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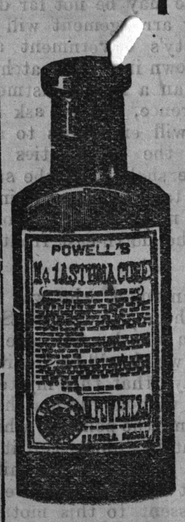

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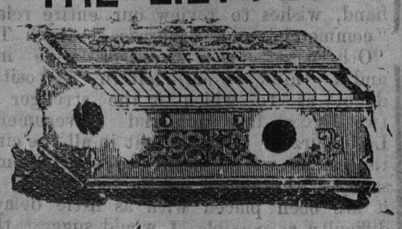

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INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

—:o:—

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Tuesday, April 12.

Indian Councils Bill.—Mr. Brodrick presented a Bill to amend the Indian Council Act, 1874.

The Thibet Mission.—In answer to Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, Mr. Brodrick said he had ordered papers to be prepared with reference to Thibet; but no despatch of any importance has been sent to Lord Curzon since the publication of the ample volume of papers already issued, and which included the despatch of Nov. 6, which authorised the advance.

Sir W. Lawson: Are we at war with Thibet or are we not?

The Speaker: Order, order.

In answer to Mr. E. Robertson, Mr. Brodrick said that the terms of the resolution he would move were as follows:—"That this House consents to the revenues of India being applied to defray the expenses of any military operations which may became necessary beyond the frontiers of his Majesty's Indian possessions for the purpose of protecting the political mission which has been despatched to the Thibetan Government."

Wednesday, April 13.

The Plague.—Sir Walter Foster asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he can give the number of deaths from plague in India and the Bombay and Bengal districts respectively for the four weeks ending March 26.

Mr. Brodrick: Except as regards the Bombay Presidency the returns of plague deaths in India received up to yesterday do not go beyond the week ended March 19. The totals for the three weeks ended on that date are 13,187 for Bengal, 24,390 for the Bombay Presidency, and 102,962 for the whole of India, including the above. The number of plague deaths in the Bombay Presidency alone during the month of March was 35,416.

THE THIBET MISSION.

MR. BRODRICK'S STATEMENT.

Mr. Brodrick, who was received with Ministerial cheers, said:—I rise to move, "That this House consents to the revenue of India being applied to defray the expenses of any military operations which may become necessary beyond the frontiers of his Majesty's Indian possessions for the purpose of protecting the political mission which has been despatched to the Thibetan Government." In some quarters the question has been addressed to the Government, Why when this mission in Thibet, accompanied by an armed force, was first despatched from India the Government did not come to Parliament in pursuance of the statute in order to ask for the authorisation of the mission? We carefully investigated that subject, and under legal advice we found that no such authorisation was necessary for the despatch of the mission. It is obvious that that would commend itself to laymen as well as lawyers, for everyone knows who is aware of the circumstances that in the case of regions like Thibet on the confines of our Indian possessions it is difficult to conduct negotiations for the demarcation of boundaries, and that the necessary missions are invariably accompanied by armed forces. Protection could not otherwise be afforded. (Hear, hear.) There is a precedent for such action, even in the case now under review—that is to say, we are sending a mission in order to meet the delegate of the suzerain Power, whose journey in our opinion has been unduly prolonged, and who has been accompanied throughout by an armed escort, which was necessary to secure his safety in the country. If there was no legal necessity for the Government asking up to this time for such support by Parliament there was every political reason, from the point of view of imperial politics, why such a demand should not be made. To ask for authority to carry on military operations in a country in which we had no desire to carry on military operations—(Mr. MacNeill: "Oh, oh")—in support of a mission which was above all things a peaceful mission—(Mr. MacNeill: "Oh, oh")—designed solely to secure peaceful intercourse between Thibet and those States for whose relations we are responsible on the borders of Thibet—a mission which was to take no hostile action, and which did take no hostile action unless attacked, a mission which was proceeding solely for the purpose of negotiations—to ask for sanction to carry on military operations in such a case would be to change the whole character of the mission and to excite those very fears which we were most anxious to allay. The right hon. gentleman proceeded to narrate the course of recent events to show that the whole situation had now been changed, and quoted from the Blue Book to show the causes which had led to the despatch of the mission. The documents showed, he said, that all the regulations agreed on were flagrantly violated by the Thibetans. He continued:—I should like to call as a witness Sir Henry Cotton, who has written with great knowledge on this subject, but who has opposed the policy of the Viceroy of India. In June 1894 he was the signatory of a very important despatch, in which he pointed out that, though Free Trade as between Thibet and India had been guaranteed by the convention, Thibet had levied a 10 per cent. "ad valorem" tax—(Opposition laughter and cheers)—and had drawn a cordon, preventing any merchants passing through Phari. Sir Henry Cotton pointed out that this was inconsistent with the terms of the Convention. Trade facilities are extremely important, but as a matter of sentiment the next point on whilh Thibet violated the treaty is still more important. The right of entering the Chumbi Valley had been enjoyed by the inhabitants of Sikkim for hundreds of years. That right was arrested by the Thibetan Government, no one being allowed to enter the Chumbi Valley from Sikkim. That action Sir Henry Cotton characterised as a very serious matter, and no wonder, because to the people of Sikkim the effect of coming under the protection of Great Britain had been that they were deprived of trade associations with their neighbours which they had enjoyed for hundreds of years. I see that Sir Henry Cotton finds fault with the Viceroy for ignoring the Chinese Government and going straight to the Dalai Lama, but in this very despatch of June 1894 he calls attention to the weakness of the Chinese Government. With all respect to a distinguished public servant, we must realise that, so long as he himself was on the spot, he was, perhaps, of all others, the man who was most engaged in calling the attention of the Government of India to the serious nature of the position which had been reached. (Ministerial cheers.) Very nearly 10 years have passed since then, and I do not think it can be urged that during those 10 years the Government of India and the Government of this country have shown anything but a desire for patient consideration for the inhabitants of Thibet. (Hear, hear.) During all this time the treaty has been rendered nugatory by the Thibetans. The present Viceroy has made attempt after attempt to bring home to ohe Dalai Lama the serious nature of the complaints, we had to make. But while the Thibetan Government were showing themselves more unreasonable than ever with regard to their neighbours, a so-called religious mission was sent by the Dalai Lama to St. Petersburg, a mission to which the Thibetans attached considerable political significance. The whole subject was discussed by Count Lamsdorif and Lord Lansdowne. The representations first made by the Russian Government as to their interest in Thibet were subsequently placed in a different light, and assurances were received from the Russian Government with regard to their action which were regarded as satisfactory. We put clearly before the Russian Government the limitations we designed for the action of the Indian Government. This question of the influence of the Russian Government at Lhassa is not one in which we are moved by any jealousy of a foreign Government, or any desire to establish anything at the expense of a foreign Government, but we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that Lhassa is 300 miles from the Indian frontier, while the nearest portion of the Russian frontier is 1,000 miles away, and the intervening country is the most inhospitable which could be found. It is an historical fact that, since the British dominion existed in India, Thibet has had relations only with three Powers—with the Chinese Government, with Nepaul, and with the Indian Government—and his Majesty's Government could not acquiesce in any change which would result in changing the political "status quo" in Thibet. (Ministerial cheers.) If any Power were to seek to establish a predominant interest in Thibet, if any Power were to send a mission to Lhassa which enabled them to give advice to the Thibetan Government or to control in any way its action; still more, if any Power were to establish a protectorate at Lhassa—any one of these three eventualities is one to which his Majesty's Government could not look without concern. (Ministerial cheers.) Any one of them would accentuates in a high degree those border difficulties which it is the object of every administrator to free himself from as far as possible. Any one of them would cause considerable unrest Nepaul and Bhootan and Sikkim. I cannot imagine anything less desirable than that any portion of the Chinese Empire which abuts on British territory should be exposed to negotiations through a more or less inanimate third party, such as have occupied the diplomatic mind of Europe in some other portions of the Chinese Empire during the last few years. Therefore a point arrived last year when my predecessor intimated to the Viceroy that in the opinion of his Majesty's Government it was now desirable that a mission should proceed with the hope of carrying out negotiations. The Chinese Government agreed toKhamba Jong as a meeting place. His Majesty's Government think they have a right to complain of the ridiculous potision in which our delegates were put. The Chinese Amban started in December 1902, but did not reach Lhassa till Dec. 11 of this year. (Laughter.) We have reason to suppose that but for the advance of our mission the Chinese representative would still have been pursuing the same course. As for the representatives of the Dalai Lama they arrived at Khamba Jong and presented their credentials, but declared that they had not come to negotiate, and they would not take any message to the Dalai Lama. Further proceedings were therefore indefinitely postponed. (Laughter.) The Government, adverse to any advance, found, however, that the position was getting worse. The Tibetan people showed themselves friendly, but the Tibetan Government used force to prevent supplies reaching our representatives and to hinder their intercourse with the people. Two British subjects were imprisoned by the Thibetan authorities, and a request for their release was refused. It was absolutely necessary that further steps should be taken if any answer at all to our numerous representations was to be obtained. (Hear, hear.) On Nov. 6, 1903, while my noble friend (Lord G. Hamilton) was still Secretary for India, the advance of the British mission to Gyangtse was authorised, the objects, however, being strictly limited. Those objects were to obtain by negotiation satisfaction for the past and a "modus vivendi" for the future. (Hear, hear.) I do not think I can describe the state of things better than was done by the Goevnment of India in the despatch written last November—namely, that it was necessary to impress the Tibetan Government with a sense of our earnestness for negotiations and our power to carry them through. (Hear, hear.) We have no quarrel whatever with the Thibetans. We have no desire to occupy their country. We have no wish to establish a permanent mission in Thibet. But if we are to preserve the respect of the people of Nepaul and Sikkim, to maintain our own frontier, and avoid the recurrence of continual disputes a settlement must be arrived at. (Cheers.) That only is the object of our undertaking. I have seen it stated that his Majesty's Government has been hurried by the acquisitiveness of the Viceroy—("Hear, hear" from the Opposition)—but the records are all in his favour. During Lord Dufferin's viceroyalty—from 1884 to 1889—there were five considerable Indian expeditions, requiring 43,500 troops. During his successor's term of office there were seven expeditions, which involved the employment of 36,200 men. While Lord Elgin was Viceroy there were nine expeditions and 87,000 soldiers of the Indian Army were engaged. Under Lord Curzon there were no expeditions in his first and second years, two in the third year, and one in 1902, the whole of the troops engaged on behalf of India being only a little over 9,000 men. (Hear, hear.) I believe that is due to the present Viceroy's policy of concentration instead of dispersal of troops and tribal conciliation instead of exasperation. ("Hear, hear," and ironical Opposition cheers.)

Mr. Macneill, rising amid shouts of "Order," asked whether the House was not debarred from discussing the policy of the Viceroy on this occasion.

The Deputy Speaker: It is perfectly open to the hon. member to criticise the policy of the Viceroy. (Laughter, directed at Mr. MacNeill.)

Mr. Brodrick: While almost every Indian department has been overhauled during Lord Curzon's term of office, while he has shown an invincible desire for justice, he has also displayed a stronger regard for peace than might have been expected from a man as deeply imbued as he is with the imperial instinct. (Laughter and "Hear, hear.") It is not that we desire to diverge in any way from the policy of conciliation which we had pursued in the past, but because that policy has failed to secure the objects in view, because China as the suzerain Power has been unable to obtain for us that consideration and that exchange of views that we desire, and because the Thibetans have mistaken patience for weakness and conciliation for want of power that we ask the House to assent to this motion. Without wishing to say anything calculated to cause ill-feeling on the part of Russia with regard to these operations, the Blue Book teems with admissions, not of what the Russian Government proposed to do, but of what the Thibetans were under the impression that they would obtain in the way of support from the Russian Government against the legitimate demands of his Majesty's Government and other neighbours. In laying it down that if any power is to be predominant in Thibet it must be the British Power it is absolutely necessary that that should be made known to the Thibetans themselves. (Hear, hear.) We may congratulate ourselves that despite the episode of March 31 our mission has now reached Gyangtse, at which place, being on one of the great trade routes and also the sight of a great Lamassarie, it is unlikely that the delegates who have been accredited to us will be allowed to treat us as they did at Khambajong. That being so I trust the time may be not far distant when a satisfactory arrangement will be entered on. His Majesty's Government adheres to the policy laid down in its despatches. We ask for no more than a fair adjustment of the questions of difference, and we ask for some machinery which will enable us to address representations to the authorities of Thibet. By so doing we shall, with the support of this House, have taken a step by timely means to secure for many years to come peaceful conditions on the north-east frontier of India. (Cheers.)

Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, who was received with Opposition cheers, said: The Secretary of State for India was happily able to make one announcement which will be received with satisfaction—namely, that this mysterious mission has reached, without further shedding of blood or oppsition, the point to which his Majesty's Government has authorised it to go. But the right hon. gentleman has failed altogether to tell us that which we require to know before we can assent to this motion. What is the definite policy of the Government? If that policy is exactly expressed in the despatches it is in many particulars in distinct conflict with the policy suggested by Lord Curzon. Therefore we are entitled to know which is to be master—the Imperial Government or the Viceroy of India. (Opposition cheers.) Lord Curzon is often led away by his rhetorical power—a failure which we have observed in other quarters—(Opposition cheers)—and he sometimes uses phrases which may have an evil effect on the relations of his country with some of our neighbours. It is not discreet or wise to use contemptuous language as that employed by Lord Curzon towards these two Powers, one great and one small, with whom we are endeavouring to put ourselves on good relations, and, above all, I do not think that such language, coupled with the action of the Government in this matter, has been at all likely to strengthen our position in another quarter of the world, where the integrity of China and the goodwill of China are after all of some value to this country. (Opposition cheers.) Then there is the case of the two British subjects said to have been tortured and killed, and I would ask what has become of them. I understand the right hon. gentleman said they are still in prison, and if that is so, the worst that has been said of them is not true. The right hon. gentleman leaves these matters to turn to Russia, and he says that Russia, to put it plainly, has been coquetting with Thibet. Lord Curzon says our interests are seriously imperilled by the breakdown of our treaty arrangements by the obstructive inertia of the Thibetans themselves, and still more by the arrangements freshly concluded with another Great Power to our detriment. I think we are entitled to ask if the Government share that opinion. It is put forward here in a sort of crescendo scale of grievances, which are supposed to be behind the Indian Government in this matter. Do the Government accept that? I can hardly think so, because I find Lord Lansdowne in November last expressing some astonishment and almost indignation at the Russian Government being excited by what we do in Thibet, that country being so near India and so far away from Russia. Is that the opinion of the Government? What we want to know is—What is the policy of the Government at the present moment?—because the reply of the Government on Nov. 6, 1903, to Lord Curzon leaves me in some doubt as to what is intended to be conveyed in regard to their policy. The policy of his Majesty's Government is apparently in diametric opposition to the policy of the Viceroy. The Imperial Government say we are to go as far as Gyangtse, and no further and that we are to have no Resident in Lhassa. Lord Curzon, on the other hand, wishes to review our entire relations, "commercial and otherwise," with Thibet. "Otherwise" is a word of wide import, and I think we are left in a position of doubt as to which is the stronger of the two forces—the Imperial Government or Lord Curzon. I think that in all the circumstances, as we all desire to see this mission safely withdrawn from the position in which it has been placed with as little delay and difficulty as possible, I would suggest the insertion in the resolution of some such amending words as these: "That this House assents to the charges for the armed escort accompanying the political mission in Thibet being defrayed from the revenues of the Government of India subject to the undeertaking given by his Majesty's Government in their despatch of No. 6, 1902," or, more explicitly, "subject to the undertaking given by his Majesty's Government that as soon as satisfaction has been obtained for specific infractions of the convention the expedition will thereupon withdraw from Tibetan territory." (Opposition cheers.) We have no wish to do anything which would either endanger the mission or the escort, or, on the other hand, diminish the dignity and authority of the Imperial Government and the Indian Government. We at least—I am speaking for myself—disapprove of the whole expedition—(Opposition cheers)—so far as I can judge of it. But it having been sent, and having advanced to the point it has now reached, it would be desirable to withdraw it in the least difficult and the most effective way. Therefore I hope that some such words as I have suggested will be accepted by the Government in the course of the debate. They would secure the safety of the mission, safeguard our empire against any damage, and at the same time be a guarantee to the Governments of Russia and China, who are necessarily interested in this matter, that the undertakings of the British Government were seriously given and were meant to be fully discharged. (Opposition cheers.)

Lord G. Hamilton thought the leader of the Opposition had failed to realise the nature of the difficulties with which Lord Curzon and the Indian Government had had to deal. Because Thibet was a weak and impotent Power, that surely was no reason why she should be allowed to snap her fingers at solemn conventions into which she had deliberately entered. If this were allowed, other nations more powerful than Thibet might be encouraged to follow her example. The gravity of the situation lay in the fact that for 10 years at least Thibet had wilfully and deliberately either ignored or repudiated her responsiblities to the Government of India, which were entered into on her behalf by China, as the suzerain Power. (Hear, hear.) What was now wanted was not merely satisfaction for the past misdeeds of Thibet but a guarantee that any new arrangement which might be entered into would be adhered to. (Ministerial cheers.) he Indian Government, in the face of extreme provocation, had behaved with great moderation. So long as he was at the India Office he thought the Indian Government, if it had erred at all, had done so on the side of patience and forbearance. Then as to Russia: either the Russian Government or some persons representing them had been at work in Thibet. He believed there was room in Asia alike for Great Britain and Russia, but if there was one spot in Asia which was absolutely outside the sphere of Russia's influence it was Thibet. (Ministerial cheers.) He was strongly opposed to any movement which would result in the annexation of any portion of Thibet or in making us responsible in any way for its administration. (Opposition cheers.) He believed that those were the views of the Prime Minister, and that the leader of the Opposition could obtain such an assurance better from the right hon. gentleman than by means of a resolution. In this opinion, we had quite as much territory in Asia as we required, and there was no reason why we should seek for more. (!Opposition cheers.) He hoped that the Prime Minister would give them a satisfactory assurance on the question and that the resolution would be carried unanimously, for that would be the best way to prevent a repetition of a collision between our troops and the Thibetans. (Hear, hear.)

After further discussion, Sir H. Fowler pointed out as a singular fact that the India Office had not replied to a long series of communications sent by the Indian Government within the last few months. It seemed probable that in spite of the eloquent and just defence of the Viceroy by the Secretary of State there were two currents of opinion—one at Whitehall and the other in Calcutta. No one more than he (Sir H. Fowler) would render cordial tribute to the great services of Lord Curzon to India, but, like all great men, he was liable to the temptation to magnify his powers. Anything, however, which weakened the authority of the House over our pro-consuls would be wrong. (Hear, hear.) As to the policy of the Government in relation to Thibet, Mr Brodrick's statement was not satisfactory It was desirable that the Prime Minister should lay down that policy without qualification Much had been said about our relations with Russia, and he (Sir H. Fowler) was entirely in accord with Lord G. Hamilton on that subject. Asia was large enough for both Great Britain and Russia, each of which could do a great work there if their object was peace and the well-being of the people they came in contact with. (Hear, hear.) Probably there was not any Englishman who was not delighted with the treaty between this country and France. (Cheers.) Was such an arrangement with Russia impossible? Of course, there were difficulties in the way, but had there not been difficulties between Great Britain and France? (Hear, hear.) He did not believe that Russia had any aggressive designs on India, but he did believe that some settlement of Russian and British relations in Asia might be come to. (Hear, hear.) Neither was there reason to fear aggression from Russia in respect of Thibet. With regard to the motion, the members our mission in that country were servants of the King, and we were bound to protect them—(cheers)—whatever the view taken of the policy of the mission. If it was made quite clear that there was no intention to annex any portion of Thibet, or to assume a protectorate over the country, or establish a permanent British mission there, the House would have taken all the precautionary steps required, besides which all possibility of friction with Russia or China would be avoided. (Hear, hear.)

THE PREMIER REPLIES.

Mr. Balfour: The right hon. gentleman who has just sat down has dealt with the subject with the caution and moderation we should have expected from him, owing partly to his native character and partly to the high office he has filled in connection with the Government of India. (Hear, hear.) He evidently does not sympathise with the views put forward by some hon. members who spoke before him. If they will disconnect themselves for a moment from the legitimate desire to attack the Government they will feel that no course other than the one we have taken was open to us. There is apparently a disposition to minimise each of the events that led to the mission, but that kind of political arithmetic is rotten. (Hear, hear.) It is suggested that we were indefinitely to allow the Thibetan Government to violate the solemn treaties it had entered into with us. There is no chance that the Thibetan Government unassisted will imperil our rule in India; but is it therefore to be assumed that nothing which that Government could do should call forth on our side anything stronger than correspondence? You cannot conduct the relations of States in that way. If the Indian Government allows itself to be openly flouted the respect which such native States as Sikkim and Nepaul have rightly entertained for that Government will suffer decay. (Hear, hear.) We shall be regarded as a people obviously incapable of maintaining our admitted rights, and the native States will turn to those they think able to uphold what they have promised to safeguard. We could not allow the difficulty with Thibet to remain as it was, and how was it to be remedied? Will anybody assert that we have rushed hastily into action? Is 14 years of fruitless negotiation so small a thing that we are to be considered rash invaders, men who have lost their heads? (Hear, hear.) My hon. friend bhind me asked what the English would think if the French sent an armed diplomatic mission into British territory. He knew well, when he used that metaphor, that it had not the first element of a good metaphor, illustrating any question with which we are concerned. (Hear, hear.) Unless our mission was sent into Thibetan territory no communications with the Government were possible. Thibetan methods erected an absolutely impenetrable wall between the Thibetan Government and the Indian Government. Relations which consisted of the Thibetans occupying our borders. invading our pastures, removing our boundary posts, and so on could not be allowed to continue. (Hear, hear.) A mission had to be sent into Thibetan country, and it had to be accompanied by an armed force sufficient to secure that the diplomatic objects in view could be accomplished in safety by the mission. It is quite true that the possibility of opposition was contemplated by the Indian Government, and the fact that opposition has unhappily occurred, though it requires the House to pass this resolution, does not alter either the objects with which the mission was originally sent or the methods by which we mean to carry them out. The question of the relative position of Russia and England in Asia is a very large and complicated question. (Hear, hear.) Sir Henry Fowler seems to think that it would be a matter of comparative ease for the two countries to come to some arrangement which would for ever prevent serious disputes or collisions between them in Asia, some such arrangement, for instance, as we have just come to with France, and which I hope and firmly believe will prevent collisions between those two countries in the regions dealt with in the great instrument which has just been signed by the Foreign Ministers of France and England. (Cheers.) I am afraid that the right hon. gentleman greatly underrates the ambitions—I will not say of the Russian Government, but of many of the officers who have to deal with the interests of Russia in far outlying portions of her vast dominions.

Sir H. Fowler: I admit that it would be a difficult task, but it would be worth trying.

Mr. Balfour: If the right hon. gentleman means that it is an object in itself eminently desirable of attainment, I aggree with tim entirely. My idea is that from the nature of the case it would not be easily attained by means of articles drawn up and signed by the Foreign Ministers of the two countries. I frankly admit that I am not one of those who in the year 1904 think that the Central Asian Question could be as easily disposed of by a reference to large maps as in 1874. But Central Asia is outside the much narrower issue with which we have to deal this afternoon that is to say, whether we shall or shall not unanimously pass a resolution which must be passed if our mission to Thibet is to have the desired effect. We are all agreed that the mission must be effective, but what the leader of the Opposition fears is that there may be a difference of opinion as to the ulterior objects of his Majesty's Government. I can assure him that he need not have any such fear. The telegram of Nov. 6, 1903, which indicates in precise terms the object which we have in view, was most carefully considered in the Cabinet before it was sent, and it represented not merely the departmental policy of the Secretary of State in Council, but the carefully thought-out views of his Majesty's Government. It still represents those views in April 1904. (Hear, hear.) No change whatever has occurred, and I do not think that any change is likely to occur, though it would be folly for me to do more than state what are the desires and wishes of the Government in the face of facts as we know them. One speaker seemed to think that we should be drawn on from one stage to another till nothing short of permanent annexation could take place. ((Opposition cheers.) I should consider that one of the greatest misfortunes that could possibly happen both to the Indian Government and to this country, and I am glad to say that I do not contemplate any such unhappy occurrence. (Hear, hear.) My noble friend the late Secretary of State for India (Lord G. Hamilton) has declared that the responsibilities entailed by our possessions in Asia are surely great enough already. That is an absolute fact. But if by any unhappy accident Thibet were to become the centre of intrigue and interference on the part of another Power our difficulties and responsibilities would not be diminished, but would be greatly increased, by leaving Thibet alone. I am glad to think that there is no reason to contemplate such a contingency. Any Power which had the strength to invade India could find a much easier way of doing so than through those snow-clad vallevs. But the unlikelihood of a foreign army penetrating our northern boundaries does not alter the fact that it would be a serious danger to India and to our northern frontiers should Thibet fall under any other influence than our own. I desire nothing better than to let the Thibetans manage their own affairs and keep themselves to themselves—(hear, hear)—but if measures to exclude foreign influence are to be used against us, but are not to be used against others, then a very different problem presents itself. Russia has declared not merely that he does not mean to occupy Thibet in a military sense, of which I am

(Continued to page 7.)

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CALCUTTA, MAY 5, 1904.

THE BATTLE OF NOSHERA.

When Lord Curzon talked of the "unexampled liberality" of the British Government towards India, His Excellency had no doubt the Mussalman rule in this country in view. It is impossible for a man, however learned, to declare, that such a thing never happened in the annals of the world, unless he was born in every country and in every age and could remember all that happened in his previous births. It should also be remembered that the world is many thousand years old, and its history, in any authentic form, is known only of the last three or four hundred years of its existence.

There is another reason why Lord Curzon could not have meant exactly what he is supposed to have said. With the history of Cuba before him, conquered by the Americans and then allowed an independent existence, the sentiments alleged to have been uttered by Lord Curzon become absurd. What His Lordship probably meant was that the British Government was better than the Mussalman, which controlled the affairs of this country for about seven hundred years.

Here, however, we have to enter a protest against an oft-repeated statement to the effect that the British Government supplanted the Mussalman rule in India. That is not the fact however. The Mussalmans supplanted the Rajput rule; and the Mussalmans, in their turn, were supplanted by the Sikhs and Maharattas. The British Government had to fight for the mastery of India, not with the Mussalmans, but the Maharattas, the Jats, the Sikhs and the Nepalese.

There is, however, no doubt that the Indians enjoy many blessings under British rule which they did not under the Mussalmans, not even under Akbar. There is now a security of property and person which did not exist before. The Indians of course cannot exactly say with the Englishman that his home is his own castle; but, if he so chooses, he may remain as free as a free-born Englishman.

Yet the Musalman rule had one advantage over the one that obtains now. And it is to that we beg to refer to-day. The Mussalmans ruled India for seven hundred years; they imposed the zezia tax; they now and then forcibly carried away women; they desecrated the Hindu Temples; yet they failed to break the spirit of the Hindus. After seven hundred years of sufferings, the Hindus almost regained what they had lost; the Maharattas obtained possession of Delhi, and the Sikhs humbled Afganistan. The Hindus succeeded in keeping their manhood intact in spite of seven hundred years of oppression.

But what the Mussalman Government of seven hundred years could not do, the system of rule introduced here by the English, in spite of the best intentions of the rulers, has succeeded doing in the course of, say, fifty years. The operation of emasculation commenced with the end of the mutiny; and the Indians, not an unworthy race, are now likened to "human sheep." Innumerable blessings as we enjoy under British rule—it is to British rule we owe our knowledge of modern science and the expansion of our minds,—yet they do not cheer us up when we consider how thoroughly have Indians lost their manhood. The people are losing their manliness and the higher classes are disappearing fast; and this circumstances renders the blessings of British rule almost useless to the Indian.

Are the rulers aware that the Indians are day by day getting emasculated? As a manly race, the rulers ought to realize what that means. For surely nothing can compensate for the loss of self-respect and manliness. There is very little difference between the Sikh and the Bengalee now; let us see what the former was seventy years ago.

The Afgans were in possession of the fort of Attock and Cashmere, the latter being "the storehouse and granary of the Duranee kingdom of Cabul." They were torn away by Ranjit Sing from Afghanistan. This done, he invaded Peshwar which was then a part and parcel of the Afgan Empire, forming its Eastern boundary.

On the 13th March 1823, Ranjit conveyed his troops across the Indus. Azim Khan, the Vizier and Commander-in-Chief of Afghanistan, despairing of other methods, proclaimed a religous war against the Sikh invaders, and his summons aroused the fierce fanaticism of the mountain tribes. From the rugged broken hills of the Khuttucks, and the grass-covered valleys of Swaut and Bonair, the followers of the prophet hurried into the open country to avenge the insulted honour of Islam. For days the Eusofzye valley was a moving mass of human beings; priests, men, and unveiled women streaming forth in ceaseless crowds from all the valleys opening upon the Sum. They converged at Noshehra, a town built on the left bank of the Caubul river; the Vizier, with the regular Afghan army, occupying a position somewhat higher up, but on the right bank.

Ranjit Sing detached a portion of his troops to hold the Afghan vizer in check, and with the rest of his army, twenty-four thousand strong, fell upon the hill men. A wild Akhalee fanatic—Phoola Sing—headed the attack with all the fury of drunken fanaticism, but the Eusofzyes received the assault with impenetrable firmness. A Bonairee scrambled up the elephant on which Phoola Sing was seated, and cut him down with his long knife. His followers, leaving heaps of dead and wounded behind them, were compelled to recede. The Eusofzyes shouted for joy, and in their turn prepared to charge. The Bonairees, distinguished by their black turbans with a bright yellow border from the rest of the Eusofzyes, who are clothed in white, led the way. They came down with a rush, like the Highlanders at Culloden; and resolute and fearless as the Sikh is, Ranjit Sing's drilled infantry recoiled in momentary terror as the wild hurricane of waving scimitars and frantic faces, with hideous clamour whirled towards them.

But the fire of the Sikh guns checked the mountaineers, and gave the regiments time to rally. The steady fire of the reunited line told with terrible effect upon the confused masses in front of them, but could not damp their fervour of their courage. Though their scanty stock of ammunition was soon expended, the Afghans fought madly on with arrows, spears, swords, and stones. Thrice were they driven back, and thrice rallied to the charge by the blows and imprecations of their women, and the wild cries of 'Allah ho Akbar!' from the crowds of Moollahs who prayed, cursed, and shouted in the rear of the battle. Ranjit Sing in person led repeated charges of cavalry against the hill men; but in spite of all his efforts, when night fell the battle was undecided.

But let Col. Osborn describe the rest of this memorable battle of Noshera:—

"In truth, brave as is the Afghan personally, he lacks the steady persevering endurance of the Sikh. He is splendid when making a wild charge, but he cannot fight a losing battle. The Eusofzyes knew that they were beaten. In the middle of the night they mustered their remaining forces, and cutting their way through the Sikh troops, made good their retreat to the hills. The loss on both sides had been extremely heavy. Dead Bonairees lying on dead Sikhs, their teeth fixed convulsively in the throats of their adversaries, testified to the desperate character of the struggle. It was a memorable day in Sikh annals. Runjeet Sing's one eye brightened with unwonted lustre when he detailed, as he loved to do, the changing 'currents of that heady fight.' The Sikh soldiers bore willing testimony to the courage of the vanquished. 'The Eusofzyes laugh at death' was a saying among them. To the hill men, their defeat at Noshera was a blow from which they never recovered. The whole land was thrown into mourning; and seventeen years after, an English traveller visiting the valley of Bonair, found the battle of Noshehra still the constant subject of conversation and the favourite theme of their songs. One in particular struck him on account of its peculiarly plaintive character, commencing—

'Ah! Mahommed Azeem, where is the blood of your children you sold at Noshehra!'

And when, in any of their village gatherings, unusual merriment prevailed, a white beard has been known to check them with, 'Is this a time for laughing, when the bones of your brothers are whitening Noshehra?"

The illustrious Lord Robert did nothing more than what Ranjit had done before. Lord Robert acquired eminence by his success with the Afghans. The Sikhs, who fought the battle of Noshera eighty years ago, have no higher place now than a havildarship or a Rosildarship under the present arrangement.

TILAK CASE IN ENGLAND.

It is some consolation that this scandalous case has at last been brought to the notice of the English public. If such a judicial scandal had happened in any European country, the British press would have cried shame upon the Government of that country. The Tilak case reminds one of the Dreyfus case of France which convulsed the whole of England with righteous indignation for months together; but, although it occurred in British India, the publicists in Great Britain had not a word of condemnation for the Government of Bombay, or the Magistrate and the Judges who took such a prominent, though most discreditable, part in the affair.

Here was a distinguished Indian scholar subjected to gross political persecution, without reason or rhyme, by the combined efforts of the executive and judicial authorities in India, and the English press, which was simply horrified at the treatment meted out to M. Dreyfus by the French Government, saw nothing unusual in the incident. On the other hand, while the case was yet "sub-judice," the "Times" had the good taste of practically assuming that Mr. Tilak had really sought to defraud Tai Maharaj by forgery and perjury, and then urging the necessity of allowing female Barristers to practise in Indian courts so that they might protect Indian ladies from such rascalities. Our London correspondent alluding to this matter, says:—

"The Latest (and Worst) Official Persecution in India:—The above description, it goes without saying, applies to the persecution by the Bombay Government of Mr. Bal Gangadhar Tilak. Beyond what is ordinary, the question has attracted great attention in England, and will attract still more. An article, a column long, telling the particulars of the treatment to which this eminent Indian scholar, publicist, and patriot, has been subjected, appeared in a leading daily paper in London this week. I expect it will be followed by many others when the pamphlet of sixty or more pages concerning the case, and which Mr. Arthur Bonner (Mr. Bradlaugh's son-in-law) has in the press, will have been widely circulated to the newspapers and public men as I am told it will be. The narrative, written in India, and the comments from Indian newspapers which form the main part of the pamphlet, are preceded by an Introductory Note, written in England, in which the opportunity is taken of indicating the main features of the persecution, miscalled a prosecution. More than one Member of Parliament was prepared to interrogate the Secretary of State for India on the matter. Mr. Schwann was the first with a question which he asked yesterday (April 14). The main features of this prolonged "incident" are, I think, well indicated in what he set forth, which was as follows:

"To ask the Secretary of State for India whether his attention had been drawn to the strictures pronounced by the Chief Justice of Bombay on the criminal proceedings taken under the sanction of Government against Mr. Tilak for forgery and perjury; whether he is aware that this prosecution, which ended in an acquittal by the High Court, lasted over one and-a-half years, at the cost to the Government of about half a lakh of rupees; whether he will state who are the persons responsible for the prosecution, and what notice is being taken of their conduct; and what compensation will be paid to Mr. Tilak.

"Mr. Weir was on the spot with another question in these terms:

"To ask the Secretary of State for India, if he will state what expenditure was incurred by the Government of Bombay in the prosecution of Mr. Tilak; and, having regard to the fact that the action resulted in a complete acquittal, will he state on whose advice the prosecution was undertaken.

"To both questions Mr. Brodrick replied thus: "My attention has been drawn to the judgment of the Chief Justice of Bombay, as reported in the newspapers, over-ruling the judgment of the Court below, which had been adverse to Mr. Tilak. I have no official information upon the subject, but I understand that the proceedings were instituted, not by Government, but by the direction of a district judge, who considered that Mr. Tilak had given false evidence in a case that was tried before him. This direction he had power to give under Section 476 of the Criminal Procedure Code; and the fact that the Court of Final Appeal took a different view of Mr. Tilak's conduct does not appear "prima facie" to be a ground for compensation."

"This, evidently, is not the last word on the subject, either of compensation or of the incident generally. The reply is of that airy, contemptuous character so much beloved of the clerks in the India Office. In the long run it is British rule that suffers most by the exhibition of such "superiorness". An incident which has stirred India to its depths from end to end is mere trifling for the gentlemen who write Mr. Brodrick's answers for him."

Our London correspondent refers to the pamphlet of Mr. Arthur Bonner which is yet in the press. The title page of the pamphlet contains the following:—

"Official persecution in India.
The Bombay Government as
Prosecutor and Persecutor.

"The British Government do not readily assume the "role" of prosecutor, much less of persecutor; and, even if they did, they would very speedily repent of the enterprise."—Lord Curzon, March 6, 1904.

The Tilak Case:
A History,
With Some Indian Press Opinions.'

Here is the introductory note of the pamphlet which gives the salient features of the case:—

"The story told in the following pages is eminently deserving of consideration by every Briton who may be desirous that the good name of his country for justice and fair dealing in India should be preserved, or, as some would say, be established. Mr. Bal Gangadhar Tilak, of Poona, says a journal which represents the utmost religious and social progressiveness of India (while Mr. Tilak is one of the staunchest of religious and social conservative Hindus), this journal, in a most ably written article, says he is one of whom "there has never been the least doubt entertained by either opponents or friends of his personal character as a man of education and respectability. His ability and his talents, his aptitude for scholarship in some of the most abstruse branches of study, and even his very misfortunes, which he has faced in the true spirit of resolution, have won for him the respect of all educated men, apart from differences—and serious differences—on public questions. To Mr. Tilak's friends and adherents, the accusation against him seemed clearly the outcome of prejudice created by his political opinions; and even those who could not so readily connect a judicial proceeding with an object other than the dispensation of justice held strongly to the view that there had been a serious mistake somewhere in the proceedings which resulted in the accusation."

The British Indian subject thus accurately described has been the victim of a mockery of justice at the hands of a British magistrate and of two British Sessions Judges, on the initiative and with the support of a great Indian Government; the proceedings call to mind some of the worst features of the Dreyfus case. How unfair and how unjudicial was the procedure against Mr. Tilak, as conducted by Mr. Ernest Clements, magistrate, may be judged by certain passages extracted from the judgment of Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Chief Justice of the High Court, Bombay, and Mr. Justice Batty, before whom the case came on appeal—as, for example, this statement:

The District and Sessions Judge of Poona allowed Mr. Tilak to be called by Tai Maharaj, the petitioner before him, as her witness, and to be "kept in the witness-box," says Sir Lawrence Jenkins, "for no less than seventeen days, during the greater part of which he was subjected to "a most rigorous cross-examination on matters wholly irrelevant to the subject then under investigation," and it was in the course of this investigation that the accused made the statements for which his prosecution was sanctioned.

It has been supposed that British Indian law, as defined and expounded in the Indian Civil Procedure Code and the Indian Criminal Procedure Code, was, at least, as enlightened and as fair to a person charged as the English uncodified law. How far this is opposed to the fact may be judged by Sir Lawrence Jenkin's statement that "the law of England requires that a false statement in order to support a charge should be 'material' to the question in dispute, but the Penal Code does not impose that qualification, so that we need not consider the question how far the statement became material through 'the error of the Judge' who permitted it to be put."

Again: Mr. Clements, the magistrate, who was specially deputed by the Government to try the case, displayed, according to the High Court, a conspicuous want of judicial acumen, and perpetrated gross irregularities which materially prejudiced the case of Mr. Tilak. He deliberately refused to allow Mr. Tilak "to call evidence necessary for the proper determination of the case," without assigning any reasons for such conduct; on this Sir Lawrence Jenkins thinks "the objection as to the course adopted by the magistrate and not corrected, though disapproved, by the Sessions Judge, well-founded." Even more than this. The magistrate, as well as the Sessions Judge, Mr. Lucas, misappropriated the evidence by setting aside the sworn testimony of a large number of respectable witnesses called by Mr. Tilak against the solitary statements of Tai Maharaj, who was directly interested in the prosecution—a state of affairs which is described by the Chief Justice as "the gravest aspect of the case." "We have in opposition to Tai Maharaj's interested statements the testimony of several witnesses of apparent respectability, and yet," says Sir Lawrence, "the whole of their evidence is put on one side without a word of comment beyond a profitless generalisation as to the unreliability of native testimony."

The omission of any consideration of this evidence by the magistrate in preparing his judgment, struck the Chief Justice as so gross a perversion of justice that "had it been necessary," he said, he would "have been prepared to hold that the absence of any discussion of this evidence called for the defence constituted such a grave omission that, on that ground alone," he "would be bound to interfere," and to set aside the conviction. But Mr. Tilak had no need of technicalities for the clearing of his character from any imputation whatsoever. The Chief Justice and his colleague allowed the appeal, on its merits, in all respects, and disallowed the long sentence of imprisonment and the heavy and unreasonable fine which had been imposed on Mr. Tilak.

The most amazing feature of the prosecution, however, has yet to be stated. In the ordinary course of procedure the allegations made against Mr. Tilak were considered by the Police, and a report prepared thereon. Such consideration was necessary before a proper charge could be framed. The report has been withheld from publication; it was called for in the course of the trial, and was refused. Naturally. For it is known that it was distinctly stated in the report that none of the charges alleged against Mr. Tilak—such charges as perjury, forgery, bringing a false complaint, unlawful assembly, cheating, etc.—could, with one exception, be sustained. It was clear, the report went on to say, that there was no motive for the commission by Mr. Tilak of any of these offences. But, if the Government thought fit, a minor charge of rioting or unlawful assembly might be brought, inasmuch as Mr. Tilak entered the wada (house) of Tai Maharaj against her wish. This was a wrong assumption, as was afterwards admitted by one of the subordinate judges; Mr. Tilak's position as one of the trustees for the property gave him right of entry. It was in face of this strongly adverse Police report that the Bombay Government decided to institute a public prosecution of Mr. Tilak, and indictment was framed, and, in a Junior Civilian, a magistrate was found to try the charges—a magistrate whose unjudicial procedure was animadverted upon and condemned by the Chief Justice,—a magistrate who ought to be relegated to revenue duties, and never again be entrusted with judicial power.

Such is a bare outline of the facts. Had the matter been one in which the litigants were conducting their own case at their own charge, the miscarriage of British Indian Civilian justice would have demanded attention. But, when it is borne in mind that the prosecution was undertaken by the Government of Bombay because of the dislike cherished by some of the higher civilians to Mr. Tilak politically, and that nearly three-quarters of a lakh of rupees of public money was expended in the prosecution, then the prosecution becomes a gross scandal, and becomes of grave public importance. It also becomes a matter of bare justice that Mr. Tilak should be reimbursed the serious outlay he has been compelled to incur, while it should not be overlooked that there is due to him large compensation for the wrong wantonly done to him, compensation which would be granted to him by judge and jury were his prosecutors private parties who could be put upon their trial in a court of justice.

For the reasons stated above, this pamphlet has been reprinted in England for circulation among those who are desirous that, even in India (India so carelessly regarded as a whole by its British rulers), a loyal, law-abiding, highly-cultured, devoted, subject of the Crown may be preserved from such cruel persecution as that to which Mr. Bal Gangadhar Tilak was subjected. This incident, however, it must be sorrowfully stated, is one only in a series of illegalities and persecutions which have discredited "Bombay justice" during recent past years.

London, April, 1904."

Mr. Bonner might have, in his introduction, noticed the handcuffing of Mr. Tilak when he was dragged to jail, though he was convicted by the Magistrate of a bailable and non-violent offence like perjury, and though it was known he would be released on bail in the course of an hour by the appellate court. This inhuman and cowardly treatment was accorded to him apparently with no other object than that of making him feel his position keenly and humiliating him in the eyes of the public; but, it only recoiled upon those who, dressed in brief authority, sought to eke out for themselves the beastly pleasure of tormenting a fellow-creature who was quite helpless in their clutches.

Mr. Brodrick, when interpellated, said that, Mr. Tilak was not entitled to compensation, because, the prosecution against him was started at the instance of a District Judge, who had the privilege of instituting such proceedings under section 476 of the Criminal Procedure Code. This plea, however, means very little. For, the Government has its own law officers whose opinion is taken before it sanctions any prosecution. In the present case, the Bombay Government was all along advised by its Advocate-General, who not only gave advice but himself conducted the prosecution in the High Court on behalf of the Government against the persecuted Maharatta Brahmin. With what face could the Secretary of State then take refuge under the plea that it was the Judge who did all the mischief? We trust both Mr. Schwann and Mr. Weir will return to the charge and question Mr. Brodrick upon this phase of the case, and make it impossible for the Indian Secretary to deny that it was the Bombay Government who was responsible for the outrage both legally and morally, and therefore liable to pay heavy damage to the victim of its oppression.

As regards the Judge, need the reader be told who he is? The name of Mr. Aston is now almost a by-word in every Indian household where newspapers have penetrated. It was he who transported the editor of the "Protad" newspaper for life, because the latter claimed superiority of the Canadian Government over that of the Indian. And this Judge, who should have been divested of his judicial powers long ago, was the original author of this disgraceful affair, according to Mr. Brodrick. But, pray, what punishment is going to be meted out to him for bringing all this shame upon British rule in India? True, he is legally protected, but surely, he is morally responsible. The Hon'ble members of Parliament, we trust, will be pleased to interpellate the Secretary of State on this point also.

MALIGNITY OF A CERTAIN SECTION OF THE ENGLISH PRESS.

Lord Curzon's measure of abolishing competitive examinations for the public service, and the substitution therefor of selection which means favouritism, have given a section of the English press an inexpressible joy. The amount of malice, displayed by these publicists, has really filled us with amazement. That there are unfortunate people, who can nourish in their hearts a large quantity of malignity is known to all. But then there is always some cause for it. There was Mafeking in England, because, the Boers had given offence to the English people. There was jubilation when Mr. Herbert Paul's motion for Simultaneous Civil Service Examinations was knocked on the head; for, it was supposed, wrongly we suppose, that if the motion was allowed to remain, the public service in India would have been filled by the natives of the soil.

Lord Curzon has, however, left the Indian Civil Service alone; indeed, he could not interfere with it. Why has then his measure, which affects only the domestic arrangement of India, thrown these English publicists into such a paroxism of joy? It is of no moment to the "Globe," for instance, whether a Babu is appointed under the principle of selection or competition; or if a Eurasian is made to supplant a native of India. Why is then this display of "disinterested" and undiluted malice? It is, because, these men believe that the measure is aimed at the Babus, which means the educated Indians; and the educated Indian is an object of hatred to them.

But why should the Babus be so deeply hated? What have they done to deserve this ill-will from a section of the English people who are tens of thousands miles away from them, and with whom they have no direct concern? Let us see what the offences of the Babus are.

The East India Company kept the patronage of selecting and employing their own men in their hands when they governed this country. Their idea was to retain the higher offices as a preserve for Europeans, and the subordinate ones for the Indians. When the Empire was resumed by the Crown, the British public demanded appointments by the system of competitive examination. And that was done. The great objection to this reform was lest the natives of India, by taking advantage of the Proclamation of the Queen, might lay a claim to the Civil Service appointments. Of course the difficulties in the way of the Indians to pass the Civil Service Examination were almost insurmountable. But yet to make things doubtly sure, a series of "tricks" mere invented to keep them out.

One of the essential conditions was that the examination should be conducted in English. Difficult as the condition was, for English is not the language of India, the Babus accepted it.

It was also provided that the Indians must show their proficiency in English literature and science just like Englishmen. The Babus accepted this condition also.

It was further provided that the Indians must travel ten thousand miles and come to England; that they must, if they succeed, remain for a considerable time in England; their physique must be as good as that of Englishmen, etc., etc.

All these conditions were accepted; and, lo! half-a-dozen Indian students, availing themselves of the State Scholarships founded by Sir Stafford Northcote, came out brilliantly successful in the Civil Service Examination.

This success mightily offended a section of the English public and sealed the fate of the Babus!

The natives of India labour under innumerable disadvantages to secure appointments in their own country, paid for, not by Englishmen, but by their own people. This, however, does not elicit sympathy but only unadulterated hatred from this section of the English people.

When the Bengal delegates to the Madras Congress, some years ago, were going to that town in a chartered steamer, the vessel ran the risk of being lost in one of the treacherous sandbanks below Diamond Harbour. One of the delegates jocularly observed that if the ship went down, the pick of the Bengali nation would go down along with it. There was a laugh, and the hilarity was increased when another remarked, with affected seriousness in his face,—"who knows that the opponents of the Bengalee Babus have bribed the Captain of the ship to get rid of their leaders in this cruel way?"

Now let us submit to our opponents in England to whom the hopeless struggles of the Indians to better their condition do not excite sympathy but hatred,—would they have been glad if the foremost men of Bengal had been drowned and got rid of for ever? Would they be glad to learn that poverty, plague, cholera, and malaria are carrying off the higher classes in large numbers every year, and that their ultimate disappearance is only a question of time? If such a prospect pleases them, let them rejoice; for, the extinction of the Babu is not far distant.

Mr. Robson, Principal of the Lahore College, who is just now in evidence before the public is a thorough business man and never does things by halves. He has issued the edict that the students of the College should all wear English blazers. This order may mean some trouble to the students, for they must go to the bazar for the purchase of these articles. Mr. Robson has therefore, very considerately taken steps to remove this difficulty. The following notice put up on the College Notice Board will explain the situation:—

"Ties and belts are available for sale at the office.

(Sd). Bashi Ram,
27th April, 1904. Head Clerk."

So Mr. Robson has taken upon himself a new function, viz., that of selling neckties, and so forth. We fancy, however, Mr. Robson is paid to teach the boys, and not to secure blazers for them.

The achivements of the Japanese have simply staggered humanity. They were all along regarded in Europe as "yellow dwarfs," who would be crushed like flies before the Russian giants. But, it is not only in sea, but also in land, that the Japs have proved their superiority over the Russians. The latest Japanese victory leaves little room for doubt that Russians are yet no match for their opponents. And how is it that the Japs are inflicting these constant defeats upon the Russians? It is, because, the whole Japanese nation to a man, nay to a woman, has consecrated their lives to the cause of the country. When mothers and wives are cheerfully stabbing themselves to death to enable their sons and husbands to fight with the enemy; when the highest ambition of every Japanese is to die for his motherland, any other result than what the world is witnessing is impossible. In Russia there are parties, some against and

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some in favour of the war. In Japan they are all "ekdil" (of one mind). The will-force created by the concentration of the minds of a whole nation upon a sacred object is bound to be irresistible. Righteousness is also on the side of Japan. No wonder Russia is giving way at every step.

When the project of the partition of Bengol was announced the people of this country did not know why was the Government going to disturb the existing arrangements. Of course the Government explained that its sole object in view was the good of the people; but the latter have become suspicious, and whenever the plea of the welfare of the country is advanced as a motive for any action of the Government they remember the lines of McCready Sykes which we quote here again:—

"And, the devil went back to his study,
Said he, with a wink and a nod,
Sure, the true way still to work my will
Is to call it, the work of God."

The real object however appeared on the surface when the Government was seen urging the people of East Bengal to pray for a Lieutenant-Governorship. We then had to explain that this meant only the creation of fat berths. Sir H. Cotton now says the same thing, and he is being called a traitor to the Service by certain Anglo-Indian papers. They can bear a seditious Babu, but a traitor in the camp like Mr. Smeaton, or Sir H. Cotton is a hipopotamus or a hypotenuse to them. Mr. Pennell was kicked out of India for having exposed the short-comings of the service. Sir H. Cotton and Mr. Smeaton are now the subjects of virulent attack in the columns of a certain section of the Anglo-Indian press. Let us examine the contentions of these detractors. They say that Sir Henry Cotton is unpatriotic, because he exposes the British Government in India, and, therefore, undermines its authority. In reply Sir Henry says that repression will never strengthen the basis of the British Empire in India; and he, therefore, objects to it. His detractors again say that Sir Henry by attacking a service to which he belonged, betrays his ingratitude. The reply is that, because Sir Henry loves the service, therefore he is anxious to see it purged of its impurities and placed above suspicion. So, you see, the so-called traitors to the "service" and to their country have good reasons why they attack the Government when it makes a false move. Mr. Buckland of Bengal is retiring posssibly for good. If he does not return, he is likely to join Sir H. Cotton and Mr. Smeaton, and do some lively work.

How we wish we had a society here like the Humanitarian Society of England! The object of the latter is to watch the proceedings of criminal trials and bring to the notice of the Home Secretary such cases as result in failures of justice. The following account will show how active and energetic the society is. Mr. Collinson, on behalf of the Humanitarian League, drew the Home Secretary's attention to the case of a boy named William Ferguson sentenced by the Bishop Aucland magistrates to one month's imprisonment and three years in a reformatory school. But Mr. Collinson, on behalf of the League, urged that "(1) when the entire sentence is illegal no part of it should be enforced; (2) that this is not a case in which the sentence can be rendered legal by abandoning the excess. It consists of two parts, either of which if taken separately would be legal, but the law prohibits the combination of the two. We should like to know what authority there is for selecting one part of such sentence as the legal part to the exclusion of the other, which, taken alone, is equally legal? Lastly, the boy was sentenced to be imprisoned first, and underwent, we believe, a part of his sentence. This rendered the subsequent confinement in a reformatory inconsistent with the Statute." To this the Home Secretary replied that the question was one for a court of law, whereupon Mr. Collinson wrote: "I am directed by my committee to point out that in the case of the boy Ferguson the illegality of the sentence is not a matter of doubt to be decided after argument by a court of law, but is a plain matter of fact, in proof of which we beg you to refer to the Act and Section. Such illegality was admitted by the magistrates themselves in directing that the attention of the Home Office should be called to the case. We would further suggest that, as poor prisoners cannot afford to appeal to the superior Courts against illegal sentences, a refusal on the part of the Home Secretary to take cognisance of such an illegality when pointed out to him would, in many cases, amount to a denial of justice."

It is in this way that the poor suffer terribly on account of their poverty. In India the vast bulk of the people are not only poor but police-ridden. Once they are in the iron grip of the policemen, they have little hope of escape. And if the police make little difference between the guilty and the innocent, so do the Magistrates and Judges oftentimes. The result is that perhaps half of the Indian prison population was wrongly convicted; at least, there is no doubt, the majority of them were punished more severely than they deserved. Here a man is often convicted in defiance the unanimous verdict of the jury or the assessors; here a man who should get one month is sent to jail with hard labour for one year; and here the spectacle of many men—sometimes a dozen or more—of being sent to the gallows for their connection with a single murder case is not rare. "A tooth for a tooth, an eye for an eye"—is considered inhuman in many parts of Europe and America, but, here, as we said, sometimes a dozen men must be hanged in rows when in a riot they break one another's heads and kill one or two in that state of frenzy. It is in India alone that the notion prevails that the more convicting and severe-sentencing a Judge or a Magistrate is, the greater is the chance of his promotion; as a matter of fact, the obstinacy with which an unfortunate man, acquitted by a competent court of law, is pursued every now and then, and put on his trial again by the Government, is bound to encourage such a belief among the justice-administrating officials here.

Then again, the Government will pounce upon an official when he, in its opinion, inflicts light punishment; but it will take no notice of the conduct of a Judge or a Magistrate when he over-punishes a poor criminal or improperly convicts him. Is there any civilized country where appeals against acquittals are permitted or where the appellate court is empowered to enhance the sentence passed by the lower court? If some of the criminal laws, manufactured not by the people themselves, but by the foreign rulers who have yet very imperfect knowledge of the social condition of the various Indian races though they are 150 years here, are barbarous, their administration is frequently ferocious. And yet the people are admittedly the gentlest and the most law-abiding in the world. The effect of the criminal administration is thus telling disastrously upon them—it is, in short, simply emasculating them.

The pity is that the rulers will never admit that they are doing vital injury, and no good whatever, by the system of criminal administration they have introduced in India. The traditions of the people are wholly against such a system; for, in days of yore, when the country was their own, they settled all their disputes, civil and criminal, in the simplest manner possible by the Punchayets, whose highest punishment was the outcasting of a criminal, even when convicted of murder. If a society were established here for the simple purpose of drawing the attention of the Government to cases resulting in gross failures of justice, even this may do much useful work. By such an arrangement the fact may be at least constantly brought home to the attention of the Government that, many cases really occur in which gross wrongs are perpetrated. This was one of the objects of the Indian Relief Society which did such good work during its short existence of three years. As all other political Associations have practically ceased to exist, except the British Indian Association and the Landholders' Association, will these two public bodies open a branch like that of the Humane Society in England?

We are glad to receive the following letter, No. 535 Acct.—1636 F., dated 28th April, 1904, from F. J. Monahan, Esq., I.C.S., Secretary to the Chief Commisioner of Assam:—

"Sir,—With reference to the leaderette in your paper of the 21st April 1904, on the subject of the alleged discharge from Government Service of the late Superintendent of the Assam Civil Secretariat, I am directed by the Chief Commissioner to send you a copy of his order dated the 17th January 1904, and to inform you that Babu Sarat Chandra Dhar was permitted to retire on the maximum pension. He had completed 31 years and 3 months' service, and his age at the date of retirement was a few months short of 55 years."

There is, of course, very little cause for complaint when Babu Sarat Chandra has been allowed to retire on the maximum pension. We must say, however, that some sort of slur yet attaches to his character when his retirement is compulsory. It is scarcely fair that he should be compelled to retire, not that he committed any fault but because some clerks in the Secretariat disclosed some official secrets to the press. To ask the Superintendent to find out the black sheep is to impose an impossible condition upon him.

With reference to the above the following order is published for general information by the Chief Commissioner of Assam:—

"In August 1902 the Chief Commisioner observed that the "Bengalee" newspaper published the text of a letter which had been addressed to the Government of India by this Administration in regard to the increase of the staff of the Educational Department. This letter was at the time under the consideration of Government and its publication was exceedingly improper. It was unlikely that the letter should have been communicated to the newspaper except by a clerk in this Secretariat, and the presumption was that it was communicated by a Bengali or a Sylheti clerk. Upon this case the Chief Commissioner remarked that he trusted to the general loyalty and honesty of the Secretariat Office as a safeguard against the communication to the Press of news which should not be published, and that he would be sorry to feel that his trust was not justified. There was no objection whatever to clerks contributing to the Press. But they could not be permitted to make use of information which had come to their knowledge as members of the Secretariat.

"These remarks were circulated to all clerks in the Secretariat and in the Government Press.

"2. The Chief Commissioner regrets to observe that this exhortation has been ineffectual. Since its issue the "Bengalee' has on several occasions published information which should not have been divulged, and which must have reached it from the Secretariat. In one of these cases there was a reference to a letter that had been received from the Government of India in regard to mauzadars. In another case notes recorded by the Chief Commissioner on a file connected with the Secretariat establishment were quoted textually. It is evident that the Chief Commissioner cannot trust to the honesty and loyalty of the clerks for the preservation of the reticence that is required in official matters, and that it will be necessary to show that disobedience of his orders will entail punishment. But he wishes again to impress upon the clerks how greatly they are discredited, as a body, by these breaches of duty, and how desirable it is that they should unite to prevent them.

"F. J. MONAHAN,
"Secretary to the Chief Commisisoner of Assam."

"Shillong.
"The 17th January 1904.

The Government has, of course, every right to punish its servants when they disclose matters which they ought not to do. What we object to is the principle of punishing the whole Secretariat for the fault of one. This means not only gross injustice to the innocent, but a sort of premium to the guilty. Our other contention is—why should the Government be so sensitive about the disclosure of its so-called secrets? Why are the authorities so anxious to keep them concealed in their iron-safes? Of course there are official secrets which should, on no account, see the light of day; but, we submit, the disclosure of matters like these pointed out in the above does not embarrss the Government in the least. They are, indeed, of such a trivial nature that, though they were published in a Calcutta paper, no one took any notice of them.

From the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India for 1902 just to hand, we learn that the number of deaths recorded in British Provinces of India was 7,112,336, a number nearly equal to the populations of Sweden and Norway. The death-rate was 31.49 per thousand as compared with 29.46 in 1901. It need hardly be said that the mortality was still higher; for a considerable number of deaths, specially in rural tracts, is never registered. The normal death-rate in England and all civilized countries is 20 per mille, and here it is 32, and sometimes much larger. Indeed, when cholera, malarial fever, or plague breaks out in an epidemic form, then the mortality rises as high as 50 or 75 per cent.! We can name innumerable villages in Bengal which have been denuded of three-fourths of their population by the first two diseases. In the opinion of competent medical authorities, the remedy against these two scourges lies in the supply of good drinking water and the removal of defective drainage; and, let us add,—in the distribution of medicine and medical help. May we enquire why should the people residing in rural tracts in the Province of Bengal suffer from water difficulty and defective drainage? They hanged and quartered the elected Commissioners of Calcutta for the alleged insanitary condition of the town; but, surely, somebody should be hanged from the topmost bough of the nearest tree for the undoubted scandal in the interior—the manner in which tens of thousands are allowed to die annually in villages and hamlets for want of medical treatment, a system of good drainage, and a proper supply of pure drinking water. In Bengal, specially, the authorities have no excuse, as they have got the Road Cess Fund absolutely at their disposal, and the main purposes for which the Road Cess was imposed, besides making village roads, were (1) to bring water to the doors of the rural population; and (2) to remove defective drainage in rural tracts. Fancy India loses annually from diseases as many souls as constitute the whole populations of Sweden and Norway! There is no parallel to such a spectacle in any other country in the world.

What maketh a nation? This is what John Bright said:—

"I believe there is no permanent greatness to a nation except it be based upon morality. I do not care for military greatness or military renown. I care for the constitution of the people among whom I live. There is no man in England who is less likely to speak irreverently of the Crown and Monarchy of England than I am; but crowns, coronets, mitres, military display, the pomp of war, wide colonies, and a huge Empire are trifles light as air and not worth considering unless with them you can have a fair share of comfort, contentment, and happiness among the great body of the people. Palaces, princely castles, great halls, and showy mansions do not make a nation. The nation in every country dwells in the cottage, and unless the light of your constitution can shine there, unless the beauty of your legislation and the excellence of your statesmanship are printed in the feelings and condition of the people, rely upon it you have yet to learn the duties of government."

John Bright, however, was taken for a mad man when he uttered those noble sentiments. As a matter of fact, his words fell flat upon the Government of his country, and instead of the English nation dwelling in the cottage, it is only an upper few, who pose as the nation, and lead 40 millions of Englishmen by the nose.

Let us now see how an American—Senator Bayard of the United States—speaks of the spread of militarism and its burdens:—

"Never were the destructive forces of warfare marshalled in such impressive array as we see them to-day—never before did the earth shake under the measured tread of so many men armed and prepared to be armed—never in history were weapons so lethal, missiles so mighty, and explosives so terrific and powerful, or in hands so carefully drilled and instructed in their employment—never were the preparations for war on land and sea comparable, in scale and efficiency, to those of the present day. At no time has science been so potently enlisted as to-day, nor the treasure and credit of nations, and the products of toil and labour, poured out in such lavish and unlimited supply to strengthen and assist the art of war and destruction, nor the searchlight of investigation and experience thrown with such developing and informing power, irradiating the present and the immediate future with wisdom drawn from the carefully-weighed history of human contentions in the past. The influence of sea power upon military operations on land was never so convincingly demonstrated and the relations and connections of all regions of the terra-aqueous globe so well defined and practically comprehended, and the practical annihilation of time and distance brought into such close relations of interdependence.

"Contemplating all these terrific forces, there is no thoughtful man who is not anxiously questioning his heart, what does all this preparation portend? What is to be the result to the civilisation and progress of the human race of the conflict of such forces, and the changes it may at any moment create? But this disposition to exaggerated and ever-increasing militarism is necessarily accompanied by grievous pecuniary burdens, the weight of taxation is growing fearfully, and as men are withdrawn from productive and remunerative pursuits, the great engine of the State, the sovereign power of taxation, is put in motion everywhere and in every shape to gather revenues to support the vast expenditure."

God knows where all this will end. The whole of Europe may be compared to a magazine of gun-powder. One spark and all is over. The Russo-Japanese war shows how no nation knows when it may be dragged into a ruinous war.

We are sorry the speech which the young Maharajah of Burdwan delivered at the annual meeting of the Mahakali Patshala has given offence in certain quarters. The cause of our sorrow is that, as his Highness holds an exalted position, he cannot afford to talk like an irresponsible man and mar his future usefulness. As darkness is to fireworks, so is humility to real merit. If darkness enhances the splendour of fire-works, humility increases the beauty of the man who is really gifted. That the Maharajah of Burdwan has good parts there is no doubt; for, though so young, he has given evidence of the intellectual bent of his mind by producing some good books in Bengali. What he perhaps yet wants to display his talent to its fullest advantage is a little humility. Such problems as the Zenana system, the modern woman, the education of Indian women should be religiously avoided by young men; for they are both delicate and difficult, and can be handled, without any offence, only by elderly men of tact, judgment, and experience, who are above youthful exuberance and not likely to be swayed by passion or prejudice. A famous American philosopher thus writes of himself: "When I was twenty I took father for a fool. At thirty, I conceded some sense to him. At forty I discovered that it was I and not father who was a fool, and that he knew many things of which I was totally ignorant." We dare say that the Maharajah, when he attains to his fortieth year,—and may he live long to earn the blessings of God and man by his good acts—will laugh at many things he said or did when young. The position of learner is always better than that of a teacher. This is specially the case with young people who have to grow and acquire maturity. Why was Newton such a great man? Because of his humility—because of his sincere conviction that, in spite of his genious and learning, he was only a learner! Those who play the "role" of a teacher in their youth can never secure true knowledge and wisdom.

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

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(From Our Own Correspondent.)

London, April 15.

TIBET: STRIKING MODERATION.

The Tibet debate in the House of Commons on Wednesday was hardly so fundamental as it might have been, though it was as satisfactory as one could expect. It is perhaps too late at this stage of the operations to enquire how Lord Curzon could ever have thought that the ends he is aiming at in Tibet are worth the sums of money which the poverty-striken people of India will have to pay. Certainly, whether it is now too late or not, this aspect of the situation was not touched upon at all by those who spoke on the subject at Westminister. Mr. Brodrick moved a formal, much belated, resolution in pursuance of the Act of 1858, asking the consent of the House of Commons for the application of the revenues of India to the expenses of military operations "which may have become necessary for the purpose of protecting the political Mision which has been dispatched to the Tibetan Government." His speech, as you will observe, followed the usual routine of official explanation. The Anglo-Tibetan Treaty had been ignored—though since this neglect has lasted for eleven years it is difficult to see why this precise period should have been seized for an expedition. The Secretary of State for India did not, however, explain that important point. He went on to talk of the Russian danger with the customary wealth of hints and the customary absence of facts. He also defended Lord Curzon against charges of further chauvinism. He was successful in showing that the first four years of the Viceroy's rule were well-nigh exemplary in that respect. But such an argument hardly counts as vindication for the Tibet policy. The influence of the K. C. B. hunters has evidently taken a long time to gain upon the Viceroy, but there is too much reason to suppose that they have now accomplished their object; the fact has been evident since the end of Lord Curzon's fourth year of office. Whether the particular frontier is North-West or North-East matters little. Money is spent all the same on whatever side of India the fighting may occur. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman gauged the forces against which he was opposed and strove to stay the Tibetan mischief since he could not remove it. In a speech of great moderation he suggested that the resolution should be more definite in its terms. It should contain a plainly worded clause to the effect that directly the expedition had obtained satisfaction for the specific complaints made by the Indian Government, it should withdraw from Tibetan territory. Lord George Hamilton fenced with this reasonable demand, saying that it was necessary to have a guarantee for the carrying out of the new arrangement. He did not, apparently, see that the guarantee would form a natural part of the "satisfaction." He did, however, very forcibly oppose any acquisition of territory. The Premier refused the new form of words; he affirmed that no such unhappy contingency as a permanent occupation of Tibet was likely, and even were it to occur, he would regard it as one of the greatest misfortunes that could possibly happen to the Indian Government. This sounded very well. But if these were really his views, what objection could he possibly find to Sir Henry's suggested amendment? The statement rings false. There is in it something which is reminiscent of Lord Salisbury's denial at the Guildhall banquet some years ago that the war with the South African Republics would not end in the annexation of territory. "We do not seek gold or territory," he said, and ended the war by acquiring both. It will need careful diplomacy and a tight hand upon the diplomatists if the negotiations now pending at Gyanstse do not end in the annexation of some portion of Tibet. The Chumbi Valley lies conveniently to hand for disposal in such a manner. It may, perhaps, be held as a pledge for the integrity of the new treaty, and when once it is held it is not likely to be given up to its Tibetan owners. A part of Mr. Brodrick's eulogium of Lord Curzon was singularly truthful, and also singularly unexpected from the Government benches. After describing and elaborating the fact that frontier warfare had decreased during his Viceroyalty, the Secretary of State remarked that "the Viceroy has shown a fuller regard than could have been expected from any man so strongly imbued with the Imperial spirit for peace on the Indian frontier." In other words, Mr. Brodrick exhibits astonishment that an Imperialist should have abstained from unnecessary warfare! It is so frequently affirmed that the "Imperial" statesman only goes to war when the necessity for it has been thrust upon him, that it comes as a surprise when Mr. Brodrick ennunciates the opposite view. He is surprised that Lord Curzon, Imperialist, should not have waged a few totally unnecessary wars. If only he studies the Tibetan imbroglio with impartiality, he will see that it gives ground for a mitigation of his astonishment.

To one other incident of the debate I must make allusion, and that is, the duel between the Secrttary of State for India and Sir Henry Cotton. In the course of his speech Mr. Brodrick made capital out of the difference of opinion expressed by Sir Henry when in office and after his retirement. Quoting despatches signed by Sir Henry in his official capacity as Secretary, which advocated a line of action similar to that now adopted by the Government of India, Mr. Brodrick taunted him with a change of front now that he has retired. He attacks a policy which then he advocated. This morning's "Times" contains Sir Henry's answer to the charge—brief, strong, uncompromising. Owing to its special interest I quote it in full; it will set the facts before you more clearly than any words of mine could do. Sir Henry writes:

"I am surprised that political capital should be made out of letters signed by me in my official capacity ten years ago, which express opinions very different from those which I am now known to hold. It is a feature of official life, especially in India, that secretaries are often called upon to sign despatches which do not represent their own views, and are often directly opposed to them. I was serving at the time as Chief Secretary to the Government under a Lieutenant-Governor of great ability and character, and I am proud to say that he never wavered for a moment in his confidence in me, though he knew that his orders were following lines quite opposed to my own convictions, and I loyally gave effect to the orders I received. The policy indicated in the letters quoted by Mr. Brodrick in the House of Commons yesterday was not mine, but that of my official superior. I well remember how near we were then to undertaking a little so-called punitive expedition across the Tibet frontier, and also the feeling of unqualified satisfaction I felt when Lord Elgin ultimately announced that he would have none of it. No, Sir; the position is a difficult one, perhaps, but a secretary cannot be held to be personally responsible for all he signs, and it would be hard indeed if this were so in the case of a man who has served as Secretary or Under-Secretary under Chiefs who have differed so widely as Sir George Campbell, Sir Richard Temple, Sir Ashley Eden, Sir Steuart Bayley, Sir Charles Elliott, Sir Antony MacDonnell, and Sir Alexander Mackenzie. I am not so foolish as to suppose that my own Secretaries would be particularly anxious to accept responsibility for my despatches which were based on my orders, though signed by them."

INDIA IN THE ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS: A WELCOME CHANGE.

I cannot call to mind a week in which India has bulked so largely and in so varied a manner as she has since (and beginning with) Monday. On that day Sir Henry Cotton was the author of a half-column letter on Tibet to *The Times*. Like all his contributions it was well-written, was full of information. But it was something more than all these: it was written with smartness and snap, was the utterance of a strong, confident, man who felt he was master of his subject. *The Times* evidently shares my opinion, for the day after, it devoted a leader to the minimising and ridiculing of Sir Henry's main contention, while two correspondents, in large type, solemnly rebuked him for hinting that certain British politicians were not quite scrupulous in what they said concerning Tibet. Then, on Tuesday, the *Daily News* devoted an admirably-written column by a Mr., or Mrs., or Miss, M. C. W. Irvine (there is nothing to indicate sex or status of writer, and the name to me is unknown), on the Indian Dreyfus, otherwise known as the Terror of certain Bombay civilians, or, again, as Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Indian patriot, man of learning, deeply and widely cultured, and courageous to a fault. In this column the facts of the Tilak persecution are most admirably detailed. A leading article refers to the Irvine contribution, and also to the Official Secrets Act, in which it represents Lord Curzon as sitting on the safety valve, and so inviting disaster. On another page of the same issue is a description of the foolish and short-sighted action of a certain caste leader in Bombay to Mr. and Mrs. Barbhaya, because they have visited England. I, for one, can testify on the authority of much information which came my way that, during their absence from India, Mr. and Mrs. Barbhaya most scrupulously adhered to all caste regulations. Under the heading of "Bureaucracy at Work in India", a regular contributor to the *Echo*, "J.H.H." after observing that village communities in India are the natural outcome of a system which prevailed since the days of Manu, and asserting that India passed through changes in Government more often than perhaps any other country and her old institutions received more rude shocks as well, goes on to remark that "no Indian Government ever attempted to demolish the village communities, so helpful they were in the administration of the country, infinitely divided as it is. In the beginning of British rule they were as successful as in times of yore, and it was through them partly that the Government could get such an easy hold of the vast country, as they mainly formed the cultured and educated section of the community. But, the paternal Government gradually began to treat them with contempt and even to snub them openly; and by the establishment of law courts throughout the country they have been totally smothered to death."

The opening of Parliament, owing to the slaughter of Tibetans at Guru led to Victregal action coming under general consideration. A measure of importance Ministers attach to the grave situation which Lord Curzon's hastiness and his utter lack of sympathy with a nation "rightly struggling to be free", may be judged by the fact that it was wholly on his own notion and before he was asked by the Opposition, that Mr. Balfour gave the full time of the second working day of the House of Commons to a discussion of the Tibetan expedition and its consequences,—the butchery at Guru. By the way, that delectable example of cheap journalism, the *Daily Mail*, which is the embodiment of mischievousness, has deliberately set itself to call those who do not approve of what has been done in Tibet as "Pro Lamas". As one of the headings to the article in which it acts with so much gentlemanly consideration, the "Mail" has this pleasont obstrvation:—

"Liberal Tears for the Tibetans."

It begins its remarks by saying: "The pro Boers are now pro-Lamas". In its next sentence it shows what it is that has offended its dignity beyond possibility of forgiveness. The Tibetans have dared to attack the *Mail*

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correspondent who, though he is a non-combatant, had thrust himself to the front fighting line where he might expect to find trouble. This is the way in which your contemporary expresses itself:—

"All the sympathies of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and his followers are now engaged on the side of the Tibetans, who endeavoured to hack our unfortunate special correspondent to pieces at Guru; and in political circles it is expected that the whole weight of the Opposition will be thrown into an effort to overthrow the Government on account of the fight which followed Colonel Younghusband's peaceful attempt to disarm the recalcitrant followers of the Grand Lama."

This splenetic and conceited outburst will interest some Indian publicists who think Indian criticism so great an evil that nobody but particularly bad Indians, who are acknowledged to be the worst people in the world, could say hard words of political opponents. A striking example of this from Western India, which came by the last mail, is before me as I write.

On the same day we had an account sent by Reuter of the wonderful things which Lord Kitchener is doing with the Indian Army. One hopes it all may be true. Then, that most-disliked of all ex-Indian civilians, Sir W. Lee Warner, has brought out a "Life of Lord Dalhousie", which is leading to the fighting over again of some of the campaigns of fifty years ago.

In the *Morning Post* Sir Walter Lawrence, the ex-Private Secretary to the Viceroy, was, on Monday, strongly assailed for his interesting paper in the current *Contemporary Review* on the Problem in India. As I refer to this attack on Sir Walter's position in another paragraph to-day, no further reference to it here is necessary.

But, here I must stay my hand. This paragraph is quite long enough already, and I have only mentioned some of the references to India which have happened on two days,—Monday and Tuesday.

I have said nothing about the tribute paid, on the following day, Bristol paid to Sir Henry Lawrence and Lord Lawrence, though several papers commented on this fully in advance. There are points about this celebration which deserve consideration, but space forbids.

Incontestably, to my mind, the best feature in the dozen or more topics discussed is the action of the *Daily News* in giving so much space and such special prominence to the concerns of an Indian,—the Tilak case. This is so unusual, and so commendable, that I cannot help alluding to it.

The unique and interesting ceremony of installing the new Zamorin and four junior Rajas will take place at Calicut on the 4th instant. The ceremony dates back several centuries, and will be marked by some quaint old customs and observances. Several thousands of persons from the Malabar district are expected to assemble at the historic palace of the Zamorins on the occasion.

The "Hindosthan" says:—We are glad to note that the Mussoorie Municipality has sanctioned the sum of Rs. 10,000 for the erection of Municipal bakeries on sanitary principles. In India a private bakery, whether carried on by Mahomedans or Hindus, is not on sanitary principles. A Hindu bake-house, "Halwai ke Dookan" is generally situated is closed, narrow quarters, and haunted by swarms of flies, which slight on sweetmeats and "poories." The condition of a Mahomedan bake-house, or "Nanwai ki Dookan," is worse. Food which is supplied to the public should not be infected by contagious person, or flies, which carry germs with them.

The Police of Dindigul, are in search of a Mahomedan who has absconded; the charge against him is of murder; a Puller woman, who resided in Ambathoria, being the victim. The accused frequented her house during the absence of her husband, and the caste people convened a meeting, and a decision was arrived at that either the woman should forfeit her caste in case she allowed the Mahomedan to come to her house. The accused, armed with a knife, went to her house. She turned him out and the accused then stabbed her in the stomach. The woman was taken to the Municipal Hospital, Dindigul, and a dying declaration recorded by the Sub-Magistrate.

Dr. S. Swaminadhan, Barrister-at-Law, argued a criminal appeal before their Lordships Mr. Justice Subramania Aiyar and Mr. Justice Davies, of the Madras High Court on behalf of his client, Alfred Ashley Biggs, an Executive Engineer, Madras Presidency Famine Feeder Lines, who had been sentenced by Mr. C. J. M. Blake, First Class Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Bellary, to a fine of Rs. 100, on charges of having infringed the plague regulations, and negligently sent his servant who had been suffering from plague in its most infectious stage, offences punishable under sections 188 and 269 I.P.C. Their Lordships, after hearing the Acting Public Prosecutor, confirmed the conviction and sentence and dismissed the appeal, remarking that the sentence was lenient.

There were a series of accidents on the Gold-filed last week, one accounting for the loss of two lives. The first was the case of an Italian miner in Mysore mine who having charged and fired the holes in a drive, climbed down the ladder way down a stope to get out of danger; the shock of the explosion loosened some rock in the stope which fell and injured the man, necessitating his removal to the Hospital, where he is progressing favourably. The second accident occurred at Nundydroog mine, when two men were killed by the untimely lowering of the cage. It happened at 3 o'clock when the drivers were changing shift. The man on morning shift having lowered the cage into position, handed over control of the engine to his mate, who in turning to speak to him, inadvertently released the break, and before he could regain control of the engine, the cage had fallen sufficiently to kill two men, who happened, at that moment, to be entering it. It was purely a mishap with a terrible result. The third accident was of a curious nature and occurred at Balghat mine. Something went wrong with a winding engine and the noise occasioned by the mishap frightened one of the boiler cleaning boys, who tried to jump through the window of the engine house, but in doing so his clothes caught on a nail, which checking his flight, precipitated him against the wall of the engine house and broke his arm.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

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Plague Diary.—There were 32 cases and 31 deaths from plague in Calcutta on the 3rd instant, when the total mortality from all causes was 86 i.e., 10 more than the average of the previous five years.

Monetary.—The amount of silver coin held in the Treasury on the 30th April, amounted to Rs. 9,90,65,687 against Rs. 10,20,38,702 in gold. The silver held as security for notes was Rs. 2,210 on the same date.

Sale of Opium.—The Sixth Sale of Opium, the Provision of 1902-1903, will be held at the Government Opium Sale-room, No. 2 Bankshall Street, on Wednesday, the 1st June 1904, at 11 a.m., and will comprise 4,000 chests.

Dacca School of Engineering.—The 3rd year Overseer Class has been opened in the Dacca School of Engineering from this Session. The course of studies is the same as that of the Apprentice Department of the Civil Engineering College, Sibpur.

Proclamation.—A proclamation parade announcing the Viceroyalty of Lord Ampthill was held on Monday morning at the maidan, when the proclamation was read before the troops: The proclamation was also read by Mr. Grimley, Deputy Sheriff, at the Varandah of the High Court at 10-30 a. m.

Suit for Damages.—At the High Court on Monday before Mr. Justice Sale, Mr. H. C. Ghose, Attorney-at-law, applied for leave to file a plaint on behalf of Messrs. James Blackwood and Co. against one Nritya Gopal Nandi clamining Rs. 8,100 as damages on account of a breach of contract, which was made in Calcutta. His Lordship admitted the plaint and ordered written statements to be filed.

Alipore District Judgeship.—Mr. C. P. Caspersz, District and Sessions Judge of Alipore has been advised by his medical adviser to go home on furlough as the very heavy work at Alipore is too much for him at present, he having suffered lately from illness Mr. Caspersz has accordingly applied for furlough and has obtained leave, it being settled that Mr. Staley will act for him during his absence on leave.

Hony. Magistrates.—The following gentlemen are appaointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Benches opposite their names:—Babu Gopi Krishna Prasad Singh, Sadar Independent Bench (Shahabad); Babu Sati's Chandra Chakravrti, Bagerhat Independent Bench, (Khulna); Babu Ram Lall Moitra, Rama Prosad Mukherjee, Jadu Nath Ganguly, and Kishori Mohan Bhattacherjee, Bally (Howrah).

Sibpur Civil Engineering College.—The Session for both the Apprentice and Engineer Departments begins on Monday, the 6th June 1904. Candidates for admission to the Engineer Department should apply to the Principal in the prescribed form on or before the 16th, and to the Apprentice Department on or before the 6th instant. Each application must be accompanied by a registration fee of Re. 1.

Marriage Registers.—The Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to grant a license to Maulvi Syed Muhammad Ali, authorizing him to register Muhammadan marriages and divorces and to exercise the other functions of a Muhammadan Registrar within thanas Faripur and Awanpur, in the district of Faridpur, and a sanad (license) to him appointing him Kazi of thanas Faridpur and Awanpur, in the district of Faridpur, for the celebration of marriages and the performance of other rites and ceremonies, when application is made to him to perform any such functions.

Weather and Crops in Bengal.—Rain is reported from parts of the Presidency, Rajshahi, Dacca and Bhagalpur Divisions. The fall was heavy in the district of Jalpaiguri, Pubna, Mymensingh, elsewhere light. Ploughing and sowing continue, but rain is needed in parts of Bihar and also in the Orissa and Burdwan Divisions. Prospects fair. Cattle disease reported from 13 districts, and scarcity of fodder and water from 10. The price of common rice has risen in 10 districts, has fallen in 8, and is stationary in the remainder.

Weather and Crops in Assam.—The following report on the state of the season and prospects of the crops for the week ending the 26th April, 1904, is published in the "Assam Gazette":—General remarks—Rain throughout the province. Floods have caused some damage to crops in the Surma Valley, and prevented ploughing and sowing in Sylhet, ploughing for, and sowing of, rice and jute and plucking of tea in progress. Sugarcane pressing nearly finished; outturn fair. Tea damaged by hail and growth retarded in Cachar; elsewhere prospects fair to good. Cattle disease prevalent in six districts. Fodder insufficient in places. Prices of common rice—Sylhet 17, Dhubri, Gauhati and Tezpur 16, Silchar 15, Nowgong 14, Dibrugarh 13 and Sibsagar 12 seers per rupee.

Assam Gazette.—Privilege leave of absence for three months is granted to Maulvi Mahomed Abdulla, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Dibrugarh, and for two months and twenty days to Babu Sarvonanda Das, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Sibsagar, and for three weeks is granted to Mr. O. Mawson, Assistant to the Superintendent, Lushai Hills, Aijal. Mr. F. M. Clifford, Extra Assistant Commissioner, attached to the Kamrup Settlement Camp, is transferred to Dibrugarh. Babu Rajani Kanta Rai Dastidar, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Karimgunj, is transferred temporarily to Sylhet Sadr. Srijut Kali Ram Chaudhari, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Maulvi Bazaar, is transferred temporarily to Karimgunj. Babu Harendra Kumr Ghosh, Probationary Extra Assistant Commissioner, Jorhat, is transferred to Maulvi Bazaar. Babu Dakshina Charan Sen Extra Assistant Commissioner, Habiganj, is transferred to Jorhat. Rai Madhab Chandra Bardtli, Bahadur Extra Assistant Commissioner, Gauhati, is transferred to Sylhet Sadr. Mr. G. E. Lambourne, I. C. S. Assistant Commissioner, Golaghat, is granted privilege leave of absence for three months, combined with special leave, for three months. Mr. A. R. Edwards, I. C. S., Assistant Commissioner, attached to the Sibsagar Settlement Camp, is transferred to Golaghat and appointed to the charge of that sub-division. The Chief Commissioner approves the appointment of Major E. C. Hare I. M. S., Civil Surgeon of Shillong, as Vice-Chairmtn of the Shillong Station Committee in the place of Major E. R. W. C. Carroll, I. M. S.

English Teachership Examination.—The undermentioned candidates have passed the English Teachership Examination of 1904:—First Grade: Achyuta Nath Adhikari, B. A.; Janardan Sen Gupta, B.A.; and Norendra Kumar Basu, B.A.; Second Grade: Kartik Chandra Burman.

Closing of a Railway.—The Debiganj-Anchra Ghat Section of the Katihar-Anchra Ghat Branch, Eastern Bengal State Railway, is to be closed permanently, as it has been found impracticable to maintain the line for traffic in the rains, owng to the heavy flooding of the Kosi River between Debiganj and Anchra Ghat, and the destruction of the railway line year after year. The terminus of the Katihar Branch will, therefore, in future, be at Debiganj, instead of at Anchra Ghat.

Vital Statistic.—The total number of deaths registered during the week ending 23rd April was 912, against 1,015 and 1,038 in the two preceding weeks, and lower than the corresponding week of last year by 29. There were 102 deaths from cholera, against 128 and 104 in the two preceding weeks; the number is higher than the average of the past quinquennium by 10. There were 440 deaths from plague, against 500 and 539 in the two preceding weeks. There were 5 deaths from smallpox during the week against 13 in the previous week. There were 13 deaths from tetanus, against 13 in the previous week. The mortality from fever and bowel-complaints amounted to 92 and 56, respectively, against 78 and 59 in the preceding week. The general death-trate of the week was 55.9 per mile per annum against 54.7, the mean of the last five years.

The Elliott Prize.—The Elliott Prize for Scientific Research will be given this year to the author of the best original essay composed during the iron giving the results of original research or investigation by the essayist on Physical Science. Any native of Bengal, including any Eurasian or domiciled European residing in Bengal, may compete for the prize. The essays of competitors must be sent in to the President of the Bengal Asiatic Society, 57, Park Street, Calcutta, by the end of December 1904. The prize will be adjudged to the best competitor, and awarded publicly at the Annual General Meeting of the Asiatic Society in February 1905, Preference will be given to researches leading to discoveries likely to develop the industrial resources of Bengal. In the case of no essay being deemed by the Trustees to be of sufficient merit, no prize is to be awarded, but the amount is to be retained, so that in any future year two or more prizes may be given, or the prize may be enhanced in the case of an exceptionally good essay.

Alleged Adultery.—In the Court of Mr. Geake, the District Magistrate of Howrah, is pending a case in which Mr. E. Thunker, a ship's clerk in the employ of the Asiatic Steam Navigation Company, charges one Alfred Hoskins with committing adultery with his wife. Babu Nursing Dutt, the Government Pleader, has been retained for the prosecution, while Mr. Buckland, Barrister-at-law, is representing the defendant. After making a voyage, the complainant returned home to find Hoskins sharing some of his rooms and, as this was contrary to his wishes, he ordered him to remove at an early date. Hoskins, however, refused to do so, and the complainant's wife insisted that he should remain. The complainant had therefore no alternative but to leave the house himself and engage the services of Mr. Bomswetch a private detective, with the result that he was enabled to bring the matter into Court. The accused has been enlarged on one surety of Rs. 100 and his personal recognizance for a like sum to appear on the 7th proximo, while the complainant's wife has been enlarged on her personal recognizance of Rs. 50 to appear on that date.

A Tea Company Manager Intimidated.—Coolies working in the Pubhori Division of the Bishnauth Tea Company, Assam used to make complainants to their new manager Mr. Filkin, who held enqiries in certain cases and found them unfounded and warned them. They would not cease to complain and they were told by the manager that if he found complaint frivolous and false he would fine them a rupee each and if he found it true he would give them eight annas "baksis." Some of the subsequent complaints were found false and four coolies were fined one rupee each. On the 14th March last about sixty coolies assembled round the manager's office with lathis and asked for the return of Rs. 4 fined. They threatened to beat the Saheb and the kerani unless they were paid back and the Saheb paid them off. The Saheb brought a formal charge against some coolies who put in statements to the purport that they merely complained about being fined for saying they had received short pay, but they failed to produce any witness in support thereof. The Deputy Commissioner trying the case found each of them guilty under sec. 143 I. P. C. and finding that the common object was to intimidate the manager sentenced them all to 2 months' hard labour each.—"W. C."

Subordinate Educational Service.—Babu Narendra Nath Pal, Assistant Superintendent of the Alipore Reformatory School (Class VII,) is allowed leave of absence for three months. An exchange of appointments is sanctioned between (1) Babu Hari Charan Chatterjea, Head Clerk, office of Inspector of Schools, Burdwan Division (Class VI). (2) Babu Sarat Chandra Mukerjea, Head Clerk, Hooghly College (Class VII), and between (1) Babu Raksha Kali Sil, Head Clerk, Calcutta Madrasah (Class IV) and (2) Babu Sris Chandra Roy, B.A., Head Clerk, Rajshahi College (Class VII). Babu Akrur Chandra Sen, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Tippera (Class IV), having returned to duty the unexpired portion of the leave granted to him is cancelled. Babu Annanda Prasad Mitra, B.A., Deputy Inspector of Schools, Bhagalpur, is allowed leave of absence for one month and seven days. Babu Umesh Chandra Lal, Sadar Sub-Inspector of Schools, West Bhagalpur is appointed to act as Deputy Inspector of Schools, Bhagalpur, and in Class III of the Subordinate Educational Service. Babu Krishna Lal Sadhu, M.A., Additional Deputy Inspector, of Schools Sonthal Parganas is allowed leave for 60 days. Mr. Samuel Bibhudan Mandle, B.A., Deputy Inspector of Schools, Sonthal Parganas, will remain in charge of the duties of the Additional Deputy Inspector, in addition to his own, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Krishna Lal Sadhu, M.A., or until further orders.

TELEGRAMS.

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, April 30.

Admiral Alexeieff wires that ten Japanese cruisers and six torpedo boats were sighted yesterday morning in Usuri Bay.

The enemy's ships were sighted at Port Arthur on Thursday night

The Japanese state that only seventeey-three perished in the "Kashinmaru."

A Washington telegram says that reports have reached the State Department that a great battle has been fought on the Yalu, resulting in a complete victory for the Japanese.

Reuter wiring from Kanpantse, Manchuria, to-day, says:—"It is reported the sixteen thousand Japanese crossed the Yalu on Thursday and attacked thirty thousand Russians, who were in a strongly fortified position. It is rumoured this morning that the Japanese have been reinforced, and the battle continues."

The Japanese reports show that five officers perished with the soldiers on board the "Kinshin Maru," some committee suicide with rifles and others by the happy despatch.

After the Russian torpedo struck the ship amidships, 45 non-commissioned officers and men escaped in boats and reached Simpho after fearful suffering.

London, May 1.

Reuters wires from Tokio this evening that the Japanese have captured Chiulienchan which is regarded as the key to the Russian position on the right bank of the Yalu. It is expected the Russians will retreat on Yengwangchang.

Takushan.—"Englishman."

London, May 2.

Reuter wires from Tokio to-day that the Russians were forced to abandon Antung yesterday. They burned the town, and are now retreating on Fenghuangchang. The Japanese control the estuary.

Reuter wires from Tokio to-day that the Japanese began to attack on the Yalu on Tuesday last and that the battle continued until Saturday. The Japanese established themselves on the right bank of the river on Thursday the twelfth division forced a crossing above Wiju before dawn on Saturday and the guards and second division crossed on Saturday night on two pontoon bridges and turned the Russians left flank. A general advance was made at dawn on Sunday of all the Japanese, the batteries on the south bank, and the flotilla of gunboats co-operating. The Japanese have the advantage of positions and number.

Reuter wires from Tokio that General Kuroki, Commanding at the Yalu, reports that the Japanese artillery fire at dawn on Sunday was concentrated on the Russian positions, speedily silencing them. The advance began at 7-30 in the morning. The Japanese, wading breast deep across the river, began storming the heights at 8-15, and swept the Russians back across the plateau by nine o'clock. The Russians made two stands. The Japanese losses in Sunday's battle were 800, and the Russians had 800 killed and wounded. The Japanese captured 28 quick-firing guns, 20 officers and many men. The Russian Generals, Sassulitch and Kashtalinsky, were wounded.

Russian official despatches, dated the 1st, admit the overwhelming superiority of the Japanese Artillery and the heavy losses it inflicted, which compelled General Sassulitch to evacuate the position at Turenchen to the second position at Potientinsky.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says that when the Japanese carried the line of the hills extending from Kuiliencheng to Yoshoko on the right bank of the Iho river yesterday morning, the Russians made a second stand on the hill north-west of Kuiliencheng. The Japanese advancing by three roads seized the line extending from Antung to Luishukan. The Imperial Guards enveloped the Russians on three sides, and after a severe fight at close quarters captured the position by eight in the evening, seizing twenty guns with horses, carriages, and ammunition, besides over twenty officers and many men.

The Russians retreated to Fenchuancheng.

Admiral Kamimura's fleet has twice attempted to bombard Vladivostok between the 25th and 28th, but constant fog prevented it.

London, May 3.

St. Petersburg reports state that eight Japanese fireships and two torpedo boats have been sunk by the Russian guns attempting to block Port Arthur. There has been heavy fighting at Gensan.

The Official Japanese report of the Yalu fighting says 30 Russian officers and 300 men are prisoners. Kuropatkin is marching to Fengwangcheng with 20,000 men.

No official announcement was issued at St. Petersburg yesterday regarding the outcome of the battle on the Yalu, but alarming rumours have been circulated of the full retreat of the Russians and the loss of guns.

The first detachment of St. Petersburg, volunteers, numbering one hundred and sixty of all classes of society, started for the front yesterday. Immense crowds assembled to witness the departure, and the enthusiasm was frantic.

The Japanese victory on the Yalu is extolled alike in England and on the Continent as a great feat of arms of incalculable moral effect, though the German and French papers contend that the Russian force on the Yalu was small and never intended to do more than harass and impede the Japanese.

The Socialist organs in Berlin affirm that the great German shipyards are building at extra pressure torpedo boat destroyers and torpedo boats for Russia, and that these are exported in order to conceal the breach of neutrality.

GENERAL.

London, April 29.

The King and Queen continue to be everywhere most loyally welcomed in Ireland. They were present at the Punchestown and Leopardstown races. There was no hitch or discordant note anywhere.

London, April 30.

Martial law has been proclaimed at Warsaw and elsewhere in Russian Poland to frustrate expected Socialist demonstrations on May Day. Numbers of Socialists have been arrested.

TELEGRAMS

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS

London, April 30.

The St. Louis Exhibition was formally opened to-day. President Roosevelt at Washington touched a button, setting all the machinery in motion and unfurling the flags. An immense throng sang the "Star Spangled Banner."

President Loubet reached Marseilles to-day. His visit to Italy has been highly successful, politically and socially.

A Washington telegram states that the American revenue for the coming year is 140,800,000 sterling, and expenditure 56,300,000.

In the cricket match between Surrey and London Country, the latter won by innings and fifty-one runs.

London, May 1.

The St. Louis Exhibition is on an immense scale. The grounds are 1,240 acres in extent, and fifty Foreign Governments are represnted, nineteen of which have erected national pavilions. The Exhibition is the greatest ever held in the world, and exceeds even the Chicago Fair. The opening ceremonial, in the presence of the Civil, Military and Naval Foreign dignataries, was most impressive.

London, May 2.

Sweden and Denmark have issued a proclamation of neutrality, forbidding warships of Belligerents to enter their naval ports or certain waters protected by mines.

A St. Petersburg official report states that at four o'clock on Sunday the Japanese batteries opened a terrific fire on Turentchen and Potintintzy. The Russians suffered heavily and finally evacuated Turentchen. Fierce fighting is proceeding. Four Jap warships and twelve torpedo-boats are threatening

London, May 3.

Replying to the Porter's complaint that Turkey has not been consulted in the Anglo-French agreement, Britain declares that it does not affect Turkey's right to suzerainty over Egypt.

A Committee has been appointed, composed of representatives of the Chief Government offices, to consider what subsidy is likely to be required for a British steamship service to the east of Africa, and what contributions from British possessions interested are likely to be made thereto.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

THE GREAT LAND FIGHT.

FURTHER DETAILS.

Bombay, May 2.

The Consul for Japan in Bombay has received the following telegram from the Japanese Government:—General Kuropi reports on the 26th instant to prepare for laying bridges detachments of the Imperial Guards and the Second Division attacked and dispersed the enemy on the inlets in the Yalu and occupied them. The Imperial Guards had nine slightly and sixteen seriously wounded, while the second division had no casulties. The enemy retreated carrying many of the dead and wounded with them towards Chiulieuchen. A Russian cavalryman was taken prisoner, and says that the 22nd the 23rd, and the 27th Infantry regiments of the Eastern Siberian sharpshooters formed the van. Lieutenant Senyoloff, commanding the mounted scouts of the 22nd Regiment was found dead and was buried at Wiju, where ninety-five were dead and sixty live; the enemy's horses were also found. From noon until the 27th the enemy fered intermittenly upon Wiju, but were unanswered. On the 26th two gunboats two torpedo boats, and two steamers were detached from the Hosoya squadrom, ascended the Yalu and exchanged shots with the enemy on Antugushan, and silenced them. Our detachment suffered no damage. On the 28th two infantry companies of the Imperial Guards reconnoiterd Hussnan and one section was detached to Letzuyen whence the enemy fled, leaving five dead. The enemy fired at long ranges from the neighbourhood of Chiulieuchen upon Wiju without much effect upon our preparative works.

On the 29th the 12th division commenced bridging at Sukuchen and completed the work on the morning of the 30th, and our army crossed the river from 10-40 a.m. to 12 p. m. There was severe firing from all sides, but the enemy was soon silenced. Our losses were officers five (two killed) and 22 wounded. At 8 p. m. of the same day a bridge over the main stream was completed. Our army crossed and advanced upon Hushan. On the same day a detachment of the Hosoya squadron advanced below Antungsien and fought at close range with 400 of the enemy's Infantry and Cavalry. Artillery also fired upon us heavily. After an hour the enemy retreated, there were no casualties on our side. At daybreak on the 1st we commenced cannonading and silenced the enemy's artillery on the north-west of the hill of Yushukou. At 7-30 a.m. all divisions advanced for attack and took possession of the heights extending from Chiulieuchen to North Makou and Yushukou by 9 am.

M. Hayaski also sends a second report of General Kuropi, which was received about 4 p.m. On the 1st not withstanding the stout resistance, the 2nd and 12th Divisions and Imperial Guards advanced along three roads driving the enemy before them. We captured at 8 p.m. a line from Antungsien to Lieshukou. The Imperial Guards surrounded the enemy on three sides, and after a severe fight captured 20 guns with horses and carriages. Over 20 officers and many men of the General Reserve Corps advanced along Laoyang Road. The enemy was composed of the whole of the 3rd division and 22nd and 24th regments of the 6th Infantry division of sharpshooters, the Mischenkos Cavalry Brigade and about 40 guns and 8 machine guns. hhey fled towards Fenghoangcheng. Our casualties at the most were 700. The total booty is 28 quickfiring guns and large quantities of rifles and ammunition. Our heavy field guns were very effective. A Russian officer was taken prisoner and commanders of both the army Corps and divisions were wounded and their casualties exceeded 800.

The Mandi shikaries have had two more good days among the bears, three more full-grown bears on Panjain, and a bear and two cubs on the Bagitash. There have been no There is now no snow in the upper valley below the Ralla bungalow at the foot of the Rhotang pass, and but little there.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE TIBET MISSION.

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THE ATTITUDE OF THE VILLAGERS.

Kalasto, Tibet, May 2.

In addition to the Gyantse market being bodily moved from the town and located in front of the Mission Camp hundreds of men and women driving laden asses reach the camp daily from adjacent villages with fodder and country produce for sale to the Commissariat. Further the Gyantse monks paid, apparently without an effort, what seemed a prohibitive fine levied by Colonel Younghusband. Survey parties report that many thousand sheep are grazing on the hill sides above the plain. Every house in the town and villages seems crammed with sacks of barley, flour, fodder and other produce and the whole locality is swarming with sturdy beggars, men and women, who find no difficulty in obtaining food from their neighbours. These facts have not only greatly simplified the supply problem in connection with the Mission, but point to the valley producing much more than is required for its needs. It must be remembered that the valley fed the Tibetan army for many months. The desire of the local people to sell surplus produce is very evident. Naturally no resentment is shown at the presence of the Mission which the townspeople hope will stay here for ever or at least open up direct trade with India.

From conversations I have had through an interpreter with peasants and others it appears that the purpose of the Mission is well understood by the common people of whom a larger percentage read and write than in India and who follow quite intelligently the progress of the foreign policy of the Dalai Lamas. They say that they know we have no desire to annex their country. If we made an attempt every man would die in defence of it. As it is the Lamas forced one man in every family to go to the fight. The fighting was of a poor character because the army disliked the Lama's foreign policy. They laughed at the idea that in any case the Tibetans could not resist the British arms. An old man enquired why, if the Tibetans were such poor soldiers, Tibet had not been conquered before? The remark excited general applause. It is a curious fact that traditions of war of some kind are still kept alive by the Tibetans. They manufacture large quantities of gunpowder, bows, arrows, swords and spears and set great store by physical courage. They would rather be considered robbers and thieves than cowards.

One sees in Gyangtse town gangs of gigantic men thumping their chests, slapping their thighs calling on the rabble to clear out of the way as they fear nobody. However they quickly make way themselves for an officer or sepoy of the Mission. The wounded Tibetans discharged from our field hospitals, consider themselves great heroes and have nothing but contempt for their comrades who ran away. As a matter of fact most of their own wounds are in the back.

I hear that the bying column on return to Chumbi met about 1,000 wounded Tibetans just discharged from Tuna Hospital. These limping fellows, when asked where they were going to, replied with the greatest assurance that they were going to Lhassa to rejoin their regiments and fight us again. They were followed and it was found that they all turned off on the Shigatse road. Quite a small colony of Nepalese are resident in Gyangtse. Their leading man has been here thirty years and has seven Tibetan wives. He told me that the Tibetans spend all the long winter nights in talking, boasting of physical courage and inventing stories of personal encounters with robbers, wolves and so on. "As a matter of fact," he added, "are all arant cowards. They are like their own guns which make a lot of noise but are useles tor fighting purposes." The same man said that when the Tibetans heard that the Gurkhas were assisting us they threatened to kill all the Napalese in Gyangtse but dared not. The truth appears to be, as we saw in the recent fighting, that certain of the Tibetans have the courage of fanatical Moslems, while of the remainder of the peasantry it is not fair to judge, for they were fighting in an unwilling cause. Their chief object at any rate in Gyangtse district is to trade. Even the Monks become infected by the desire to make money, selling sacred temple ornaments and books. The Government of India has sanctioned an outlay of ten thousand rupees for the purchase of sacred books. While all this trading is going on in Gyangtse the Mission people and the Tibetans are mutually pleased with each other.

There is no further news from Lhassa. It is not known whether the Amban has started or even whether he is making preparations to do so. A party which went out two days ago to the Kuro Pass where a force of Tibetans was said to be assembled is stil reconnoitring—H. Newman in the "Englishman."

Tibet, May 3.

The party which went out to reconnoitre in the Karo Pass found the rumour, that the Tibetans have collected a force there perfectly correct. A long wall was seen three miles on the other side of the Pass. We sent men round the flanks of the wall behind which a body of men estimated at a thousand or fifteen hundred were seen. Our scouts were fired on. They fired a few shots in reply, but there were no casualties on our side, but the scouts were close enough actually to see many Tibetans armed with rifles, and not matchlocks, which are believed to be made in Lhassa, of which the Tibetans are always boasting. The reconnoitring party had strict orders, if the enemy were found, not to bring on an action. Accordingly they retired after the Tibetan position was located and the strength ascertained. The party return to camp to-morrow. Karo Pass is two and a half marches from Gyantse. The Tibetan army are said to be composed chiefly of Kham levies. All men who fought against us in former actions have departed to their homes. There is no news of the Amban or the high Tibetan officials who were to accompany him having left Lhassa. Meanwhile the attitude of the Gyantse people continues friendly. It is impossible to realise that their kinsfolk are full of enmity and are waiting for us behind a wall which is only two days journey from here, but it is worth while mentioning that the village people near the Pass nearly led the reconnoitring party into a trap by stoutly maintaining there were no armed men in the vicinity of the wall across the mouth of the gorge which is five feet high, six hundred yards long and cliverly loop holed. The party was fired on from a hole in the length of the wall. Great avalanches of stones were also thrown on them from sangars on the hill above; it is perfectly marvellous that they had no casualties.

THE TRANSVAAL FROM WITHIN.

MENACES TO BRITISH RULE.

The "Morning Post" recently received the following communication from a correspondent in the Eastern Transvaal, who resides in a district where there are few British and many Boers and natives:—

The "Morning Post" of January 28 contains a contribution by Mr. R. L. Tottenham which is a welltimed and moderate picture of the gravity of the political aspect in South Africa. It is the fashion to pooh-pooh the idea of danger and to look on those who apprehend a crisis as childish alarmists. The existence of an organised conspiracy, disseminating the disloyal machinations of the Bond and its kindred is, however, an open secret. It may be news to the public that there is documentary proof of their projected movements, detailing sums of money immediately available the points of landing arms and ammunition &c. The Boers have the avowed sympathy of the majority of colonials, among whom it is frequently asserted that seventy-five per cent. at least would side with the Boers. The colonial element feels great dissatsifaction with the Administration, in many cases because men have not received their estimate of the price of their loyalty, either in plums of office of compensation. Disinterested Afrikander loyalty, as a whole, has always been a doubtful entity, however vulgarly assertive, and the present almost universal tone of disloyalty is a timely warning against putting faith in that quarter.

ELEMENTS OF REVOLUTION.

South Africa could not be in a riper condition for the fostering of revolutionary tendencies. We have ourselves prepared the ground. The Boers are not given to credit the British with generous intentions, and our philanthropic warfare and subsequent poorhouse administration do not convince them of our strength. Our treasonable newspapers give a false idea of the sympathy at home, which they grossly exaggerate. The catchpenny effusions of our reptile Press are widely advertised among the class they are written for. These causes and the music-hally spirit which prompted ovations and made heroes out of a despicable and treacherous enemy, all tend to accentuate to the Boers our weak holding of their country. By exaggerating the fighting qualities and generalship of the Boers we pay ourselves a much-needed, though far-fetched, compliment. The Boers cetrainly deserved to be hailed as "record" long-distance runners, expert bullet dodgers, and snipers from shelter and ready hands-uppers in the open. But, however we compliment ourselves, the opinion the Boers hold of us as a conquering force is by no means complimentary. They construe the termination of the war as a victory and spread innumerable reports about the buying of different leaders. These fables enter willing ears and are readily believed. It would be unnatural for a typical Boer to believe in truth or honour even in his brothers. It is a simple matter, for leaders possessed of persuasive eloquence, to convince a race of such low average intelligence, and whose wish is father to the thought, of the possibility of regaining their independence, given a favourable opportunity. Their secrecy and remarkable powers of mobilisation were proved at the time of the Jameson Raid. They are as ready now, and when trouble comes we shall be caught napping.

COUNTRY ROTTEN WITH DISLOYALTY.

The country is rotten with disloyalty, and the inconsiderate distribution of compensation has embittered many a man hitherto loyal. A loyal man does not want a price for his loyalty, but it is galling to him to see so many come out best who rightly should be doing time Red tape is irritatingly predominant and as notable as the absence of commonsense legislation. Money has been wasted lavishly and foolishly in vain endeavours to settle the country. It should have been obvious to anyone with the most ordinary knowledge of South African affairs that the one thing essential to general progress was the prosperity of the mining industry. Had the money and attention that has been devoted, with signal failure, to other departments been applied to the practical solution of this difficulty we could now, after close on two years, afford to ignore treason. It would be interesting to have tables showing the cost per head of the settlers. These land settlements are periodically visited by high officials, who vent magnanimous eloquence for the benefit of an admiring public. The accompanying newspaper correspondents, who share these outings de luxe, exhilarated by rubbing elbows with Jew millionaires (who form the Johannesburg aristocracy), write comfortable reports, gratefull, reflecting the glow of having been well done to, but avoid stating the financial aspect of the settlements. These millionaires are well content to have their properties enhanced in value at the expense of the Government. The irreprochable character of our Government officialdom is so different from the corruptness and cupidity of the late Government that one must add the virtue of refreshing and unsuspecting simplicity to their incorruptibility.

WHITE SETTLERS WANTED.

In the remoter districts of the Transvaal there are large tracts of Crown lands to which it is most desirable that settlers should be attracted. Any other colony would gladly grant selections to approved working settlers. This class, to whom success is a necessity, is debarred from taking up land by the prices the Land Board ask, even in fever areas. The powers that be evidently prefer Kaffir squatters, who exhaust the soil and destroy timber in an incredible way virtually gratis. Hence one of the chief difficulties in procuring labour. It is not pleasant to know that natives have privileges denied to white men. There are districts of the Transvaal where the prevailing disloyalty could have been counteracted by a statesmanlike administration. The attraction of loyal settlers as a corrective is a plain duty. Meantime conspiracy is rife, and nothing is done to check or qualify it. The danger is none the less real because scoffed at. That has been done before, to the sorrow of our ratepayers.

DANGERS OF THE SITUATION.

It is difficult for newcomers, especially for imported officials, who kill their time without fear of to-morrow, to believe that these benevolent-looking, patriarchal Boers conceal and nurse a real bitterness and hatred. A man may smile and smile, and quote Scripture, and be a Boer. The coddling of the Government they accept as a continuation of the purchase price of their temporary and convenient loyalty, and a help to an earlier repossession of their independence. As a lively sense of favour to come their gratitude is like their veldt—illimitable. But they will be ready when an opportunity occurs. And if we remain as inalert, and with such an inefficient intelligence as now, they will take possession of the country before we are convinced of their intention. The Boers have not far to go for arms, ammunition, and provisions. Do we not stock them? They will soon regain their old practice. At present we are lulled into unsuspicion by the plausibility of the most finished hypocrites on earth. But for the folly of some of their loud-mouthed, hot, and empty-headed youths there would be no whisper of conspiracy till a revolution was an accomplished fact. The Boers are influencing the natives against us, and the natives are not well inclined to us. They are much upset about their wholesale disarmament. They are much aggrieved at our promise-breaking, many not having received compensation for losses incurred by loyalty to us, though holding written acknowledgments and receipts. They are so over belegislated that they do not know where they are. They have the privileges and protection of civilisation, but are not called on to bear its responsibilities. The general discontent existing in South Africa must find an scape. The more phlegmatic of the population look to self-government as a panacea, but it will require a new broom and a strong broom to clean this stable. The unqualified enforcement of the Peace Preservation Act in the meantime would have a salutary effect. A continuation of the policy of 'laissey faire' will bring its own reward.

The Tibet Mission.

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ARMS AND THE MEN.

Camp Gyantse, April 21.

One examined with only a half-hearted interest the matchlocks tnd spears, the chain armour and bows and arrows, which were found at Fort Phari and a few specimens of which could be seen at Chumbi and elsewhere. The arms were dirty, ill-made, and ill-kept. The stocks of the matchlocks were generally cracked, and as often as not the barrels were rusty and worm-eaten. In fact even the most confirmed curiosity hunter found Tibetan arms and armour scarce worth the trouble of picking up. But these same rusty matchlocks and wire-bound swords have now acquired a new interest. They have been used against us in battle. We have found them on the field of slain, the dead hand still grasping the useless sword, the musket lying across the bloody corpse. And if we have picked up a relic or two it is not without a sense of pity and wonder at the simplicity of the men who hoped by these primitive methods to stem the onset of a soldiery armed with maxims and Magazine rifles.

The fact is the Tibetan is not a warrior. Of the business of war, of the arts of self-defence and offence, he knows nothing. Hither to his terrible climate, his desolate valleys and hills, have been his protectors. Those who have faced the cold, those who have dared the winds, have conquered Tibet.

And yet it would not be fair to deny the Tibetans courage. No one could make his home in this land, no one could grow to manhood, without acquiring a certain degree of virility, a certain degree of contempt for those physical hardships, that toil and suffering from which most civilised men shrink. They are not quite cowards, those Tibetans, or they would all be dead or fled to more beneficent climes. Even in this matter of warring with swords and jingals against the latest devices of science, of pitting Lhassa gunpowder against cordite, their simplicity has been touched with a rare courage. I have already described how the Tibetan army at the Hot Springs near Guru disdained to flee at a time when its long column was torn by magazine fire, by shrapnel, and by maxim bullets. Similarly in the fighting in the gorge near Gyantse the Tibetans kept on firing their useless jingals et us, after their position had been outflanked, and even when we had worked round to their rear.

One must remember that the Tibetan peasant has no wish whatever to fight us. The Lamas drove him into arms by threatening his family and property. Many of the prisoners taken have enlisted quite readily as Kahars and one sees them now lording it about Gyantse as if they had come in the van of a conquering army. Others when ordered to destroy their antiquated muskets did so with evident pleasure dancing and jumping on them with vicious glee. At the same time we have found amongst the enemy men of a disposition as savage and truculent as that of any Pan-Than Ghazi. Such were the swordsmen who made the dash at the Hot Springs, and, again in the fight is the gorge near Gyantse, a few men stood their ground till our troops were right upon them, firing off their matchlocks at a few yards distance, and then calmly accepting the swift death that followed. In connection with the first fight, by the way, I find I owe an apology to Major Wallace Dunlop. It was hardly to be accepted that an officer so highly gifted as a rifle shot should not drop the fanatic who wounded him.

The Tibetans, like the Chinese, attach great value to gunpowder as part of the machinery of war, chiefly, I suppose, because it makes such a noise. They manufactude enormous quantities of it. Immense stocks were found in the fort at Phari and Gyantse and in the camp at Guru. We have always destroyed this gunpowder, but it requires very careful handling. At Gyantse the order day fourteen men of the 32nd Pioneers were severely burnt by some loose stuff going off. An even more lamentable occurrence took place at Guru. Four men and an Indian officer of the 23rd Pioneens were opening a chest of gunpowder, preparatory to throwing it into the river, when an explosion took place. All the group were horribly shattered and others in the vicinity were burnt. Fortunately Captain Cook Young and Lieutenant Davys, of the Indian Medical Service, were present, and they were able to do much to alleviate the sufferings of the five men before they died. In this connection an officer, of another regiment, who saw the explosion, writes to me: "Please mention, if you can, the conduct of Jemadar Bishan Singh, 23rd Pioneers. Though terribly burnt he crowled from man to man encouraging them and cheering them. It was one of the finest things I ever saw."

But the whole bearing and conduct of the troops with this mission are as fine a thing as one could wish to see. The hard marching at altitudes at which every breath is a grasp, the Arctic cold, dismayed, cheerful, full of the proud resolve to go on and not go back. There has been much suffering in the force. There have been many deaths. But there have been no complaints.

Where all have done so well, it seems invidiuous to single out any particular units, but I cannot let the occasion pass by without referring to the work of the Mounted Infantry, whose scouting has been beyond praise, and on whom has devolved a double share of toil. When the rest of the camp is pitched and settled they must reconnoitre ahead for fifteen and twety miles. I have seen them saddle up to ride out at dusk, and heard their bugles before it was dawn, and this at a time when the hours of darkness meant a cold that is hard to realise. We have two companies up here. The first is under the command of a very famous frontier soldier, Captain Ottley, of whose courage and dash in the recent Waziri blockade one hears many tales. His company here is composed of men selected from the three Indian regiments with the force. Muzbi Sikhs are not natural horsemen, but Captain Ottley has drilled and taught them with unexampled patience and determination, till they would now hold their own with the best mounted infantry in the word.

The other company, under Captain Peterson came up very shroudy before the advance to Gyantse. It is composed of Pathans trained in the mounted infantry schools, in India, great big men, whose fierceness in battle is as fascinating as it is terrible. I saw them clatter up the stony gorge in pursuit during the action near Gyantse. They meant to kill, and they did. The face of the native officer, from the Guides, who was leading, was aflame. Hard behind him come his section hammering their horses and gripping their swinging rifles. Then I noticed the courteous and accomplished Indian officer from that other famous regiment, the 24th Punjabis, cheering his wild men on with wild Pushtu words. The whole scene left an impression of the kind one does not easily forget. Well might Captain Peterson be proud of his men! They do not make was with tears.—Henry Newman in the "Englishman."

CULTIVATION OF THE CEARA RUBBER IN MYSORE.

From the commencement the Ceara Rubber tree took kindly to the climate or Mysore. At first the seeds took a long time to germinate owing to the hard and resistant nature of the outer integument. But a remedy was soon found to this in slightly filing the dormant end of the seed, so as to expose the vital tissues to the action of warmth and moisture. Treated in this way seeds germinated freely within a month. Self-sown seeds, when well placed, usually germinate towards the end of the first monsoon. But when the conditions are unfavourable the seed will often lie "in situ" for years. The best results of self-sowing are nearly always found in grass land, especially when the grass is pretty thick. In the moist coffee districts the tree grows rapidly and attains a large size in 4—6 years, it also remains longer in leaf than it does on the plains.

Maidan growth is more stunted, and the leciduous season often extends from January till June.

It has been proved, which is equally important, that the rubber is of good quality, the London Brokers of an Indian firm having estimated its value at 3 shilling per pound. Added to this the remarkable discovery has been made that a single tree will yield 7lb. of rubber during the year without being in the slightest exhausted. The tree thus operated upon is 15 or 16 years old. It was tapped 83 times during the year and gave the above outturn of solid rubber. To hear that a tree is worth a guinea a year is certainly most encouraging, and if the average result in working a large plantation amounted to half or even the quarter of that amount it would still be a good industry.

Without going into fuller detail, our tapping experiments have been the means of pretty clearly establishing the following conclusions:—

1. That at 15 years of age and upwards every woody part (including the root-limbs) is well charged with latex.

2. That trees are not equally productive of latex though all conditions appear to be the same. At the present stage of the experiment there are good and bad teers.

3. That the root-limbs are productive of latex when the trunk is nearly exhausted, and vice versa.

4. That the latex flows freely from 6 to 8 a.m.

5. That excepting in wet weather, trees may be safely tapped at short intervals all the year round. Once a week would give a good average return of rubber.

6. That crude methods of tapping are wasteful, and require to be replaced by an improved method having proper tools and implements.

When a healthy tree is attained 15 years of age it may be tapped. Such trees are usually of considerable girth, having a trunk nearly 4 feet in circumference at the base with a clean growth of 7 to 12 feet to the primary limbs or branches. The whole trunk may be tapped at intervals, though it is found inconvenient to operate much above a man's height from the ground. The best season for tapping the trunk is from July to January while the trees are inleaf. When trees are about to be tapped the outer dead bark should be removed, leaving the surface of the liber inner bark) as smooth and clean as possible. At this stage sponging or washing with lime juice or salt water has been recommended. In any case the latex should flow over a perfectly clean surface until it is deposited in equally clean receptacles placed around the base of the trunk, or suspended to the latter at points where the streamlets of milky juice can readily be intercepted. A very small quantity of clean water placed in each receptacle prevents coagulation, so that each day's collection of latex can be placed in a churn for the proper extraction of pure rubber.

The laticiferous vessels of this tree are situated in the liber or inner bark, which is usually of a greenish colour when first exposed to the light. It is a comparatively thin layer and the slightest puncture with a pin suffices to draw latex. Tapping the bark deeply, or slashing and scoring it obliquely to swell a central stream, fails to produce the best flow of latex while it undoubtedly injures the tree.

But when punctured and scored to the depth of $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch, in the early morning, the flow is usually well sustained for a couple of hours.—"Mysore Standard".

Calcutta Gazette.—May 4.

APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS.

In modification of the order of the 5th January 1904, Mr. Manmatha Krishna Deb, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, on leave, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Tippera district.

Babu Khirode Chandra Sen, Deputy Magistrate, and Deputy Collector, Singhbuum, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Saran district.

The order of the 15th April 1904, transferring Babu Jamini Mohan Mitra, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, to the head-quarters station of the Chittagong district, is cancelled.

Mr. H. H. Heard, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Darjeeling, is appointed to have charge of the Kishanganj subdivision of the Purnea district.

Mr. F. G. E. Piffard, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Deoghur, Sonthal Parganas, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Darjeeling district.

Mr. W. H. Thomson, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sonthal Parganas, is appointed to have charge of the Deoghur Subdivision of that district.

Maulvi Muhammad Shams-uz-Zoha, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kishanganj, Purnea, is transferred to the head-quarters station of that district.

Mr. F. W. Martin, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted temporarily to the head-quarters station of the Sonthal Parganas district.

Mr. R. C. Hamilton, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Murshidabad, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of that district.

Mr. H U. Baker, Assistant Superintendent of Police, 24-Parganas, is appointed to act temporarily as Assistant Insptctor-General, Government Railway Police, Sealdah.

In modification of the order of the 7th March 1904, Babu Gopal Lal, Rural Sub-Registrar, Araria, Purnea, was appointed substantively pro tempore Special Sub-Rtgistrar of Purnea, from the 1st July 1903 to the 6th December 1903, both days inclusive.

Babu Sarat Kumar Raha, Special Excise Deputy Collector, Mymensingh, is appointed to be Inspector of Excise, Western Circle.

Babu Sures Chunder Ghatak, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jalpaiguri, is appointed to be Special Excise Deputy Collector in the Mymensingh district.

Babu Nogendra Nath Mukherji, Inspector of Excise, Western Circle, is posted to Bhagalpur as Special Excise Deputy Collector.

Babu Kali Kisor Taluqdar, Special Excise Deputy Collector, Bhagalpur, is allowed combined leave for eight months and eighteen days.

LEAVE.

Mr. H. D. D'M. Carey, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Murshidabad, is allowed leave for six weeks.

Maulvi Mahomed Abdul Kadir, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is allowed leave for two months and fifteen days.

Mr. M. C. McAlpin, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is allowed combined leave for six months.

Maulvi Mohammad Habibullah, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhagalpur, is allowed leave from Collector, Bhagalpur, is allowtd leave from the 4th May to the 5th June 1904, both days inclusive.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Appointments and Transfers.

Babu Jugal Kisor De, Munsif of Basirhat, in the district of the 24-Parganas, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif in the same district, to be ordinarily stationed at Barasat.

Babu Haripada Bandopadhya, Munsif of Barasat, in the district of the 24-Parganas, is appointed to be a Munsif in the same district, to be ordinarily stationed at Basirhat.

Babu Mohim Chandra Sircar, Munsif of Howrah, in the district of Hooghly, is appointed to act as Additional Subordinate Judge of Pabna and Bogra.

Babu Baku Lal Biswas, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Hooghly, to be ordinarily stationed at Howrah.

Babu Ramsiromani Roy Sen, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Chittagong, to be ordinarily stationed at Patiya.

LEAVE

Babu Uma Nath Ghosal, Munsif of Arah in the district of Shahabad, is allowed leave for fifteen days.

Babu Amulya Chandra Ghose, Munsif of Purulia, in Chota Nagpur, is allowed leave for one month.

Mr. Mahomed Zahoor, Munsif of Comilla, in the district of Tippera, is allowed leave for thirty days.

Babu Bepin Behari Das Gupta, Munsif, under orders of trasfer to Kishoreganj, in the district of Mymensingh, is allowed leave for fifteen days.

Babu Hridoy Nath Mazumdar, Munsif of Dacca, is allowed leave for fifteen days.

Babu Romesh Chunder Sen, Munsif of Barisal, in the district of Backergunge, is allowed leave for five weeks.

Babu Durga Prosad Ghose, Munsif of Tamluk, in the district of Midnapore, is allowed leave for one month.

Mr. Edgerly, C. S., Chief Secretary to the Bombay Government, goes Home on leave, and Mr. Claude Hill, C. S., officiates.

The Punjab Government have sanctioned a revised estimate of nearly six lakhs for the Simla sewerage extension works.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

(Continued fr
om page 2.)
not seriously afraid, bu
that it is outside her
sphere of influence to
have a Resident there
with all the power and
authority which such a
position carries. I ac
cept absolutely these
statements, and that
being so I am not able
to imagine contingenci
es which would compel
his Majesty's Governm
ment to abandon the
policy which is so cl
early expressed in the
despatch of Nov. 6.
Our wish is to live at
peace with Thibet, to
leave Thibet indepen-
dent, to have no respo
sibility as regards her
internal affairs, and
to have no Resident
there with the respo
sibilities attaching to
that office. These ar
the views which his
Majesty's Government
has constantly held
throughout the whole
period in which this
controversy has been ac
ute. Our action does
not cast the smallest
reflection on the steps
taken by the Indian G
overnment in order to
ensure that our treat
y arrangements with
Thibet are not made th
e laughing stock of the
Oriental world. That
we cannot tolerate. I
trust that without furth
her bloodshed this mis-
sion will result in puttin
g the relations between
India and her northern
neighbours on a perma-
nently satisfactory basis
, and while proving to
the native tribes that th
ey cannot go on treat-
ing us as they have re
ently treated us, I do
not believe that it will
add one grain to the
already heavy responsi
bilities stretching from
Beloochistan to the
Chinese and Burmese
frontiers, which weigh
on the statesmen who
have in their charge
the destinies of our
Eastern Empire. (Mini
sterial cheers.) Among
these statesmen there i
s no name which will, I
think, shine out in hist
ory with greater lustre
than that o
t Viceroy of India, and
if there ha
will not say attacks—
at all even
passed on him I am
confident th
use may rely without a
moment's m
n his loyalty and ably
carrying out
which this House and
his Majesty's
ent are agreed is the
proper policy
e in this long-standing
and difficult q
(Ministerial cheers.)
The House the divi
ded, and there voted:—
For the resolutio
... 270
Against
... 61
Government
majority ... 209
The resolution was
hen agreed to.
Thursda
April 14.
The Indian Police
Commission.—Sir Sey-
mour King asked th
Secretary of State for
India, when the iss
of his orders on the
report of the Indian
lice Commission may be
expected.
Mr. Brodrick: I
ve not yet received the
opinion of the Gov
ment of India, which
has been in commu
ation with the various
local governments
administrations on the
subject of his repor
Until I do so, it is im-
possible for me to s
when the issue of orders
upon it may be ex
ted.
Exports fr
m I
of Wheat and Flour.—
Mr. Hunter Cr
asked the Secretary of
State for India: I
will state the ports from
which wheat and flour
have been exported from
India for the year
1902-1903, and to which
countries and ports
have they been shipped,
together with the
respective quantities of
wheat and flour.
Mr. Brodrick: T
he exports of whtat and
wheat flour from In
dian ports during the year
1902-1903 were as f
ollows:—

	Wheat.	Wheat Flour.
	Cwt.	Cwt.
Calcutta	1,052,978	68,859
Bombay	390,748	553,024
Kurrachee	8,848,234	96,188
Madras	81	3
Burma Ports	109	3

It is impossible t
o state to what ports these
exports went, but
the quantities exported to
various countries ar
e returned as follows:—

Whe	at.	1,000's of cwts.
United Kingdo	n ...	6,683
Belgium	...	878
France	...	23
Egypt	...	2,346
Aden	...	17.5
Arabia	...	170
Hong Kong	...	19
Persia	...	93
Turkey in Asia	...	18.5
Australia	...	25
Other Countries	...	19

Wheat F	lour.	1,000's of cwts.
British East Afr	ica ...	88
Egypt	...	7
Mauritius	...	112.5
Portuguese East	Africa ...	8.5
Aden	...	150
Arabia	...	136
Ceylon	...	114
Straits Settlemen	ts ...	5.5
Persia	...	82.5
Other Countries	...	14

The exports to Egyp
include large quantities
consigned to Port Sai
d to await orders as to
ultimate destination.
The Tilak Case.—M
r. Weir asked the Se-
cretary of State for I
ndia: If he will state
what expenditure was
incurred by the Govern-
ment of Bombay in t
he prosecution of Mr.
Tilak; and, having r
egard to the fact that
the action resulted in
a complete acquittal,
will he state on whose
advice the prosecution
was undertaken.
Mr. Schwann asked
the Secretary of State
for India: Whether
his attention has been
drawn to the strictu
res pronounced by the
Chief Justice of Bomb
ay on the criminal pro-
ceedings taken under t
he sanction of Govern-
ment against Mr. Tila
k for forgery and per-
jury; whether he is
aware that this prose-
cution, which ended i
n an acquittal by the
High Court, lasted ove
r one and a-half years,
at a cost to the Gover
nment of about a hali
lac of rupees; whether
he will state who ar
the persons responsible f
or the prosecution, and
what notice is being ta
ken of their conduct;
and what compensation
will be paid to Mr.
Tilak.
Mr. Secretary Brodri
ck.—My attention has
been drawn to the j
udgment of the Chie
Justice of Bombay, as
reported in the news-
papers, over-ruling the
judgment of the Court
below, which had been a
dverse to Mr. Tilak. I
have no official inform
ation on the subject,
but I under
stand that th
e proceedings were in-
stituted, n
ot by Gove
rnment, but by the
direction of
a district
judge, who considered
that Mr. Ti
lak had giv
en false evidence in a
case that w
as tried bef
ore him. This direc-
tion he had
power to gi
ve under Section 476
of the Crimin
al Procedur
e Code; and the fact
the Court of Fina
l Appeal took a different
view of Mr. Tilak's conduct does not appear
prima facie" to be a ground for compensation.
The Thibetan Expedition.—Sir W. Lawson:
I beg to ask the Secretary for India whether
any information has been received at the
India Office corroborating a statement in to-
day's "Times" that 200 additional Thibetans
have been killed in further military opera-
tions.
Earl Percy, who answered the question,
said: My right hon. friend asks me to say
that he has received no information in addi-
tion to that already published, and that a
telegraphic inquiry has been addressed to the
Viceroy of India asking him to report whether
the statement in the "Times" is accurate.

THE NON-AMERICANISING OF CUBA.

The "Patrika," says our London Correspon-
dent, "has earned an honourable place among
Indian newspapers for the close attention
which it has given to the effect of American
influence in the Philippines. Only since my
own attention has been specially called to the
noble sentiments and wise policy which the
Americans are carrying out in their Far East
Possessions, and I have had occasion to turn
up my files of the "Patrika," have I realised
how much good work has been done in this
respect. Some day soon it may be worth the
Editor's while to depute a member of his staff
to gather these facts together, and once more
to bring them to the attention to the readers
of his paper. It is not, perhaps, surprising
that there has been little Americanising of the
Philippines, for, after all, only a comparative-
ly few Americans can, in the nature of things,
visit or reside in those distant islands. With
Cuba it is very different. Havana is within
almost a stone's throw of the States, yet
Havana has not become a second New York,
or an imitation Charleston or New Orleans.
But, I had better leave your readers to see
what the Americans themselves say of the
course which has been pursued in the capital
of an island which it is intended shall soon be-
come a State of the Union. They will sigh to
think as much cannot be said of Calcutta, or
Madras, or Bombay, or any other of the big-
gest cities of India, and that, in the mofussil,
they have not reasons which lead them to re-
joice in what England has done for India.
Certainly, situated as they are now, Indian
moffusil-ites, may not, save in a few districts,
bless the name of England and hold English-
men in reverence. I take over in full the in-
teresting story of "Cuba and Havana To-day,"
and hope you may find room for it in an early
issue of the "Patrika:"

CUBA AND HAVANA TO-DAY.

HARDLY A BIT AMERICANIZED, AND NOT LIKELY TO BE.

Whoever goes to Havana expecting to find
an Americanized city will be disappointed.
The Americans have cleaned Havana and
paved it, and parked it, but they have not
Americanized it. Indeed, many of those parts
of the city on which the Americans have left
their strongest imprint are to-day most char-
acteristically Cuban.
The Malecon, the beautiful park at the en-
trance of the harbor, directly opposite Morro
Castle, was built by Americans. It was plan-
ned and laid out by Americans, but the Cu-
bans have adopted it for their own, and it is
to-day the centre of the typical native atmos-
phere of the city. It is the rendezvous of all
Havana, and the American visitor would no
more think of it as American than he would
think of so classifying Morro Castle.
Havana does not want to be Americanized.
It likes last-century ways. It likes its perilous-
ly narrow streets and narrower sidewalks. It
likes its naked brown babies, and it does not
object very seriously to its mosquitoes. It
looks on the American invader, if not with dis-
favor, at least with indifference. It does not
cater to him at all. It goes serenely on its
way as it has for the last century or two, and
the American can take it or leave it, just as
he likes. Havana does not care.
It is a surprise to the visitor to find how little
English is spoken in the city, and furthermore
how little the people care apparently whether
they speak it or not. Whether in the noisy
cluttered up stalls of the market square, or in
the neat, fashionable, funny little shops of
Obispo street, the shopkeepers are perfectly in-
different to the tourist and his dollars.
The shops are all small, and most of them
sell one article exclusively. A man will buy
his linen in one shop, his neckties in another
and his underclothes in a third, while a wo-
man would never dream of buying her hosiery
and ribbons in the same place. Perhaps half
a dozen shops in the city have English-speak-
ing clerks. In the others, if you can see what
you want and point to it you may succeed in
getting it. Otherwise all you will get is
a crowd.
Meantime the proprietor, and this whether
the shop is in Market square or Obispo street,
will puff a cigarette, chat with a friend and
smile amiably and uncomprehendingly at your
desperate efforts to make him understand what
you are talking about. He will be beautifully
polite, but he will make no effort to ascertain
your wants.

Though Havana may be merely polite to
Americans, the country districts are overpow-
ering in their cordiality. They realize keenly
what the United States has done for Cuba,
and they make the humblest citizen from the
States the recipient of their unbounded gratit-
tude. The form taken by the expression of
this gratitude is sometimes a little embarras-
sing to a undemonstrative man. The moment
an Americano comes in sight of one of the
funny little palm Robinson Crusoe houses the
whole family, including the little bare brown
babies, and the dogs, tumble out to assist in
the welcome. The stranger rides up in the
midst of a pandemonium of barking, violent
Spanish and frantic hand-waving.
To refuse entertainment is to offer an affront,
an insult, to the entire family. Coffee is the
first thing offered on all occasions, a coffee so
mysterious in concoction and so awful in result
that the American shudders over it, while the
Cuban smacks his lips. If the coffee is refused
there is much scurrying around and more vio-
lent language while something is being found
worthy to be offered to so distinguished a
guest.

The Scratch of a pin may cause the loss of a limb or even death when blood poisoning results from the injury. All danger of this may be avoided, however, by promptly applying Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It is an antiseptic and nequalled as a quick healing liniment for Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., and Abdool Rahaman and Abdool Karim, Calcutta.
cuts bntses and burns. Forsale by.
Smith Stanistreet and Co. Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., and Abdool Rahaman and Abdool Karim, Calcutta.

The best thing an American can do at this
juncture is to suggest something quick and
get away. Otherwise the commotion will con-
tinue indefinitely, and he will be quite helpless
with a Cuban on each side of his horse talking
at a rate that defies interruption.
Suggesting courtesies, though, sometimes
leads to even more embarrassing predicaments.
A New York man riding through the country
stopped at a palm house for a drink of water,
and was met with the usual overwhelming re-
ception. He finally instructed his guide to
tell the people that if they had any ripe bana-
nas he would be glad to accept some. Imme-
diately the wildest excitement prevailed. The
whole family, big and little, old and young,
dashed for the banana patch, some distance
from the house. Presently they came forth
again, beaming every one, the leaders laden
with two huge bunches of green bananas. Each
bunch was something like three feet long, but
the donors would hear no denial, and gazed
with perfect satisfaction as the man rode
away with a bunch dangling on each side of
his saddle.

"You can smoke anywhere in Cuba." That
is the never failing answer to the never failing
question of the newcomer. In the houses, in
the drawing room cars on the railroads, in the
theatres, in all the cafes; in fact, everywhere
in Cuba, with the possible exception of the
churches, the weed is ever present. The Cu-
ban never smokes a pipe, and much more often
a cigarette than a cigar. Americans and
workingmen smoke cigars. Fastidious gentle-
men prefer the little brown cigarette, which,
however, is as srtong as any ordinary cigar.
Waiters in the cafes would consider it a cur-
tailment of their liberty if they were not per-
mitted to smoke while they are serving.
Even in the best hotels in Havana the wait-
ers smoke while on duty, only removing the
cigarette when they are really serving, and al-
ways leaving it in a convenient place, where
it may be reached again when a moment's ces-
sation of duty permits a solacing puff or two.
The drivers of the public carriages always keep
their smoking materials in one of the carriage
lamps. They are very good natured about it,
and if their patron is apparently lacking a
weed they will offer him one from their stock
with the greatest cordiality and will feel injur-
ed if the favor is declined.
Cuban women do not smoke as much as
might be expected—the middle class women
not at all. The fashionable women enjoy their
cigarettes, and the lower class women smoke
the biggest, blackest cigars they can lay their
hands on. In Havana the women smoke less
than they do in the country, where every little
house has its tobacco patch. When the leaves
are cured every member of the family rolls his
own cigars. A factory made cigar is a luxury
to be sought.
A party of Americans riding through a coun-
try seldom visited by travellers was surprised
when, passing a native shack, a large woman
dashed out and began talking rapidly to the
native guide. She talked and gesticulated
with equal energy, evidently trying to per-
suade the man to do something against his will.
Finally, he reluctantly took from his mouth
his half consumed cigar and as reluctantly
handed it to her. She seized it, put it in her
mouth and retired to the shack again, perfectly
satisfied.

Whatever may be the sentiments of the few
Spaniards remaining on the island toward the
republic, they are for the most part discreet
in the expression of their views. There is in
Havana, however, a little group of the old
Spanish set that the Cubans seem to regard
with pride rather than with disapproval. They
are all titled, this little company, and they
cling to the privileges of their rank, even
though the wealth to sustain it is gone. They
are absolutely improvident, and are living,
with no thought of economy, on what rem-
nant of fortune may have been left them from
the war. When this is gone Cuba will find
herself with a penniless aristocracy which she
will be puzzled to know what to do with.
They will not work, and the Cubans do not
want them to. Not for worlds would they
miss the opportunity of pointing them out
with pride to every visitor, rolling the titles
unctuously on their tongues and explaining
with a doleful shake of the head, or as nearly
doleful as the joyous hearted Cuban can ac-
complish, that "the republic is hard on the
poor Comptessa."
This relic of the "golden days" appears
in all its glory at the opera, for the Cuban
woman of fashion would more willingly sac-
rifice her right hand than a night at the opera
during the season. To their opera boxes these
survivors of a life that is past take their superb
jewels, their Parisian gowns, many of them
fashions of half a generation ago, and their
charming grace of manner. They talk inces-
santly all evening, only pausing to applaud
the singer whom they have not before noticed.
After the performance the whole audience, the
fashionable part of it, betakes itself to the
Cafe Telegrapho, adjoining, where at little
tables almost set out in the street they sip
lemonade or sherbet, and with much extra-
vagant gesture discuss the events of the even-
ing.
A hot supper after the opera, or even the
serving of wine, is almost unknown. An ice
or a lemonade is the only thing that is quite
proper.
In spite of their gayety and their ever ready
smile, these women bear on their faces the
marks of the anxiety that their careless man-
ner and conversation deny. They are not
beautiful, any of them. They are all too tired
and worn and sad looking. Similar disaster
would have crushed women of the Northern
temperament. But these women of the South
forget their sorrows in the pleasure of the
moment, and treat with an eloquent shrug and
a sweep of the hand every mention of the re-
public.
Only one who has been through the inter-
ior of Cuba, away from the railroads and the
ordinary means of travel, can realize just how
great was the Spanish wealth dissipated by
the war. Great fields reaching from horizon
to horizon that were planted in sugar are now
a tangle of rank grass; their richness untouch-
ed for ten years. There is a ruined sugar mill
in every landscape. Often from an eminence
half a dozen of these ruins may be seen in a
single direction.
Bahia Honda, a village about fifty miles
west of Havana, was the centre of a rich
sugar growing country. The desolation that
visited it was great accordingly. Scarcely a
building was left standing for miles around,
and not a stalk of cane was left growing. The
Redencion, plantation now given over to
orange growing, was one that suffered. On or
near it are the ruins of four great mills. The
history of one of these is particularly tragic,
for the tragedy is still living on in the shadow
of the broken walls.
The machinery was imported from Spain
and France at great cost. The plant was
carefully constructed and was as complete and
modern as it was possible to make it. A com-
plete electric light equipment was a feature
novel at that time. The mill was completed
at a cost of nearly a million dollars. It re-
presented the fortune of the Spanish owner.
A quantity of sugar cane was on hand, and
the mill was to be started the next day with
all the pomp and ceremony dear to the Spa-
niard.
That night the Cuban guerrillas applied the
torch. The next day, the day that was to
have been its triumph, saw the beautiful new
mill a hea of ruins and old iron. It still
stands there, in plain sight of all the boats
that enter Bahia Honda harbor. Not a brick
has been touched nor a bit of iron removed.
So great was the hatred of the Spaniards for
their despoilers that for years not a Cuban
was permitted to come within range of the
place.
Time, and the result of the war have ecas-
sarily moderated this, but even yet the old
mill is the secret rallying place for all the Spa-
nish sympathizers in the neighbourhood, and
whose wealth was dissipated in a single night,
lives among the ruins, hating, and hated.
Three attempts on his life have been made
within the last eighteen months, but he lives
on, guarding with his gun and pack of lean
hungry dogs, the pitiful wreck of his fortune.

Not all the destruction of Spanish property
during that ten year's war of desolation was
wrought by the Cubans. Most of the largest
mills were destroyed by the Spaniards them-
selves in order to prevent the insurgents using
them as rallying points, or for protection. A
big mill on the Rodencion plantation was
dynamited by the owners rather than have
it fall into the hands of the Cubans.
Americans, had a share in the destroying,
as well as in being destroyed. Capt. Clews
of Bahia Honda was one of the Americans
whom the Spaniards fairly drove into the Cu-
ban army.
"I had worked for years on my little sugar
plantation," said Capt. Clews, "and had just
completed my mill and placed the whole thing
on a paying basis. I had resolutely kept out
of the trouble, and would neither hear nor
know anything of either side of the
controversy. I was as harmless a non-combu-
batant as ever lived. One morning I wakened
to find my mill in ruins and my fields in ash-
es. That day I went into the Cuban army,
and before the week was out I had three of
their Spanish plantations to pay account."

The building of roads is the pivot on which
the development of Cuba hinges. The sur-
plus of the Government is devoted each year
to this purpose. Two million dollars have al-
ready been spent on the work, and a third
million is now available for outlay under the
direction of Gen. Diaz, the Secretary of Pub-
lic Works. "The general plan," said Gen.
Diaz, "is to build a trunk road from one end
of the island to the other, with projections in
either direction. The road inland from Bahia
Honda illustrates just what road building
means to the island."
This road, so far as it is completed, is a
broad and beautiful boulevard with the coun-
try on either side rapidly being redeemed
from the accumulated grass growth of ten
years, and converted into producing fields
and flourishing orange groves. Where the
builders have not yet penetrated, the road
is a bottomless bog, impassable to all but the
sure footed native ponies and oxen, and the
land adjoining it finds few people willing to
undertake the discouraging task of transport-
ing whatever products it might raise.
Before the coming of the Americans the
growing of oranges and other citrous fruits
was practically unknown on the island. The
native Cuban orange is small and seedy, but
delicious in favor, and has been grown hither-
to without cultivation. Energetic Americans
are now undertaking the cultivation of the
fruit according to modern methods, with the
belief that, with the development of orange
growing, agricultural Cuba will come into its
source of greatest wealth.

An influence that is having much to do with
the re-establishment of confidence in Cuba
and Cuban enterprises, is the remarkably effi-
cient policing of the country by the rural
guard. They form a force in every community
that is almost equal to that of the famous
rural guard of Mexico. One meets them at
every turn, fine, manly looking young fellows,
admirably drilled and equipped. There are
several of them stationed in each village who
patrol the outlay country in every direction,
even penetrating deep into the jungle. The
plantations and ranches in the district are visi-
ted each week and reports taken from the
superintendents of the happenings of the
period.
In Havana, of course, one sees only the
metropolitan police in their
uniforms, but once outside
khaki and machete of the
present. Two of the gua
every railroad train that m
They are as much a part of t
ductor or the engineer. Even
trains that run daily between

W - OPING COU - H.—This is a very dangerou
psease unless properly treated. Statistics show
that there are more deaths from it than from
scarlet fever. All danger may be avoided, how-
ever, by giving Chamberlain's Cough Remedy
It liquifies the tough mucus, making it easier to
expectorate, keeps the cough loose, and makes the
sparoxysms of coughing less frequent andless
ovre. It has been used in many epidemics
the diseasewith erfect sucess.
Smith Stanistreet and Co. Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., and Abdool Karim, Calcutta.

BE E YOU START on
bottle of Chamberlain's
hoea Remedy. This
and annoyance a
the cars or ste
and bowel tr
for sale by
**Smith St
Agents, B.
Rahaman and**

Matanzas have their uniformed pair who walk
through the cars from end to end at every
station.
"It is not only to protect the passengers
that we are here," explained one of them in
English, whose limitations he frankly ad-
mitted, "but to protect the railroad as well.
Cuba is full of people who do not see a cent
of money from one year's end to another.
So long as they stay on their own little patch
of ground they live with some degree of com-
fort. But they are not satisfied with that.
They see other people riding on the railroads,
and they want to.
"They do not realize that it costs money.
So they get on the trains, and it is often
very difficult to get them off, for they have
no respect whatever for the railroad employees.
Then we are called in, for it is the grade ru-
rale, Senor, whom the people trust most of
all."

TWO UNDISCOVERED PLANETS.

In your issue of March 8th I drew atten-
tion to two ultra-Neptunian planets which
have been located mathematically by Prof.
Forbes and Herr Grigull, and stated that if
these bodies really existed in the positions
indicated I should expect them during the
month of March to show some marked meteoro-
logical or seismic effects.
As stated in that letter the earth crossed
the line joining Jupiter and Forbes planet on
March 11th, whilst on the 23rd we passed be-
tween this same planet and the sun. It is
usual for storms, etc., to take place one or
two days previous to the actual crossing of
planetary lines, and the above instances form-
ed no exception to the rule; for on the 9th
of March occurred the storm in Calcutta,
which wrecked the American Circus and
Colombia rink, and on the 10th a violent earth-
quake shock was felt in Italy and the Southern
Tyrol.
Two days before crossing the line on the 23rd
the island of Reunion was devatated by a
disastrous cyclone, in which 2,800 houses were
unrooted, the crops destroyed the briges and
railways wrecked. It was this same storm
in which the steamship Edenbridge foundered
off Mauritius.
The above fact would seem to indicate that
the planet of Professor Forbes is very near the
position he has assigned to it, and that it is a
body of considerable importance. It has a
mass greater than Jupiter according to his
estimate. Owing to its slow motion (one re-
volution in 1,000 years) it has been situated
near the equinoctial point for about a century,
and it would be interesting to know how far
it has been responsible for what are called
the equinoctial gales. Its connection also
with great seismic disturbances during the last
few decades would be likewise a profitable sub-
ject of enquiry. The great eruption of Mont
Pelee and La Soufriere on May 8th, 1902,
took place whilst the earth was crossing the
line joining Venus with this visually undis-
covered body.
It appears to be a rule that when the earth
crosses a line joining two principal members
of our planetary system some meteorological
or seismic disturbance invariably takes place,
and a useful feature of this law, when es-
tablished, will be that by means of it the
positions of unknown members of our system
can be approximately ascertained.—G. E.
Sutcliffe, in the "T. I."

INFRINGING THE PLAGUE REGULATION.

D. S. Swamidhan, Barrister-at-Law, argued
a criminal appeal before the Madras High
Court on behalf of Mr. Alfred Ashley Biggs,
Executive Engineer, Madras Presidency Famine
Feeder Lines, who had been convicted of in-
fringing the Plague Regulations and sentenced
to pay a fine of Rs. 100 by Mr. C. M. Blake,
First class Sub-divisional Magistrate, Bellary,
the facts of the case were that Ramasawmy,
a servant of the defendant, absented
himself from work in December last
on the plea of an attack of plague.
The defendant asked Colonel Pembe
ton,
I.M.S., the District Medical and Sanitary
Officer, to institute enquiries, with the re-
sult that the defendant was eventually inform-
ed that there had been nothing at all wrong
with the man. It transpired, however, that
Ramasawmy subsequently did get plague and
while ill with it in the most infectious stage
went over to the defendant who after careful
examination of the buboes appeared to have
concluded that Colonel Pemberton had wrong-
ed Ramasawmy and therefore directed Rama-
samwy to see Colonel Pemberton the next-day.
The man accordingly appeared the next day
at Colonel Pemberton's residence with a note
from his master in which threatening reference
was made to the Hospital Assistante who un-
der the DistrictMedical Officer's orders had had
Ramasawmy under observation on the previous
occasion. Ramasawmy was told by the Medi-
cal Officer about his condition and warned to
proced home direct and Mr. Reley, I.C.S., the
special palgue officer was then written to to
take the usual steps which he did. Rama-
sawmy, it would appear, instead of obeying
Colonel Pemberton's instructions first went
to defendant and reported what transpired.
The defendant was asked to show cause why
he should not be convicted under Section 188
and 269, I.P.C. respectively firstly for violation
of the plague regulations in that he did not in
January give the required information to the
authorities in the manner laid down
secondl

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

INTERESTING ITEMS.

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LYDDITE FROM LEAVES.

It is stated by Mr. Chapman, Minister for Defence in the Australian Commonwealth Government, that he has received information of a cheap and simple process for manufacturing lyddite from the leaves of certain Australian trees. Although unwilling to divulge the inventor's name, the Minister states that he is a sound business man of Sydney, who will shortly give him a personal demonstration of the invention. Such a discovery is of particular interest to the Government, as it intends soon to establish its own manufactory of explosives.

A SEA OF DAZZLING WHITE.

While steaming at night between Hongkong and Japan the passengers and crew of a Japanese merchant vessel recently saw a phenomenon of extreme rarity—namely, a snow white sea; not an opaque phosphorescent sparkling surface, but a pure white expanse, having a dazzling effect on the eyes. By contrast with the water the sky was transformed into a black mass which appeared to be overwhelming and threatening the snowy field under-neath. The phenomenon, says the Mail lasted from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m., and many of the passengers who witnessed it were to frightened to sleep afterwards.

HIGH SPEED TELEGRAPHY

The report of the American consul in Frankfort, Germany, includes a reference to a new type printing telegraph. The apparatus belongs to the species of so-called automatic telegraphs, where the telegram is prepared in such a manner that, with an apparatus similar to a typewriter, holes are punched in a continuous paper tape for every letter to be telegraphed. This paper tape then runs through the rotating telegraph instrument and automatically sends corresponding currents over the wire. This apparatus sends the large number of 2,000 letters per minute over the wire.

DANGER OF KISSING.

One of the American medical journals has made another attempt to raise a kissing scare. Its scientific terminology seems as likely as the ideas it is meant to convey to prove fatal to the habit. "To the average healthy citizen," it says "the practice of kissing includes danger of insidious bacterial infection. When the mucocutaneous investment of the lips presents one or more breaches of continuity, the danger, is, of course indefinitely increased. But to such dangers there is superadded, in the case of the neuropath, that of a shock highly injurious to the nervous system." After discussing various theories as to the origin of kissing, the paper says: "For our own part we are disposed to adhere to our older form of belief—that the evolution of specially sensitive nerve endings in the mucocutaneous labial margin has largely contributed to the widespread popularity of osculation."

COUNT ZEPPELIN'S NEW MOTOR BALLOON.

Forty workmen are at present engaged on the shore of Lake Constance, near Friedrichshaven, in constructing a huge floating raft and shed for the reception of Count Zeppelin's new motor balloon, which is to be completed by next autumn. The new balloon will be somewhat smaller than the last one, which had a total capacity of 14,000 cubic yards and carried nearly three tons of water and sand ballast. About £5,000 has already been subscribed towards the Zeppelin Balloon Fund and several German manufacturers have offered to supply the necessary materials at an extremely low price, or quite free of charge. The King of Wurtemburg is taking the keenest interest in the renewal of the trials, and Count Zeppelin is receiving warm support from the Berlin authorities, especially from the Imperial War Office, which has placed materials and experts of the Balloon Department at his disposal.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL DISCOVERY IN THE FENS.

An interesting archæological discovery has just been made at Thorney, in the Isle of Ely. A hermitage was founded there by the Saxons in 655, and it became an important monastic establishment. A second abbey was built there by Bishop Ethulwold, of Winchester, in the ninth century, and this was replaced by a more imposing building at the end of the eleventh century. The Thorney Abbey of the present day, used as the parish church, consists of the west front and nave of this third building and in the course of the last few days the discovery has been made of a subterranean passage leading from the Abbey Church down to the river. It is 500 feet in length, it was probably used by the Monks to obtain their supplies of water and fish, and, it is thought, formed a safe hiding-place for the brotherhood during the Danish invasion, for they escaped the slaughter which overtook their neighbours at Crowland and Peterborough.

PHOTOGRAPH IN IVORY.

To have one's features immortalised in a portrait bust was, a quarter of a century ago, the ambition of the successful. To-day the sculptors capable of rendering a good likeness in marble or bornze are few in number, so the professors of the neglected art of ivory-carving have devised an alternative scheme. With the aid of photography they can supply an excellent little carved presentment of the sitter within a few days for ten guineas. They have lately introduced [illegible] known

that deadly creation is understood in an English suburban garden, but merely an open frame-work, generally of a fair size upon which climbing plants are trained so as to give pleasant shade in the summer without that loss of the fresh air which makes the narrow roofed English arbour the one place in the garden which one would generally prefer to keep out of. You may see these light, airy shelters smothered with the blossoms of wisteria or clamatis or free-growing roses, or more closely shaded with vines, ampelopsis, or ivy, overtopping the garden walls of almost every other villa in a place like Dinard, and delightful they are to sit in in the warm weather, and beautiful as well. Our English tastes run more to privacy than those of our neighbours, but there are many places in an English garden where such an arbour as I have described, roomy and airy, would be an acquisition.

BIT-BITS OF GENERAL INFORMATION.

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The shark holds the record for long-distance swimming. A shark has been known to cover 800 miles in three days.

The biggest monkey ever exhibited is a gorilla 6ft. 10 in. high, with an arm-spread of 9ft. 3in., from the Cameroons, West Africa. He stands with his skeleton beside him in the museum of Hamburg.

Examination Fever.—Dr. Puterman, a Russian medical man, has been making observations of schoolboys undergoing examination. He says that the average effect of an examination is to make the pulse beat twenty to the minute quicker.

"Wireless" Daily Paper.—Avalon, a little township on as island off the Californian coast and a fashionable health resort, boasts of a daily paper that gets its news entirely by wireless telegraphy. The paper has the appropriate name, 'The Wireless.'

Tube Postage.—In any large city in Germany a special delivery card or stamp, costing less than fourpence, will cause a message to be shot by tube anywhere in the city. A messenger will carry it from the point of reception to the receiver, and will wait for an answer. Message and answer in Berlin take about two hours.

How Public Money is Wasted.—An instructive little item, going to show how public money is wasted by "the Services," is mentioned by a committee which has been inquiring into waste at Gibraltar. The committee discovered that £42,000 was spent to build an ammunition store, and £47,000 more to make it into a cold-meat depot.

Cured by Will-Power.—Mrs. George Todd, of Stanhope (N.Y.), has been an invalid, unable to walk, for more than three years. The other day she was reading an article stating that by concentrating one's will upon one object that object would be accomplished. She desired very much to walk just then, because it was dinner-time, and all at once she found she was able to walk. After dinner she walked back.

Short and Long Days.—The day is longer or shorter as you go north or south of the Equator. Off Cape Horn, 56 deg. south latitude, the days in mid-winter are about nine hours long. The longest day at London is sixteen hours and a half; at Stockholm, eighteen hours and a half; at Hamburg, seventeen hours; at St. Petersburg the longest day has eighteen hours and the shortest five; at Tornea, in Finland, the longest day has twenty-one hours and a half and the shortest two hours and a half; at Spitzbergen the longest day is three months and a half.

Landscape on a Grain of Corn.—A Flemish artist has produced what is said to be the smallest painting in the world. It is a picture of a miller mounting the stairs of his mill and carrying a sack of grain on his back. The mill is depicted as standing near a terrace. Close at hand are a horse and cart, with a few groups of peasants idling in the road near by. All this is painted on the smooth side of a grain of ordinary white corn. It is necessary to examine it under a microscope, and it is drawn with perfect accuracy. It does not cover a half-inch square, and it is in many respects one of the most remarkable art products of the day.

The Smallest School in the World.—The little islet of Nordstrandschmor, in the North Sea, boasts what is probably the smallest school in the world. Oceanic upheaval has wrenched the islet away from the island of Nordstrand, and the action of the sea is continually wearing the earth away. A century ago there were fifty inhabitants, who lived by fishing and rude husbandry, and in 1836 a little school was erected, capable of providing for about a dozen children. With the dwindling of the islet, however, the population has thinned, and now numbers no more than fifteen souls. For five years past the school attendance has varied from nothing to half-a-dozen children.

Fire Caused by Snow.—A snowstorm started a fire on the premises of a farmer living at Hebuterne, Belgium. He placed a quantity of quicklime near a shed on his farm, and left it there all night. In the course of the night snow fell on to the lime, and the heat thus developed became so great that it set the shed on fire, completely destroying it and its contents.

Diving Pigs.—As a rule pigs are generally averse to water, but Mr. J. Turner-Turner reports some diving pigs, which, he says, live in an almost wild condition on certain of the islands off Florida, and subsist chiefly upon the refuse fish cast away by the netsmen. To obtain this the pigs dive under water, walking on the bottom at a depth of 5ft. below the surface.

Fruit as a "Cure-All."—According to an authority on diet there are few disorders for which a remedy may not be found in fruits, [illegible]bles, or nuts. Grapes he recommends [illegible] malaria, almonds for weak ner[illegible]s for cancerous growths. Wa[illegible]neficially on the lungs, and to[illegible] the blood. Brazil nuts have [illegible]ffect on some constitutions, by [illegible]haps, of their nitrogenous qualities. [illegible]ing rich in phosphorus aid the brain [illegible]es, and pineapples not only work won[illegible] strengtheing the digestion, but cure [illegible]ts. Oranges are invaluable aids to [illegible]d a mixture of lettuce and lemon[illegible]ndid thing for the jaundice.

[illegible]dent writes:—The other [illegible]mok, shot his wife, [illegible] the lives of two [illegible] to himself. The [illegible]self another wife [illegible]had left him.

A CLAIRVOYANT'S PREDICTION.

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Some few people possess a clairvoyant ability to see or know things which are taking place at a distance, or even to foresee the future. This is a problem for scientific men to explain. Mr. Vincent Turvey, of Balcombe Tower, Bournemouth some of whose friends we know wrote in the "Daily Mail" lately, that his spirit sometimes travels from his body. He says, "when you travel in the spirit, you see other spirits travelling, and you see your own body sleeping where you left it. It is a most peculiar sensation. Two years ago I travelled in the train with Mr. Johnstone of the "Daily Express." I told him that within two years Japan would be the ally of Great Britain and would be engaged in was early in 1904. When the Transvaal War broke out in 1899, I said that it would take 250,000 men to beat the Boers, and that the Queen would die before the end of the War, and that the King's life would be attempted—as in fact it proved to be by Sipido in Brussels, I also told Mr. Johnstone that there would be a big Continental War in 1904. I told a gentleman who had lost some valuable papers where to find the man who had stolen them, and he was found with the papers on him." Mr. Turvey also states that England must prepare for tribulation and sorrow; a cloud is gathering and very shortly she will be enveloped in its darkness.

A DIARY OF EVENTS.

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The "Times" correspondent with the Japanese headquarters staff states tht from what he has observed neither belligerent desires to fight in the vicinity of the Yalu River. He says that the Russians recognise that Japon's possession of the sea enables her to turn Russia's right flank at the Yalu, and they, therefore, desire to entice the Japanese inland. Japan is just as keen on avoiding a fight at the river, as she wants to get inland, where a more suitable theatre for operations will be found.

A sensational incident which occurred during the early stages of the war has come to light. It appears that early in the war a Japanese cruiser captured a Russian coasting steamer and a prize crew of eight men was ordered to take the vessel to the Japanese port the Captain of the Russian vessel, who spoke the East Honian language with which the Japanese were unacquainted arranged with his crew for a rescue of the vessel, and at a given signal the crew rushed the Japanese, and overpowering them, regained possession of the ship. All the Japanese were thrown overboard, with the exception of the officers who were conveyed as prisoners to Vladivostock.

Admiral Makaroff has cabled to St. Petersburg that the entire fleet, which was supposed to be cooped up in Port Arthur, has returned to the Port after a cruise far out to sea. Nothing was seen of the enemy.

Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky, Chief of the Russian Navy Staff, has been interviewed regarding the naval aspects of the war. He is credited with having stated that the Port Arthur squadron ought, at the outset, to have gone out and fought tooth and nail, even at the sacrifice of the fleet, in order to prevent the Japanese landing in Korea.

Storm at sea and rains in Southern Manchuria are impeding operations in the Far East.

A FORECAST.

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WHAT WILL BE THE NEXT STEP IN THE CAMPAIGN.

Major Arthur Griffiths contributes a forecast of the war to the "Express." There is strong reason to believe (he says) that the Japanese will not venture so far afield or adopt so rash a policy as to throw down the gauntlet to Russia on her own ground. Such a challenge would be all to Russia's advantage, for her only chance of striking a blow would be at an enemy who came to seek it.

Unless the Japanese land and offer themselves, the Russians will be practically condemned to inaction, for we must surely consider as wildly unreasonable an offensive movement south of the Yalu. The very presence of the Japanese about Kasan and Chang-ju would give them a commanding and paralysing means of attack against the flank of such an advance.

A campaign on the part of Japan against Harbin either through Niguta or Kirin, even if not forbidden by the character of the country, is too far removed from the true centre of interest to be seriously contemplated.

The present state of affirs is not unlike stalement neither side can make a move except in answer to her adversary's initiative. Japan is debarred from decisive action by the failure so far to completely bottle up Port Arthur without which it might be hazardous to send her flotillas to sea. Russia cannot move for want of the definite objective which Japan does not and probably will not offer her. Hence it is fair to assume that serious developments must not be looked for yet awhile. Japan if she can but secure her principal objective the possession of Port Arthur and can follow it up by a second similar coup at Vladivostok, can afford to wait almost indefinitely for she will have won the larger part of her aims in going to war. She will have gained maritim ascendancy, in the Eastern seas and a firm foothold in Korea, leaving the burden upon her enemy to try to dislodge her and endeavour to recover her prestige.

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for all diseases and disorders due to dissipated habits in early life.

Excessive or scanty urination, painful urination, involuntary and putrid discharges, nocturnal emis ton, loss of manhood and prostration of youthful vigor and energy and all other symptoms of Gonorrhœa, Gleet, Running White, Urithritis, Cystitis, &c., disappear, as if by charm by the use of

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