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পদকল্পতরু।

সম্পূর্ণ হইয়াছে

মূল্য ৩॥০ টাকা।

পরিশিষ্ট যন্ত্রস্থ।

অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

অনুরাগবল্লী।

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ANTRACTIC EXPEDITION.

THE members of the British Antarctic Expedition have definitely decided to leave England on Saturday, Aug. 20, but the will accordingly sail on that date in the Southern Cross, which for some time past has been lying in the St. Katharine Docks. The party have been busily engaged in packing the remarkable collection of articles which constitute their travelling impedimenta, and which have been on view for some time at 49, Pall-mall. No alteration has been made in the *personnel* of the expedition, which consists of Mr. Carsten Egeberg Borchgrevink (as leader), Mr. Hertaf Klovstak (medical officer), Messrs. H. Evans and N. Hansen (zoologists), and Sub-Lieutenant W. Colbeck, R.N. R,, and Mr. Louis Bernacchi (magnetic observers).

THE ART OF LEGERDEMAIN.

A CHAT WITH A CONJUROR.

IN the course of an illustrated interview in the "Young Man" for September, Mr. David Devant, the well-known conjuror, explains one of his cleverest tricks and shows "how it is done." Mr. Devant produced four shillings (says the interviewer), and invited me to put a shilling into each of his hands. (This was done in order that I might be satisfied that there was not another shilling concealed anywhere.) He then closed his hands and asked me to rest the remaining two shillings on the nails of his two middle fingers. He held his hands wide apart, gave them an upward jerk and—instead of one of the shillings passing invisibly from one hand to the other as it ought to have done—two of them rolled on to the floor.

"I'm sorry," said Mr. Devant, "I haven't done this little trick for a year. Will you rest those two shillings on my finger-nails again ? Thanks. As you placed the coins in and on my hands yourself you know that I have two to each hand. Now watch." There was a slight movement of his wrists, he opened his hands and lo! there were three shillings in one hand aud one shilling in the other. One shilling had travelled invisibly through the intervening space between the two hands.

The trick is explained as follows. Show your hands empty. Ask some-one to put a shilling in each of your hands. Close your hands, and the other two shillings are to be placed on the nails of your two middle fingers. State that one coin is to travel invisible through the air ; give your hands a jerk, and in doing so you open the left hand and take in the shilling that was lying on the nail of the middle finger of that hand. You also open the right hand, and allow both the coins of that hand to fall on the floor. Close the hand very quickly, and these movements can't be noticed. Apologize for the mistake, on the ground of the exceeding difficulty of the trick, but keep your hands tightly closed. The audience think that the two coins that are dropped are the two that rested on your two middle fingures. Then when these coins are picked up, and put on the nails of your middle fingers, all that is to be done in order to make one coin apparently travel invisibly through the air is to open both hands quickly, take in the coins that were put on the finger-nails, and close the hands sharply again. Then open the hands slowly and show that you have three coins in one hand and one in the other.

THE Sanaurias of Lalitpore, one of the criminal tribes proclaimed under the Act of 1871, are gradually being reclaimed. Six of them are now employed in the Police Force and the Magistrate is of opinion that they have more detective abilities than the ordinary village policeman.

THE *Advocate of India*, of Bombay, regarding Prince Ranjitsingji :—Ranjitsingji claims that he has been deprived of his rights by the misrepresentation of the late Thakore Saheb of Jamnagar who adopted him. The condition of the adoption was that Ranjitsingji was to sit on the gadi, provided the Jam had no issue from his legitimate wives of whom there were a baker's dozen. Ultimately he had issue by one of his Mahomedan concubines, and after applying twice unsuccessfully to the Political Agent to have this child, Kaluba, recognised, the Jam applied to the Bombay Government to have Kaluba's claims recognised over those of Ranjitsinghji, but without success. Finally the Supreme Government were petitioned and they gave the necessary sanction. Ranjitsinghji claims to be heard. Sir Purtab Singh and the Thakore Saheb of Dhraghandra, will finance the Prince in futhering his claim.

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CALCUTTA, SEPTEMBER 11, 1898.

RELEASE OF MR. TILAK.

EARLY in the morning on Wednesday two telegrams, one succeeding the other, reached us from Bombay and Poona respectively. From Bombay it was telegraphed: "Tilak released at Poona 10 P. M. yesterday (6th September) night." The Poona telegram contained the same information. The Government succeeded in keeping its secret admirably well. None knew anything about it,—not even Mr. Tilak. At 10 o'clock at night when the streets of Poona had been deserted—when most people had sought their pillows—and when Mr. Tilak himself had, after his day's labour, thrown himself on his rough bed and was perhaps trying to induce sleep, he was roused and brought out of his cell and thrust out of the jail compound with the injunction to go his way. From there Mr. Tilak, it seems, proceeded quietly to his home, where his friends immediately gathered round him. We issued an extra yesterday, announcing his release. If our Poona friends had been good enough to wire us the information earlier, we might have published it in yesterday's Town edition. After we had written thus far, we got the following telegram from Poona:—

POONA, 7TH SEPTEMBER.

Mr. Tilak was released on Professor Max Muller's application to Her Majesty the Queen. It was referred to the Local Government and seems to have been detained till now to complete one year's term.

What happened, seems to be this. The Bombay Government was pestered with applications from different quarters to release Mr. Tilak almost from the very commencement of his imprisonment. But the more it was pestered the more determined it became to show that it did not care for public opinion. "It is we who have sent him to jail, and it is we who shall let him off whenever we please. Who are you to advise us on the subject?" That is the attitude which the Bombay Government took when petitions, expressing sympathy with Mr. Tilak and praying for his release, poured in from various parts of the country. But the case was different when an application like that of Professor Max Muller, probably recommended by the Queen, was forwarded to the Bombay Government. It is now explicable why, six or seven months ago, that is to say, a few weeks after the application in question, certain terms were offered to Mr. Tilak. If he had accepted them, he would have been a free man some six months ago. One of these terms was that he would give an undertaking to abjure politics for ever. Another was that he would accept a Government appointment. And another was that he would not allow any demonstration to be held after his release. Of course, it was not possible for Mr. Tilak to agree to any of the above conditions, though possibly most men in his circumstances would have cheerfully accepted them, specially as Mr. Tilak was not then in the best of health.

Mr. Tilak was further asked to submit a petition; for, said the Government of Bombay, that they could not take action unless he had prayed for his own release. But he would not submit to this humiliation on any account. And thus he was allowed to rot in jail till he had completed his one year's term.

Mr. Tilak was given eighteen months, but he earned three months by his good conduct. So, under the usual state of things, he would have been fifteen months in jail and released by the beginning of December next. We have thus to thank Lord Sandhrust for the remission of these three months. His Lordship is reputed to be a generous-hearted man. If so, the release of Mr. Tilak is likely to give him greater satisfaction than any amount of thanks-giving that the country can offer to him. In due course, the Indians will no doubt forget all the circumstances connected with the arrest and trial of Mr. Tilak; but it would be difficult for them to forget the fact that Mr. Tilak, who was not a criminal, but a political offender at the most, was made to pick oakum.

TILAK CASE FROM THE END.

THE Bombay authorities are now repairing, one by one, the mischiefs committed by them in a hurry, under the impulse of a strong feeling. That mischiefs were committed, the authorities themselves have admitted, though in an indirect manner. Poona was burdened with the cost of a punitive police force; but the Government latterly kindly undertook to bear the burden itself. This is an admission that there was some mistake, at least in the beginning. The *Pratoda* editor was transported for life; but the sentence was reduced to one year. That means that some mistake was committed in this case. The same thing is proved by the release of another editor whose prosecution was withdrawn.

Indeed, the remission of three months, granted to Mr. Tilak, proves the same thing.

The Bombay authorities have realized that mistakes were committed, and this means they are in a mood of penitence, and are doing their best to repair them as far as that is possible. It is not the time to put a check to their rising good feeling by any severe remarks upon their conduct. Nay, our interests are not likely to be served but injured by offending them. Yet we have a duty to do, viz., to point out the mischiefs that were done. The organs of the people are in a better position to do this piece of work than the authorities. The besieged are in a better position to know the mischiefs done by the onslaughts of the besiegers than the besiegers themselves,—is it not? Let us begin with the end.

Of the great works done last year, Mr. Tilak's imprisonment forms one most important chapter. Mr. Tilak's doom was sealed when the sentence, passed upon him, was confirmed by the Lord Chancellor in England.

Now we all know why this case was carried to England. It was a case in which the entire nation felt an interest. The Indians saw that the case had been decided against them, and they felt they had not got justice. They felt that if the authorities here had not been carried away by their feelings, they, the Indians, would have not lost the case. So they ventured to approach the Appellate Court in England. For this they had to spend a good deal of money and to take a good deal of trouble. They argued the position in this wise. The feeling, which had disturbed India, had not influenced England. Besides, England was the most justice-loving and chivalrous country in the world. If England would stretch a point in favour of any one of the parties in this case, surely, the chivalrous country would do it in favour of the dependent aliens and not its own people. And with great effort, the best lawyer in England was engaged on behalf of Mr. Tilak. How the appeal was gone through by the Lord Chancellor, is thus described by English papers and correspondents present.

The *Star* wrote:—

It is not often that the Lord High Jobber graces the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. But he was present yesterday at the important hearing of the Tilak appeal, in which the chief contention for the appellant was that the Bombay Judge, in his summing up, had grossly misdirected the jury. The whole of the morning was taken up with an exhaustive speech by Mr. Asquith, the leading counsel in support of the application. The business of their Lordships was merely to hear Mr. Asquith, and then to pronounce their decision. One does not know (writes a *Star* man who was present in court) whether Lord Halsbury heard Mr. Asquith or not. But if he was paying attention, his manner did him an injustice. Throughout the morning he was receiving and sending messages—reading and writing letters. An on-looker suggested that this ostentatious disregard of Mr. Asquith's argument was Lord Halsbury's revenge for Mr. Asquith's recent description of the Darling appointment as a most starling exercise of political patronage. Be this as it may, Lord Halsbury's demeanour contrasted curiously with the demeanour of Lord Hobhouse who paid the closest attention to Mr. Asquith's speech from first to last, and industriously noted in the margin of the official report of the proceedings at Bombay the references which Mr. Asquith mentioned. Nor was that all. It is usual for members of the Judicial Committee continually to question counsel, as he develops his argument and makes his points. But yesterday, although Lord Hobhouse and Lord Davey occasionally conversed with Mr. Asquith, the Lord Chancellor did not, from the beginning to the end, address so much as a syllable to him. But when the end came, Lord Halsbury pounced down upon the appeal, and not only refused to grant it, but travelling altogether beyond the proper scope of the proceedings—deliberately patted Mr. Justice Strachey on the back. It seemed a pity that Lord Halsbury's friend and colleague, Lord George Hamilton, was not present to witness the zeal of the political lawyer.

Said "On-looker" in the columns of *India*:—

I have said that my experience of the Judical Committee of the Privy Council is confined to its meeting on Friday, November 19. But those who know it well,—lawyers who are often there,—tell me that it is a very unusual thing for the Lord Chancellor to grace its proceedings with his presence. It is singularly unfortunate that he should choose to adjudicate upon a case in which he is interested as a Cabinet Minister. I should be sorry to wrong his lordship, but there were not a few who regarded him as a politician rather than a Judge when he turned up to listen (supposing that he *did* listen) to Mr. Asquith's arguments. Lord Halsbury has never shown any excess of scruple, any ultra-delicacy of feeling of super sensitiveness. Indeed, to put it broadly, he is not likely easily to surprise any of us. But his appearance in that dull, dingy room in Downing Street did make some of the on-lookers stare, and it made others who know his Lordship well, shake their heads, and say: "It's a bad omen for poor Tilak." And, so it proved.

Now the Lord Chancellor represented the Justice of England. Defeated here, the Indians confidently placed their case in the hands of England. If the court had been held here, millions would have gone to see how the official, who represented the Justice of England, deported himself. But if they could not go, they watched him with their mind's eye from here. Every Indian in England, however, did go, and was present, watching the movement of the Lord Chancellor.

His Lordship had no business to go there, and therefore it is clear he did go with a purpose; that is to say, he did go because he could not trust his colleagues. And he had good reasons for supposing that there was no trusting his colleagues. For they actually paid all attention to what Mr. Asquith said, while he did not pay any heed to what the lawyer urged on behalf of his client, but engaged himself in writing letters!

If his Lordship had to reject the appeal, he ought to have done so in the ordinary manner. But he went out of his way to support the "affection" theory of Mr. Justice Strachey. He might have at least shewn to the people of India that he had given them a fair hearing. But while Mr. Asquith was arguing, his Lordship found that the best opportunity of writing his letters.

Neither were the Indians, like the Russians or French or Germans, the rivals of his countrymen, but only their helpless dependants.

The Tilak business has ended, then, with this disastrous result that it has cast a sur upon the fair fame of England as the most justice-loving country in the world. We fear this is an irreparable mischief the Tilak case has done. The absolute faith which the Indians had in British sense of justice, has received a rude shock.

LORD SANDHURST AND HIS COUNSELLORS.

AN administrator, to be successful here in India, has not only to be good, but also strong enough to be able to resist the baneful influence that surrounds him. This evil influence is represented by the Anglo-Indian papers generally. The settled policy of this press, when analysed, will be found to be this. According to it, the one remedy for the evils that beset India is repression, and one danger to the Empire is conciliation. If any Judge is found to inflict a cruel sentence, he is never blamed by the Anglo-Indian press; on the other hand, he is sometimes applauded. If the Judge is pleased to pass a lenient sentence upon an Indian offender, he is always condemned for his "weakness" by the same press.

In the opinion of the Anglo-Indian press, generally speaking, if the people are found to complain of a grievance, the only proper remedy is to intensify it. If a slap leads the people to cry in distress, let another be administered to stop them,—that is its view. And thus if an administrator shows any disposition to be just and generous, he is sought to be intimidated by a howl of disapproval from the same quarter. There is no doubt of it that Lord Sandhurst is a man of noble instincts and generous impulses; but he was led to inaugurate the policy of repression by the clamour of a thoughtless and evil-minded press, and other counsellors that surrounded him.

Now the arrangement that these counsellors make with their victim, the administrator, is exceedingly selfish. The administrator must carry out what they suggest, but on one express condition, that is to say, on his own responsibility. Every question, put in Parliament regarding the Bombay proceedings, was a painful blow, inflicted on the head of Lord Sandhurst. Every futile attempt of Lord George Hamilton to defend his Lordship, also had the same painful effect upon him. To the question why the Natu brothers were deported, the first answer was that their detention would lead to the discovery of the Brambin conspiracy, that led to the murder of British officials. But when Damodar was hanged, and when it was admitted that there was no conspiracy, the answer had to be changed. The second answer was that they had done something to a nurse! To the question, if the murders were not the result of conspiracy but the work of a *budmash*, why was a punitive police force stationed at Poona, Lord Sandhurst had no reply to give.

Now any attempt at analysis of the policy that Lord Sandhurst was led, by his stupid and malicious counsellors, to adopt, meant agony to him. Yes, Lord George Hamilton, Lord Elgin, the *Daily Mail*, the *Globe*, the *Pall Mall Gazette*, the *St. James Gazette*, sought to defend him; but even the defence, set up for his Excellency, proved agomizing to his feelings, for, his Lordship felt, as every one else did,—his partizans as well as opponents—that his case was indefensible.

We hope, Lord Sandhurst will no longer listen to the evil counsels offered to him by his selfish counsellors, but act under his own sense of justice. Already the mischief that his policy has done to the country, is simply incalculable. Of course, his stupid mentors say that the Indians have this time been well served—they have been crushed. But the fact is, it is not the Indians that have been crushed, but it is the Government itself that has been seriously hurt.

It must be borne in mind that despotic as the administration is, it is yet carried on under certain strictly definite and liberal principles. As, for instance, one principle is that no man is to be deprived of his liberty without a regular trial in a court of law. Well, the well-defined and universally-admitted principles under which the administration is carried on, make its despotism only a myth. That is to say, the Government is nominally despotic, but practically it has to keep itself within reasonable bounds on every side. But almost all these principles were trampled under foot during those days of panic which followed the death of Messrs. Rand and Ayerst.

The result is, people now don't know where they are. They do not venture to hold public meetings. They do not venture to write freely what they feel. They have lost much of the confidence that they felt in the integrity and good intention of the Government. Distrust and panic prevail everywhere not only in the ranks of the higher but also of the lower classes. How the lower casses feel, is no longer a secret.

If Lord Sandhurst had only listened to his own honest impulses, all this mischief woul have not happened. The demolition of all the liberal principles upon whih the Government is based, and the destruction of the confidence of the peopleupon which British rule is founded, were due to the evil counsels of these evil-minded and short-sighted mentors who were willing to give advice, but not to share the disastrous consequences which follow its adoption.

When a system has been subjected to a course of outrage, it requires some time to bring it to its original position. It will require several years of patient and sympathetic administration to inspire the Indians with that confidence which they once felt for the Government and which they were led to lose in a considerable degree in the course of six months of energetic rule.

WHEN there was a bitter feeling between Hindus and Mussalmans in the days of the Mussalman rule, the Hindus outcasted everyone of their members who showed any Mussalman predeliction. This process was carried out with extreme rigour. One who had offended the Hindus, was rigorously excluded; and on no account was he excused. No penance was considered sufficient to enable a Hindu, thus out-casted, to re-enter Hindu society. Rajah Subuddhi Roy, king of Gour, had been forcibly made to drink polluted water by the Mussalmans, and the penance that the Nadia and Beneras Pundits laid down for him was to drink *ghee* scalding hot and die! A Hindu, thus cast away by his co-religionists, could not, by his utmost efforts, come back into his society. The result was disastrous for the Hindu community. The Mussalmans increased, and Hindus decayed. And thus we see so many millions of Mussalmans in India who were originally only Hindus.

In the same manner, the present Hindu society is in a state of thorough disorganization. There is now no force to bring its members together and bind them in a common bond. Our chief work is now organization. For this, we have to be charitable, patient and far-seeing. Each has his failings, his difficulties. It is not possible to carry out this organization if we cast away every man for his failings. For the purposes of an organization, we must try to win over every man we can lay hold of, though he may have established a reputation of being a time-server and so forth. Of course, traitors in camp are dangerous; but when, it is possible to win over one such, he must be reformed rather than expelled. When his reformation however, is impossible, let him be sacrificed pitilessly.

The enthusiastic receptions accorded to Babu Ananda Mohun Bose, here and in Bombay, show that there is yet life in the country—life and patriotism. The one great problem before us, therefore, is—how to utilize this force?

These forces existed all along, but they have never been properly brought together. And why? It is because we have not hitherto been able to grow a leader. It is because petty jealousies, selfish considerations, and unrelenting severity have caused in the country as many parties as there are leaders.

The great work before the country, as we said, is organization. We have suffered much; but we have not as yet profited by our miseries. National sufferings are always followed by national efforts to overcome them. Here in India they have however only a paralyzing effect. When will our countrymen be able to discern their abject condition, and exert to better it? Babu Ananda Mohan comes from England, assured of this fact that, in spite of the doings of unsympathetic officials here and there, we can count upon the sympathies of England in our attempts to improve our condition. But first organize and be something like a nation.

Rajah Binoy Krishna and Babu Ananda Mohan may unite for the purposes of bringing scattered forces of the country together. Let us have an organization, composed of Hindus, Mussalmans, Europeans, zemindars, middle-class men, and ryots. We name the above two gentlemen for reasons which are too obvious for enumeration, as they are just now prominently before the public.

WHEN Justices Ghose and Wilkins presided over the Criminal Bench of the Calcutta High Court, they were often heard to regret the severe sentences, passed by Sessions Judges. We remember two such cases. While reducing the sentence, passed on Agani Panday by the Sessions Judge of Cuttak, the above-named two Hon'ble Judges remarked: "We think that the sentence awarded is too severe." Their Lordships used the same expression also with reference to an indigo-factory case, in which a number of people were severely punished by the Magistrate of Pubna. "This severity," of which the Hon'ble Judges complained, forms a noticeable feature of the criminal administration in this country. There cannot be any manner of doubt that the function which a Judge has to discharge, is of a most delicate kind; for, he has now and then to send his fellows to jail or the gallows. Surely, this is not an agreeable task; for, nobody, unless he is devoid of human sentiments, can inflict pain upon a fellow being without feeling for him in his heart of hearts; and he does this disagreeable task only from a supreme sense of duty. But what extraordinary sights does the conduct of some of our officials present to the world now and then! They are by training, if not by inclination, disposed towards conviction and severity. When the jury, composed fully of their peers as judges of facts, are for acquittal, they will often not hesitate to call their verdict perverse, and not only convict the accused but perhaps sentence him to be hanged, utterly forgetting that, by this procedure, they take a responsibility upon themselves which it is awful to contemplate. Sometimes they will not only pass capital sentence upon insufficient or conflicting evidence, but order a number of people to be hanged for the murder of a single person. Long terms of imprisonment, then again, are the order of the day. Now these spectacles are not to be witnessed anywhere else in the world, at least in England; and they only create disgust in this country. In justice to these convicting officials, we must say, however, that the system is more to blame than they themselves are. When a late ruler of Bengal inculcated the principle that "somebody must be punished for the day's work", and regulated the promotion of officials according to percentages of convictions, it is but natural that most of his subordinates, who thought more of their temporal prospects than the benefit of their souls, should take the cue and administer justice accordingly. We fear, an angel under the system would get demoralized. Of course, matters have improved since Sir Charles Elliott left the shores of this country; but the evil still exists.

THOSE who are for conviction and severe punishment, should read the article, headed "The fight for prison reform," by the Rev. W. D. Morrison, L. L. D., which is published in another column. It will be seen that the diminution of prison population in English jails is due mainly to the light sentence, which, as a rule, is resorted to in England. There are two kinds of prisons in that country; one is called the "the local prison," and the other is known as "the convict prison." The local prison is used for persons whose sentences do not exceed two years. The convict prisons, on the other hand, are used for prisoners, sentenced to penal servitude, that is to say, to a term of imprisonment extending from three years to imprisonment for life. But "only a comtparatively small number of people", says Rev. Morrison, "are sentenced from year to year to penal servitude"; and "the great bulk of the prison population" is, therefore, "to be found in the local or county prisons". And says Rev. Morrison in another place that the reason why the prison population was decreasing was "because Judges were giving shorter sentences, because children were being sent to industrial schools and because Magistrates were punishing offenders with fines and other penalties instead of imprisonment. The very fact that Judges and Magistrates were resorting more and more to such methods, showed how little faith they had in prisons." Most of the Indian Judges and Magistrates belong to the same noble nation from which Judges and Magistrates are recruited in England. Why should they not then follow in the wake of their brethren in the ruling country, and humanize the administration of criminal justice in unfortunate India? This is all the more necessary, as Indians, generally speaking, are a non-criminal race. The ever-increasing criminal population in India, is a serious problem before the public and the Government. But judging from what Rev. Morrison says, it seems to be due to the system of severe punishment which prevails in this country as well as the inhuman manner in which prisoners are often treated in our jails. Here is a subject which should engage the attention of the Indian Relief Society.

WE have received the following telegram from our Bombay correspondent:—

BOMBAY, SEPT. 8.

There was an unprecedented demonstration in Bombay yesterday in honour of Mr. Tilak's release. When the news spread at 2 A. M. yesterday, people in different chawls convened meetings, and immediately sent congratulatory telegrams. A suitable demonstration was organised. There was a grand illumination at night. Fetes and *sankirtns* lasted till midnight. Mr. Tilak's portrait was garlanded and worshipped everywhere. Special songs, composed for the occasion, were sung. Large crowds flocked to witness the illumination in different parts of the city. The utmost enthusiasm prevailed. The demonstration was quite spontaneous and unique. The *Times of India* is angry with the Bombay Government for releasing Mr. Tilak. The paper condemns its mistaken clemency and fears it will be misinterpreted as a sign of weakness and irresolution on the part of the Government.

Had we any hand, we would have tried to stop the demonstration in favour of Mr. Tilak at Bombay. But the natural impulses of alarge number of men are not to be checked by moderate counsel. The *Times of India* is very angry; but, we hope, Lord Sandhurst will not pay heed to what that paper says. Has this demonstration anything to do with the remission of three months? The *Times of India* has not sense enough to see that the demonstration would have been held in a more pronounced manner if Mr. Tilak had been made to work out the full term of his imprisonment, and that this outburst of popular feeling has nothing to do with the three months' remission. Lord Sandhurst had at one time listened to the advice of these stupid mentors, and brought disasters upon himself and the country. We hope, he will no longer listen to anybody except his own generous and honest impulses. The *Times of India* does not know that his days are over, and that even Lord George Hamilton has, in his heart of hearts, got disgusted with the policy, advocated by that paper and others of hi

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class. No more a Natu brother will be deported in Bombay, and no more an editor prosecuted, in spite of the howlings of thousands of *Times of India*. The statement in the telegram that the portrait of Mr. Tilak was garlanded, will be undestood when it is explained that the demonstration took place in the city of Bombay, while Mr. Tilak was at that moment in Poona. Garlanding the portrait, is a sort of respect which proves the absolute genuineness of the demonstration.

SIR WILLIAM WEDDERBURN asked the following question in Parliament about the Garshanker riot :—

Whether the Secretary of State was aware that on April 28 last the Assistant Commissioner on plague duty ordered the 6,000 inhabitants of Garshanker to leave the city within twenty-four hours ; that no sufficient number of huts had been erected outside the city to shelter these people from the excessive heat ; that a disturbance arose in carrying out those orders and that the police fired upon the people without orders, killing nine and wounding forty-eight ; whether forty-eight of the survivors were prosecuted and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment ; and whether he would cause inquiry to be made by some impartial authority into all the circumstances of the case. He said he wished to supplement the question by asking whether it was the fact that the police refused to stop firing when ordered to do so by their European officers.

In reply, Lord George Hamilton said :

It is rather inconvenient that the question on the paper should be extended without notice; but I think I am acquainted with the facts of the case. As soon as it became clear that the plague had established itself in Garshanker, every form of persuasion and inducement was used, in order to bring about the voluntary evacuation of the town ; but, as these means failed, it became necessary, at the end of a month, to issue positive orders. As to the number of huts provided, I have seen no allegation that it was insufficient. A body of police, on entering the town to enforce these orders, was violently attacked by rioters, and twenty-six of them were more or less seriously injured : they fired in return, with the result that nine rioters were killed and twenty-seven wounded. I have received no information as yet as to the number of rioters who were prosecuted or the nature of their sentences; but, as at present advised, though I deeply regret the loss of life which occurred, I see no reason to order a special inquiry. As to the supplemental question, the police were subjected to a most violent assault, and they did fire without orders; but in a very few seconds I may say, their officers were able to control them. I do not think they were in any way to blame for firing under great provocation.

In answer to another question on the same subject, his Lordship said :—

After a month spent, as I have already stated, in persuation and warning, a proclamation was issued on April 27, requiring the inhabitants of Garashanker to evacuate the town and giving them time till the following day to comply. Next morning, accordingly, a force of 250 police was marched into the town in order to arrange for the evacuation, by persuasion if possible, or failing that, by force. The results I described in my answer to the hon. member's question on Tuesday last. The police, being violently assailed by brickbats and other missiles, which wounded many of them, fired without orders, and their officers were at first unable to check them, but soon succeeded. The summing up of the Lieutenant-Governor was that "though some of the police, when attacked by the crowd, (which consisted exclusively of men) committed the mistake of firing without orders, they showed no want of discipline in other respects, and worked well and loyally." As to the provision of huts I have seen no evidence to the effect mentioned in the question ; but the inhabitants had been informed that all possible help would be given to them by the provision of hunts and otherwise. I expect to receive further information on certain points ; but at present I see no reason to change my opinion as to the suggestion of a special inquiry.

Lord George Hamilton, in the above, admits that he is imperfectly acquainted with the facts of the Garshanker affair ; yet he would have no special inquiry into the subject ! Let us now see how many blunders he commits in consequence of his imperfec knowledge. His Lordship says : "After a month spent in persuasion and warning, &c., &c." We, however, glean another story from official records. Early in April, the medical officer reported that a Pati of the town had been affected by plague, and suggested that it should be evacuated. To this arrangement, the inhabitants strongly objected. The then Commissioner of the Jullunder Division, Lieutenant Colonel Massy, was an official of tact and sympathy. He knew the people well and knew how to lead them. He held that compulsion should not be employed. He knew that it was quite possible to get all the infected families and several of the healthy inhabitants into camp by adopting a policy of conciliation and sympathy The Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab approved of his method. So far did he succeed in his attempts to win over the citizens, that they expressed their willingness to give all support to the officials to stamp out the plague from the city, and many applied for permission to live in camp outside the city. In short, under Mr. Massy's guidance, matters went on smoothly. This state of things was at once changed when, two weeks after, Lieutenant-Colonel Massy was transferred and was replaced by Mr. Silcock. The latter reported to the Government that Lieutenant-Colonel Massy had got wrong information, and that the position was very serious in the city. On the strength of this report, the Local Government gave Mr. Silcock discretion to have recourse to compulsion for the evacuation of the affected area. From the above account, two points are clear :

(a) So long Lieutenant-Colonel Massy was the Divisional officer, he did not consider the position in the city serious, and the relation between the officials and the inhabitants was very cordial. But no sooner Mr. Silcock stepped in than he considered the position very serious, and the friction began.

(b) The "persuasion for evacuation" was not continued for "a month," as stated by Lord George Hamilton, but only at the end of April, that is, only a few days before the riot occurred.

We shall refer to other blunders in a future issue.

WHEN the elective system was first granted to Calcutta, the European community grumbled ; and in order to satisfy them, the privilege of sending two Commissioners to the Corporation was conferred on each of the two European Associations in the city representing commerce and trade. Babu Kristo Das Pal, who was then in the Legislative Council, objected to the arrangement. He went so far as to say that, though he himself represented the British Indian Association, he would not claim that privilege for it. Public Associations, however influential they may be, are not permanent bodies. Then, in certain questions they may not represent the views of the whole, or a portion of the community, or even many of its own members. It is, therefore, unsafe to confer such a privilege upon a public body, as it may be abused by the regime which controls it, or lost to the country if the Association ceases to exist. Babu Kristo Das Pal thus took his stand upon a firm ground, though he was outvoted. It is said, the British Indian Association, in their representation relating to the present Municipal Bill, has prayed for the same privilege in the proposed Executive Council of 12. If they have done it, they have gone against the declared policy of one who was the life and soul of that Association and who made it so influential in his time. And then, if the B. I. Association can prefer this claim, the other Associations are perfectly justified in making the same. Indeed, if, following the B. I. Association, the Zemindary Punchyet, the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, the Indian Association, the Indian Relief Society, the Mahomedan Literary Society and its rival, the Young Men's Christian Association, the Sadharan Brahmo Somaj, etc, etc, demand one or two representatives of their own, will not the Government then be placed in a very fine position? So, you see, the principle is absurd, nay, stupid, on the face of it, and hence Babu Kristo Das Pal opposed it. Then, in the matter of this question of municipal reform, it has been demonstrated by numerous Ward meetings, and a general public meeting that the British Indian Association not only does not represent the large body of rate-payers but even not its own members, with the exception of perhaps a quarter of a dozen with their following. So the Government will do an act of positive wrong to the general rate-payers by depriving them of one or two representative members if it accede to the prayer of the Association. We hope, however, the rumour is not correct. But, if the Association has really made such a prayer, the proper course for the Government is to ask that body to furnish it with a list of its members who are in favour of such a proposition. That will at once show, who and how many countenance such a prayer. The question only concerns the rate-payers of Calcutta. What have political and other Associations to do with it?

A VERY influentiallysigned petition was to have been sub-mitted on the 10th instant morning to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying for mercy on behalf of Soshee Palui, convicted of murdering his wife and sentenced to be hanged by the High Court. A similar prayer was also made to His Honour by the non-official European and Indian communities of Rajshaye in connection with another case which occurred in that district, and the facts of which are as follow: One Naryen Pramanik was found guilty of murdering his wife and child in broad daylight under the following circumstances. The murdered woman was in the habit of constantly deserting her husband's protection for immoral purposes, and the child she had was suspected by the husband to be illegitimate. He had, however, pardoned his wife and there was reconciliation, but the woman again planned to go in her evil ways, which led to a quarrel in course of which the husband, being deprived of his power of self-control, committed, in the heat of the moment, a double murder for which he sincerely repented afterwards. His Honour, after consulting Justices Stevens and Henderson, who had confirmed the sentence of death, has been pleased to commute it to one of transportation for life. A correspondent at Rajshye, referring to this matter, writes to us :—

The people received the news with great joy and thankfulness, and they beg to express their gratitude to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, through the medium of your paper, for his clemency. Sir John Woodburn has, by this act of mercy tempered with justice, secured the blessings of God, and of an old mother and an infant child, the sole surviving members of the family of the unfortunate prisoner.

The petition on behalf of the other prisoner Soshee Palui was signed by such high personages as Maharajah Jotindra Mohun, Rajah Peary Mohun, Rajah Benoy Krishna, &c, &c, and such distinguished Barristers as Mr. Lal Mohun Ghose, Mr. P. L. Roy, &c. There is no doubt of it that the prisoner committed the foul deed from a deep sense of wrong, caused by the conduct of his unfortunate wife. It is also evident that he was not a habitual and hardened criminal, and that he was seized with a sort of insanity when he committed the deed ; for, otherwise he would not have sought to kill himself immediately after by the dangerous wounds he inflicted upon his own person. The man was an honest citizen before the murder, and he may yet turn a useful member of society, if his life is spared. Above all, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor has to consider the case not as a Judge but as an *avatar* of mercy, and is thus not fettered by technicalities and other superficial considerations in arriving at a decision. In England, as we said the other day, one-third of the prisoners, capitally sentenced, are respited every year. Even, in India, when the criminal happens to be a European, he or she is rarely, if ever, sentenced to be hanged ; and if he or she is sent to long terms of imprisonment, the prisoner is released before the expiry of the term. Mrs. Lister murdered her husband in a most brutal manner, and she has now been set free and allowed to go home. We fervently hope, Sir John Woodburn will see his way to exercise his prerogative of mercy oftener than his predecessors did.

THE acts of murder and bloodshed in Crete, an account of which has been wired by Reuter, are understandable by a reference to the events preceding and after last year's war between Greece and Turkey. On account of ceaseless fight between the Christians and Mahomedans in that island, the European Concert was making an endeavour by a display of arms to restore peace, when the Concert was surprised one day to see that Greece had suddenly mobilised her fleet and army ; and shortly after, Colonel Vassos secretly landed a Greek force near Canea, marched into the interior of the island and headed an agitation among the Cretan Christians for a union with Greece. This mainly led to the Turko-Greek War. After the war was over, Greece had to withdraw all her soldiers from the island of Crete. Since then, an attempt has been made to introduce a sort of self-government in the island under the auspices of the European Concert, represented by the Admirals of the Squadrons in Canea and Candia. A provisional constitution has been drawn up ; an Assembly, with its President and Executive Committee, formed ; in fact, everything has been made ready, awaiting the Sultan's assent. The Sultan, however, would not agree to withdraw Turkish troops from the island, and the Assembly would not commence business unless the Turkish troops were withdrawn and replaced by a local gendarmerie. Thus there was serious difference between the Sultan and the Admirals, which was heightened when the Sultan attempted to land fresh drafts in Crete. This was not allowed by the Admirals, and thereupon the Commandant of the Turkish troops in Crete resigned. The Sultan refused to accept his resignation and insisted on his remaining in Crete. This was in the last week in July, and since then things have been developing till they burst forth in the terrible incidents of last Tuesday.

MR. TILAK, we are told, has not a word of complaint against the treatment, accorded to him in jail. This shows the angelic nature of the man. It has ever been a wonder to us how official and unofficial European feeling was so bitter against one who is incapable of bearing malice against anybody, who is the gentlest of beings, who is a calm, quiet sort of man, without any aggressiveness in him. Mr. Tilak says that he was treated well in jail. That is, no doubt, true. But his countrymen can never forget the fact that, though not a criminal but only a political offender, he was made to pick oakum. And do you know what this picking of oakum is? It is one of the most irksome tasks which hardened criminals are required to do in England. That is to say, the prisoner has to separate the coarse portion of flax or hemp in a hackle. We cannot conceive how the authorities had the heart to subject a highly intellectual Brahmin, who is only a political offender, to this degrading work. As regards food, Mr. Tilak was given *bajri* with curry mixed up with onion. It is a matter of surprise that he could swallow it and survive. Mr. Tilak was, no doubt, treated well in jail ; but, on weighing him after his release, it was found that he had left 26lbs. of his flesh in his prison cell !

HERE are a few facts for serious consideration. India is an agricultural country; and the ever-increasing demand of the State made it imperative on the part of the people to cultivate more land and make the land yield more than it can. Fory years ago, agriculturists considered it essential to keep lands fallow for the purpose of protecting them from exhaustion. But now every cottah of land available is bought under cultivation, and that every year, to meet the increasing demand of the Government. The land is thus getting exhausted year after year. There was a time when we saw a biggah of land yielding about thirty maunds of paddy. But now five or six maunds is the aveage. Forty years ago every village had its large number of paddy *golas* in which the grain was stored. But where are the *golas* gone? They all now have to live a hand-to-mouth life, and this is true of the ninety per cent. of the entire population. It is thus, if the rainfall happens to be scanty, the country is overtaken by famine or severe scarcity. They tap the date-trees in the eastern districts of Bengal and make the palm yield a large quantity of saccharine juice. A bad tapper, in his eagerness to extract more juice than a tree is capable of yielding, will often hurt, and eventually kill it. A good tapper, however, is more considerate, and under his hand, the tree never grows weaker. The authorities who rule the destiny of India, should follow in the wake of a good tapper.

WHO is this Rajah in the Central Provinces who has, it is said, offered an appointment to the European gentleman, now President of the Simla Municipality? Cannot a competent Indian be really had for the office ? Unless the European be actually thurst upon him, as is generally the case, the Rajah should reconsider his decision.

THE actual number of crimes committed by a people, is not always a reliable index as to their criminality ; for, in the last Government Resolution on the Bengal Police Administration Report, Mr. Secretary Bolton says ; "Many people belonging to the non-criminal classes of the population have been driven into crime by the universally-prevailing high prices." There is nothing, however, in the Resolution to show how these hunger-"driven" criminals have been dealt with in courts ; for, it would be interesting to know if in doling out punishments, the courts paid due consideration to what they call in law "intent", which in such cases, must have been non-criminal, because natural, viz, hunger.

THE Government of Bombay proposes to make certain changes in the regulations in reference to railway travelling. Detention camps and passes will be discontinued, and in their place, very strict medical examination, accompanied by disinfection of clothing, where necessary, will be instituted at convenient centres and at the place of arrival. Persons coming from infected localities will be subject to surveillance for ten days after arrival ; but this will in no way interfere with their following ordinary vocations or residing at their own houses. Whether all this will be an improvement or the reverse, will, of course, very much depend on the manner in which the new regulations will be actually carried into practice.

"A BENGALI gentleman," writes the Simla correspondent of a contemporary, "has taken the first place in the superior account service. He is an M. A. of the Calcutta University."

THE "Japan Mail" says : A Japanese has "invented" a tea making machine "which takes the newly plucked leaf and performs all the necessary operations preliminary to packing —rolling, roasting and polishing." With one man and a boy it will manufacture 1,666 lbs of tea in 24 hours.

IT is notified that the preliminary examination in the Chinese language will be held in Burma by the Adviser on Chinese Affairs between the 16th April and the 15th May. and during the month of September in each year. The year's leave to China will commence from the date of embarkation at Rangoon, which should be within a fortnight of receiving the notification of having passed the preliminary examination.

DURING the past financial year (1897-98) the total income of the Madras Municipality amounted to 20 lakhs of Rupees. As the year, however, opened with a balance in hand of 4¼ lakhs, the actual receipts came up to only 15¾ lakhs. The expenditure, on the other hand, amounted to 17 lakhs of rupees, and thus the balance in hand has been reduced to 3 lakhs. At the commencement of the preceding year [1896-97 the balance in hand was 6 lakhs : the receipts amounted to 14⅓ lakhs, and the expenditure is slightly over 15½ laks. The closing balance thus stood at 4¾ lakhs, and this year it has been further reduced to 3 lakhs.

MR. COTTON, Chief Commissioner of Assam, considers the improvement of the Civil Police Force to be one of the pressing needs of the province ; and a scheme for its re-organisation has been nearly completed by the Inspector-General and will shortly be considered. The Civil Police Force in the Naga Hills District had to be increased by one Sub-Inspector and 18 constables, as it was found necessary to establish a patrol of a portion of the cart-road near the railway works, in order to give relief to sick and destitute coolies found by the wayside, and in some instances, to bury the dead bodies of deceased coolies. The neglected condition of these waifs and strays is a matter of serious anxiety, and has the earnest consideration of the Chief Commissioner, who has already submitted to the Government of India proposals for dealing with it.

MR. JAGJIVAN DAS, a Gujrati teacher, was prosecuted before the Fourth Presidency Magistrate, Bombay, under the following circumstances. He keeps a small school at Dongri. On the 16th August, Mr. Jagjivan made an attempt to remove two patients from his rooms to the Plague Hospital. One of the Plague Doctors appeared on the scene, searched the rooms and found two patients in the room next to the school-room. Accordingly, the charge preferred against Mr Jagjivan was that he did not give due information to the Plague officers. The Magistrate, however, found no sufficient evidence to convict him, and so he was acquitted. Now, what is the consequence of this harassing prosecution ? Dr. Blaney thus writes to the *Times of India* :— "Up to the time of this miserable prosecution, Bombay was quiet, and the people were pursuing their business in cheerfulness even in the midst of a spreading plague. The efficacious action of one or two men has changed the cheerfulness into depression and destroyed a newly-established confidence." Injudicious measures for plague prevention have done their work; and it is to be hoped that the over-zeal of prosecuting plague officers will be nipped in the bud.

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W. S. Caine.

(*Extracts from the Introduction*)

"I heartily commend to every cultured and earnest Indian, to every Christian Missionary, and also to every European who cares to look beneath the surface of Indian life and thought, the contents of this deeply nteresting volume of miscellaneous articles from the pen of SHISHIR KUMAR GHOSE."

PRICE—1 RUPEE AND 6 ANNAS.

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SNAKES, SNAKE-BITES

AND

Their Treatments.

PRICE—12 ANNAS.

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L. G'S DEPARTURE.—His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor left Calcutt for Darjeeling on Friday last.

THE BANK OF BENGAL.—The Bank of Bengal have now raised their rate for Demand Loans to 5 per cent.

VICEREGAL.—Lord Elgin probably leaves Calcutta on the 6th of January in the "Clive," catching the P. and O. mail due at Suez on January 30th.

REGISTRATION.—The Lieutenant-Governor has sanctioned the removal of the head quarters of the office of the Joint-Sub-Registrar of Satkaniya at Darbesh Hat, in the District of Chittagong, from Darbesh Hat to Adhunagar.

FOREST REVENUE STATION.—Revenue Station No. 1 Mud Point, of the Sunderbans Forest Division, will be known as No. 1 Khagdip. The Khagdip Revenue Station is situated at the junction of the Khagdip Khal and the Ghibattigang.

CHARITABLE ENDOWMENT.—The *Calcutta Gazette* contains a notification, under the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890, in the matter of Babu Mohini Mohun Ray's Charitable fund of Rs. 100,000 for the relief of Hindus and Mahomedans, residents of Bengal, both male and female, rendered destitute by reason of incurable disease, physical infirmity or extreme old age.

DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS.—The second half-yearly departmental examination, in 1898, of Assistant and Deputy Magistrates and Sub-Deputy Collectors in the Regulation and non-Regulation Districts, of Cantonment Magistrates, and of the officers of the Police, Medical and Forest Departments will be held on Thursday, the 17th November, 1898, and the two following days.

THE HIGH COURT VACATION.—The High Court was closed for the annual vacation from Friday, the 9th September, to Saturday the 19th November, 1898, both days inclusive. The Hon'ble Justices Stevens and Pratt will sit as the Vacation Judges except during the Court and gazetted holidays. Motions and cases in which vakils are engaged will be heard on Tuesdays and Thursdays and on such other days as may from time to time be fixed.

"SNAKE-BITES AND THEIR TREATMENT."—Dr. Govinda Chunder Bose, M. B., writes from Allahabad : I have gone through the whole of the book called "Snakes, Snake-bites, and their Treatments" in English as well as in Bengalee. It is a splendid book, and the Mal-Vaidya treatment, I am glad to say, is based on scientific, anatomical and physiological principle. Every medical man ought to read these little, though very useful, books. I am sure, if the directions, given in the book, be accurately followed, there will hardly be any failure.

VICEREGAL.—The Viceroy, as at present arranged, arrives at Rangoon about the 14th to 16th November, reaching Calcutta about the 20th of December. The Drawing-Room, Levee and State Ball will be held after Mr. Curzon's arrival, and so far as can be at present seen, Lord Elgin with his family and suite will leave Calcutta in the Clive troop-ship about the 5th of January after he has handed over the Viceroyalty. The Viceroy and Lady Elgin will, it is understood, give a large farewell ball at Simla on the 11th October.

WEATHER AND CROPS.—There was good general rain during the week ending Sept. 5 except in parts of North Bihar and Orissa, where more rain is required for the transplantation of the winter rice. Elsewhere transplantation is almost at an end, and the young plants are thriving well. The prospects of the *autumn* crops are generally favourable. Some damage has been done to these crops by floods in low lands in places in Patna, Muzaffarpur, Monghyr and the Sonthal Parganas. Locusts are reported to have damaged the *paddy* crops in some places in Cuttack, and grasshoppers are still doing damage in Midnapore. *Aus* rice, jute and other early *autumn* crops are being harvested. The price of common rice has fallen in some districts, where the new *aus* crop has come into the market. Cattle-disease is still reported from places.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

FROM Wednesday the 7th instant to Friday the 9th instant there were three fresh cases and four deaths. The total of "true cases" up to the 9th instant was 228 and deaths 189.

SPECIAL HEALTH OFFICER.

Captain Green, of the Indian Medical Service, Civil Surgeon of Howrah, has been appointed Special Health Officer of Calcutta in connection with the plague, in the room of Dr. Bannerman; Dr. Pettifer, who was officiating, reverts to his appointment of Assistant Health Officer.

INOCULATIONS.

The monthly statement of inoculations performed in the city for August shows:—Hindus: male 5, female nil; Mahomedans male 7, female nil; European male 6, female 3; other nationalities: male one, female nil; total, male 19, female 3; monthly total 22; grand total 2,490.

MEDICAL COLLEGE REPORT.

There was one admission in the Medical College Hospital on Friday up to 6 p. m. There was no death. At present, there are seven patients in the Hospital Plague Ward, most of whom are convalescent.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE.

In declaring open a Ward Hospital at 1 to 4, China Bazar Lane, Ward No. 7, on Thursday evening, Sir John Woodburn thus again re-assured the people of Calcutta:—"I, however, hope that plague may never break out in an epidemic form in this city and that there may never be any rush of inmates to this hospital. There have been about twelve deaths or so in this ward, but during the last twenty days no deaths have been reported, which he considered a very hopeful signs for the ward. If this were the only ward in the city. I could very well have withdrawn all plague rules and bid good-bye to plague. From the present attitude of this direful distemper, people have no reason to fear its breaking out in an epidemic form. I assured the people there will be no molestation whatsoever of any kind and no cause whatsoever for any panic or anxiety. I entertain great hopes of bidding good-bye to the plague very soon."

THERE were 34 attacks and 27 deaths in Bombay on Thursday.

PLAGUE is steadily increasing in Dharwar.

PLAGUE is reported to have broken out among the 26th Madras Infantry, Belgaum.

SALSETTE will be treated as part of Bombay so far as the plague administration is concerned, in order that there may be unrestricted freedom of access between the two. The inspection hitherto imposed at the causeway will, in future, be conducted at the northern confines of Salsette.

THE railway authorities at Jetalsar, says the Kathiwar paper, have been asked not to issue tickets to those coming from the infected area and who have not with them a necessary pass for having spent 10 days in a non-infected place.

AT Puna Lord Shandhurst met the native plague volunteers of the city for the purpose of asking their further co-operation in case the scourge breaks out afresh there. He thanked them all for what they had done and expressed the hope that similar help would be given again.

THE Maharaja of Kashmir has arranged to visit the Khyber Pass during the present month.

DR. FUHRER, Government Archæological Department, North-West Provinces, has tendered his resignation of Government service.

MORE heavy rain has been falling at Naini Tal, and another slip is reported about one mile from the Katgodam Railway terminus, at the foot of the hills. It is expected that the Tonga Road will soon be cleared of the debris.

A LARGE fire broke out early on Thursday morning in a Mahomedan mill at Girgaum and resulted in the total destruction of the carding departments, and causing damage to the extent of four and a quarter lakhs.

THE Lahore Municipality have this year been busy hunting up all the malaria traps about Lahore. Over one hundred and fifty notices to land and house-owners have been issued, calling on them to fill up the hollows in which water lodges. If the owners fail to do this, they are to be prosecuted under the Municipal Act.

THE construction of a bridge of 56 spans of 150 feet in the clear over the Godaveri River between Rajahmundry and Kuevur stations on the East Coast Railway, a distance of 4·55 miles, was sanctioned in May 1897, and it has since been decided that another span of 40 feet should be added towards the west bank to allow the road traffic to pass under the bridge. Work was started in November 1897, when the river had reached its lowest level. The well of the first pier was taken in hand at that time, and on the 31st March 1898 twenty-five wells and both abutments were in progress.

ALL lovers of Hindu music will be glad to hear that at last, after unremitting exertions of years, a club for the cultivation of Hindu music has been established here on a footing that assures permanence and success. The club meets in its own premises in Hathar Bazar, Shahalmi Gate, every evening and the members devote several hours to the study of vocal music, Pundit Tulsi Das acting as Percenter. The club is named Balwant Sangit Sangat after Mr. Balwant Rao Bodas, the young Marhatta gentleman, who during his several years' stay in Lahore did so much to revive a taste for music in the Punjab. Mr. Bodas is a gifted vocalist, and it was the occasional musical soirees held under his auspices that fired the ambition of a number of young people to make Lahore once again a seat of high class music, famed throughout the East, as it once was. Mr. Bodas is now in the North-Western Provinces engaged on a musical tour. His admirers in Lahore have evinced their gratitude to him by naming the first school of music as the club actually is after him.—*Tribune.*

Correspondence.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN SAUGOR.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—The manner in which a few criminal cases have been lately disposed of by Mr. Cleveland and his subordinates, is certainly not very creditable to the head of the local administration. It is an open secret that there are two very strong parties in Saugor, which have became a bar to the progress of the people of the district. One is headed by Lala Nand Kishore, and the other is to be led by Thakur Moharaj Singh. Hitherto the policy of the local administration was to keep both the parties in check, and the long-standing party feelings were gradually dying out; but since the departure of that wise Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Philps, things have assumed a different aspect. For some reason or other, an impression is gaining ground in the public mind that Mr. Cleveland is siding or showing some sympathy with the former party; and a few recent criminal cases, that have been conducted by him or by his subbordinates, have given an inpetus to this impression. And these unfortunate circumstances have again roused the party-feeling in full vigour. I, however, can confidently say that the impression alluded to, has no legs to stand upon, and that Mr. Cleveland would not stoop so low and is above such party feelings. Such being the case, the probability is, he has been misrepresented by the leaders of the former party; and as soon as his ears are put right, he will prove himself a most sympathetic and beneficial ruler. However, considering all the circumstances, I hope, when the feelings of one party have gone so far as to suspect the impartiality of the above official, it behoves well that he should be transferred to some other district, the sooner the better.

K. P.

A PERSECUTED FAMILY IN CASHMERE.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—There is a family known as Ditta Family at Jammu in Cashmere. There are several brothers in that family. Two of these brothers were serving under the Cashmere State. The family had some position and respectibility. It so happened that one of them was expelled with *Zubberdusti* from the family house at Jammu and the other has got eighteen months' rigorous imprisonment. Some months ago when during certain festivities, fire-works were being exhibited near the Jammu Palace, the outer portion of the Palace took fire. The authorities thought that it must be the work of the Dittas, or, at any rate, any of their relatives. Now when it was found impossible to connect any of the Dittas with the incendiarism, two young relatives of the brothers were arrested, kept in the *hajat* for a long time; and afterwards one of the lads was convicted on flimsy evidences which, as the *Hindu* remarks, no court of justice should have accepted. The fate of the other lad is still uncertain.

Now, the eldest of the Ditta brothers is Baksi Devi Ditta. Has he escaped? Oh, no. He has been summarily sentenced for some offence to a long term of imprisonment without giving him any facilities to prefer an appeal to the Viceroy or the Foreign Office. The aggrieved eldest Ditta managed to engage a Barrister who sent up a proper representation from Lahore to the Resident in Cashmere on behalf of the former. Now, the Resident was highly incensed and asked the Lahore Barrister by whose authority he was addressing him (the Resident). The learned Resident should have been acquainted with the fact that it matters little whether or not the lawyer be personally instructed by the client. Authorised telegrams and letters generally served the purpose. Certainly, we do not go all the way to England to engage a Barrister to lay our appeals before the Privy Council. The *Hindu* also maintains the fact that the late Mr. Monomohun Ghose addressed an appeal to the Viceroy on behalf of the prisoners (the Regent, the Senapati and others) who were at Manipur. But apparently the Resident had recourse to that fine logic only to check the intruding Barristers' further progress in that direction; for, when subsequently the *na-chhore-bandha* Barrister clearly pointed out that he had been duly instructed by his client, Baksi Devi Ditta, no other reply or acknowlegment was vouchsafed to the representations of the unfortunate Ditta. Now what I say is this! if the Ditta was really guilty of some offence deserving the long term of imprisonment, let the guilt be established by an open, public, independent inquiry.

LALIT MOHAN GHOSAL.

Cassipore.

ON September last, the cruiser "Sphinx, acting on information from the British Consulate, seized a dhow in the Muscat Harbour with about sixty Martini-Henry carbines and about six thousand rounds of ammunition on board. The reported destination of the dhow was Lengh. This is the first seizure affected by a British cruiser for the contravention of the recent agreement entered into with the Sultan of Muscat.

THE question of the control of the Khyber and the frontier settlement has been again referred to the Secretary of State. It seems practically settled that the control will be handed over to the Imperial Government from the Punjab and that a considerable fort will be built in the vicinity of the Khyber mouth, which will be garrisoned by Afridi Militia under British officers.

THE *Punjab Times* understands that the local Comptroller of Military Accounts has received orders never to appoint in future any Indian or Eurasian to a post under him, carrying a salary of over one hundred rupees. Of course, it is not that Europeans, to be recruited under this order, will be more qualified or useful office-assistants than those whom they supplant. That is out of the question, as everybody knows the European assistant's inaptitude for mathematical calculation. One can understand the ostracism of natives from posts of power, trust and high salary; but this petty-fogging among the ruling race is not only reprehensible but positively mischievous in many ways.

Telegrams.

[INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

SAUGOR, SEPT. 7.

The whole Saugor was startled on hearing Mr. Enders' judgment against Mr. Rajababu, a spectable ex-Headmaster, sentencing him to a fine of Rs. 200 and imprisonment till the rising of the Court, for threatening to bender section 506. The Magistrate believed the complainant, a common clerk, and disbelieved all respectable defence witnesses, leading the conviction on presumption. This followed Mr. Ramcharan's case, in which the accused was fettered while under trial, though not a *badmash*. These and the false dacoitcase against Mr. Rajababu's brother, and Police Inspector, on one side, and the latter extortion case against Mr. Nand Kishore on the other, reflect much discredit on the administration of justice here.

SIMLA, SEPT 8.

Maharaj Kapurthala is expected to arrive from Europe in October next and the announcement that Sarah Barnhardt is coming, is without foundation.

The service of Mr. Sykes, Under Secretary, is lent to the Railway Company. Mr. Cole, Executive Engineer, is appointed Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, vice Mr. Sykes. Mr. Le Maistre confirmed in his appointment as Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department.

BOMBAY, SEPT. 8.

The Government of Bombay contemplates releasing the Natu brothers from Parole, owing to their bad health.

POONA, SEPT. 8.

Mr. Tilak's release is now believed to be largely due to the initiative taken by the Bombay Government. He was released at 9 PM., on Friday. His friend, the Hon'ble Mr. Khare, went to jail to fetch him home. The news of his release soon spread throughout the city and the large compound of his house as was his drawing-room were literally packed with people, who went there to congratulate him at that late hour at night. It is commended that about ten thousand people of all classes and ranks went there to see him to now. There were illuminations in the town. Yesterday night *Hari Kirtans* in the poles, and prayers were offered. There are great rejoicings not only in Poona but at Bombay and several other places in the mofussil. Congratulatory telegrams have been received by him from his numerous friends and sympathisers throughout the country. Mr. Tilak is now much reduced in weight, being now 25 lbs less than his normal weight, which is 138 lbs. The jail authorities shewed him kindness as was consistent with rules. While in jail he was engaged in cotton-opening, wool dyeing and spinning. He was allowed a large number of books and had taken voluminous notes during his imprisonment, chiefly bearing on his new theory regarding the beginning of the Aryan civilization, which he claims to have traced as far back as the last glacial period. Except that he is very much reduced and pale, he is otherwise all right in health.

It is probable that the Natu brothers will be soon given complete freedom.

SIMLA, SEPT. 9.

Mr. Fors, Post Master General, Bengal, takes short leave soon.

The services of one of the Burma Account Officers will be lent to Siam—either Mr. Rivett Carnac or his deputies.

Captain Maspratt Williams is appointed Chief Inspector of Explosives.

Calcutta is declared clear by Spain.

Mr. Coon, Assistant Accountant General, Bengal, is granted one month and twelve days' leave. Mr. Woolam acts in his place.

Mr. Gale, Executive Engineer, officiates as Deputy Manager, Eastern Bengal Railway.

To-day's Post Office Notification says that from 1st October inland postage would be changed at one anna postage would carry one and a half tolah weight, half anna weight is unchanged.

Over five inches of rain have fallen to-day at Sholapore and this will improve the conditions of scarcity affected districts.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, SEPT. 6.

In pursuance of the decision of the foreign admirals in Crete, the British to-day took over control of the Tithe Office, Candia.

The Mussulmans opposed the transfer, and in a disturbance that arose the British soldiers fired upon the crowd, wounding several. The Mussulmans became exasperated and set fire to the Christian quarter. It is reported that many were killed, including the British Consul and several soldiers. A warship bombarded the city, part of which is in flames.

LONDON, SEPT. 6.

The investiture of Queen Wilhelmina at Amsterdam as ruling Sovereign of Holland was a legal pageant, and the enthusiasm of the people was boundless.

LONDON, SEPT. 6.

Tenders are invited by the 13th instant for India Bills to the amount of two millions sterling payable in six or twelve months.

LONDON, SEPT. 7.

Several men-of-war are hastening to Candia. According to the latest despatches, it was the British gunboat Hazard that bombarded the city yesterday.

LONDON, SEPT. 7.

Five gunboats are ascending the White Nile, and it is supposed they have been sent to meet Major Macdonald's Expedition.

LONDON, SEPT. 7.

The *Times*, in discussing the possibility of establishing a gold standard in India, remarks that a reform of the currency in this direction is facilitated by the growing increase in the production of gold, the present surplus over the world's requirements being estimated to amount to about thirty-five millions sterling.

LONDON, SEPT. 7.

It is known that twenty British soldiers and Blue-jackets were killed and fifty wounded in the riot at Candia yesterday, by the Mussulman mob suddenly opening fire from the houses. The British Vice-Consul was burned to death in his house, and it is feared that many Christians perished. The Camperdown and Astræa and several foreign men-of-war have arrived at Candia.

LONDON, SEPT. 7.

Reuter's correspondent at Pekin telegraphs that Li Hung Chang has been dismissed from office.

LONDON, SEPT. 8.

Sirdar Kitchener telegraphs that 10,800 Dervishes were killed at the battle at Omdurman and 16,000 were wounded, while 3,000 to 4,000 were taken prisoners. All accounts applaud the splendid behaviour of the Egyptian troops.

LONDON, SEPT. 8.

It has been ascertained that the victims of the riots at Candia number 300. Eight warshsps are now before the town and are ready to bombard the place if needful. Colonel Reid, commanding the British forces in Candia, reports that his men were fighting for four hours on Tuesday like rats in a trap until relieved by the Turkish Governor. Two hundred and fifty men of the Border Regiment and a company of the Royal Medical Corps have left Malta for Crete.

LONDON, SEPT. 9.

The *Times* correspondent at Candia states that 800 Christians have been massacred and the town has been pillaged by the Bashi Bazouks. The Turkish troops were seen firing upon the British forces.

THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT 1897-98.

THE total net duty collected during the year fell from Rs. 3,89,37,261 in 1896-97 to Rs. 3,85,05,944, showing a decreased of Rs. 4,31,317 or 1·1 per cent. The charges of the year, inclusive of refunds and drawbacks, amounted to Rs. 12,00,094 against Rs. 12,15,472 in the previous year. the total net receipts. including receipts other than duty, fell from Rs. 3,84,29,248 in 1896-97 to Rs. 3,79,73,556 in the year under review, thus showing a decrease of Rs. 4,55,692, or 1·1 per cent.

The total net value of the foreign import trade in merchandise showed a decrease of Rs. 2,23,95,600, or 7·4 pet cent. The decrease which occurred both in free and dutiable goods, is attributable to the deficient harvest in 1896, and it is remarkable that the apparent effects of that calamity on trade should be so slight, the value of the imports of merchandise being actually greater than in 1894-95 or 1895-96. Owing to heavier receipts of gold from China and Australia, and of silver from the United Kingdom, there was an increase of Rs. 1,48,34,823, or 83 per cent in the imports of treasure. The value of the stores imported on behalf of Government stood at Rs. 2,13,25,189 against Rs. 1,65,20,247 in the previous year. This increase is ascribed to larger receipts of railway materials, arms and ammunition, apparel, telegraph materials, stationary, flax goods, and hardware. The total value of the foreign export trade in Indian produce again fell off by Rs. 41,68,420. The smaller shipments of opium to Hongkong and the Straits Settlements, and of indigo to the United Kingdom account for this decline. The value of exports of Government stores increased by 105 per cent owing to the unusually large despatches of copper coins to the Straits Settlements. As in previous years, there were no exports of treasure on account of Government. In the coasting trade there was an increase of 14 per cent, and of 5 per cent, respectively, in the value of imports and exports of merchandise. The increase in the former is attributable to the unusually large shipments of rice and paddy from Burma to meet the demand caused by scarcity in India, while large despatches of coal to Bombay, Madras and Burma, of rice and wheat to Madras, of rapeseed and jute manufactures to Bombay and of provisions to Burma account for the increase in the exports. Including Government transactions, the total value of the trade of the Province stood at Rs. 98,21,51,684, against Rs. 95,34,57,341 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 2,86,94,343, or 3 per cent.

As usual, the bulk of the trade was carried on with the United Kingdom, but the proportion which this branch bears to entire foreign trade of the port declined during the year from 58·57 per cent in 1896-97 to 53·87. The falling-off in value was equivalent to 8 per cent, and the total trade recorded is the smallest since 1892-93. The decrease occurred in both imports and exports.

The total value of the imports, including treasure, but excluding Government transactions into Calcutta from foreign countries fell from Rs. 31,90,39,573 in 1896-97 to Rs. 31,11,60,201, showing a decrease of Rs. 78,79,372, or 24 per cent.

The total imports of cotton goods, including twist and yarn, decreased by 17 per cent, in comparison with 1896-97.

Sugar shows a marked increase of 117·7 per cent, to which all the exporting countries, except the United Kingdom, contributed. This increase is attributed to the continued operation of the Continental bounty system, regarding which the Collector makes the following remarks:—

"Under the encouragement of bounties this trade has been steadily expanding for some years. The past year's trade was further favourably assested by a plentuous beet crop and an advancing exchange. At the same time it is not believed that the trade has been a lucrative one: supply was invariably in excess of demand causing continual decline in prices. It is stated that a general opinion is gaining ground as to the desirability of abolishing these bounties. Not only is the bounty system very costly to the countries concerned (for the current year, 1898, the cost of France alone is estimated at £4,500,000), but the heavy protection duty also makes it very costly to the consumer. It is stated that the average consumption of sugar on the Continent is less than one-third that of England.

"The consumer objects to the high price he has to pay, and the producer complains of the smallness of consumption. These two grievances combined form the basis for considerable agitation against the bounty system on the Continent. Germany, Austria and Belgium are in favor of abolition, and the general objection to bounties on sugar has resulted in the invitation lately issued to the Powers to meet in conference at Brussels."

The Brussels' Conference has unfortunately not led to any practical result. In the meantime, the imposition by the United States, America, of contervailing differential duties against bounty fed sugar, while beneficial to the West Indian colonies, is likely to divert Continenral boonty-fed sugar to this country, still further depressing the local industry.

The total value of exports from Calcutta to foreign countries, including treasure, but excluding Government transactions, rose from Rs. 44,96,22,097 to Rs. 45,32,27,558, an increase of Rs. 36,05,551.

The total exports of raw jute increased in quantity by 32 per cent, but in consequence of the low price prevailing during the year the aggregate value decreased by 4·3 per cent. Larger exports were made to the United Kingdom, Austria-Hungary, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, the United States, and Australia, while China, Japan, and "other countries" took smaller supplies. In jute gunny-bags there was an increase of 19·9 per cent, due to the larger amount of machinery now at work in India. In the total exports of opium there was a falling-off to the extent of 1,681 chests, but the trade with China, the principal consumer of the drug, shows an increase of 5·8 per cent. The exports of tea increased by nearly two million pounds or 1·3 per cent, owing to larger shipments to all the importing countries. The excess of production over demand, the rise exchange, and the fact that the teas were generally deficient in good liquoring qual lowered the average price of the article, which stood at 8 annas and 5 pies per lb, in the year, against 8 annas and 8 pies in 1896-7. Ceylon tea continues to gain favour, and the quantity exported during the year increased by 3·9 per cent. The Collector of Customs observes:—

"In view of the active competition of Ceylon teas, the Indian planters have taken advantage of the warning note sounded, and are now endeavouring to manufacture a better liquoring quality of tea, and are not trusting entirely to quantity for their profit, experience having shown that most of the lower grades do not repay the cost of production and manufacture."

The total value of the foreign trade of the port of Chittagong rose from Rs. 75,39,602 to Rs. 81,50,349 showing an increase of Rs. 6,10,747, or 8·1 per cent.

The total value of the trade, both foreign and coasting, at the Orissa ports, as compared with 1896-97 rose at Balasore from Rs. 1,26,61,352 to Rs. 1,46,76,513; at Cuttack from Rs. 26,09,173 to Rs. 27,63,354; and at Pooree from Rs. 4,59,818, to Rs. 4,61,170.

The trade at Naraingunge which is carried on with coast ports only, rose from Rs. 55,88,341 to Rs. 60,40,026 an increase of 8 per cent. Salt was the only dutiable article imported into this port, and the duty on it rose from Rs. 4,37,950, to Rs. 7,15,777, or by 63 per cent.

BENGAL POLICE, 1897-98

THE last number of the "Calcutta Gazette" contains the Government Resolution on the Report on the administration of the Police Department for the year 1897-98. The actual expenditure is shown as Rs. 52,83,276—an increase of Rs. 3,99,276 over the budget grant. Of this, Rs. 273,142 was expended in compensation for dearness of provisions. The remainder of the excess was mainly due to the entertainment of extra men in connection with the plague, the famine and Railway extensions, and to repairs and re-building necessitated by the earthquake, and the cyclone in the Chittagong District, the cyclone alone entailing an expenditure of Rs. 20,000. The Police expenditure, during the last ten years, has gone on increasing steadily,—from Rs. 40,82,462 in 1888-89 to Rs. 52,83,276 for 1897-98 as noted above. The Lieutenant-Governor thinks that this growth of expenditure should be closely watched, and considerable economy exercised in regard to details.

The number of investigating officers selected at the two competitive examinations was 83. Besides these, 31 meritorious head-constables and writer-constables were promoted to the rank of Sub-Inspector. The Sub-Inspectors appointed under the competitive system now number 580, nearly half of the total of officers in that grade.

In the Police Training School there were 165 students, of whom 3 qualified as Inspectors, 148 as Sub-Inspectors and 14 failed to obtain certificates. During the year there has been an increase of 17 district schools for the education of the rank and file of the Police.

An addition of four officers and 61 men to the total strength of the Town Police was made during the year. The night patrol system is said to have given satisfaction.

There was in cognizable crime in the Province an increase of 37,628 cases, and in non-cognizable crime a decrease of 3,669 cases. The police arrested 59,887 persons, of whom 38,152 or 63 per cent were convicted, against 46,558 arrests and 26,909 convictions or 58 per cent, in the previous year. The number of persons arrested under orders of the Magistrates was 22,164, of whom 6,382 or 29 per cent, were convicted. Rioting cases rose from 2,363 to 3,203 in number, or by 39 per cent. During the year the Central Office in Calcutta succeeded in identifying 492 persons, whom the local police were unable to recognise. In the previous three years the number of such identifications was 143,207 and 334 respectively.

THE *Pioneer's* London correspondent cables that the Will of the late Mr. W. E. Gladstone has been proved for £60,000.

LORD SANDHURST, on completion of his tour early in October, will proceed direct to Simla, taking only a few members of his personal staff with him.

THE new Nilgiri Railway to Coonoor, just completed, will not be ready for actual traffic until the 1st November.

THAT the planting of shade trees by the roadside may be financially remunerative in the end, is seen in the Tanjore district report, in which one of the items of revenue is Rs. 7,358 from "avenue clippings and produce."

IN a resolution regarding the recent operations against dacoits, the Government of Bombay declines to interfere with the Commissioner of the Central Division or to issue special orders. Regarding the action of the police the Inspector-General is instructed to issue circulars reminding all police officers that the practise of firing over the heads of instead of at persons against whom they are called to act is prohibited, and if they fire at all they must fire to hit.

THE first step towards ocean penny postage has been taken, the Government of India having decided that from 1st October next the present rate of inland postage of one anna for every tola will be changed to one anna for every tola and-a-half. There will be no change in the rate of half a tola for half an anna.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

SOVEREIGNS IN EGGS.

MR. CARL HERTZ, the famous conjurer and illusionist, has had some very amusing experiences while performing in different parts of the world. An interesting story is told by "To-Day," when in New Zealand, he happened to meet a Maori woman carrying a large basket of eggs. The Maoris are, perhaps, the most superstitious race extant. He asked permission to break one of the eggs, which was granted, and, on opening it, he showed her a sovereign in the centre of it. Three times did he repeat the trick, when the woman stopped him, and hurriedly departed to break open the whole of her stock to find sovereigns. Fortunately for Mr. Hertz, he did not pass that way again, or there might have been trouble.

PUBLIC MEETING AT THE NOVELTY THEATRE.

WELCOME TO THE HON. MR. A. M. BOSE.

A PUBLIC meeting, under the auspices of the Bombay Presidency Association, was held at the Novelty Theatre on Saturday evening, (the 3rd instant.) The Theatre was packed from platform to ceiling by an enthusiastic and representative gathering of all classes of the community. Great interest was evinced in the fluent and able speech which the Hon'ble Mr. Bose delivered, and when the meeting concluded the audience gathered round our visitor and followed him to his carriage, cheering him vigorously as he drove away in the company of the Hon. Mr. Chandavarkar and Mr. D. E. Wacha. The meeting was a great success both in point of numbers and in the excellence of the speeches delivered by the various speakers.

The Hon. Mr. Pherozeshah M. Metha, C.I.E., presided and was supported on the platform by a large gathering of the members of the Bombay Presidency Association and other influential gentlemen, among whom were Messrs. N. G Chandavarkar, D. E Wacha and Amerudin Tyabji, Honorary Secretaries; the Hon. Mr. Daji Abaji Khare, the Hon. Mr. Goculdas Kandas Parekh, the Hon. Dr. Bhalchandra Krishna Bhatvadekar, the Hon. Mr. Vijbhookundas Atmaram, Mrs. F. R. Wadia, Miss Dhanbai C. Tarachand, Mr. J. N. Tata, Mr. R. M. Sayani, Mr. C.H. Sitalwad, Dr. Dadysett, Messrs. Virchand Dipchand, C.I.E., Lukhmidas Khimji, Vassonji Khimji, Nazmudin Tyabji, Gordhundas Khatao Makanji, Dharamsi Morarji Gokuldas, Naranji Lwarkadas, Damodurdas Tapidas, K. R. Kama, Nawab Nusrulakhan, Dharamsi Dwarkadas, Tribovundas Vurjivandas, Balaji Pandurung, Rahimtoola Khairaz Futeihali Shaik Ahmed, Fazulbhoy Joomabhoy Lalji, Curimbhoy Nensi, Nurotum Morarji Gokuldas, Matturadas Gokuldas, N.V. Sumrath, N. V. Gokhale, Dr. Rao, Mr. Nanabhoy R. Ranina, Sorabji E. Warden, A. B. Patel, Dorabji C. Shroff, Cursondas Chabildas, Dr. Jan Mahomed Ismail, Messrs. Narandas Purshotamdas, Mulji Bhowanidas, Rustom K. R. Cama, G N. Nadkarni, Shamrao Vithal, Dr. M. K. Hiramnik, Messrs. F. F. Talyarkhan, Hormusji Shapurji Chothia, Hormusji Muncherji Cama, Damodardas Lakhmidas Khimji, S. S. Setna, Kaji Kabaruddin, Jamiatram Nanabhoy Haridas, M. R. Bodas, M B. Kirloskar, K. M Javari, Dr. R. N. Ranina, Messrs. Chunilal H Sitalwad, M. M. Munshi, S. D. Khote, D. G. Pahdaye, S. H Hodiwala, Lalubhai A. Shah, Dhakji Cassinath, Gunputrao M. Pitale, Jaganath Sanzgari, Dr. H. B Dantra, Dr. D. J. Montero, Shapurji Sorabji Phiroji, C. Setna, Nowroji M. Cooper, A. B. Pochaji and many others.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The Hon. Mr. P. M. Mehta in opening the meeting said :—Ladies and gentlemen, the Bombay Presidency Association have ventured to call this public meeting to do honor to one who has rendered much valuable services to our country, I mean my friend the Hon. Mr. A. M. Bose (cheers) who has recently been to England. On his return we should not allow him to pass through our city without according to him a cordial expression of our esteem and gratitude. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Bose is not a stranger to us. We know that for several years back he has devoted the great talents and accomplishments with which he is endowed to the cause of his country. (Cheers and cries of hear, hear.) Ladies and gentlemen, the services which he recently rendered have a peculiar value in consequence of the nature and temper of the times through which we have been passing. These have been troublous times, and I may venture to say that Providence has been pouring on our devoted heads trials and afflictions of no ordinary character. We have been afflicted with famine, plague, pestilence and earthquakes. Ladies and gentlemen, one would have thought that when we were afflicted in such a manner the sympathies of our rulers would have turned towards the people, with generous hearts, but unfortunately some of those who are not in sympathy with us have seized the opportunity to clamour for pouring more trials and more afflictions upon us. And besides the natural visitations which have befallen us, that is, the visitation of plague, earthquake and pestilence, we have repressive and retrograde measures of an unusual character thrust upon us. (Cries of shame, shame). I do not propose to go into a discussion of the circumstances which have led to these events. I sincerely deplore that these measures should have been resorted to, which are injurious alike to the earnest and devoted loyalty of all classes of her Majesty's subjects in India, and to the majestic strength of the solid British rule in this country. (Cheers). One question which occurs to every thinking mind in these times is how we should meet them. Well, ladies and gentlemen, I am an optimist like our esteemed and distinguished countryman the Hon. Mr. Justice Ranade. (Loud cheers.) I take it in the philosophic spirit in which he always receives such events. I take it as trials and troubles through which every nation and every country must pass in its onward progress. (Cheers). But, ladies and gentlemen, my optimism is not of that optimistic character by which we should sit with folded hands. We must be up and doing. Ladies and gentlemen, the great bulwark of our rights and privileges is attacked in a manner in which it ought not to have been attacked by the British Parliament and British nation. That I may call an attack of Imperial influenza. (Cheers.) But we must not suppose that they have abandoned their sympathy for us; they have only held it in suspense. (Hear, hear). Then you will ask what we should do? The answer to that question is, work like our two esteemed and distinguished countrymen Messrs. Dutt and Bose. (Hear, hear.) Through good report and bad report we know that they have been working silently and devotedly. (Hear, hear and cheers). We are glad that we should have here to-day one of the two gentlemen who had gone to England to do such valuable service to our country. We meet here for the purpose of giving cordial expression of the gratitude which we feel for the work that Mr. Bose has so devotedly done for our country. (Hear, hear.) I will not detain you any further but shall call upon my friend the Hon. Mr. Chandavarkar to propose the first resolution before you.

THE HON. MR. CHANDAVARKAR SPEAKS.

The Hon. Mr. N. G. Chandavarkar proposed the following resolution :—

"That this Public Meeting wishes to give cordial expression to the high appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the Hon'ble Mr. A. M. Bose in placing before the British public the views and feelings of the people of this country regarding the policy that has been recently pursued concerning Indian affairs and tenders to him their best thanks for his able vindication of the loyalty and attachment to the British Crown of the educated as well as all other classes of the Indian community."

He said :—Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I not only feel great pleasure in moving the resolution which I have just read, but I deem it a privilege to be called upon to propose it. The Hon. Mr. Ananda Mohan Bose, whom we have all met this evening to accord a cordial welcome back to his country, after arduous and disinterested service rendered to it during his stay in England, is an old friend of mine, for whom I have ever felt great respect, and I am glad to have on this occasion the opportunity of bearing my humble testimony to the qualities which have made him one of the most prominent of our public men and one of the most sincere of our reformers. Mr. Bose is one of those who may be justly styled reformer all along the line. He is not only a politician but a religious, social and educational reformer as well. Unassuming and unobtrusive, he has worked to promote progress in all directions to the best of his power and ability, and he is as active a member of the Indian Association of Calcutta as he is a leading and highly respected member of the Bramo Samaj. (Cheers.) The late Ram Tonoo Lahiri whom I visited in Calcutta in 1886 and who was at that time the oldest citizen of that city, being ninety years old, held up to me the example of Mr. Ananda Mohan Bose, because he said that, with humility, activity and ability, he possessed the even more exemplary virtue of piety and brought to bear on all questions in which he took interest a sense of holiness. (Cheers.) Mr. Bose went last year to England for some private business, but he utilised that time with his usual assiduity in acquainting the British Public with Indian affairs. And now that he returns to India after nearly a year's absence and after rendering valuable service to his countrymen, we give him a most cordial welcome (Lord cheers.) I am sure I am echoing the sentiments of all her, present when I say that we feel deeply grateful to Mr. Bose for the good work he has done and the disinterested service he has rendered. (Cheers.)

SECONDING THE RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

The Hon. Mr. Sayani, in supporting the resolution before the meeting, said that he felt honored in seconding the resolution which had been proposed by his Hon. friend Mr. Chandavarkar. After the eloquent speeches of the President and of Mr. Chandavarkar he was not going to inflict a speech on them, especially as by so doing he would be interposing himself between the guest of the evening and themselves. The country had been passing through troublous times within the last two on three years. They knew that the British Government was a just Government, and respected the wishes of the people. At the same time it was a foreign government that did not understand the people of the country and therefore it was absolutely necessary that the people of this country should be adequately represented by someone who understood the wishes of the people. He would not dwell at length on the many services that had been rendered by Mr. Bose but would content himself with cordially seconding the motion of Mr. Chandavarkar which he hoped they would carry with acclamation.—*Advocate of India.*

MR. A. M. BOSE'S SPEECH.

MR. A. M. BOSE delivered the following speech at the meeting held on the 3rd instant, at the instance of the Bombay Presidency Association, to welcome him :—

Mr. A. M. Bose rose amidst ringing cheers and said : Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, friends and brethren, as I stand before this grand and august gathering an instance in my travelling in the dry lands of Germany prominently comes to my mind. In that travelling, amidst magnificence of the combination of rivers and hills through the scenery of unrivalled beauty, a traveller very often comes across ruins of old castles. On enquiry he is told that in olden times lords of these castles, when a traveller passed by the highways, made him pay a toll at these castles, and it seems to me that standing before you now, my friend Mr. Vatcha by his kind request (hear, hear) asked me to pay a toll in a few words while passing through your magnificent city. I have not the slightest desire to compare you with the great Fuedal Lords of old, but yet, there is some degree of similarity and these Lords of old sometimes made a mistake. A traveller was got hold of, who was poor in his belongings and had hardly anything with him to pay the toll. I may say that my friend has committed in the present instance a similar mistake. But, at any rate, ladies and gentlemen, however poor I may be in every other respect, there is one toll in the tribute which I have to pay to you cheerfully, gratefully, willingly, in no grudging terms and in no scanty measures of gratitude for great honour that you have done me and for the immeasurable kindness that you have shown in coming together on this occasion; and when my eyes rest on this magnificent demonstration, it seems to me that, however abased I may feel on personal grounds, however, much a blush of shame and humiliation may rise up to my face on the poor services which I have been able to render, I am exalted to see how kind my countrymen are (hear, hear) in appreciating any services, however poor and humble and insignificant they may be, rendered to their country in the cause of our common motherland (hear, hear). This is one feature which has struck my mind; and, in spite of that personal sense of humiliation, I feel proud on looking at the grand and noble sentiment to which they have given expression. Ladies and gentlemen, as I look round this meeting I see a mark of the growing sense of *unity* amongst the various provinces of this country (Cheers), growing sense of solidarity which is marked step by step on its onward march from day to day. I think, sir, that seeing this demonstration I can imagine that Bengal is not apart from Bombay, (Cheers) when I find that you receive and welcome me to your bosom. There is this feeling also, namely, that of a common sentiment of patriotism and common ties of fellow citizenship, and a common allegiance of countrymen (Cheers), one can claim for common allegiance a wider and ampler recognition. May this dawn go on until a burning day burst forth when we shall find the whole of this country united into a loyal nation, and from this sentiment of loyalty and deep attachment, we trust that, English people will before long come to recognise the justice of our many claims. Then, ladies and gentlemen, you perhaps would wish to know what are the sentiments in England with regard to the interest that may be taken in Indian questions; but before I go to that let me add one word of acknowledgments and thanks for two kind terms in which you, sir, form my left and my right, have been pleased to speak of my humble services. I feel I am being crushed under their weight, and would to God that I may live to deserve even a tithe or the hundreth part of the kind and cordial sentiments that have been given expression to, and if my services have been worth anything, at any rate I can honestly say this that I have tried, however insignificantly, at some little sacrifice to that little my ability enabled me to do, to give the views, feelings and aspirations and of our fellow-countrymen before the pen whose hands rests the destiny of ourselves tried to do that and with pleasure. I can thank him from whom I got the impulse to do a little sacrifice in the cause of my country and my own countrymen. My prayer is that you will inspire ardent and burning in the people who are far better than myself to sacrifice their interest a little in the service of their country, by getting an agitation and constitutional spite and show to the people of England what measures of justice has to one and ought to be done to this country (Cheers). Now coming to the question as to what my experience is with regard to the position of Indian interest to people over there I need not tell you, sir, as you know it self well, that, as a rule, English people have enough to mind of their own business and they are absorbed and occupied their world-wide national concern, as a rule, John Bull has not that element of knight-errantry in him which would induce to find out the wrong and redress the grievance or to listen to the cry of a distressed damsel or a demon or a giant. But, Sir, if you go to them and point out to them where your evil depend upon it that their sense of justice would respond to your cry. Therefore, in a moment of discouragement and the hour of trial you must remember about England that, the fate of this country is linked with a nation which is progressive, which is justicing, which is rightly moving, and would render you a full measure of justice. But, perhaps, ladies and gentlemen, you would wish to know what reason I have for my faith in the English sense of justice, I shall place before you some facts that will, at any rate, in this hour of depression, sustain your spirits; because what I say is based on the personal experience and on recent personal knowledge. I can tell you facts from a great many meetings at which it has been my privilege to be present during the last nine or ten months. I must select two or three typical instances and mention to you a few facts. I can tell you the result of my experience gathered not in one class of audience but from meetings consisting of cultured and of—I hope it will neither be libel, sedition or defamation say so—uncultured people. (Laughter.) have brought facts from election meetings and from meetings and gatherings he in the heat and excitment and held in many times; from party meetings, and all I am able to say in just two or three instances, from non-party meetings composed the partisans of the both great powers of England. I will place before you a few facts, just two or three of these meetings. The first meeting was in my old University of Cambridge which I had the privilege to address. It was a meeting throughout of cultured people. It was a meeting of the Unionist Society of Cambridge, and at which none but the members one University are admitted, and, sir, there is another reason why I feel special pleasure referring to that meeting, because the man there was introduced by a gentleman of this country, Mr. Baptista. The motion condemning the policy of coercion, not a mincing mat adopted of late in India. There is another feature in regard to that meeting which I shall place before you It was not only a meeting of cultured audience, but it was a meeting whose political constitution was essentially conservative. Why, sir, only two weeks after that, there was a party motion between the Liberals and the Conservatives, and there the Conservatives carried the motion by a majority of to 1. In that gathering we carried our motion by a large majority, condemning the policy of late adopted in India, the policy that was branded, and rightly branded, by Englishmen themselves as a policy of coercion (cheers). Take heart there, take cheer and encouragement from the example of that distinguished leader Mr. Naoroji (cheers). He was to support that motion, but he was unfortunately, unavoidably, prevented from coming, and it then fell on my humble shoulders to bear the burden which had originally been intened for him. Overwhelmingly crushing facts were placed before the meeting, every aspect of the question was discussed, and every side of it was represented by the Tories and the Liberals and by a certain representative of Anglo-Indian opinion of a certain type (cheer). Let me pass on to another meeting consisting of the rough working men and miners of the North of England. It was election time. Great election fight was then going on. The whole of that place belong to Lord Londondery and his family, and no part of it could be hired without their permission. The very train that carried us to that place was Lord Londondery's private property. There were interruptions, but the poor speaker who addressed that meeting in the cause of India was received with enthusiasm when the claims of justice on behalf of India were placed before them, and when it was pointed out to them that on their vote depended the welfare, to some extent the destiny, of millions of their fellow-citizens in this vast colony. I can tell you that there was a magnanimous and an enthusiastic response which must give pleasure to me for the rest of his life. (Cheers.) That was my first experience of workmen's meeting. When the question of justice to India was discussed their enthusiasm was undoubted, perhaps I do not know whether I ought to mention it that a certain distinguished Knight was also there to represent the other side. I need not mention his name, and he is identified by the description I have given. You will thus see that at that meeting there was a representation of both sides of Indian questions. I will mention here one another meeting that was a party meeting and not the non-party meeting like the first two. It is entitled to higher respect, that it is possible to give a Liberal manifestation to the feelings and sentiments. It was the annual gathering of the National Liberal Federation in the town Leister. For the information of those who may not know the history of that institution, that it is an organization of the great Liberal party that shapes its actions, inspires its policy, and can be called National Congress of the great Liberal party. The only difference is that our National Congress hopes to have its objects fulfilled sooner or later. Well, gentlemen, at that august gathering were drawn together all the big guns the biggest guns of the Liberal party. There were many points of resemblance between that august assembly and our National Congress. At that annual gathering was the first time an Indian voice appealed for the Indian cause (hear, hear), for the first time in the history of that gathering they heard it. The encouragement and cheering they gave was not on account of the merits and the virtues of the speakers, but on account of the merits of the claims of the great cause with which our country has been identified, and in consequence of that claim their hearing was patient, attentive and enthusiastic to the pleading on behalf of India. (Cheers.) It was a sight worth seeing, and, I venture to hope, that the beginning that has been made there will be continued until the British mind identifies our claims and aspirations. A great resolution dealing with the Indian aspect of the policy of the present Government in India was accepted and passed with immeasurable enthusiasm. Ladies and gentlemen, at meetings held in any quarter of England—North, South, East and West—by cultured and uncultured people, there is one response to your aspirations; but, sir, that work has to be continuously carried, sustained, maintained and improved upon from time to time. I will not go further into the history of these meetings which it was my privilege to address. I have placed before you samples not carefully selected for a specific purpose, but as an honest illustration of the sentiments of the English people in regard to Indian matters in so many English quarters. But, sir, before I leave this question of these meetings let me follow the footsteps of our friend the Hon'ble Mr. Mehta and mention to you the name of my esteemed friend, Mr. R. C. Dutt. (Cheers). He is true to his salt as a pensioner doing great work in England (cheers.) I hope that next year Bombay will be represented by four gentlemen instead of Bengal by two. (Cheers.) I make that appeal, but do not imagine for a moment that I forget that person in England whose tower of strength and devoted services are before you all. I mean Mr. Dadabhoy Naoroji. He is not Grand Old Man of Bombay but of all India. (Hear, hear.) I leave him by far the present and venture to make an appeal to this great audience in Bombay that the work that has been begun by the two representatives of Bengal last year will be kept up by a representative of your great province, who will carry on that work with energy, capacity and eloquence, and power of which we have such ample and more than ample testimony in meetings after meetings and organisation after organization. I ventured to plead to this audience, and from the cheers I trust that my appeal will not have been made in vain. (Cheers). Let me say a few words with regard to the character of the work you have to carry on in England. In regard to this matter let me speak of the valuable work that the British Committee is doing for us (Cheers). I must tell you the views of the leaders of that Committee which are that the work that has now begun in England must be very much extended to bear fruit, and that it must be carried on from constituency to constituency in order that there may be impression made in England for justice to India and we must not rest before full justice is done to us. To illustrate what I mean, let me mention another instance in my experience during the last few months. I will refer to what happened at a meeting in Peterborough. After the meeting I joined in a sort of a supper given by one of the promoters of the meeting in which all the promoters and leading members were present of not only enjoying the good things provided there—champagne and other delectable articles (laughter)—but of joining in a private or an informal talk over matters which had been touched or addressed at the meeting. During supper a leading gentleman earnestly begged of me that some arrangement might be made by which the interest that had been created on that occasion might be kept up. They told me that English people would to-morrow hear of some murder and would forget the interest that I had made the previous evening. What they suggested was that there should be an organization secretary, who would a few days after such meetings visit leading gentlemen and increase the interest which they had formed in the meeting. He should also distribute leaflets and pamphlets bearing on Indian questions after the meeting is over. They say that the distribution of these things before the meeting would not be of very great advantage as it would go to form the bulk of the refuse to be taken away by the servant the next day. But that they should be distributed after some interest had been awakened so that people may carry them home and may read them. English people have one characteristic, that if you once place a thing before their gaze they stick to it like any thing, and if you place before them your grievances it would be a great thing for us (hear, hear.) They also said that the organization secretary should form local centres, distribute literature, and arrange for public addresses once a year. Shall we or shall we not do that work? If, sir, there ever was a case that needed perseverance, that desires persistence, it is the case of our own father-land. Then let us work for our country and the country of our children who will come after us. I recall to my mind the memory of my holy and sacred visit on the 15th of November last to the tomb of Professor Fawcett. He rests in an unpretentious style. There is no masonry to make it. His was a simple tomb containing his name and without eulogy, but there is one sentence on his tomb to the effect "speak to my people to go forward." Let us go forward and then we shall discharge our duty to our country and our rulers. (Sat amids loud and continued cheers).—*Mahratta.*

FINAL orders regarding the formation of the Burma-China Delimitation Commission are expected from the Home Government at any moment now.

WHEN the people of Barisal prayed to Sir John Woodburn for the withdrawal of the disarmament measure on the score of ravages of wild animals, His Honour rejected it and sought to console them with the assurance that the district authorities would afford them sufficient protection. But, it appears from letters received from Backergunj, as well as from local newspapers, that the local authorities have failed to afford that protection to human life and property from the ravages of wild animals which His Honour promised. Indeed, so bold have the wild animals grown of late that they now fearlessly enter the heart of the city. A few days ago, we published a letter, detailing how a tiger came to the town, how the townspeople, unarmed as they were, shut themselves up in their homes and how the District Magistrate had to come and shoot it dead. Nor is it the only case of a tiger making its way into the town. We are told that one man, wounded by a tiger, has since died. As for the ravages of wild boars on crops, the complaint is universal. Will His Honour be graciously pleased to look to this?

KINGS AND QUEENS NOT FREE FROM ACCIDENTS.

CAREFULLY fenced in, though Royalty may be it is not by any means exempt from those mishap that seem to be the general lot, in a greater so lesser degree, of all mankind; a fact which has been strikingly brought to mind lately, owing to the sad accident which has befallen the Heir-Apparent.

Even Her Majesty herself has had several narrow escapes. The first happened on January 4th, 1820, when she was not quite a year old. Her parents, the Duke and Duchess of Kent, were then living in retirement at Woolbrook Cottage, Sidmouth, Devonshire. A little boy, the son of a neighbouring farmer, having surreptitiously obtained possession of a gun, entered the grounds surrounding the cottage, and fired at some birds that were in a tree near the nursery. At that moment a servant, carrying the infant princess, approached the window, the panes of which were completely shattered by shot. Luckily the charge passed over the head of our future Sovereign; but she received several nasty cuts from broken glass.

Another mishap that might have been attended with very serious consequences occurred on August 23rd, 1822, when the little princess was thrown from her pony-carriage. Luckily, she was saved from falling upon her head by a soldier of the 73rd Foot, who sprang forward and seized the child by the frock, swinging her into his arms as she fell. On yet another occasion, while at Malvern, the little girl tumbled head foremost into a deep ditch filled with black, muddy water. She was, however, hauled out immediately, and escaped with nothing worse than a scalding, and the mortification of knowing that she had ruined her best frock.

Many more of these childish contretemps might be recorded, such as, for instance, the Queen's tumble out of an oak, while bird-nesting in Windsor Great Park at the age of ten; and the somewhat severe scalding she got a couple of years later, through attempting to carry a kettle of boiling water in one hand, while caressing her favourite dog with the other. But these were after all comparatively slight matters. It was not until after she became a widow that there occurred the first really serious accident of her life. This was at Balmoral; Her Majesty was out driving after dark with the Princesses Alice and Helena, when the horses bolted and the carriage was upset. All three occupants received injuries, the Queen's being principally about the head and face. It is said that to this day Her Majesty feels the effects, at odd intervals, of this shock to the system, as she does also, although in a lesser degree, the accident to her knee which happened soon afterwards, and which has caused her to refrain from unnecessary walking exercise ever since.

The Prince of Wales has, up till now, been somewhat luckier than his Royal mother, although he, too, has come in for his full share of minor mishaps. When quite a lad, for instance, he was within an ace of being shot dead by Lord Canning, who was aiming at a low-flying bird, not noticing that the Prince was standing directly in the line of fire. The Hon. C. Grey, seeing the child's danger, unceremoniously pushed him down, and the charge flew over his head; but Mr. Grey himself was badly injured, receiving a number of pellets in the face. Instantly there was a tremendous hubbub. "You have shot the Prince!" cried a keeper. "Good God!" exclaimed Canning; and he fell forward in a fainting fit

In April, 1857, again, while hill-climbing in Cumberland, His Royal Highness partly rolled and partly fell down a precipice eighty feet high; but, beyond a severe shaking and a choice assortment of bruises, escaped without injury. An accident which was, however, very nearly being attended with fatal results, occurred during the Prince's tour in the Holy Land. Rising very early one morning, he went for a bath in the Dead Sea, and was seized with either cramp or a fainting fit, it is not quite clear which. He was rescued in a semi-conscious state by a native guide; and experts afterwards declared that only the extreme buoyancy of the water prevented him from meeting with an untimely end. Yet another escape from drowning took place in August, 1874, when Count Batthyany's yacht Kriemhilda, with the Prince on board, was run down by the Duke of Rutland's schooner Shark.

Some three years prior to this latter mishap, occurred the great fire at Marlborough House at which the Prince worked side by side with firemen, and very nearly came to grief. In hauling some hose through a partially burnt-out room, the charred flooring gave way under him; and only the stoutness of the joists prevented his being precipitated some sixty feet into the still smouldering ruins below.

Of accidents whilst riding, the Prince has been often a victim, as, indeed, is only to be expected, seeing that he has been in the saddle more or less ever since he could walk.

Perhaps the most serious of these occurred on July 2nd, 1866. His Royal Highness was riding in Rotten Row, in company with the Queen of the Belgians and his equerry, when a gentleman, who had lost control of his mount, dashed into the party, colliding with the Prince and hurling him and his horse to the ground. The animal rolled over its rider, but luckily no bones were broken; and a few days later, the Prince was up and about apparently as well as ever.

It is not generally known that the Empress Frederick, the Queen's eldest child, had a narrow escape, when a young girl, of being burnt to death. She was sealing a letter at the table, and was all at once in flames, her sleeve having caught fire at the candle. Mrs. Hildyard, her governess, seized the shrieking child and rolled her in the hearth rug; but she was terribly scorched, and carries the scars to this day. Most people will be able to recall the particulars of the sad accident to Prince Christian, who lost one of his eyes while shooting some few years back.

Happily only one fatal accident has to be recorded among the Queen's immediate descendants. This happened to Prince Fritz, the second son of the Princess Alice, on the 29th of May, 1873. On the morning of the fatal day, the mother was resting in bed, having just returned from an exhausting journey. Her two little sons came to bid her "good-morning" and by her wish were left in her room by the nurse.

The children soon began to play, as was their wont, running in and out of the room into the adjacent one, and looking first from one window and then from another. Prince Ernest having run into the next room, the Princess followed him, leaving Prince Fritz in her bedroom. During her almost momentary absence he fell out of the window on to the stone terrace below.

Whether he had leaned too far out and over-balanced himself, or whether in racing through the room to look for his brother he was unable to stop himself and fell from it, no one really knows. He was picked up insensible and died a few hours later in the arms of his well-nigh distracted mother.

HOW to close the last scene of the Natu brothers drama, has been a puzzle to the Bombay authorities since some time past. In a state of panic, they were deported; but the cooler moments came and the authorities realized that they did what they should not have done. Of course, they could not admit their mistake, infallible as they are. So they are trying to undo the wrongs done to the brothers in a way as not to let the public know it. So their property was restored at first; then they were released on parole; and now we are told that the Government is contemplating to remove all restrictions put upon them.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

ALTERING A JUDGMENT.

THE following is the sworn petition of Sew Govindo Roy, judgment in whose case was alleged to have been altered by Mr. G. W. Place, Sessions Judge of Sarun:—

Your petitioner along with eight other persons were tried in the Court of the Deputy Magistrate of Chapra on charges under sections 148, 325, 326 read with section 149 I. P. C., that the learned Depuy Magistrate convicted your petitioner as well as three other accused persons under Section 325 I.P.C., and sentenced your petitioner as also the said three other accused persons to two years' rigorous imprisonment and your petitioner was further sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 100 each, and the said three other accused persons were sentenced to pay various sums of money and the rest of the accused persons were convicted and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for six months and to pay a fine of Rs. 50 each; that the learned Deputy Magistrate further ordered that the whole of the fine imposed upon the accused persons to be distributed for compensation, in all Rs. 850; that your petitioner as well as the other accused persons preferred an appeal to the Sessions Judge of Sarun who admitted the appeal and set it down for hearing and further ordered your petitioner to be enlarged on bail; that on the 23rd April the appeal came on for hearing before Mr. G. W. Place, Sessions Judge of Sarun, and the learned Judge, after hearing counsel on behalf of the accused and the Government pleader on behalf of the Crown, upheld the conviction as against all the accused persons, and the sentence in the case of three accused persons, *viz*, Bharat Doyal, Bhawani Raj, Lokenath Roy, and reduced the sentence passed upon the petitioner from two years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100 to three months rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 10 and also similarly reduced the sentence passed upon the remaining six accused persons by an order, dated the 30th April, 1898, and the Sessions Judge further ordered that the amount of fine to be distributed in compensation, in all Rs. 610; that on the 23rd May your petitioner as well as the other accused persons moved the Hon'ble High Court against the aforesaid order of conviction and sentence modified on appeal by the Sessions Judge of Saran, and their Lordships the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Bannerjee, after hearing counsel, refused to interfere; that after the said application was rejected by the High Court, the District Magistrate addressed a letter to the Sessions, Judge, on the subject of the sentence of fines passed upon the appellants by the Sessions Judge, and pointed out that the amount of fines would not make up the sum that was awarded for compensation by the Sessions Judge; that the learned Sessions Judge, thereupon, without any notice to your petitioner, altered his judgment, dated the 30th April, by putting the name of your petitioner along with the names of appellants whose appeal was absolutely dismissed, the effect of the said alteration being that the sentence of imprisonment as well as fine passed upon your petitioner by the Deputy Magistrate was confirmed; that the learned Sessions Judge thereafter cancelled his warrant that was issued to the Superintendent of Chapra jail.

The following is the copy of the warrant issued by the Sessions Judge to the Superintendent of jail on the 25th June, which was subsequently cancelled by him:—Whereas Sheo Gobind Sing, son of &c., &c., was convicted by M. Zakir Hossein, Deputy Magistrate of Chapra, of the offence under Sections 325 and 148 I. P. C, and was sentenced on the 22nd of March to two years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100 and in default to six months' further rigorous imprisonment and to give a bond of Rs. 200 with two sureties of Rs. 100 each to keep the peace for one year and in default to simple imprisonment for that period in section 106 I. P. C., after expiry of sentence, which conviction and sentence have been modified on appeal by this court and in lieu thereof the said Sheo Gobind Sing has been convicted of the offence under sections 326, 325 and 148 I. P C., and sentenced on the 30th April to three months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of rupees 10 or in default one month's rigorous imprisonment and the orders binding over the accused to keep the peace are also upheld.

This is to authorise and require you the said Superintendent to receive the said Sheo Gobind Sing into your custody in the said jail together with this warrant and carry the aforesaid sentence into execution according to law, and this is further to authorise and require you to return to this court the original warrant of commitment in lieu whereof this warrant is issued."

Their Lord-ships, Justices Ameer Ali and Henderson of the Calcutta High Court on the 7th instant, after hearing the peculiar circumstances of the case atonce issued a rule. The petitioners were admitted te bail.

REFERRING to the case of Srimati Akub Jhan, who was sentenced to death by the Sessions Judge of Barisal and which sentence was commuted to ten years' imprisonment on appeal to the High Court, the *Barisal Hitaisi* says:—At the Sessions, the defence was conducted by Babu Nibaranchandra Dass, M. A. B. L. The court was full when he made his speech for the accused; and the one impression it created upon those present, was that, after what had transpired, the accused could on no account be hanged. No wonder if they were astounded when they heard that capital sentence had been passed upon her by the Judge. Akub Jhan was a poor woman and could take no steps to save her life. Her condition excited the pity of Babu Nibaranchandra. He wrote an appeal on her behalf, and forwarded it to the High Court, with the result stated above. May we ask in how many cases the sentences of death, passed by our Sessions Judge, have been upheld by the High Court?

MR. James E. Ferrell, of Burnt House W. Va. has discarded all other diarrhœa medicines and now handles only Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy. He has used it in his family and sold it to his customers for years, and has no hesitation in saying that it is the best remedy for colic and diarrhœa, he has ever known. It not only gives relief, but effects a permanent cure. It is also pleasant and safe to take, making it an ideal remedy for bowel complaints. For sale by *

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QUEEN'S STATUE RESTORED.

PROFESSOR GAJJAR'S SUCCESS.

ALL loyal citizens must rejoice that, as we announced yesterday, the efforts made to restore the Queen's statue to the pristine beauty of which it was bereft by the hand of the spoiler two years ago have, at last, after frequent failures, been successful, and that in a few days the splendid gift of Khandeao Gaekwar will again be revealed to the public gaze. The disfigurement was made nearly two years ago, very soon after Bombay was confronted with the unpleasant conciousness that it was plague-stricken, and it is possible that the superstitious, who connected the two events together, will think that the removal of the strains is the precursor to the departure of the plague. If the thought could bring about the coincidence, we would all gladly turn superstitious for the time being; but unhappily appearances are against us. As it happens, too, the act of Vandalism was in no way connected with plague, for at the time that Damoder Chapekar paid his secret midnight visit to the Esplanade, there was no popular outcry against plague measures, to lead him to wreak vengeance on the counterfeit presentment of the illustrious Lady in whose name all acts of Government are performed throughout the British Empire. If his own story is to be believed—and against him no other evidence existed—he was actuated by revenge, because his offer of service in the army was not accepted. But a more practical question than that of the motives which led Chapekar to add this senseless act to the long list of his crimes is, whether the period of disfigurement could not have been lessened, if the Municipal authorities, in whom the statue is vested, had been more energetic in the matter. As a matter of fact, this is not the case, for, during the whole period, either some experiment or another has been under trial. Unfortunately, to begin with, the coal tar had many hours start of the renovator. The crime was committed in the very early hours of the morning of October 17th, 1896, and it was not until three o'clock in the afternoon that the police brought the matter to the notice of the Engineering Department of the Municipality. Soon after the communication was made, an Assistant Executive Engineer went over with some men and removed the greater part of the surface tar. The remainder was removed on the following day by means of turpentine, and the statue was washed down with soap and soda, but it was still deeply stained; the exposure of the whole of the tar to the heat of the October sun for so many hours on the day of the outrage having driven it into the pores of the marble, Beuzine and chloride of lime having been used without effect, Mr. Rebsch, the Executive Engineer at the Presidency, was asked what measures were taken by the P.W.D. to remove a similar disfigurement of Sir Richard Temple's statute a few months earlier. He replied, recommending the application of dilute hydrochloric acid "which would eat into the marble and set free the tar, and cause the surface to effervesce by the liberation of carbonic acid gas."

After eight consecutive days of trial of this method, the only perceptible result was a slight diminution in the intensity of some of the lighter stains. However, the attempt was continued for fully three weeks, when it had to be abandoned, as it seemed likely that the effect of the acid on the marble would cause damage to the outlines of the statue, a slight grooves were appealing in the marble. An application of benzole vapour having also proved inefficatious, an attempt was made, under the supervision of Mr. Greenwood, Principal of the School of Art, to cut out the stains by means of a chisel. But when a portion of the drapery had been cut down to a depth of about a quarter of an inch, the stain underneath was found to be practically the same as on the surface, so that this experiment also had to be abandoned. A proposal to paint the stains was vetoed by Mr. Murzban, on the ground that, as it would be impossible for the pianted parts to approach the tint of the rest of the marble, it would be necessary to paint the whole of the stutue thereby destroying its originality. Enquiries were then instituted through General Fuller, R. E., as to whether a cast of the statue was obtainable in the artist's studio, but the reply was in the negative. After having watched the experiments of M. Colomb, a French chemist, then resident in Bombay, all of which were fruitless, the Chemical Analyser to Goverment took up the task. A piece of marble from the base of the satue was experimented on in his Laboratory, but it resisted all but the most radical methods. He, therefore, concurred in the opinion previously expressed by Mr. Murzban that the only possible method of restoration lay in cutting away the damaged part and providing a new head and neck. The question was referred to Government, who, in October last, concurred in the suggestion. Negotiations were opeued with the Principal of the School of Arts for the execution of this work, and in January last, it was agreed that he should be paid Rs. 1,500 for taking a plaster cast of the head and neck of the statue, carving and fixing a new head and neck from a new block of marble and chiselling and cutting out the stains on the robe and base of the statue. A piece of marble was purchased for Rs. 500 and the work was in progress, when Mr. T. J. Gajjar, M. A., B. S., Professor of Chemistry, in the Wilson Collage, offered to remove the disfigurements, proving his ability to do so by experiments made in the presence of the Executive Engineer. He undertook to dissolve the stains take them out, and make use only of such chemicals as would leave no deleterious effect on the marble. Government raising no objection, further progress with the proposed new bust was stopped, and a formal agreement was drawn up with Professor Gajjar under which he was to receive Rs. 5,000 if he succeeded, and nothing at all if he failed. He stated that he required a period of three months to complete the work, which he commenced on June 15th last, and has now brought to a successful completion. Noble's *magnus opus* now bears no traces whatever of the act of Vandalism which has caused it to be so long hidden from the public gaze, and the canvas screen is to be removed very shortly. The professor is be congratulated upon his success, where so many other experts have failed. He has, of course, kept his process secret, and it will, no doubt, be a further source of profit to him. The City is also to be congratulated that the statue of the Queen-Empress had been restored to its former condition, without being mutilated by the substitution of a copy for the original.—*Bombay Gazette.*

OUR Benares correspondent says that in the vicinity of the spacious Hindu Temple in Moholla Serai Goberdhan, some Mahomedans are constructing a mosque. This has created dissatisfaction among the Hindus; and our correspondent appeals to the authorities to make an inquiry and see if they do not owe it to themselves to dissuade the Mahomedans from thus wounding the religious feelings of their Hindu fellow-citizens.

J. W. Baggett, of Oak Grove, Fla., had an attack of the measles, nearly three years ago, and the desease left him with very severe pains in the chest "I thought I would die," he writes; "but to my great joy I was saved by Chamberlain's Pain Balm. Pains in the chest nearly always indicate the approach of pneumonia, and by promptly applying this liniment on a flannel cloth, which should be bound on the chest, an attack of pneumonia may be prevented. It is always prompt and effectual. For sale at 25 and 50 cents per bottle by*

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THE FIGHT FOR PRISON REFORM.

BY THE REV. D. MORRISON, L.L.D.

THE battle for prison reform is one of the most interesting chapters in the history of social legislation in the present generation. The passing of the third reading of Prisons Bill in the House of Commons a few days ago, and the practical certainty that this Bill will become law within the next few months, is an opportune moment for reviewing the history of the agitation which has culminated in a new Prisons Act. Aid for pointing out the effect of the new Act on the prison population. At the present time there are in England and Wales are shut up in about one hundred prisons and penal establishments. The penal establishments to which prisoners are committed of two kinds. They are officially known as local prisons and convict prisons. The local prisons are old county gaol, as a rule. It is principally used for persons whose sentence does not exceed two years. The convict prisons, on the other hand, are for prisoners sentenced to penal servitude, that is say, to a term of imprisonment extending from three years to imprisonment for life. As only a comparatively small number of people are sentenced from year to year to penal servitude, the great bulk of the prison population is to be found in the local or convict prisons. Last year the number of cases of all kinds committed to both local and convict prisons amounted to over 160,000.

The management of prisons is in the hands of the Home Secretary. He has four officials under him at the Home Office who are known as Prison Commissioners. The Home Secretary has many things to do to attend personally to the details of prison administration; and the actual working of the whole prison system is in the hands of these Commissioners. This method of prison administration has only been in operation for about twenty years. Before that time all the local prisons were in the hands of the county magistrates. About twenty years ago a cry was got up against the way in which the county magistrates managed the prisons. The result of this cry was as that all the local prisons were taken out of the hands of the magistrates and put in charge of the Home Secretary. This change really meant that the local prison population was put under the authority of a set of officials at the Home Office, who were already administering the convict prisons.

A few years after these sweeping changes were effected, I entered the prison service. The prison to which I was attached was one of the largest of its kind in England. It is impossible to forget the impression which the interior of a prison made upon me when I saw it for the first time. The establishment was filled with hundreds of men, women, and children. But they were almost all invisible, and except for the occasional clanking of a warder's keys, or a muffled sound proceeding from one or other of the great corridors, the place was steeped in silence. It was difficult to realise that the great penal machine which I was gazing was teeming with human life.

It was difficult to believe that behind these white-washed walls and within the countless doors ranged tier upon tier along the corridors, hundreds of human beings were beating and human brains reflecting upon the past, the present, or the dim uncertain future to come. The life, the movement, the human intercourse of the real world were banished from this silent scene. We had entered not indeed, a city of the dead, but a city in which the divine gift of speech had become a crime. What a strange, what a remarkable institution planted in the heart of modern life!

But custom reconciles us to everything. When we have seen a prison day after day for a certain time, the impressions it at first produces gradually pass away. We then begin to ask, Is this place of punishment doing any good? Does it succeed in protecting society against the criminal elements within it? Does it send back these criminal elements into society purged and purified? Such were the questions I began to ask myself after a short experience of prison life. In those days the Home Office was issuing Blue Books year after year, in which the decrease of the daily prison population was triumphantly pointed to as a proof of the successful operation of the new prison administration. These optimistic statements impressed the public mind. But I was coming into too close contact with the prison population to accept them without reserve. It was clear to anyone going out and in among prisoners as men and women and not looking at them as figures in a Blue Book that the punishment of so many months or weeks, or even years of imprisonment was not deterring them from crime. In fact, it was painful to witness the way in which prison discipline, prison food, prison labour, in the shape of the tank and the treadwheel, debased and deteriorated the wretched inmates of the prison house. Many of these unfortunate and guilty creatures entered prison shattered and dilapidated, and when the time came for them to leave it they had become even more unfit for social life than when they went in. The prison made them worse instead of better. When once more at liberty they relapsed again into crime, and returned to gaol in ever-increasing numbers. The prisons of England, so far from being what they were represented in the Blue Books, were little better than machines for the manufacture of habitual criminals.

The diminution of the prison population had nothing whatever to do with the working of the prisons. As I pointed out in the "Nineteenth Century Review" a few years ago, the prison population was decreasing because judges were giving shorter sentences, because children were being sent to industrial schools, and because magistrates were punishing offenders with fines and other penalties instead of imprisonment. The very fact that judges and magistrates were resorting more and more to such methods showed how little faith they had in prisons. But this patent fact was unscrupulously twisted by the Home Office bureaucracy into a justification of their methods of dealing with the convicted population. I well remember the impotent screen of rage with which I was assailed in official quarters for venturing to tear away the mast which had hitherto served to screen the utter failure of our prison system. But the public were entitled to know the truth that had been concealed from them so long. It is right to consider official susceptibilities But when these things stand stubbornly in the way of the public interest they must be brushed aside. The conflict between myself and the Home Office bureaucracy as to the worth of our prison administration attracted the attention of the very able man who is now Editor of the "Daily Chronicle," I mean Mr. H. W. Massingham. As a result of visiting some of our largest prisons, Mr. Massingham came to the same conclusion as myself. These conclusions appeared in a remarkable series of articles in the "Daily Chronicle." They were followed up by on article of mine in the "Fortnightly Review" in answer to an attack by the then head of the Prisons Department.

Matters had now reached such a point that the Home Secretary of the day was forced to appoint a committee of inquiry. Mr. Herbert Gladstone became chairman of this body, and Mr. Arthur O'Connor, as one of the Committee, protected the interest of the prison reformers. Sir Algernon West, as the evidence shows, acted on behalf of the official gang. But the report of the Committee, while making allsorts of excuses for the existing system, was obliged to admit that "it not only failed to reform offenders, but produced a deteriorating effect upon them." Here was a statement containing a complete justification of all the charges levelled against the treatment of prisoners. According to this official report, prison treatment, so far from reforming the prisoner, or even leaving him as he was before he entered prison, deteriorated him and made him worse. In face of such a statement legislation became inevitable. But it needed three more years of constant agitation to force the Home Secretary to lay a Prisons Bill before Parliament. Such is the slowness with which our Parliamentary institutions move. When the Bill did see the light it was evident that it could only be accepted as a small instalment of prison reform. Its provisions hardly touched a single item in the prisoner's daily life. But it contained two useful clauses. In the first place, it enabled a short-sentence prisoner, for the first time, to earn a remission of a part of his sentence by industry and good conduct in prison; and, in the second place, it permitted a prisoner, who could not pay the whole of his fine, to pay a part of it and to have his sentence reduced in proportion to the amount he was able to pay. These may seem small matters to the outside world, but they are of vital importance to men and women in a prison. The duration of imprisonment is shortened for many prisoners by these two alterations in the law. A new element of hope is placed in the prisoner's heart, and, as Wordsworth truly says, "it is by such unseen realities that we live."

In placing the Prisons Bill on the table of the House of Commons the Home Secretary committed one great mistake He asked the House to give him new powers in relation to the internal administration of prisons. But he did not show the House what sort of alterations he was going to make. The concealment of this fact led to a prolonged debate on the Bill in Committee. This debate was conducted with great ability by prison reformers like Mr. Burns Hal dane Mr. Davitt, Mr T. P. O'Connor on the Opposition side, and by Mr Flower, the member for Bradford, and Mr. Green, the member for Shrewsbury, on the Government side. The ultimate result of the discussions in Committee and on the third reading was to enlarge the scope of the Bill and to humanise the prison regulations. When the Bill becomes law the Home Secretary will possess absolute power in determining the conditions of prison life. It is to be hoped that he will use this vast power fearlessly and wisely. Prison reformers thank him for what he has accomplished. But they expect him to do much more. They expect him to frame a code of regulations relating to the management of prisons which will reduce the recidivism, the insanity, the debilitation, which are now the curse of prison life. The great task of the coming century will be the socialisation of law. This task must embrace the socialisation of penal law in all its branches. Some narrow-minded politicians and imperfectly-educated bureauerats imagine that penal law reformers are a set of faddists and sentimentalists. They will find out by-and-by that penal reform is only one branch of a great scheme of practical policy, which has for its supreme object the socialisation of law.

THE near approach of the month of *Asheen* is likely to fill many lovers of mangoes with a feeling of despair; for, by that time, the fruit will be getting scarce. To them, it will be a welcome news to learn, as a correspondent writes, that the trees blossomed late this year at Durbhanga, and consequently the mango harvest will last longer than usual. It is not generally known that some species at Durbhanga, called Zahar, Katki, Mohar Thakur, last as late as October.

To Whom I May Concern:

I have been in the drug business for twelve years, and during that time, have sold nearly all the cough medicines manufactured; and from my personal knowledge of such remedies, I say that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy gives better satisfaction than any other on the market.—W. M. Terry, Elkton, old by*

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HEALTH AND HARD MUSCLES.

IF John Simson were not a blanksmith we might not have occasion to allude to him of the very outset of this writing. But he is a blacksmith and will thus serve an important purpose; that, too, without having to put on his leather apron to do it.

And he will do it by standing in front of his forge for five minutes while we all take a look at him. He is a strong and robust man, as Mr. Dicken's Joe Gargery was—as all blacksmiths ought to be. Ought to be, I say. But *are* they?—as a matter of fact? No, they are not—not by many a length of mail red.

Now it is somehow a common notion that all men who work hard, especially amid rough surroundings and in the fresh air, are apt to be vigorous, healthy fellows; they are supposed to joke at doctors, to have no use for apothecaries, and even to regard undertakers as the necessity of a distant future. Is this view a true view? Are health and hard muscles always found together? Take your time to think. Meanwhile we will hear what Mr. Simson himself says:

"Up to the spring of 1885," he writes in a latter dated May 5th, 1893, "I was strong as most men—perhaps stronger than most. Then I began to suffer from illness. My victuals and I had a falling out. After every meal I had great pain and fulness of the chest. Then I got into such a condition that I had these feelings nearly all the while. I tried to avoid them by eating nothing but light food, but the result was just the same, I think a morsel of bread would have hurt me almost as much as a round of beef. Then I began to lose weight, and had all I could do to keep up with my work. The doctor gave me medicine, but I got no help from it.

"I was wondering how this would end when I heard of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup and bought a bottle of it from Mr. James Crossley, the grocer at Mile Walk. The effect was speedy. It appeared to go straight to the right spot, and it wasn't long before I was able to eat without any pain to follow. Then my strength and flesh gradually came back, and ever since I have done my work as easily as I did before the disease, whatever it was, overtook me. (Signed) John Simson, Cliviger, near Burnley."

Now, about that health and hard muscle question that I put to the reader; what's the answer? Why of course, the answer is what any intelligent man would make who thinks with his eyes open. No; health and hard muscles are not always found together. But let us look sharp and commit no errors. The facts run this way: While a man cannot grow strong without a certain degree of health, it is also true that a notable amount of muscular power is consistent with both organic and functional trouble of the stomach, liver, kidneys, or heart. A man may be able to lift 500 pounds, and drop dead within a minute after he does it.

Sailors, farmers, miners, drivers of trams, 'busses &c., outdoor labourers of different sorts (especially after reaching mid life) nearly all fall victims to rheumatism, nervous debility, or dyspepsia. Yes, and do hard work for years just the same.

I said "*or*" dyspepsia. Leave out the "or" and say dyspepsia—dyspepsia only—and you have struck bottom. This produces all the other maladies; they are merely results and symptoms of it. There's no keeping clear of it by running off to sea, working on a farm, or diving down into a mine. No matter where you go or what you do, indoors or out, clerking in the Bank of England, or driving the locomotive of the Scotch Express—*dyspepsia* will get hold of you if you give it a chance. And most men do *that* as if they were as eager to be ill as they are to be rich. Which reminds me to tell you in a subsequent article how to avoid dyspepsia. For this time I can only speak of how to cure it. Imitate John Simson's example. Do what he did. And remember that stalwart men (all unconscious) often stand nearer abed of pain, nearer death, than do the feeble women whom they pity.

THE TASGAUM BRAHMINS.

(*Gujarati.*)

THE Tasgaum Brahmins have received the special attention of the *Times of India*. When we read the editorial in its columns last week, exposing their selfish cliqueism and resentfulness over the intrusion of a non-Brahmin into their close preserves, we were entirely sceptical regarding the accuracy of the allegations made against them. It was proclaimed that they had petitioned to the High Court, because a goldsmith was appointed to the Nazir's post. On the face of it the statement was too ridiculous to be believed by any one who had not committed himself to a particular theory and was not anxious to deduce with a lofty air of superiority a moral for the benefit of the administration from the grasping tendencies of the Brahmin monopolists. The *Mahratta* has now published the petition of the Tasgaum clerks. What they complain against is not the appointment of a *Goldsmith*, but the supercession of their rights by the importation of men not connected with the judical department. It is notorious that clerks on the establishment of our law courts are miserably paid, and their chances of promotion are painfully slow. As the memorialists point out, a karkun drawing a salary of Rs. 12 gets a promotion of Rs 3 after eight or ten years' service. Besides, there are candidates doing copying work, who expect to be appointed to a permanent post, when there is a vacancy. Some of these clerks fell victims to plague, and in the natural course of things those who had been long in service and done their work satisfactorily would have been promoted. But Mr. Aston had judicially recorded in his judgment in the "Pratod" case that there were more than hundred Brahmin clerks in the Civil Courts of the Satara District. Here was an opportunity for doing justice to the claims of non-Brahmins and thus making sedition impossible at one and the same time. And so outsiders were selected to fill up the vacant posts. Those, who were aggrieved by this measure, are hardly to blame, if they felt themselves called upon to protest against their undeserved supercession. It should be borne in mind that, amongst the signatories there are Brahmins as well as non-Brahmins. To treat their protest as a protest *for* monopoly and as an attempt to resent the appointment of non-Brahmins is, therefore, nothing less than gross perversion. The "Times" represents that the Nazir's post is insignificant. Nothing could be further from the truth. It is a well-paid appointment in connection with the District Cout, and the incumbent receives in addition handsome income in the shape of pensionable fees in many districts for the administration of minor's estates. What wonder if those, who were disappointed by the importation of outsiders from the Revenue Department petitioned to the High Court for justice! We are not in favour of any monopoly in the distribution of public posts, but of merit and ability only. But to misrepresent plain matters and make political capital out of such incidents by distorting them beyond recognition, especially when the correct facts could have been easily ascertained, is not very creditable. What is still more surprising is that our contemporary should not have as yet set itself right and done justice to the clerks by publishing their petition, which sets forth the real ground of their complaint. Anglo-Indian papers, if they wish to improve the tone of the native press, will do well to reform themselves and try to attain a higher ideal of journalisitic ethics than is at present realized in the columns of even the foremost of them. It is easy to charge native papers with the offence of setting Hindus against Mahomedans or the ruled against their rulers. But it appears it is still more easy for some Anglo-Indian papers to try to set Brahmins and non-Brahmins by their ears, regardless of the provisions of the amended Penal Code. Despite all that our contemporary has said we think that the Tasgaum clerks have a fair ground to complain, and we invite the attention of the High Court and Government to their petition which was unfortunately not transmitted to their Lordships by the District Judge for reasons which do not seem to be entirely satisfactory.

APICULTURE.

THERE are several kinds of bees in the Assam jungles, but the smaller ones are the best fitted for domestication; their swarms run to two or three feet, while the comparatively huge insects, whose product is much coarser, are frequently found in an ever-moving mass seven and eight feet in length. In collecting a nucleus from a hollow tree, all preliminary operations should be conducted at night. As there are usually two or three openings into these rude hives from which the insects may issue, these must be closed are the driving out commences. If the tree is some distance from the permanently proposed sites, it would be as well also to remove the frame in the dark. Of course it is impossible to tell how many queens there may be to deal with, but these are small details that circumstances must decide. The search for swarms will prove more successful if prospecting for them is confined to well-wooded ravines and terai forests. Though generally affecting secluded places, many a swarm may be seen established under the lee of overhanging boulders and in the miniature caves in the lime-stone formation. Beyond the small black bear and ants, there is nothing to interfere with bee-keeping. The former are not so numerous as to present much difficulty in keeping under, while the intrusion of the latter into the hives can be frustrated by the use of grummets of jute kept saturated with either crude petroleum or kerosine, these latter being wound round the bottoms of the posts of the machan on which the hives should stand. They should be placed as far below the hives as possible, for the bee is a sensitive insect and the pungent odour of the oil, if overdone, might permeate the hive, causing an exodus. A frame-hive two feet square ought, under careful management, to yield sixty pounds of wax and twenty of honey, the number that can be got into an acre depending on the configuration of the ground; but it would be better, in estimating the outturn, to do so on the number of hives. At any rate, we have shown how thrown-up tea-lands can be made use of. *Planter.*

THE reader is aware of the fact that Mr. Edwards, District Engineer of Arrah, called the local Municipal Commissioners "mean" because a subordinate under him was assessed a Municipal rate, which the latter was not much disposed to pay. Of course, the Commissioners felt themselves insulted at the language used against them and, at a meeting passed a resolution, condemning it. The resolution was forwarded to Mr. Edwards for a reply. And what did he do? He did not condescend to give any reply, but simply sent it back to the Municipality, saying that he declined to receive such communications, and giving another hit to the Municipal Commissioners by questioning their intelligence and sense. This was, of course, too much for the Commissioners to bear. They fixed a day to hold a meeting to consider the impertinent conduct of the District Engineer, who is only a subordinate to them. But before the meeting was held, the District Magistrate stepped in and prevailed upon the District Engineer to send a letter of apology to the Chairman, withdrawing his objectionable expressions and expressing his regret for using them. The apology has been accepted, and the unpleasant affair has dropped.

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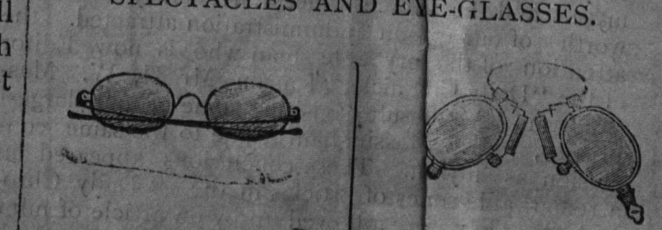

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