast disappearing like our men. Our ploughs are exactly in the same condition in which our forefathers had used them thousands of years ago. Water, the best of manures, is oftentimes not to be had. And as for Indian knowledge of the art of agriculture, of course our peasants know something, but surely they ought to know more. Neither are teachers on agriculture forthcoming nor is there any attempt to supply the country with such teachers

It is known here that the Americans have invented innumerable implements for agricultural purposes. But what are they? Is there any one in this country who knows anything about them? Does any official care to know anything about these affairs? It is one Whitney who made America industrious; the first country in the world. Americans imported cotton seeds and grew cotton, but they found a great difficulty in separating the seeds from the fibres as we do feel here in India. But Whitney invented his machine for that purpose. And the result was that cotton trade got such an impetus in America as to make the United States the first cotton-growing country in the world.

India was the mother country of long-stapled cotton. The Dacca muslin is a proof of the fact that here the finest cotton in the world was grown. Where is it gone? It is after two hundred years of English rule that the Government in this country have at last shown some interest in improving Indian cotton. The Conference of the merchants thanks the Government for its promised help in this direction. They ought to have, on the other hand, condemned it for its lethargy of so many years. We trust, the efforts of the Conference in making the Government devote systematic and sustained attention to the all-important subject of agriculture will be crowned with success.

FIRST OFFENDERS' ACT IN INDIA.

WE have seen here men, philanthropists, taking upon themselves the noble duty of reclaiming fallen women. We have a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals in Calcutta and elsewhere; and another similar society was also founded in this city for the prevention of cruelty to children, though this sort of inhumanity does not prevail here. But up till now, no one, European or Indian, has taken upon himself the task of befriending the victims of Police rule, which prevail in this unfortunate country to an extent nowhere to be found in the whole world. Of course there is a Defence Association which the Europeans have established for the protection of Europeans from official misrule; but the natives of the soil, who need such an organization essentially, have neither individual philanthropists nor philanthropic societies to serve this purpose.

We say all this, because, in England, we see Mr. William Wheatley, the well-known police court missionary and superintendent of the St. Giles Christian Mission, devoting the greater part of his life to help men who have fallen under the clutches of the law. Asked if imprisonment makes men callous, Mr. Wheatley said in reply: "I am satisfied that it is a great mistake to send away many people to jail at all. Prevention is better than cure." He explains by an example what he means. He says:—

"For example, a man is out of work—has done nothing for months. He meets some of his mates in a public-house and is treated to a drink here and a drink there. The consequence is that he becomes muddled, and while in this state something whispers to him, 'Why should you starve when there is plenty to be had by stealing?' He knows the run, so to speak, of a former employer's shop, and ultimately is caught while committing a burglary.

"Use the First Offenders' Act in such a case, remand the man for inquiries, find a situation for him when he is released, and that man will probably repent his crime. But send him to hard labour for six months, and the result will be, in nine cases out of ten, that you will make him callous. 'What is the good of me trying to be straight?' he will tell you on his release. 'Nobody will give me a job, and consequently I must steal to live.'"

So this First Offenders' Act is a great boon to the people of England. And there are many excellent magistrates in that country who, as a rule, never run down a human being relentlessly, simply, because, he had, from causes unavoidable, such as poverty, passion inherited from parents, ignorance, or bad training, broken the provisions of the law.

Of course there are men who ought to be, at least for a time, kept in confinement. "But" says Mr. Wheatley, "these are generally men of the very lowest type. They have never had a chance. Circumstances are bad for them all round. Their parents before them have been criminals; their relations have been criminals. Can you wonder at such men becoming hardened?

The condition of India is, however, very different from that of England. We have here no trial by jury; and it is admitted that a stipendiary Magistrate is more convicting than a jury. The criminal administration of the country is practically in the hands of aliens who are not celebrated for their love of the people. We have [illegible] peals against acquittals. Here [illegible] Court is empowered to enhance the [illegible] passed by a properly-constituted [illegible] court. Here Magistrates have [illegible] powers which enable them to send [illegible] son they like to jail almost with[illegible] The Judges here are not free [illegible] nate to the Executive Gover[illegible] laws here favour prosecution, [illegible] fence. Here we have [illegible] and the judge in th[illegible]

But these do not [illegible] disabilities of the In[illegible] Criminal Procedure C[illegible] this country, the "E[illegible] half of the population [illegible] under the provisions [illegible] that was not done, it [illegible] ministrators were bet[illegible]

We have then here [illegible] tion and undue [illegible] amongst the vast ma[illegible] this passion came to [illegible] breasts of Englishmen, [illegible] ly brusque, are yet [illegible] hearted, was, at one [illegible] late Robert Knight. [illegible] nation ruling aliens ha[illegible] system of criminal a[illegible] purpose of striking te[illegible] the people!

Well if this was the [illegible] passion for conviction [illegible] ment, is it not now n[illegible] meshed entirely? An[illegible] thoroughly emasculate[illegible] higher classes disappe[illegible] and are fast disappe[illegible]

As a passion for co[illegible] punishment is the ord[illegible] First Offenders' Act h[illegible] country. It is quite t[illegible] administration of the [illegible] a large extent in the [illegible] subordinate magistrates [illegible] independent. Appare[illegible] really they are not. T[illegible] rare exceptions, never [illegible] to exercise their indepe[illegible]

We say rarely, for [illegible] Magistrates who are t[illegible] themselves of the opp[illegible] of tampering with the [illegible] of their subordinates. [illegible] day that Mr. Rankin [illegible] District Officers. Well it so happened that, one of his Deputies, following the usual practice, waited upon Mr. Rankin to solicit advice what he should do in a certain case which had created local sensation. Mr. Rankin was highly annoyed. He sternly told his subordinate that he was at liberty to exercise his own judgment to the fullest degree.

The representative members of Councils might have offered some protection to the Police-ridden people of this country by judicious interpellations. But they have very few opportunities; for, the Council meetings are scarcely held now-a-days. And the other difficulty is that, members, as a rule, do not often realize that interpellation is an art which requires some sort of training. The question ought to be framed in such a way as not to allow the authorities to escape by somersaults.

Will Lord Curzon do a kindly act by introducing the First Offenders' Act in India and, generally making criminal administration less rigorous? And will Sir A. Fraser, a pious Christian, listen to the heart-rending appeal of this police-ridden people, and help Lord Curzon in this noble work?

MR. CAREY is apprehensive that the peace of his district is not likely to be preserved with 500 constables located there because, about 1,000 licences for guns have been issued among more than two millions of people entrusted to his charge. At least, this is what he meant for all practical purposes, when he refused the application of Babu Prem Chand Gossien for a gun license. He said that the number of licenses already were too numerous and they must be cut down to the proper limit. There were only 500 constables located at Hooghly, while the number of licenses issued were one thousand. So, in case of a riot, argued Mr. Carey, this police force would be nowhere. He would not be satisfied until the number of licenses were reduced to 500. Mr. Carey's idea apparently is that the one thousand men, having secured the guns, would all combine for the purpose of a fight with his constables, who are only 500 strong, and swamp them. But there is no such chance; for, we can guarantee that, under his generalship, the constables are sure to win the battle. Now here is another serious grievance of the people—Mr. Carey would not grant them gun licenses. Will the Lieutenant-Governor be pleased to remove this grievance?

BY his one extraordinary feat, Mr. Reid Joint-Magistrate of Dinapur, has at once made himself famous. He was trying a case in which one Porsid Narain Sing stood charged under section 379 of the I. P. Code. It so happened that the unfortunate man escaped the clutches of the law, during the course of the trial, by going to the other world, where he could not be arrested even under the warrant of an Indian Magistrate. Mr. Reid was informed of the fact. But he was not the man to allow the claims of justice to be so easily cheated. "What, an offence to go unpunished? If Porsid Narain has died, some body related to him must suffer for his offence, thought Mr. Reid. So he fined Porsid Narain Sing Rs. 500, and, as he was not amenable to any earthly power, ordered the amount to be paid by his heirs! Against this finding the High Court was moved, and a rule obtained upon the Joint-Magistrate to show cause why the conviction and sentence should not be set aside. The "Indian Daily News" condemns the proceedings of Mr. Reid in the following funny paragraph:—

"The High Court had to deal with a singular case yesterday when the nephews of a dead man appealed against the decision of a Dinapore Magistrate, who had sentenced them to pay a fine incurred by the deceased. The most peculiar part of the situation arises from the fact that the fine was not inflicted upon the delinquent when alive. He died between his arrest and conviction. But this notwithstanding, the law took its course. The dead man was tried, convicted, and sentenced, the heirs being debited with their uncle's fine. The sins of the fathers are visited upon their children. This is well known. But in Dinapore, it seems, one must also keep a watchful eye upon the actions of one's uncles."

And this official, who is so inno[illegible] that he would punish nephe[illegible] of their deceased [illegible] Pe[illegible] such [illegible] High[illegible]

but belonged to a body of officials imported from England? At Bombay the Government no doubt behaved better; but, still [illegible] the position taken up by the "Pion[illegible] namely, that the Congress, which was [illegible] posed of Indians, owed a debt of deep [illegible] titude to the authorities for the latt[illegible] granting a spot to the former in their [illegible] mother-land for holding a meeting of [illegible] national organization!

As for abusing the Government, the C[illegible] gress not only serves the purpose of a can[illegible] friend, but is very useful to the form[illegible] and perhaps the shrewd authorities know [illegible] There was a time when the upper tens o[illegible] the English nation, who rule us and the [illegible] whole Empire, took credit for having made [illegible] the press free in India. Whenever this [illegible] claim for credit was put forward, our reply [illegible] was that it was only through the agency of [illegible] the free "native" press that the rulers had [illegible] been able to bring the country under so [illegible] thorough a control. Well, the task of go[illegible] erning India has now become so easy tha[illegible] a Chief Secretary is quite able to gover[illegible] an Indian Province, and the Secretary o[illegible] State for India to rule the Indian Empire. [illegible] As a matter of fact, it was Mr. Buckland [illegible] and Mr. Bourdillon, who, as Secretaries to [illegible] the Government of Bengal, administered the [illegible] affairs of this Pr[illegible]nce for two years, whi[illegible] a mediocre like Mr. Brodrick is now [illegible] Indian Secretary in England. If the arrar[illegible] ment of governing India by a number [illegible] Secretaries has not been adopted, perh[illegible] that is, because, it would deprive highly-pla[illegible] Englishmen of several fat berths. Wh[illegible] would have Mr. Chamberlain put Lo[illegible] Curzon, whom he no doubt fears, if the [illegible] Viceroyalty of India were abolished? Well [illegible] as stated above, if even ordinary of[illegible] can govern this country, they owe it to [illegible] considerable extent, to the much-abused I[illegible] dian press, which enables them to feel the [illegible] pulse of the Indian nation in Downing Street [illegible] in England and in every Presidency city [illegible] India. If these free Indian papers were [illegible] abolished, the rulers would find themselves [illegible] immersed in Cimmerian darkness, and in[illegible] capacitated from ruling the Empire wi[illegible] that confidence which they do now.

IN the same manner, the meaning of th[illegible] movement of the National Congress, [illegible] ganized by an Englishman, is only the f[illegible] mal acceptance of British rule by the e[illegible] cated people of this country. In every [illegible] there must be malcontents; in India [illegible] were good many of them fifty years ago, [illegible] there are possibly still a considerable [illegible] ber. Had not this been the case, th[illegible] would not have been a mutiny in [illegible] Well, the National Congress is a prot[illegible] against the doctrines preached by these [illegible] concilables. If the latter can never lik[illegible] free Indian press or open public mee[illegible] the National Congress must be a sour[illegible] still greater annoyance to them, guided [illegible] is by some Englishmen. Perhaps o[illegible] the causes of the ill-success of the Cong[illegible] is due to the underhand influ[illegible] of these irreconcilables, who se[illegible] a large number of men [illegible] joining the movement. It is thus [illegible] plain that those Indian authorities who [illegible] to smother the Congress were only [illegible] Indeed, it would be an act of true w[illegible] and statesmanship on the part of the [illegible] if they were to give support to the move[illegible] What the "Pioneer" calls "abuse" [illegible] to be the chief merit of the Con[illegible] the eyes of the Government; for [illegible] only the fair and free criticism of [illegible] ministration.

IN the whole world, India alone [illegible] the unique spectacle of importing th[illegible] officials from a foreign country to [illegible] all her posts of responsibility and emo[illegible] This is grievance number one of th[illegible] of this country. Their grievance n[illegible] is that the pay these officials de[illegible] or four times more than wha[illegible] in other countries receive[illegible] Their grievance numb[illegible] only is every facilit[illegible] to take leave, b[illegible] offer of most [illegible] and pend[illegible]

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very long, nor have all any definite object. Yet they serve the purpose of shewing loyalty.

In this sacred town the streets ught to be named after the Hindu gods and oddesses; but the loyalty of the people is o strong that they have been thrust aside; and, thus, instead of a Madeo Road, we have one called after Mr. Piffard. The present Sub-divisional Officer is Mr. Thompson. He has a passion for opening new roads, and this will enable the citizens to honour other officials. The passion of this official for new roads is phenomenal; it is so great that he has no time to acquire lands for the purpose. He lays his roads across other people's lands, without asking the permission of their owners. And why should he? Is not his motive good? Is not he the "ma bap" of the people of Deoghur, and why should he ask the permission of his children when appropriating their property? His passion for road-making is proved in another way. Thus he will open one which has of course a beginning, but which has no end!

The reader is aware that the Hon. Mr. J. P. Hewett has been appointed to be head of the Department of Commerce and Industry, and Mr. E. N. Baker to be Finance Member in succession to Sir Edward Law. Mr. Hewett is a perfect stranger to us, though we have heard with pleasure that, as Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, he is trying to benefit, in his own way, the people entrusted to his care. We, however, happen to know something of Mr. Baker. That the latter possesses an excellent heart one can see at once by simply looking at his face, which is guileless and always smiling. Talk to him and you will find that there is not the slightest official stiffness in him, and he is full of good humour and kindly feelings. In the course of conversation he will himself laugh, and make you laugh and feel that he and you were old friends, and that there was no need of any ceremony between you and him, though perhaps that was the first time you came across him. They are really blessed beings who not only possess a sweet and happy temper, but impart gladness to all their surroundings.

The people of Bengal are under some special obligation to the Hon'ble Mr. Baker. When he was the Municipal Secretary of the Bengal Government under Sir John Woodburn, the question of the cost of collecting both Road and Public Works Cesses came to the front. Now these Cesses are collected by the same establishment. The proceeds of the Road Cess belong to the people, and those of the Public Works are claimed by the Government. The joint collection charges should therefore be borne equally by the Government and the District Boards, the latter being the custodians of the Road Cess Fund. Nay, the Government should bear the larger share of the cost, because the amount of Public Works Cess collected is larger than that of the former. The Government of Bengal, in 1879, under Sir Ashley Eden, however, laid down the unjust principle that, of the joint collection charges, two-thirds should be borne by the District Boards, and only one-third by the Government. But his successors beat him hollow. They refused to pay even this one-third! When, therefore, in 1899, we enquired of the Government why it should not bear one-half of the cost, and why, in spite of its pledges, it should not pay even one-third, Mr. Baker thus ...lied to our remarks in the course of his ...t speech:—

...garded the article of the "Amrita ...ika", the Hon'ble Mr. Baker ... question formed the subject ... Mr. Risley gave a reply ...lic Works Cess was ... operation ... the ... the Secretary of State ... the completion of ... and Rana ...

Babu Anath Bundhu Guha of Mymensing and some other gentlemen belonging to eastern districts have written to us for information about a reported meeting on the partition question to be held at the Town Hall of Calcutta on the 10th instant under the presidency of Sir Henry Cotton. The meeting in question, it seems, owes its origin to a desire on the part of some Bengal delegates to the Bombay Congress to hear Sir Henry Cotton's views on the subject of dismembering Bengal. Needless to say that Sir Henry is an authority on the question, and his views are entitled to great weight. Babu Anath Bandhu writes us to say that it will not be possible for many Moffasil leading men to attend, though of course every one is anxious to hear Sir Henry. We trust, however, those who can afford will not lose such an opportunity of listening to what Sir Henry has got to say on the subject.

SCRAPS.

The current number of the "Bankura Darpan" contains particulars of a sad cooly case. One Jogendra Nath, a milk man by caste and the only prop and stay of his old bereaved father, was while one day going to his father-in-law's house, waylaid and induced by a coolie recruiter and sent away to a coolie depot at Raniganje, and subsequently to Assam. He is now lying in a hospital in Assam in a critical condition, and has been sent there under a false surname. We hope the authorities will see that the poor fellow is restored to his old helpless father once again to help him or to die in peace.

We note with pleasure that some of the pious and large-hearted Mahomedans are now raising their voice of protest against the unholy practice of cow-killing by their co-religionists. One such large-hearted Mahomedan gentleman, Fakir Din Mahomad by name, has in a well-written pamphlet made a stirring appeal to his co-religionists to dissuade from the pernicious custom of cow-killing among them. The arguments put forward by the Fakir are good and sound and we hope the educated Mahomedans at least will heed to them. Commonsense and gratitude require that slaughter of the kine should religiously be put a stop to. Besides it has now been decidedly proved that eating of the beef brings on incurable and loathsome diseases. Our Mahomedan brethern should also remember that even some of the Moghal Emperors of Delhi prohibited the slaughter of kine by issuing "firmans."

No improvements in prospects as regards the Deccan Districts in the Madras Presidency is reported, but there have been a few showers in the southern part of the Peninsula.

Sir Hugh Barnes on his return from Calcutta will visit Akyab, and later on will make a tour in the Southern Shan States, arriving at Taunggyi in March and holding a durbar there.

During the official year 1903-04 the total number of patients treated at the Pasteur Institute at Kasauli was 584, of whom 269 were Europeans and 315 Indians. There were six failures during the year, all among Indians.

There were 22,645 deaths from plague last week against 19,465 in the previous seven days. Mortality in the United Provinces rose from 6,822 to 9,574, in the Punjab from 3,940 to 4,643 and in Bengal from 2,005 to 2,496. There were only 18 deaths in Calcutta.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon, B.A., Second Class Magistrate Trichur Madras, has been placed under suspension for one month, for delaying to inform the Police about the disappearance of an accused person in a criminal case before him. Mr. M. A. Chakko, from Trinjalakudi is now appointed in his place.

The news relative to Trincomalee telegraphed by a Colombo correspondent confirms the report that has been afloat for some weeks to the effect that Trincomalee has been abandoned as a naval base, as a consequence, doubtless, of the new strategical ...sition of the British Navy.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

Silver Reserve.—The reserve of silver coin held by the Department of Paper Currency on the 31st December amounted to Rs. 11,44,67,557 and that of gold coin and bullion to Rs. 15,8029068.

Imperial Library.—The Imperial Library has just received a valuable gift in the shape of a library of about 4,000 volumes and manuscripts from Saiyid Sadrudin Ahmed, Zemindar of Bohar. The books which are in all in Arabic, Persian and Urdu are in excellent preservation, and among them is a complete Koran in the hand-writing of Aurungzeb, which latter work will be placed in the Victoria Memorial Hall.

Application for Probate.—At the High Court, on Wednesday, before Mr. Justice Bodily, Babu Basonto Kumar Bhose applied for probate in the goods of Mrs. Helen Winifred Ledlie, widow of the late Mr. T. C. Ledlie, a barrister of the Calcutta High Court on the 7th or November last leaving assets within the jurisdiction of this Court to the extent of Rs. 1,69,000. The application was made on behalf of the sole executor under the will of the deceased. His Lordship made the order asked for.

Tea Exports.—The following figures of tea exports taken from the Calcutta Customs daily entries and received periodically from Chittagong are issued by the Indian Tea Association:—Quantity of tea entered for export to United Kingdom for the second half of December 1904—Calcutta—Black 4,601,113 lbs., green nil; Chittagong—Black 892,434 lbs., green nil. Quantity entered during the corresponding period last year—Calcutta 5,213,346 lbs., Chittagong 2,950,474 lbs. Total from 1st April 1901 to 31st December 1904.—Calcutta—Black 108,459,865 lbs., green 65,505 lbs. Chittagong—Black 34,512,661 lbs., green 1,034, 24 lbs. Total 144,072,455 lbs. Total from 1st April 1903 to 31st December, 1903, 144,122,902 lbs.

Revenue Department.—Each of the undermentioned officers is appointed to be an Assistant Superintendent of Survey in the district of Midnapore:—(1.) Babu Surendra Nath Dutta, B.A., and (2.) Babu Upendra Mohan Basu. The undermentioned officers are appointed to be Assistant Superintendents of Survey in the districts of Monghyr, Purnea and Bhagalpur:—Babus Surendra Nath Banerjee, Adit Prosad Singh, Soshi Bhusan Biswas, Joindra Nath Mukherji, Upendra Nath Rai, Babu Bipin Behari Sen, Maulvi Zuhural Hussain, Babu Akshoy Kumar Mukherji B.A., Rutan Lal Das Gupta, Pashupati Nath Ghose, B. A. Babu Upendra Nath Mahanti is appointed to be an Assistant Superintendent of Survey in the district of Angul.

An Ear-cutting Case.—The Deputy Magistrate of Basirhat disposed of a case in which one Monmotha Nath Ray, Kali Poddo Das, and Ramgopal Das, students, were charged with having cut off the right ear of another student, Jotendra Nath Bannerjee. All the accused were present at an evening party in the parlour of the complainant and while there made some insulting observations against the females of the house. Thereupon the complainant refused them further admittance. On the night of the occurrence, the accused waylaid the complainant and cut off his right ear with a razor. The Court found all the accused guilty and sentenced Kali Poddo to eighteen months', and the rest to one year's rigorous imprisonment each. The accused have preferred appeals to Mr. Holmwood, the District Judge of Alipore.

Forgery.—On Wednesday, at the Alipore Criminal Sessions, before Mr. Harward, the Additional District and Sessions Judge, one Attabuddin Khan and his brother of Basirhat were charged with forgery. In a mortgage suit brought by the accused in the local Munsiff's Court upon a deed of a conditional sale against one Bunko Behari Mondal, the defendant in the suit, appeared and produced the original deed alleging that he had executed and registered it in favor of the accused, but, as the conditional money was not paid, he had kept the deed and that the deed produced by the accused was a forged one. The Munsiff found that the document filed by the accused was a forged one and accordingly gave sanction for his prosecution. The Jury re...ed a unanimous verdict of "guilty" ...ainst the first accused and not guilty against ...e second accused. The Judge sentenced ...tabuddin to four years' rigorous imprison...nt and acquitted his b...th...

Attempting on the ...ives of a Whole ...mily.—On the early morning of the 2nd ...ant the Bhangore Police was informed ... five men were murdered at Belliadan... The Police Officer in charge of the ...ed to the spot and found ... four young men were lying ... in an unconscious state, ...ood. On enquiry it was found ...s a quarrel between a son of ...naik and a grand-son of one ... over some green peas when ... sharp tapping dao rushed into ... the latter and finding Bhiko ... cut on his neck and another ...nd. Bhiko's three sons and his ...ame to his rescue on hearing ... all murderously wounded with ...l dao. The Police finding the ...ounded men were not extinct ...emoved them to the Alipore ...l where their dying declara...corded as their lives had been ...ired of. The accused was ar...ced on Thursday on his trial ...entieth, Joint Magistrate of

... and Drainage in Bengal.—...ion on Embankment and drain... Bengal for the year 1903-04 ... the total expenditure incurred ... repairs was Rs. 4,33,931. ...ery high flood in the Gandak ...ble damage was caused to the ...ses in the unprotected area in ...n district. During the year ... Rs. 43,459 were spent in ori...and Rs. 3,43,831 in repairs. A ...e for improving the drainage of ... the neighbourhood of Dum-Dum ... the Bagjolla Khal was prepared. ...d the excavation of a new canal ... to Bamanghatta, as it was con...tial that this canal should form ...rainage channel of the whole of ...mprised within the Bagjolla ... estimate for this canal amount...1,93,000 was sanctioned by Gov... December 1902. The excavation ...has been kept in abeyance pend...ion of the question of compen...ery rights; and until this ques...ed, further progress cannot be ...e drainage scheme.

Finance Department.—Sir Edward Law will make over the portfolio of the Finance Department to Mr. Baker about the 10th instant, and Mr. W.S. Meyer, who is now in Calcutta, will relieve Mr. Baker simultaneously.

Indian Museum.—During the month of December, 52,247 persons visited the Indian Museum the total being made up of 1,249 Europeans, and of 50,998 Natives of India. The daily average during the 21 days on which the Institution was open to the general public was 2,487.

Additional Police.—The "Calcutta Gazette" notifies that the quartering of the additional police force in the villages of Dalbandh, Dhanbari and Tintaharia, in the district of Bhagalpur, will take effect from the 1st December 1904, the date on which the additional police force was entertained.

L. G's Visit to Barakar.—The Lieutenant-Governor proceeded to Barakar on Tuesday night to visit the iron and steel work there. Mr. Macfarlane, Manager of the works, showed His Honor over them and explained the position of things and the prospects of the enterprize. The party partook of a late breakfast on Wednesday with Mr. Macfarlane and returned to Calcutta that evening after a most interesting day.

An Elopements Case.—On Friday before Syad Mahomed Khan Bahadoor, Deputy Magistrate of Alipur one Rajoni Bhusen Biswas, a young man of Tallygunge was charged with having enticed away a Hindu woman from the custody of her husband. The accused induced the woman to leave the protection of her husband under various allurements and concealed her in various places in order to avoid detection. The Court found the accused guilty and sentenced him to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

A Barrister called upon for an explanation.—At the High Court on Friday Mr. Justice Henderson called upon Mr. A. C. Bannerjee a Barrister, to explain how it was that a Pleader of the Police Court was instructing him in the Sessions court in the case of Emperor vs. Nakunja Behary Shaw when that Pleader had no lucas standi to appear in the High Court. His Lordship also asked him to explain how it was that certain copies of documents were ordered to be made and not taken delivery of. His Lordship however remarked that he was certainly an Attorney on record for that purpose. As these were serious offences his Lordship asked for an explanation in writing.

Conviction of A Cruel Husband.—On Friday before Babu Gopal Chander Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate of Alipore one Kheaj Shaik a young Mohamedan of Budge Budge was charged with grievous hurt. The wife of the accused one morning without the knowledge and consent of her husband went to her father's house. The accused coming to know of this went direct to his father's-in-law's house dragged his wife out of the house and struck her on the head with a heavy stick causing a serious wound. The accused pleaded guilty and stated that he had done the act under sudden provocation. The accused was sentenced to four months' rigorous imprisonment.

The Proposed Ganges Bridge.—The Bengal Chamber of Commerce has elicited from the Government of India a statement on the proposed Ganges bidge. It appears that the Secretary of State has decided to postpone the consideration of the question of the bridge until some experience has been gained of the effect of the construction of the Ranaghat-Katihar line on the direction of traffic. The question of the establishment of a waggon ferry at Sara has been investigated, but it has been found that its cost would be very large, and it does not seem desirable to incur such expenditure in view of the great probability, that circumstances may shew the necessity of the construction of a bridge at Sara within a reasonable period.

A Thief With His Revolver.—On Friday at the Alipore Criminal Sessions before Mr. Harward, the Additional District and Sessions Judge one Bhut Nath Sircar and Boymoddy Gazi of Diamond Harbour were charged with theft and shooting. The accused, one night were attempting to escape with loads of hay stolen from a neighbouring loft when they were espied by a postal beatman who was passing by; the latter immediately raised an alarm, when the accused No. 1. drew out a revolver from his pocket and fired at him. The man was however not hit by the bullet which only slightly grazed his shoulders. The accused pleaded not guilty. The jury however returned an unanimous verdict of "guilty" and the Judge sentenced the accused to ten years' and the accused no. 2 to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

Police to Enquire and Report.—On Friday, before Mr. D. H. Kingsford, I.C.S., Chief Presidency Magistrate, Babu Jotindra Mohun Ghose, Gakil, with Babu Debendra Nath Ghose, applied, on behalf of one Vosai Das Kundu, for processes against Mohini, Prosad Das and others, under sections 380 and 404 I. P. Code. The facts, as alleged, are these, complainant's sister Khanto Moni died leaving properties worth Rs. 2000, including ornaments and cash Rs. 450. She, previous to her death, made a will in favor of the applicant and alleged to have bequeathed all his properties to him. Taking advantage of the absence of the applicant the defendants tried to dispose of the said properties. The court, after hearing the facts, ordered the police to enquire and report on the matter.

Black vs. White.—On the 9th "Pous" last, a Mahomedan gentleman was coming to Rungpur by the Chittagong Mail from Halsa Station and he was travelling second class. He had a fellow-passenger in the person of a whiteman, who of course did not at all like the presence of a "nigger" in the same compartment with him. So scarcely had the train left Badarpur station than the Sahib gave a push to the Mahomedan gentleman, who was then fast asleep. At this the latter gentleman got up; and, when he inquired of the reason why he had been so roughly treated, the sahib got furious and actually pushed the poor man out of the train. The train was then in motion; and luckily did the Mahomedan gentleman escape any fatal or severe hurts. With much difficulty, he managed to drag himself up to Badargunj station, whence a telegram was sent to the station master of the next station informing him of what had happened. The sahib was subsequently arrested at the Parbatipur Station. He is now at Rungpur under Police custody pending his trial.

A SENSATIONAL THEFT CASE.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Hooghly, Jan. 2.

One Babu Krishto Nath Mookherjee is a contractor under Alliance Mill at Jagatdal within the Sub-Division of Barrackpore. Hari Das Banerjee is his cashier. Jadub Ch. Banneerjee is his Overseer. Bhoyrub Chunder Banerjee is his Sircar. One Gourish takes muster of the coolies Ellahie and Ram Sonai are his two Durwans. This colony of officers reside in huts at Jagatdal and their food is prepared by one Tincowri Palsai. Tincowri after having supplied food to the Babus crosses the river and goes to French Chandernagore to sleep there in his house. One Atul Ch. Mookherjee works under Mitu Mistri, Sub-Contractor. One Khedu is a coolie Sirdar and one Padarat, a boy of 16 or 17, is also a coolie Sirdar under Overseer Jadub Baboo. There is a suite of 4 huts in a line. One is occupied by Ram Sonai, Durwan. The hut next to it is used as office room, where there is an iron chest. The next room is occupied by Bhoyrub and Hari Babu, the cashier, who have two separate bedsteads. The next room is occupied by Gourish. A separate hut was used as cook room. There was yet another hut consisting of 2 rooms, one being occupied by Jadub Babu and the other used by Ellahie the Durwan. The river Hooghly is about six Rasi from these huts.

On the 15th of November, 1904, Krishto Babu, the contractor, brough Rs. 29,000 and kept it in the iron safe in charge of Hari Babu. He himself took Rs. 5,000 for payment to Mahajans and Hari Babu the cashier began making payments which closed at evening. After making payments a balance of Rs. 14.400 and odd were kept in the iron safe. In another wooden box, inside the safe, there was a sum of Rs. 37 and odd including stamp etc. Hari having locked the iron safe with a body key went to sleep as usual in the next room. Ram Sonai Durwan made "lakha parra" in the office room up to 10 p.m. After which he put out the light, shut the mat door of his office room and went to sleep in his own allotted room. On the morning of the 16th Gourish took "Hazira" book of the coolies in the morning as usual. After having taken the Hazira book Bhoyrub Babu went to the office room to take his pocket book and found that the iron safe with the lid open and the key of the safe lying on the floor. Hari Babu was hastily called by Bhoyrub from the privy and the safe was examined. The contents of the safe were all gone, except the wooden box containing 37 Rupees. Hari Babu at once sent information to Naihatty Thanna through Ram Sonai lodged the first information. Krishto while coming to the office the same mo... met Elahie on the road on his way to ... Police outpost to give information to the ...lice. Krishto Babu came and found the ... in the state it was. A list was made ... Hari Babu of the currency notes of Rs ... value and upwards which covered ab... Rupees eleven to twelve thousand. The ... was made in English by Jadub Babu and ... also signed by Hari Babu and it was giv... to Krishto Babu for stopping payment in ... Paper Currency. Krishto Babu lodged a... ther information with the Police On ... morning of the 17th the boy coolie Sir... Padarat went to a neighbouring wine sh... and asked for change of a ten Rupee not... to Bejoy Sha who found it to be a currency note for Rupees five hundred. The shopkeeper suspecting him to be a thief, arrested and made him over to the custody of the Police. The boy made a statement before the Magistrate, Mr. Burley, Sub-Divisional officer of Barrackpore. The statement of Padarat in effect was that he was asked by Hari Babu to carry a basket from the office room to a boat on the river; that when he took the basket upon his head there were Hari Babu, Jadub Babu and Tincowri, the cook; that he carried the basket as directed and was accompanied by Hari Babu and Tincowri, who carried a bag under his arm. While going to the river he met Khedu Sirdar, who was easing himself. Khedu asked where were they going Hari Babu in reply asked Khedu to mind his business. He placed the basket on the boat where there was another Babu subsequently identified as Atul Babu. Padarat returned to his quarters. While Jadub Babu asked him about his business he reported the departure of Hari Babu and other. That on the morning of 17th November Hari Babu gave him the alleged 10 Rupee note and asked him to get change from the wine shop. The note turned to be one of 500 Rupees and that thereupon he was arrested. Khedu Sirdar also made a statement before the Magistrate to the effect that he saw Padarat, Tincowri and Hari Babu going to the river, Padarat carrying a basket on his head and Tincowri a bag under his arm, while he was easing himself. He was told by Hari Babu to mind his business when he asked them about the destination. The police sent up an A. Form on the basis of information given by Krishto Babu under orders of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate. Hari Babu, Jadub Babu, Atul Babu, Tincowri, Padarat and Khedu, who were all in Hajut were placed for trial before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate under secs: 380 and 403 I. P. C. on the 16th of December at Barrackpore. Babu Ashu Tosh Biswas Public Prosecutor of Alipur appeared for the prosecution (not as Public Prosecutor) Babu Bisnu Pado Chatterjee of Hooghly Bar appeared for Hari Babu, the cashier. Babu Satish Ch. Bannerjee of Howrah Bar for Atul Babu and two local Mooktears defended Jadub Babu, for whom subsequently Mr. O. Mosses appeared. Mr. Birley at the outset discharged Khedu for want of evidence and he was made a prosecution witnesses. At the suggestion of Ashu Babu Padarat alone was separately tried as his evidence as a prosecution witness was wanted. Accordingly the other accused were remanded to Hazat from the dock and trial against Padarat alone was commenced. On behalf of the prosecution were examined Krishto Babu, Beejoy Chowdhury. Ram Sonar Durwan, Khedu Sirdar and Bejoy Sha and then it was proposed by Ashu Babu to examine Hari Babu, the cashier as a prosecution witness. Babu Bishnu Pado Chatterjee protested against this procedure as Hari Babu was an accused and oath could not be administered to him, but this objection was over-ruled and Hari Babu was examined as a witness for the prosecution. Padarat was undefended. As soon as Ashu Babu closed his case the S. D. M., Mr. Birley, I. C. S., gave judgment discharging Padarat under section 253 Cr. P. C. Padarat was then made a witness for the prosecution. Then the trial against the four accused, viz, Hari Babu, Atul Babu and Tincowri commenced. Babu Krishto Nath Mookerjee and Padarat were examined and cross-examined, when the court rose for the day. The ... proceeding.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

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(From our own Correspondent.)

London, Dec. 16.

THE DEFENCE OF INDIA.

The subject of the defence of India, to which reference was made in this Letter last week still looms large on the public eye in England Daily and weekly journals continue to publish articles on the subject of Lord Kitchener's scheme of army reorganisation in India, and the need for the reform of the Home army is more and more persistently being pressed on the Government. Startling headlines appear on the newspaper contents' bill about our gunless army, and it is declared that we are in no better a position than we were at the battle of Colenso when the deficiency of the guns was so painfully demonstrated. The "Times" Military Correspondent urges, in his second letter on "Our Warning from Manchuria" that it would be folly to spread over a period of years the army reform schemes of Lord Kitchener. All periods of transition are periods of weakness, and whatever be the cost it must be regarded as necessary to secure the safety of India from invasion. This cry of the defence of India may succeed in forcing on the very needful army reorganisation at home, for British expenditure on the army has grown appallingly under the present Government with no adequate efficiency. Quite the contrary, in fact. But it is all very well for Great Britain to set her army in order; she can pay for it, even though her taxpayers are sorely feeling now the strain involved by the long-drawn out Boer war. When, however, India is required to pour out money like water because of her Imperial connection, then, as has been observed in another paragraph of this Letter, it is time for a readjustment of financial burdens. It was long before the slight measure of justice resulting from the Welby Commission was meted out to India; but that justice is only a mere beginning. Much more is due.

The question came up also before the Central Asian Society this week, when the Earl of Ronaldshay gave some of his experiences as a traveller in those parts of Asia in which Russian influence is increasing. At the meeting, too, of the East India Association this week the same thing happened. Sir Mackworth Young lectured on the Panjab, and it was declared that on the Panjab, as the land [illegible] tier of the Empire would fall the duty [illegible]eing sword and shield to India and of [illegible]king the first blow. Sir Lepel Griffin [illegible]ed the increase of the Indian reserve. He [illegible]fronted those who fear the spread in In[illegible] of trained soldiers not under military [illegible]cipline by the emphatic declaration of his [illegible]ef in the loyalty of the people, and speak[illegible] specially for the Panjab, he declared that [illegible] would stake his life on the devotion of [illegible] Panjabis to the over-lords of India. The [illegible]rting races of India he characterised as [illegible]rthy to meet any European troops that they [illegible]ght be called upon to confront. Military [illegible]en like Sir Edwin Collen, Sir Thomas Gor[illegible]n, Sir Thomas Holdich, as well as Sir [illegible]ost Ridgeway and other ex-administrators [illegible]ave this week spoken on the subject; the [illegible]eneral consensus of opinion is that no scheme [illegible] reform in England can be sanctioned which [illegible]es not ensure the safety of India; both [illegible]rmies must form one whole. Sir Thomas [illegible]Holdich, with his great experience of front[illegible]er work and of Russians always inculcates [illegible] belief that there is room in Asia for [illegible] Russia and Great Britain and that [illegible] coterminous frontiers, if delimited in a [illegible]pirit of mutual understanding, need not be [illegible]e scenes of violent outbursts. Treaties [illegible]hat are based on mtual recognition of rights [illegible]nd advantages have never in the history of [illegible]he world been torn in two. This is Sir [illegible]Thomas' belief, and on it he acts unostentatiously. It would be well if many others, especially those in authority both at home and in India, did likewise. To the "Outlook" also must be awarded merited praise for concluding a long article on the reform [illegible] the Indian army in this week's issue by the recognition that goodwill in India towards Britain must be the result of fair treatment. These are the exact words used: "If we are to trust the native of India to fight for us against Russia or other outside enemies, we must rely upon his goodwill, and not upon compulsion. That goodwill can only be won by reasonable trust and fair treatment. So it comes about that not only does the 'Times' advocate "generous sympathy" in administrative matters in dealing with the people of India, but one of the most influential among weekly journals insists that it is by winning the heart of the people alone that Britain can expect devoted service in military campaigns. These are brave words; now we want corresponding deeds.

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON'S FAITH.

One of the political events of this week, a week in which it has rained speeches from Cabinet Ministers and politicians, and in which Mr. Chamberlain has appeared again as a platform orator, has been Lord George Hamilton's speech to his constituents at Ealing. He practically announced his retirement from public life for he declared that he would not split the Unionist vote in the constituency by opposing the candidate chosen by the local authorities after the ex-Indian Secretary had made his stand on the side of Free Trade. Lord George, however, emphatically declared his faith in the Prime Minister. At one time, when the Free Traders seceded from the Balfour Cabinet, that faith was inclined to waver; but it is Mr. Balfour's last speech at Edinburgh which has restored its equilibrium: Mr. Balfour is no Protectionist; therefore Lord George will support him. This trust in a leader whose convictions are "unsettled" comes as a surprise to Free Traders who doubt the strength of the foundation on which Lord George builds his hopes. As was pointed out some little time ago when after the Edinburgh speech, Lord George declared that the case for Free Trade was clear and had received the Premier's support, this confidence is not generally shared by those who are as staunch Free Traders as the ex-Indian Secretary himself. If only, said Lord George, Mr. Balfour had made so plain a statement of his policy before or at those two memorable Cabinet meetings, none of the Free Trade members need have resigned. 'All that can be said is that Lord George shows a very trustful spirit and devoted loyalty to the man who treated him badly, but the traditions of [illegible]ars in the realm of politics are difficult of [illegible]dication. On condition that Mr. Nield, [illegible] chosen of Ealing, will not desert Mr. Balfour or do anything to embarrass him in the prosecution of his policy, Lord George Hamilton will not embarrass the new candidate or the constituency he has so long represented in Parliament.

The "Times" cannot refrain from "having a fling" at Lord George, but, as Mr. Brodrick observed a few nights ago when a guest of the Surrey journalists, anything is better for a public man than to be neglected by the Press. Scathing criticism may not be pleasant, but at any rate it is preferable to boycotting. So Lord George may take heart of grace even though the "Times" tells him that he "allowed himself to become the dupe of words when he ought to have fixed his attention on facts." "The words that scared him," continues the "Times," "are free trade, protection, and Mr. Chamberlain—denoting two abstract ideas and a personality." This was a mistake. Mr. Balfour had not rejected free trade nor adhered to protection, and the energetic personality of the ex-Colonial Secretary might have influenced Lord George to remain in the Cabinet and stand by the Prime Minister. The manner in which definite facts are explained away into abstractions by the "Times" is worthy of the Prime Minister himself. Says the journal: "The seceders from the Cabinet were imbued with the idea that there are only two possible ways of conducting the fiscal affairs of the nation, the one being the way they are conducted at present, which by some strange confusion of ideas is called free trade, and the other a legendary system which is called protection. They had been accustomed to believe that any change in existing machinery is tantamount to going headlong into universal imposition of protective duties; and they had christened their misconception by the sacred name of principle." This is all very pretty,—is, as the "Times" itself remarks, the setting forth of abstractions which may be useful for debating societies but which have no place in the conduct of national affairs; but it does not blot out the fact that Mr. Balfour was glad enough to get rid of the staunch free trade members of his Cabinet, whose presence would have seriously interfered with his 'conduct of national affairs." His two pamphlets, his facing-both-ways, and the diverse results of his policy which have to-day landed him in a position which is hardly compatible with admiration and respect, would have been considerably interfered with if the Free Traders had remained in the Cabinet. Lord George's boldness and self-sacrifice have won for him an esteem which his conduct of Indian affairs failed to do. As was so wisely observed by India's Friend whose hand now lies still, India was never a passion with Lord George; Free Trade was; and in the struggle which ensued Lord George "found" himself.

In contrast to the remarks of the "Times" on Lord George Hamilton's speech at Ealing this week, Mr. F. C. Gould, the admirable cartoonist of the "Westminster Gazette," turns the episode to political value. Yesterday's issue of the paper contained a cartoon, entitled "The Tug for the Doll." Mr. Balfour is represented as a wooden doll which has been laid hold of, quite firmly, by Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Chaplain, who figure on the stage as clowns—an up-to-date allusion to the pantomime season about to begin. The usual policeman, who always turns up to reduce the clowns to order is Lord George Hamilton, with "Free Trade" as his distinguishing mark on the collar of his uniform. He seizes a leg of the doll, and a tug of war goes on. The clowns who have a firmer hold of the doll than the policeman can obtain are cheered in their efforts by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who, peeping round the corner, cries: "Pull, father!" The cartoon admirably portrays [illegible] the situation. The strength of the policeman is hardly likely to avail against the firm grip of the clowns; in the struggle the most likely thing to happen is the dismemberment of the doll. And although Lord George reposes an ideal faith in the Prime Minister, public opinion is convinced that he is already too much in the clutch of the tariff reformers to be recaptured by the free trade policeman.

THE SITUATION IN RUSSIA.

Russia, looming so large in the eyes of the Forward school in India and consequently regarded as a near-approaching enemy of India by military men in England, is still in the throes of a serious political situation at home, while abroad the outlook is not distinctly cheering. Kuropatkin declares that we must have better food supplies for his army if it is to be maintained efficiently, rumour says that the notorious Baltic fleet will never face the Japanese men-of-war; and the first Russian fleet is now practically non-existent, although the "Sevastopol" is certainly "dying game." The struggle between the progressives and the reactionaries in Russia is very keen; first one side, then the other appears to gain the ear of the Czar. But, on the whole, the advantage appears to be with the progressives. Even the Grand Dukes, whose inherited position has been as it were a semi-sacred caste against which no word might be uttered, are actually resigning important administrative offices owing to the turn of the tide in favour of democracy. Other important signs of successful assault on the almost impregnable fortress of Russian autocracy are not wanting. The assassin of M. de Plehve has this week been sent to Siberia for life, when everyone expected that he would have been put to death. Of course the sensational story published by the "Daily Express," to the effect that the real assassin has escaped from Russia and only a dummy was tried in his place, may or may not be true. The trial was held with closed doors, and only a few policeman were permitted to enter—to form a public—into the Court to hear judgment pronounced, in accordance with Russian law. Then, too, Captain Klado, who wrote the articles in the Russian press on the Black Sea fleet and has been the mouthpiece of the Admiral famous for his command of the Baltic squadron, is being made a popular hero in spite of being under arrest for perversion of the truth and the movement is growing to such formidable proportions that it is impossible to say where it will end. Russia, on the verge of a revolution at home, weakened by a devastating war in the Far East, is the bogey which is held up to British eyes as ready to pounce upon India. Her railways are the forerunners of invasion, and in due time, it is declared men and munitions of war will be transported to the Afghan border. The Earl of Ronaldshay stated that so far as he could see in the course of his Asiatic journeys it will be some years before Russia feels herself ready to plunge into another war, and he stated that even then it must be popular with the people, as the Japanese war certainly is not. The young Earl declared that the cry of "Constantinople for Christianity, the Cross against the Crescent" would be probably the only rallying point that would ensure national acclamation. Turkey, not Persia or India, he thought, would be the most popular point of attack. In the face of this marked progress of the Russian efforts towards representative government, India may still find encouragement in her desires.

THE VALUE OF INDIA'S WATERWAYS.

Just now the question of the improvement and expansion of water transport in England is attracting serious attention, and in various ways the trend of expert opinion is shown in proposals to establish a kind of "entente cordiale" between what were regarded as rival powers: railways and waterways. Only last Wednesday the Earl of Ronaldshaw, lecturing before the Central Asian Society, London, on his recent journey across Asia, laid great stress on the point that in the development of Mesopotamis canal and railway communication should follow the same alignment. This is the dictum of Sir William Willcocks, the famous originator of the Assouan dam. The soil extracted for the cutting of a canal in Egypt has formed the embankment on which a line of rails has been laid, and it would be an irreparable mistake declares this authority, if railways and irrigation canals were constructed in Mesopotamia independently of each other. This trend of public opinion gives point to a long article which appears in the "Manchester Guardian" on Inland Transport in India, in which attention is called to the fact of the enormous expenditure on railways in India while navigable channels have been grudged even the small amount spent on them. The writer of the article bemoans the fact that canals in India, in the majority of cases, have been constructed primarily for irrigation and were not suitably designed for navigation. "While they commanded the country for the purposes of agriculture, they often commenced on a river which was not navigable and ended in a rice field without leading to or even passing through any places of large trade." This is the old battle which was so valorously fought by Sir Arthur Cotton and which drew forth almost unsurmountable opposition on the part of the brain may have been a suitable charge to hurl authorities. Water on the brain may have been a suitable charge to hurl at the devoted engineer, but years have justified his ideas; reformers must be enthusiasts, but it takes a long time for the Powers that be to catch the enthusiasm. The experience of India with reference to purely navigable canals has been, on the whole, somewhat similar to that of England. Railways have in many cases depreciated their returns; railways have received substantial help from the Government; waterways have been practically starved. The writer of the "Manchester Guardian" article, however, draws attention to the magnificent natural waterways possessed by India, and urges their further development. In some cases, he remarks, the removal of a few bars which obstruct the river would effect an improvement that would add enormously to the carrying capacities of all craft, great and small. The success of water-borne traffic in Bengal, in spite of the tolls levied on boats entering Calcutta, shows the importance of facilitating by every reasonable means, the navigation of both artificial and natural channels. With regard to the tolls, it is further remarked, that there are signs of a change of attitude in India. If the State spends public funds on the maintenance of free roads, it seems only right that something from the same funds should be spent on the maintenance of the splendid waterways not only of Bengal but of India. European Governments made a similar sweeping change a quarter of a century ago, and, of all countries in the world, the trade of India demands cheap transit.

THE USEFUL INDIAN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Although the general treatment meted out to Indians in South Africa can only be characterised as a disgrace to the freedom which has always been regarded as assured under the British flag, there is a "Coolies' Paradise" in Natal where the Indian labourer is welcomed and where the owners of sugar plantations would fare very badly without his help. A Correspondent, signing himself "Anglo-In[illegible]n," writes a special article for the annu[illegible] dia[illegible] of "The African World," publ[illegible] edition [illegible] of course, in this mont[illegible] ban you risk [illegible] the mildest we[illegible] India, but even [illegible] which the coolie se[illegible] description of a Nata[illegible] lows, and after explaining [illegible] have to be faced by the ow[illegible] Kaffir's desire to make off [illegible] when he has gained a little [illegible] Indian says, "It is here t[illegible] scores," and he testifies to the [illegible] the planters in having wor[illegible] patient, hard-working, and ea[illegible] and who do not insist on a [illegible] busiest time of the year. Th[illegible] work on large sugar estates [illegible] Indians; on one of [illegible] thousand men and six hundr[illegible] employed. The rate of pay is [illegible] month in the first year, with [illegible] shilling per month per annum, [illegible] fifth year—they are indentured [illegible] —the wages are fourteen shillin[illegible] It is true that there is a cert[illegible] sufferance shown in admitting [illegible] but their valuable work, the r[illegible] their patience should count for [illegible] the estimation of the white me[illegible] them with such manifest ad[illegible] news regarding the Chinese [illegible] Rand is far from encouraging; [illegible] experts, who were not mining [illegible] phesied. Fighting and bloodshe[illegible] place, and who knows where [illegible] Nemesis will surely follow.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S REAP[illegible]

It is no less interesting tha[illegible] to read the newspaper verd[illegible] Chamberlain's speech last night [illegible] End of London. His supporter[illegible] the newly-acquired "Standard"—[illegible] praise of his statement of his [illegible] who see in Protection a fallacy [illegible] to the nation's best interests f[illegible] criticise. It certainly is stran[illegible] a word was said about sugar, f[illegible] sent state of affairs has been b[illegible] largely, says Mr. Walter Long, [illegible] instrumentality of the ex-Coloni[illegible] The conditions with regard to s[illegible] precisely these which Mr. Cham[illegible] introduce in every commercial [illegible] the result is disastrous. Little [illegible] that the subject was carefully [illegible] night. It is declared that the meeting, though in the East End, was not of the East End. The West travelled Eastwards to support Mr. Chamberlain; the denizens of Limehouse and the neighbourhood were unable to obtain tickets, and not a few of them made Mr. Chamberlain's arrival and departure the occasion for a demonstration which bordered on being seriously hostile. Mr. Chamberlain is ready to fight, but he fights on an absolutely Protectionist basis. Where is Mr. Balfour now? The "Packer" meeting thrice declared its willingness to make Mr. Chamberlain premier. Free Traders must relax no efforts in their opposition to the Tariff Reformers, for Mr. Balfour's middle-course policy and Mr. Chamberlain's "White Hoggedness" will need strenuous combating.

BRIEF NOTES.

HONOUR TO AN INDIAN.

The Cobden Club awards to the Cambridge University a prize once in three years for an essay on a subject relating to Cobdemite doctrines in their world-effects. This year the prize has been won by Mr. Manohar Lal, B.A., of St. John's College, the title of whose essay was, "The causes and effects of combinations, and suggestions as to Legislative Control."

* * * *

NEW SUEZ CANAL SCHEME.

It is possible that a second Suez canal may be constructed, running parallel with the existing one. This is the outcome of a disagreement with the Suez canal directors who are said to be adopting an autocratic method towards the owners of British cargo boats using the canal. The matter is arousing considerable interest in view of the pending changes with regard to the Australian mail contracts.

* * * *

KINDLY FEELING TOWARDS INDIAN MUSLIMS IN LONDON.

The End of Ramadan was publicly celebrated by a number of Muslims in Hyde Park last Friday, and the subsequent comments of the press have been uniformly sympathetic. The demonstration would have evoked greater interest but for the stormy weather. However, the interest aroused was sincere.

INDIAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

CONFERENCE IN CALCUTTA.

—:—:—

SIR EDWARD LAW'S SPEECH.

The Hon. Sir Edward Law delivered an introductory address. He said as follows on the agricultural problems:—

I may, say that no subject which is to be considered by the Conference interests me more keenly than that of the development of the agricultural resources of India, and although agriculture has not been included among the questions dealt with by the Department of Finance and Commerce, I have always fully realised that successful Indian finance is indissolubly bound up with the prosperity of the agricultural classes, and this must be my excuse for offering a few general observations on the broad question of the connection between the welfare of this country and the prosperity of the agricultural population. In the first place, as all present understand, the stability of exchange, the returns of revenue, and the vitality of trade and industry, are dependent on successful and extensive agricultual production. As regards exchange, it is sufficient to recall that payments for imports, including Government stores, as well as interest on foreign capital and administrative expenditure in sterling, can only be met on a solid basis if balanced by the value of our exports, and these consist generally of agricultural produce, and, in minor degree, of articles manufactured directly from the produce of the soil. The Indian ryot is an expert in his business, but his knowledge of agriculture is confined to the teachings of local experience, and I am sure that much can be done to help him by offering, for his appreciation, information as to what has been done elsewhere where conditions may be fairly similar to those around him, by object-lessons in the profitable results of more scientific cultivation, including th[illegible] of very simple implements and m[illegible] also by the distribution [illegible] leaflets in the ver[illegible] questions [illegible] of the general question of improvements, by the recent unprecedented demand for cotton caused by a shortage of crop in the United States. As a res[illegible] this shortage much excellent advice has been offered to India on the subject of improving the quality of cotton produced in this country. There is a French proverb that it is useless to preach to the converted, and I am happy to say that the advice which we have received from Europe on this question savoured of the nature of sermons to the converted, for the improvement of our cotton production had been made the subject of most serious study and experiment by Dr. Mollison and other experts in India, long before the consumers in Europe were aroused to interest themselves in the matter. I have visited experimental farms, and I have little doubt that the patient and scientific researches which have been carried on with energy in India during the last few years will finally give very valuable results. It must be remembered, however, that it is not the precise quality of cotton which may be produced that primarily interests the ryot: it is the profit to be made out of the cultivation of his land that is, and must be, his first concern. If it be found that cotton of longer staple can be grown on certain lands with greater profit than the short-stapled variety, the cultivation of the former will not be long in superseding the latter where general conditions are favourable. There is, however, a large and paying demand outside Lancashire for short-stapled cotton, and as that demand does not seem likely to fall off, it would be an unwise policy to urge the universal substitution of the finer for the inferior article. What in some soils and climates can be produced at a profit can in others only be produced at a loss. The more important of existing industries in close dependence on agriculture are cotton, jute and tea. I speak with diffidence on trade questions before men of such special experience as the Delegates here assembled, but I venture to throw out the suggestion that the field of industrial enterprise which now engages the attention of our foremost business men might perhaps be profitably extended, and that the existing situation is not entirely free from the serious risks attendant on the recurrence at intervals of over-production. I would ask whether new outlets cannot be found for the display of energy and the profitable employment of capital? The simplest industries, requiring a minimum of highly skilled labour, would appear to be those best suited to local conditions, since suitable Indian skilled labour, unfortunately rare in any case, is practically non-existent for useful employment in starting a new industry, and imported labour is too expensive to admit of its employment; the cost of European control and supervision is in itself a very heavy burden borne by local industry. I am not competent to offer an opinion as to what particular form of industry might most suitably and profitably be developed, but when we look at the list of important exports of agricultural produce, the idea naturally suggests itself that some of the products now shipped in a raw state might, if not fully worked up in India, at least be locally subjected to certain primary processes increasing their value. We export large quantities of raw hides, a great proportion of which, in view of the existence of tanning materials in different parts of this country, might perhaps be profitably tanned before export; we export an enormous quantity of oil seeds, from some portion of which oil might be expressed before shipment, yielding not only a profit on the oil, but also reserving to India the additional profit obtainable from such bye-products as oil-cake and mustard flour; again, we are now exporting enormous quantities of wheat and possibly additional profit might be obtained by milling superior qualities and shipping flour. I have given illustrations of the lines in which would seem that Indian industry [illegible] fitably be developed, but I [illegible] a special obstacle may have [illegible] tered should our present [illegible] produce endeavour [illegible] industries by [illegible] my perso[illegible] a f[illegible]

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

LIGHT TELEGRAPHY

THE POLLAK-VIRAG SYSTEM.

By the Pollak-Virag system of telegraphic transmission, which has been the subject of experiment for some time past on the Continent, but which has only recently been exhibited in London, it is possible not only to transmit telegraphic messages with greater rapidity than by the best Wheatstone automatic instruments, but to ensure that the messages shall be deciphered much more certainly and quickly than heretofore when they reach their destination. To a certain extent the transmission of messages by the Pollak-Virag method resembles that of Wheatstone automatic instruments at present in use. The message to be telegraphed is first translated from ordinary lettering into the dots and dashes of the Morse alphabet, these dots and dashes being represented by holes at varying distances apart, which are punched in a long tape of paper by a mechanical perforator. This perforated slip is passed over a series of cylinders, much as a perforated strip of music is passed over the cylinder of a mechanical piano, and the changes effected in electrical conductivity by the position of the punched holes is indicated at the other end of the electric wire, which is in connection with the transmitting cylinder. A perforated tape at the sending station is reproduced electrically, if not in form, then, at any rate, in meaning, at the receiving station. Thus the message indicated by the punched holes at one end of the wire can be read at the other end. Here, however, the new device which is the chief feature of the Pollak-Virag system comes into operation. The message, when received in separated and spaced dots by the operator to whom it is sent, has usually to be translated back into ordinary lettering. The Pollak-Virag system arranges for its translation automatically. The electric impulses as they are received over the wire are made to agitate a little mirror on which a beam of light plays and is reflected. A dot, let us say will cause the mirror to **move vertically**, a dash will cause it to move horizontally. These movements are reflected from the mirror on to a sensitised photographic plate, and thus the movements of the mirror, which is to say the message itself, is photographed as it comes in. In speaking of the dot as moving the mirror in one way, and the dash as moving it in another, we were using terms applicable to the transmission of a Morse dot-and-dash message. But it must be remembered that these dots and dashes in the Pollak-Virag system do not emerge as such, but influence the mirror to move in such a way, that for the appropriate combination of dots and dashes, or of spaced perforated holes, an appropriate letter is figured by the mirror. In the invention known as the Telautograph the sender's hadwriting was actually reproduced at the farther end of the wire. In the Pollak-Virag transmitter what are dots and dashes, or spaced holes, at one end emerge as handwriting at the other; and it is this handwriting that the little mirror, or rather the reflected light from it, writes on the sensitised plate. The exposure given is the one-thousandth part of a second; the development is done mechanically, in five seconds and the fixing of the bromide print in another five seconds; and the message issues in a continuous strip of photographically printed writing. The instrument can transmit forty thousand written words an hour.

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অর্থাৎ শ্রীগৌরাঙ্গের পার্ষদভক্ত শ্রীস্বরূপ দামোদরের জীবনী ও শাস্ত্রোপদেশ। শ্রীস্বরূপ দামোদরের একটী নাম শ্রীগৌরাঙ্গের "দ্বিতীয় স্বরূপ," কারণ স্বরূপের ন্যায় রসশাস্ত্রজ্ঞ ও প্রভুর মর্ম্মীভক্ত আর কেহ ছিলেন না।

শ্রীগৌরাঙ্গ-সমাজের সম্পাদক শ্রীযুক্ত ডাক্তার রসিকমোহন চক্রবর্ত্তী মহাশয় এই গ্রন্থের প্রণেতা। গ্রন্থ খানি পাঠ করিলে একদিকে যেমন স্বরূপের মধুর রসশাস্ত্রোপদেশে হৃদয় নির্ম্মল হইবে, অপর দিকে শ্রীশ্রীমহাপ্রভুর প্রবর্ত্তিত প্রেম-সুধাময় ধর্ম্মের বহুল সূক্ষ্মতত্ত্বে সেইরূপ অভিজ্ঞতা জন্মিবে।

শ্রীশ্রীগৌর বিষ্ণুপ্রিয়া পত্রিকার গ্রাহকদিগকে ইহা বিনামূল্যে প্রদান করা হইতেছে। অর্থাৎ শ্রীপত্রিকার বার্ষিক মূল্য দুই টাকা দিয়া গ্রাহক হইলে একখণ্ড শ্রীস্বরূপ দামোদর ও একবৎসর কাল শ্রীপত্রিকা পাইবেন।

অপরের পক্ষে শ্রীস্বরূপ দামোদরের মূল্য এক টাকা মাত্র। ডাকমাশুল ও ভিপি চার্জ্জ স্বতন্ত্র।

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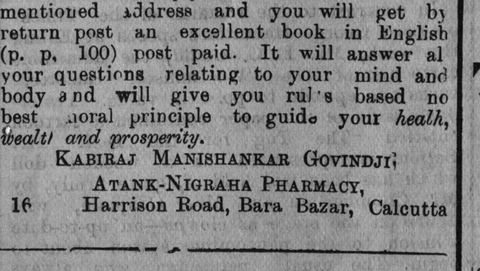

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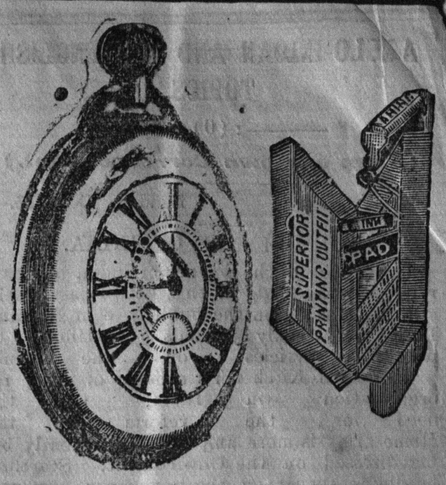

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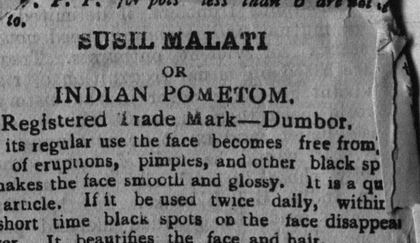

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THE MENTAL LIFE OF ANIMALS.

The recent popularity of certain stories of animal life, with the resulting discussion which has appeared in the public press, has served to arouse a somewhat general interest in the subject of animal psychology. It has unfortunately happened that what may be called the conservative side, in the discussion concerning the factors which govern the actions of animals, has not been prominent. With the exception of the work of Mr. Burroughs, very little, in behalf of a more scientific interpretation of the facts presented, has appeared in periodicals commonly classed as popular publications. It is the object of this article to set forth certain of these more conservative views, and to consider some deductions from them regarding animal action.

In the lower forms of animal life, instincts remain unchanged except by causes which can be traced directly to changes in the physical condition of the organism. An example of this may be seen in the behaviour of certain invertebrates, which at definite periods during their development are attracted toward a source of light, while at equally definite periods they are repelled by the same stimulus. This takes place in animals with so simple a type of nervous system, that it is impossible to attribute the difference of reaction to anything but physical or chemical changes within the body, brought about directly by the environment.

Among the higher types, however, we find another factor, which plays an important part in the mental life, and which serves to modify instinctive action. This factor is associative memory.

The term is used to designate the peculiarity of the nervous system whereby two processes, which occur simultaneously or at nearly the same time, become linked together, so that if one is repeated there will be a tendency for the other to recur. If a certain random action brings about a pleasing result, it tends to become associated with the desire it satisfies, and the recurrence of that desire leads to the repetition of the action. On the other hand a painful result arising from an action tends to prevent its repetition, when the same stimulus again occurs.

Just where in the scale of animal life this power of memory appears is not easy to say. Among invertebrates examples of it seem to occur, as in the case of wasps and bees who apparently depend on memory in locating the nest or hive. In some of the lower vertebrates, however, it seems to be lacking.

In accepting this factor of associative memory the fact must be borne in mind, that it has certain definite limits as to the number of associations, and to the rapidity with which they are formed. Again it must be remembered that instincts which are called into use most frequently will tend to become fixed in an unmodified form, hence we shall look for little variation in them.

There seems to be no undoubted proofs that animals teach one another intentionally or that imitation plays a large part in the acquiring of experience. The factor of education, so much emphasized by some authors thus reduces chiefly to the action of associative memory.

This conclusion is borne out by the results of investigators, who have carried on a series of experiments on various animals. In testing cats, dogs and monkeys, it was found in every case, where these animals showed the ability to liberate themselves from cages fastened with a simple mechanism, that it was done by random movements, which gradually became reduced number as the association of a particular one with the desired freedom became established. In no case was this process rapid enough to suggest any approach to a rational phenomenon.

Similar experiments to test the power of learning, by watching the successful accomplishment of the result by other animals, gave no indications of such ability.

Adopting the factors of instinct and associative memory, all reliable accounts of animal actions seem capable of explanation without the necessity of including reason in the sense of ability to analyze and to form abstract ideas.

Applying these principles as a test, we can at once discard all stories concerning the voluntary seeking of death by animals, as impossibilities. Many animals can, undoubtedly, distinguish a difference between a living and a dead body, but that they have any conception of what is meant by death, or that they recognize in it a release from pain, is incredible. Animals maddened by fear or with instincts dulled by any cause, may involuntarily bring on death, but there is no reason for seeing in this any element of choice. Such ideas require a greater complexity of thought than the animal mechanism is capable of.

For the same reason we may reject the possibility of complex emotional states in animals, and the possession of a moral sense. The "shame" exhibited by pet animals when detected in a fault, may be attributed rather to a remembrance and fear of punishment than to any conception of wrong doing.

Considering the class of narratives, dealing with acts entirely removed from the ordinary experience of animals while a few of them may be attributed the action of associative memory, in most cases they are of such a character that it could be impossible for them to occur with sufficient frequency to become incorporated in the associations of the animal.

Of such a character is the account of the woodcock, which formed a splint of clay and grass around a broken leg, to aid in the healing process. That woodcocks may be found with broken limbs covered with clay and grass is not improbable, but that the splint was placed there deliberately by the bird, in order that the leg might heal properly, is quite another matter and one of the documentary evidence produced by the author of the narrative, has failed to prove.

Still another type of animal story is met with, in which the description of events is so palpably out of keeping with the anatomical structure of the animal involved in the incident, that it is hardly necessary to apply the psychological test as to its veracity.

In this class may be placed the description of the wonderful nest of a pair of orioles, which appeared in a magazine article a short time ago. These birds constructed a triangular framework of twigs, bound together by cords, which they subsequently attached to a branch of a tree by a series of cords running from the corners of the framework. As an additional precaution the string was secured by a "reversed double hitch" and, to prevent fraying in the wind, was knotted at the end.

That the beak and claws of an oriole are incapable of such a variety of knot tying seems beyond question, not to mention the further difficulty of explaining how the birds acquired the art of fastening the cord in this way.

Many of the accounts of the clever performances of "educated" animals are undoubtedly true, so far as the recounting of the actions of one of the performers is concerned. They fail in accuracy, however, in neglecting to take sufficiently into account the factor of trickery on the part of the exhibitor of the animal. After making a careful analysis of such narratives, there is nothing which leads one to adopt the theory that reason is displayed in these actions.

It may seem to some that the contest which has been waged is simply a disagreement over definitions of instinct and reason. The real point at issue is, however, whether the careful observations of fact and formulation of theories shall be superseded by the less irksome and more showy methods of the new type of naturalists.

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PSYCHO-THERAPEUTICS.

A CHAT WITH A MYSTERY-MAN.

At the Pavilion to-day Prof. Alex, a clever expondent of modern methods of hypnotism, will demonstrate his manner of curing functional disease, and will have with him on the stage a number of patients, who, suffering from paralysis, were discharged as incurable from the London Hospital, but who are now in full possession of their faculties.

In view of the claim of the Professor, namely that he merely suggests a cure to the subconscious mind of the patient whilst in the normal state I interviewed the hypnotist writes a representative of "The Daily News," with the object of ascertaining just how it was done.

"There is very little to tell; the whole science is in learning to speak to the sub-conscious mind. The instant one grasps intelligently the knowledge of the duality of the human mind, the mystery, so-called, disappears."

INDUCING PARALYSIS.

"But can you really cure paralysis?" I asked.

"Certainly; I have done so. I cannot cure a case for you to-day, as I have not a patient here, but as I can induce the state of paralysis as well as cure it I will give you a personal experience if you care to test me. Or, noticing my hesitation to accept," perhaps one of those men outside will have no objection Would you like to ask one?"

In an adjoining part of the house a number of men were engaged in redecorating, and I caused something akin to consternation when I asked if either of them would care to be paralysed for a few minutes. Two or three venturesome spirits agreed upon my explaining the nature of things, and I selected one man for the test.

"You arms are all right, are they not?" asked Prof. Alex of the "patient."

"Yes, sir," said the man, swinging them out.

"Well, now, that is paralysed," pointing to the man's left arm. The man looked thunderstruck as he tried unsuccessfully to move it One leg was treated in the same way, and remained thus until the word was spoken, when both limbs relaxed at once.

Up to this point nothing had been done but what I have seen many times before, the novelty simply lay in the method of its doing, i.e., the subject remaining in a normal state and able to follow the proceedings mentally, discussing his feelings where his speech was not interfered with.

SENT TO SLEEP.

"Now I will show you something which I think more extraordinary than all," said the Professor to me. Pulling a chair up to the table in the middle of the room, he asked the man to sit down.

"When I count 'three' you will have dropped off to sleep. One—two—three." The word was scarcely uttered before the man's head was bent in slumber.

"Now," said Professor Alex to me, "this is my cure for insomnia. I shall show this man something in the sleeping state which, on looking at it again at any time will have the effect of sending him to sleep whenever he wants to. So that you may watch the effect, I will show this man any playing card you like to select from this pack. I will replace it, wake the man up, and you shall see how the cure works."

I selected an ace of spades. The Professor asked the man to open his eyes, and although asleep, he did so.

"Now look at this. When you see it again, no matter where you are, you will be able to sleep at once. Now close your eyes."

The man took no notice except just to do as he was bid. I replaced the card in the middle of the pack and put it away, whilst the Professor, touching his subject on the shoulder, told him to wake up. The man responded quite brightly. One or two questions satisfied me that he did not remember having seen a playing card, at least, recently.

"Very well," said the Professor, "just take this pack of cards and deal them out quietly on that table, looking at the face of each as you take it up from the pack."

The man did as he was told. He had dealt about half the pack when suddenly he fell to the floor as if he had been shot. He lay on his back sound asleep, and when we picked him up he had the ace of spades between his fingers. The man was perfectly well when told to wake up, and knew nothing of the card or what had happened.

TEMPORARY DARKNESS.

"Now, would you like to be stricken blind?" asked Professor Alex. But the man had had enough, and said he would rather get on with his work. I suggested that the Professor should operate on myself, if the blindness would be but of a temporary character, and he agreed.

"Now, look at me," he said, and I watched him closely "See, I am going, going Look, how dark it is getting, dark, dark, all dark, all quite black. Now you can't see," I heard him say. And he was right. The experience was most uncanny. I was conscious of everything around me, I could feel the walls of the room, the backs of the chairs. I could hear the Professor quite clearly and knew that my eyes were wide open. When he first spoke I felt that a dense black fog rose up around me, gathering in from all sides and surrounding the Professor, whose face seemed to recede until it got quite small and swallowed up in the fog. Then I heard his voice saying, "Look at me," and I saw again.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

The following is the report of the special committee for selection of candidates:—

The committee had three meetings, and after having carefully considered the applications of all the candidates, beg to report as follows:—

There were 89 applicants, and the committee notice with satisfaction that many of them were highly qualified and that among them were some of the most brilliant graduates of the University, showing the willingness of the graduates to advance the best interests of their country.

We recommend that Mr. Himangshu Mohan Mitra, M.A., who stood first in the B. Sc. examination with honours both in mathematics and science and the M.A. examination in mathematics Group A. of the Calcutta University and who is now studying for the D. Sc. examination of the Allahabad University, be awarded a scholarship of Rs. 100 a month for learning Manufacturing Chemistry for one year in Edinburgh and afterwards in Germany.

We also recommend to the committee of the Association to award another scholarship of Rs. 50 a month for learning Manufacturing Chemistry for one year in Edinburgh and aftewards in Germany to Mr. Satish Chandra Roy, M.A., another brilliant graduate who stood fourth in the Entrance and seventh in the First Arts examination and has taken his M.A., in Physics in the Second class. The said applicant has expressed his willingness to bear the rest of his expenses himself.

We recommend that a scholarship of Rs. 120 a month tenable in America for learning Agriculture (including tobacco-curing) be awarded to Mr. Dwija Das Dutt, B. Sc. who having passed the B. Sc. examination of the Calcutta University prosecuted for one year his studies in the Higher Agricultural Department of the Shibpur Engineering College. He has also stood first in the first year's examination of that College and his professor has written to say that it will be difficult to get a more competent student.

We recommend that a scholarship of Rs. 100 a month, for learning Mining and Electrical Engineering be awarded to Assistant Engineer Kali Charan Nandi who after passing the B.A. Examination with honours in both science and mathematics obtained the B. E. degree of the Shibpur Engineering College in the first division and afterwards had a further practical training for one year in the same College and is willing to give up an appointment of Rs. 150 a month which he now holds, in the hope that he may be of good service to the country. We recommend him to be sent to Newcastle on the Tyne or Edinburgh.

We also recommend that Mr. Kailaspati, B.A. (B. Course) who has been recommended by the Bankipur committee be selected as the most eligible among the Behari candidates and awarded a scholarship of Rs. 100 a month for learning weaving.

We recommend that Mr. Syed Alimuddin (Mr. Khursad Hosain, B.A., having declined) be selected as the most eligible among the Behari Mahomedan candidates and awarded a scholarship of Rs. 50 a month for learning Weaving and lacquer work and varnish in Japan.

We also recommend that a scholarship of Rs. 120 a month be awarded to Moulvi Basharatuddin Abdul Taher, B.A., (B. Course) as the most eligible among the Mahomedan candidates of Bengal for learning Leather industry in America.

We recommend that a scholarship of Rs. 100 a month for Pharmacy be awarded to Mr. Dhirendra Kumar Roy, B.A. Course) who is the most eligible among Indian Christian candidates.

We further recommend to the Executive committee to award a scholarship of Rs. 40 a month for learning Mechanical Engineering (construction and management of machinary) in Glasgow to Ramesh Chandra Dutt, who obtained Gilchrist Scholarship after passing the F.A. examination, and has studied for full three years in the Shibpur Engineering College and who is willing to bear the rest of his expenses himself.

That a scholarship of Rs. 50 a month be awarded to Mr. Sitanath Saikah, a native of the Brahmaputra Valley for learning Agriculture and Oil industry in France or Scotland, the rest of his expenses being borne by himself.

We recommend that the two scholarships of Rs. 25 a month tenable in Japan be awarded to Mr. Srish Chandra Guha, B.A., (B. Couse) and Mr. Akshoy Kumar Sen, B.A., (B. Course) as being the most eligible among the candidates for those scholarships.

We further recommend to the Executive Committee to pay the passage money to Japan of the applicants Mr. Mujir-Uddin Ahmed, an Assamese Mahammadan, Mr. Jogendra Prosad Bose, who has read up to the F.A. standard, and to Mr. Santipado Gupta, who after passing the Entrance Examination studied Science for three years in the Muir Central College, the said applicants being willing to bear all the expenses for their education in Japan themselves.

The last named 5 students should be required to learn the following industries. Soap, pencil, matches, enamel, glass, silk, buttons, India rubber, printink ink and metalwork.

There were no Eurasian candidates. There were only two candidates from Brahmaputra Valley Assam eligible under the rules. We would have very gladly recommended an Orissa student if one were available and we have no doubt the Association will send an Orissa student for education to foreign countries as soon as one is available.

The Executive Committee of the Association should also consider the question of the advisibility of reducing the minimum education qualification required by it, in the case of students from Orissa.

We recommend that the young men be sent by the end of February or beginning of March.

A MODEL COLLEGE AT DAULATPUR (KHULNA.)

Babu Brajalal Chakravarty, M.A.B.L. though a great scholar of the Calcutta University having stood first in all the examinations, is yet an humble inhabitant of the Khulna district. It had been his lifelong desire to establish a "tol" and a college with boarding on strictly Hindu principles. He spent years in finding out a comparatively healthy site for the establishment of the college,—a place which would be to some extent free from the ravages of malaria which decimates the whole district. His labours in this direction, however, did not go in vain; and at last he came upon a spot in Daulatpur which appeared to him to serve his purpose capitally. Accordingly with the help of a few other noble and self-sacrificing gentlemen of the District a college with a "tol" was established there three years ago, which was named the Hindu Academy. Within these three short years the college has been eminently successful, and there are at present about 70 students on the roll, besides 32 students in the "tol" department learning various branches of Sanskrit.

The health of the place, which stands just on the border of a broad river having open space on all sides, is indeed so good that it remained completely free from malaria though the other parts adjoining it were seriously affected. Besides, the place itself is magnificent and attractive to the extreme as regards natural beauty and scenery. The college not only fulfills the conditions laid down by the recent Universities Act in a most satisfactory manner, but it does something more which was perhaps never dreamt of by the promoters of the proposed Ranchi College. It protects the students from the alluring influences of city life, teaches them to be serving and respectful to superiors, promotes fellow-feeling and self-help among the students which are so absolutely necessary in a poor country like India. Besides imparting general education it gives practical training to students, who are made to look after their own needs themselves, so much so that they are compelled sometimes to cook their own food. But, inspite of that, they find sufficient time for study as also ennobling themselves by having friendly conservation with the Professors.

It is in our opinion, to all intents and purposes, a model college in Bengal which can very well be imitated with profit by other educational concerns in this country. The initial cost for the establishment of this noble institution was heavy, for there are a well-equipped laboratory and a library attached to it and the thanks of the public are due to Babus Brajalal Chakravarty, Troylokhya Nath Chatterjee and a few others who sacrificed their little all to bring it to the present standard of efficiency. The founders of the college and the "tol" have, by a legal document, dedicated the whole property to God Narayan, an image of which has been installed there, to remove the impression from the public mind that the promoters have any self-interest in the matter.

It is, however, a pity that the college has not as yet been affiliated, though it has been recommended for such by the Syndicate and the matter now exclusively rests with the decision of the Chancellor, Lord Curzon. The students were, in the mean time, allowed to appear at the University examination and the results obtained on the last two occasions were decidedly satisfactory.

The present deficit of the college is now being regularly met by Brajalal Babu and Babu Jadunath Biswas, a well-known Zemindar of the District, who has already won celebrity for his various acts of philanthropy The attention of all philantropic and charitably-disposed rich men of our country is directed towards this noble institution, which is quite unique of its kind in the whole country; for there cannot be a more suitable object which is fit to be the recipient of their bounty than the Hindu Academy of Daulatpur and specially the "tol" attached thereto. We hope to publish a fuller detail of the college in a future issue, showing why it is deserving of public attention and charity and also pointing out its special features which mark it out from other institutions of a similar kind.

A suggestion by the [illegible] Government that [illegible] clerks [illegible] commission has [illegible] that a scheme for pension has now been drawn up. It will at first be permissive merely. The Government will permit District Boards to make a permanent arrangement for contributing from general revenues a ninth of the sanctioned salaries of their appointments for permanent clerks drawing a salary of Rs. 20 monthly and over for head clerks, deputy inspectors of schools, sub-overseers and veterinary assistants. The contribution by the Boards may start from April next, but ordinarily will not be permitted in the case of individuals exceeding 45 years of age.

HUNTING THE CROCODILE.

THE AUSTRALIAN METHOD.

It was about the end of 1902 that my mate and I reached Wave Hill Station, on the Upper Victoria River, writes a correspondent in an Australian paper. We picked a m camp on the river, near by the spot—kno as "Rifle Camp." To our camp one mornin came the sound of a great shouting. Tom was mending the camel saddles, and I wa cooking a "brownie" for it was Tom's birthday—but we both stopped to locate the row. We saw some 200 niggers—old men, lubaas, young gins, and piccaninnies—straggling down towards the river from the direction of Wave Hill. When they came nearer we recognised some of those that were allowed to camp on the station. They belonged to the Moorburra tribe, and being armed with spears, woomeras, wirradillies, and waddies, we guessed that they were out hunting. Questioning some of them we found that our surmise was correct. They were down the river by order of the "boss" to get "tuckout alonga crocodile." They knew that there "were plenty fella crocodile all about alonga that one hole," and were determined to have what is to the nigger a right royal time. We acquiesced, merely requesting that they should make their camp as far, as possible away from us.

A WILD SCENE.

In the afternoon they got to work. The banks of the river were well timbered, and the whole tribe set to work carrying logs and branches and top hamper from all round and putting it in the waterhole. While the work was in progress we could see the sacred amphibians rushing about in the water. Now and then one would make a dash at the bank In a moment half a hundred niggers would be gathered around it, and if it was not speared, battered and cought, it would retire to the water again. This sort of thing was kept going for two days. Not timber only but rocks and great clods of earth were carried down and thrown in the hole, until at last all the deep places had been fairly well filled up and there were no retiring places for crocodiles to get out of reach. All the time the disturbance of the water caused food to come naturally to the niggers. Many fish were killed in the process of filling the holes, and hundreds of river turtles whose mud homes in the depths of the water had been rudely disturbed by the dropping of debris, claimed the banks and became ready prey to the natives. The task of catching the small turtles was in the hands of almost equally small piccaninnies, who screamed with delight as they turned the reptiles on their backs and gathered hear of them in the camp.

THE FEAST.

At the end of the third day the work of filling in the waterhole was complete. Most of the water had flowed away, and the maddened crocodiles, surging here and there among the tangle of timber and stuff, lashed the surface of what was left in a dirty froth. Then the real fun began. All the niggers gathered round the hole. Those on one side would wade as far as possible into the water, shouting and howling all the while like so many demons. The crocodiles, retreating before this frightful hurly-burly, would necessarily get close to the opposite bank. The natives there, skilfully watching for their chances, drove spears into the nearest crocodile, while others battered it with waddies. More would catch it by the tail and claws, and as its struggles grew weaker it would be dragged ashore and killed. Presently the game ceased, the crocodile but few remained in the hole, and probably a hundred of all sizes were lying on the banks. The feast began in real earnest. Crocodile meat, raw, baked and roasted, and [illegible] even boiled old billycans and [illegible] used for the purpose. The [illegible] to quieten down. Here and there [illegible] and sated warrior or [illegible] fubra [illegible]. An occasional youngster would utter a howl and a small murmur—the jabber of gins—was almost the only sound. By and by even this gave way to the contended snore of satisfied sleepers.

Mrityunjaya Rasa.

THE UNRIVALLED BLOOD PURIFIER & TONIC

It is a sovereign remedy for the radical cure of all kinds of syphilitic, mercurial and other poisonous sores which have their origin in the impurities of blood. As a tonic and alterative it is also highly beneficial to ladies in their weak state after confinement. From the very commencement of use, the poisson will be gradually eliminated from the system, and cheerfulness and vigour will take the place of despondency and It may be freely taken at all seasons and old of both sexes alike without any apprehension of bad effect.

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CONSTIPATION,
PAINS AFTER EATING,
FULNESS AT THE CHEST,
NERVOUS DEPRESSION,
BILIOUSNESS,

Nearly all our minor ailments and many dangerous diseases have their origin in some disorder of the stomach, liver and kidneys, affecting the vital processes of digestion and nutrition. In health, the daily expenditure of vital force is replenished by the digestion of food, but when digestion fails, as in dyspepsia and indigestion, the sources of bodily repair are cut off and every organ of the body is starved and poisoned. To be strong and healthy, maintain a good digestion by taking Mother Seigel's Syrup daily after meals. As a digestive tonic and stomachic remedy it has no equal. It clears the head, braces the nerves, tones the liver, assists digestion and helps you to gain strength from food—the only way it can be gained.

THE WORLD'S REMEDY

"For fifteen years I suffered from kidney and liver troubles which left me a mere shadow of my former self," writes Mrs. Amelia Le Roux, Short Street, North End, East London, Cape Colony, on June 22nd, 1904. "I lost my appetite and could not sleep at nights. I was also attacked by dizziness, which made me feel quite faint. Constipation was one of my chief troubles. Doctors were called in to attend me, but I only derived relief from their treatment for a short while. At last I heard of your Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup and I was not backward in purchasing a supply which cured me, and now at sixty-eight years I can do as much work as any person twenty years younger."

CLEANSES THE LIVER,
PURIFIES THE BLOOD,
SHARPENS THE APPETITE,
BRACES THE NERVES,
INVIGORATES THE SYSTEM,
ASSISTS DIGESTION.

FOR INDIGESTION.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

JUDGE AS DEFENDANT.

DEFYING LOCAL BY-LAWS.

A curious reversal of things judicial was pre-ed at the Lewes Petty Session yesterday, c. 14), when Sir William Grantham, one the best known of his Majesty's judges, also chairman of the East Sussex Quar-r Sessions, himself came up for judgment respect to an offence punishable by the nfliction of a substantial fine.

The offence charged against the judge briefly amounted to this: that Sir William had persisted in erecting a cottage upon his estate at Mount Pleasant, Barcombe, after the Chailey Rural District Council had pronounced the plans thereof unsatisfactory. In other words, the plans were alleged to be unintelligible to that authority. Sir William had prepared them himself.

The reply of the distinguished defendant to this contenton was that he had given the Council all the plans they were entitled to.

In the preliminary stages of the dispute Sir William Grantham had been trenchantly sarcastic at the expense of his antagonists. "Iniquity," "Incompetence," "Narrow minded pride of office," were epithets which the dignity of the Chailey Rural District Council could not for a moment tolerate. They admitted that of the twenty councillors who considered the judge's "unintelligible" plans ten were farmers to whom plans even of the best were no more understandable than Greek. But a builder among them disclaimed any such ignorance. He tried to initiate his fellow-members into the mysteries of front and rear elevations, ground measurements, and the rest of it, and they agreed that their newly-acquired wisdom that Sir William's plans were unsatisfactory.

The learned judge-architect finally defied them by proceeding with the erection of the disputed building. Hence it came to pass that the name "Sir William Grantham" appeared on yesterday's charge-sheet in company with an alleged poacher and a "drunk and disorderly."

WEARIED SPECTATORS.

Sir William sat at counsel's table with a solemn, rather aggressive, look on his finely-chiselled, intellectual face. He wore as usual a red tie. Behind him sat his barrister son Mr. W.W. Grantham—cleanshaven, acute, obviously determined to fight strenuously for his father under the leadership of C.F. Gill, K.C.

The impressively ornate little court was packed with Sussex farmers and other substantial folk, all in their Sunday best. A number of fashionably-attired ladies included relatives of the defendant. Hour after hour the fair spectators listened to the reading of a large number of letters, and strove to suppress their yawns at a long, tedious elucidation of Chailey's by-laws. It was all very dull, and the arrival of the luncheon interval afforded several spectators an excuse to disappear altogether.

At the outset of the proceedings two members of the prosecuting council shared the magistrates bench, but catching an ominous glint in the defendant's eye they fled precipitately. The venerable chairman aso relinquished his position on the ground that his estate adjoins Sir William's. He was succeeded by Mr. C.R. Kemp, a picturesque local administrator of the law with silvery-white hair. The magistrates were supplied with magnifying glasses to aid in the deciphering of documents.

The opening remarks of Mr. Macmorran, who had the assistance of Mr. W.A. Gill for the prosecution, were more or less formal. He regretted the duty imposed upon him of appearing against a gentleman of eminence. Then began a weary discussion of laws and regulations, maps, and drains.

A touch of humour to lighten the gloomy proceedings came with the cross examination of the clerk to the Chailey Council. He affirmed that Sir William's plans were unintelligible. "That is," said Mr. Gill quietly, "they were unintelligible to the Chailey District Council." The court laughed and Sir William bent his face over a heap of documents to hide his smiles.

This witness explained that if he obtained the idea of building a cottage he would have the plans prepared by a competent architect.

"Ah, that's it!" snapped counsel. "That is what Sir William Grantham has been summoned for—not employing an architect."

The remarkable evolution of a surveyor as unfolded to Mr. Gill created another smile. This functionary had been in turn a builder a police-constable, a farmer, an inspector of sewers, and, finally, a surveyor. At this stage the court adjourned the case.

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men from Ind... Siri Jat Lala and have been for s... months carrying profitable garden ... the edge of the ... a Nuwarewewe... Ceylon, raising to... radishes, pumpki..., &c., which found ... sale in the town. They had cleared ...ent of about 5 acres and reckoned themquite safe. But the Government Agent ...n a plaint, charging them with cultivaCrown jungle without a permit and cutt... down valuable trees. The accused pleaded guilty to the charge of clearing the jungle, but denied felling any valuable trees. A fine of Rs. 50 was imposed on each of the accused, or two months' rigorous. One of the accused, Siri Jat Lala, has purchased land at Kopaku lama and Medimeriawa.

Is there such a thing as mad panther, or are lunatics increasing in Bangalore? asks a correspondent in the "Madras Mail." It appears to be a fact tha since the extraordinary panther incident by the Ulour Tank a few weeks back, another beast was seen in the Kulpully Cemetery, and that it also invaded Cleveland Town. But it also seems to be rumoured that the animal has taken to roaming about the purlieus of Blackpully. Verily it must be found of insalubrious localities, with all the hills, dales and rocks of the surrounding country open to it. Its last "habitat" is said to be Cleveland Town, and shikars are in pursuit of it. Possibly it will apply for rooms as a paying guest at some boarding house. Exaggerated stories are rife, and I even heard of a reputed tiger in the Borning Institute compound a day or two after Christmas! This, however, is possibly accounted for when one remembers the season of the year.

PNEUMONIA always results from a cold or a attack of influenza. Chamberlain's Cough emedy quickly cures these ailments and nteracts any tendency toward pneumonia. is made especially for these and similar ailrts and can always be depended upon. For by *

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THE "HOLY DANCE."

I had the curiosity to attend one of the meetings of the American "Holy Dancers" at Camberwell Baths this week, and it proved a rich experience, such as is rarely vouchsafed in this humdrum city, writes a "Pall Mall" correspondent. The "Dancers" consist of one middle-aged man and his wife, a younger man, and five young women; and the distinguishing feature of their proceedings is that they dance and caper and shout in expression of their joy at "being saved." The perils which attend the absence of a sense of humour were never more grotesquely illustrated. "David," explained one of the speakers, "danced and sang before the Lord," which they take to be a clear injunction upon them to do likewise, the result being the spectacle of five young ladies bobbing up and down like bouncing balls, while the younger man cakewalks in front, and the elder performs a revolving jig in the corner. As might be expected, the effect upon Camberwell's always robust sense of the ludicrous is irresistible that the serious purpose of the gathering is suffocated in irreverent and frequently blasphemous mirth. There lies the condemnation of the meetings, for such exhibitions must necessarily act as a grave deterrent to the ordinary religious work of the local churches.

Setting aside the question of the "dancing," there was nothing in what I saw of these singular people to justify their assumption of a "mission" to the people of this country. Their theology is of the crudest "hell fire versus golden pavements" order, which is as dead as Queen Anne on this side of the Atlantic, whatever it may be in the mining camps of Denver, where the "Holy Dancers" come from. Their hymns are quite as vulgar as the worst examples of the Salvation Army's infancy, their singing is bad, and not one of them has any particular ability as a speaker.

Later on, they intend taking their propaganda to India! What "the poor Indian" will think of this new variety of Western Christianity it would probably require a Rudyard Kipling properly to express.

Another writer says.—The Pentecostal Dancers had a moderate audience at the Camberwell Public Baths. From the dressing-boxes a stony audience gazed unmoved at the laboured contortions of the Rev. Mr. Kent White, the whirling jig figures of the Rev H. L. Harvey and the solemn or ecstatic perpendicular jumps of the ladies.

"We were told," Mr. Kent-White explained to a representative of the "Daily Mail," "that Camberwell was about the toughest section of this City. So we reckoned to open the mission right here. Seems to me it's a ripe harvest."

But it has resisted so far the appeal to its emotional side which the Pentecostal Dancers do their best to address. The cakewalk, the fling, the hop, the set-to-partners, the breakdown, and all the rest elicited only gasps of utter bewilderment, which gave place later to laughter and delighted applause. The Pillar of Fire and the Burning Bush are going to have a magnificent vogue when their fame has gone thoroughly abroad.

The meeting opened with a hymn, and the dancers went straight to business. No sooner were the first notes sounded than the Rev H. L. Harvey slipped himself from the leash, and went down the stage, singing vociferously and giving a good exhibition of the sand dance. Mr. Kent-White, known to local fame as Obadiah, stood aside for a while and confined himself to the hymn, but when Miss Sadie Walker (of Chicago, Ill.,) joined in the mazy dance he became infected, and yielded to the seduction of the moment. His was the kind of step dance which is performed by jumping slowly from one foot to the other, a performance sensibly enhanced by the iron gravity of his face all the time.

TO ASTONISH THE NATIVES.

A slender little woman in brown, who carried off all with a face radient with sheer ecstasy, hopped into favour at once. She is going to India as a missionary, and is qualifying to astonish the natives. She pirouttes with an almost professional grace, and now and again relieves pressure with shrieks. Those ... dressing-boxes testified their sympathy ... weirdly also.

... man in the audience lurched to ... danced too—did dance, ... removed by an atten... under... Mr. Harvey, amid the pr... of the...

The sermon which Mrs. Kent-White delivered was to say the least of it, a fine example of the direct style. She told of converts to the order who recollected with grief days when they had omitted to pay their fares on tramway-cars.

She has no patience with the baser side of Church life.

"Chicken suppers an' doughnut socials an' oyster stew—oh, my dear people, I do hope'n trust you don't hev' none o' them over hyar."

"Seems to me most of the holiness that's abroad has gone into the cookin' business."

Of divorce, she admitted: "In America we have thousands of divorce cases—the rottenest cases you ever heard." The audience cheered this.

With the view of encouraging officers of the Indian Medical Service to qualify in chemistry, the Government of India have decided that in selecting a probationer for the Chemical Examiner's Department preference shall, "caeteris paribus," be given to an officer who has passed the intermediate or final examination of the Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain and Ireland or any equivalent examination; and that for appointment as chemical examiner preference shall "caeteris paribus" be given to a probationer who is in possession of the diploma of Fellow or Associate of the Institute of Chemistry or any equivalent degree or diploma.

ABOUT COLDS.—In all countries and among all nations of the globe, cough medicines are used probably more extensively than any other one class of medicines. Every human being is subject to throat and lung troubles, which may terminate his existence. people everywhere realize the dangerous consequences of a neglected cold, for the majority of fatalities have their origin in and are characterized first by a simple cold. The more careful and prudent persons do not permit a cold to run its course, but treat it promptly. For many years Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has been in use throughout the United States and many other countries and time has proven it to be the best adapted of any remedy yet made for all throat and lung diseases, and especially coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough. It always cures and cures quickly. For sale by *

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PARLIAMENT STORMED.

CHAMBER WRECKED.

Budapest, Tuesday, Dec. 13.

Scandalous scenes occurred in the Hungarian Parliamen to-day in consequence of the new rules of procedure being introduced.

A hundred members of the Opposition met by appointment this morning and marched through the streets to Parliament House, where they were met by the town captain of police and some inspectors, who informed them that members only would be allowed to enter. This was misunderstood by the members, who attacked the captain and threw him down the steps.

Then they rushed wildly, shouting imprecations, into the building, where they found a new Parliamentary Guard consisting of sixteen men posted near the President's seat. Many of the members commenced insulting the guard, and suddenly Father Hock, a priest who is also a deputy, boxed a soldier's ears. This was the signal for a general attack. The balustrade leading to the President's platform was torn down and the pieces of wood used against the guards.

Desk-lids were wrenched off, and the codes of the law were hurled across the room. Eventually the guards retired, having received orders only to defend themselves. One man who became separated from his companions was surrounded by the infuriatel legislators, thrown down, and trampled on.

The President's stand was then stormed, and the benches, chairs, books, bell, and everything else movable were thrown into the room below.

About ten o'clock the President appeared with a few of the Ministers, and looked on the wreckage with folded arms. Suddenly one of the deputies waved a handkerchief, shouting "Now we can vote," whereupon the Ministers withdrew. Several of the Opposition and five guards were injured during the disturbance.

Two Liberal members who were discovered looking on were received with a shower of insults and small change, the money being thrown with the words, "Here you have the money. We can also pay."

A model of a gallows was constructed with the broken benches, and a caricature of the President was hanged amid cheers. Some of the members collected autographs on parts of the broken desks as mementoes.

Later information states that a battalion of infantry is being held in readiness near the Parliament House, each man being provided with a few ball cartridges.

At a conference of the Liberal Party this afternoon Count Tisza, the Premier said that no mediation between the Government and the Opposition would present any prospect of success until the disgrace of to-day's proceedings in Parliament had been wiped out.

The stormy scene described above is the culmination of the long struggle between the Liberal Party in power under Count Tisza and the Opposition groups under Count Appony and M. Franz Kossuth (son of the great Hungarian rebel of 1849) who for a long time paralysed the business of Parliament by systematic obstruction.

Finally Count Tisza lost patience, and gave notice of a number of alterations in the rules of procedure calculated to frustrate the tactics of the Opposition, which is in a minority of about sixty. The result was yesterday's outbreak, which is unparalleled in the annals of Hungary.

AN EDITOR'S OPINION.—John S. Dawes, Esq., editor and proprietor "Guardian and Star," Hokitika, New Zealand, said: "I have found Chamberlain's Cough Remedy a very valuable medicine, having received great benefit from its use when suffering from a cold, and as a preventive for croup in children its excellent properties have been testified in my family." For sale by *

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HIERARCHY OF THE DALAI LAMA.

Rai Sarat Chandra Das, Bahadur, C.I.E., read, on Wednesday night last, at the Asiatic Society of Bengal, an interesting paper on the Hierarchy of the Dalai Lama (1406-1726) He described the oirgin of the Dalai Lama's power and its growth. Within the few years following 1406, when the School of Yellow Cap Lamas was founded, the influence of the brotherhood spread in a remarkable manner in all directions. In 1408 arose the monastery of Gahdan near Lhassa; soon after one of the founder's disciples was invited to Pekin, and on his return to Tibet he established the monastery of Lhassa. In 1415 another disciple built the monastery of Dapung, and in 1446 a third disciple founded that of Tashilhumpo. It was through the teaching of these four great foundations that Tibet became the stronghold and the oracle of Northern Buddhism. The founder of the last-mentioned monastery was canonised by the people, and the monks over whom he had ruled in his life-time, after his death imagined that his spirit might still dwell amongst them. The wish proved father to its own fulfilment. Some seven weeks after the abbot's death a child was born into the world, and in that child the good monks were pleased to see a reincarnation of their departed shepherd. Naturally enough the child was reared by the monks, was initiated into the mysteries of their cult, and was ultimately raised to the dignity of High Priest. On dying in 1541 he, in his turn, bequeathed his spirit to a four-year-old saint, who was also made High Priest in 1557, at the nature age of twenty. A few years later he went to Mongolia on the invitation of Altan Khan who greeted him as Dalai Lama (Dalai being the Mongolian version of the Tibetan name Sonam), worshipped him and helped him to return to Tibet where he died—if a Dalai Lama can die—in 1587. It would be tedious to pursue him through his subsequent reincarnations. The author next went on to trace the decline of the Yellow Cap Brethren, and the growth of Chinese ascendency in Tibet. It appears that the history of the Yellow Cap Church is the history of the Papal Church—minus its success.

Lord Curzon will visit Cooch Behar with a shooting party abou the first week in February.

IN AMERICA Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is a great favorite with the mothers of small children for colds, croup and whooping cough. It contains no harmful substance and always gives prompt relief. Sold by *

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FEAR NOT FOR WASTE AND LOSS

Healing Balm

The Indian Gonorrhœa Specific is able and ready to recoup them.

WHAT IT CURES:—It cures acute and chronic Gonorrhœa, Gleet, Running White, Irsthrites Cystitis and their evil consequence such as obstruction of urination, scanty urine emissions no matter during urinotion, muddy colour of the urine, of semen, wet dreams, loss of memory, retention, nervous debility, giddiness of the brain, and ow spirits, loss of vital forces, mental and and bodily prostration, inability to perform the various duties of worldly life and to enjoy its pleasures, constipation, headache and all other evil consequences of dissipated habit in early life, without any harm ...s or Alimentary canal. It contains no poisonous ingredients.

THE MAGICAL EFFECTS OF HEALING BAL

(1) ...dose arrests the progress of the disease.
(2) ...ire it removes the scalding sensation and irritation arising from the disease
(3) ...it will bring the patient completely round by eliminating all poisonous matter from the sy...

GONOC... germ the main cause of the disease—are totally destroyed by the use of our Healing Bal... hence the cure effected by it is radical and permanent.

INJECTION GONORRHŒA:— To avoid stricsure the dreadful consequences of injection in Gonorrhœa, ... wonderful medicine has been brought to light.

INDISPUTABLE EVIDENCE OF THE DOCTORS OF WORLD-WIDE REPUTATION.

One of the Leading Medical Journals the INDIAN LANCET SAYS :— "We have no hesitation in saying that R. Laugin and Co's Healing Balm is a safe and reliable therapeutic agent and one on which medical men and the general public may, without any doubt, depend."

2. Dr. K. P. Gupta, Col. I. M. S, M. A., M. D, F. R. C. S, (Edin) S Sc (Cambridge) P. H. I (Cantab) the late Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal, etc. says :—Healing Balm is almost a specific for Gonorrhœa and may be safely and strongly recommended for that troublesome and obstinate disease.

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4 Dr. U. Gupta M. D. M. C, Edin) F. C. S. (London) says :— a liea R. Laugin and Co's Healing Balm and found it really a very excellent medicine for both chronic and acute Gonorrhœa.

5. Dr, S. Chakravarty M. D, Late Asst in the Royal London Opthaimic Hospita, (London) says—: I certify with great pleasure that Healing Balm has been found efficacious in cases of chronic and acute gonorrhœa. The scalding sensation ceases in 24 hours.

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Dr. R. G Kar L. R. C. P., (Edin) Secretary, Calcutta Medical School, etc., says:—Healing Balm has given me immense satisfaction in cases of Gonorrhœa.

Dr. R. A. Fermie L. R. C. P., and S, says:—Used Healing Balm for Gonorrhœa on a number of my patients and found it very efficacious.

9 Dr S, N. CHOWDHURI L R C P London) M R C S (England) Healing Balm can be confidently recommended to the public.

10 Dr. B BASU L R C P and S. Late Civil Surgeon, Naga Hill, says :—I feel pleasure to recommend the public to use R. Laugin and Co's. Healing Balm while suffering from Gonorrhoea and Gleet of a chronic character. My experience is based upon observations in more than many hundred cases.

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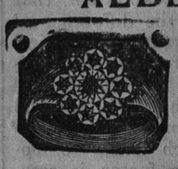

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