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অনুরাগবল্লী।

শ্রীমনোহর দাস প্রণীত।

এই খানি উপাদেয় বৈষ্ণব গ্রন্থ দুই শত বৎসর পূর্ব্বে লিখিত।

মূল্য ছয় আনা। ডাঃ মাঃ অর্দ্ধ আনা।

অমৃত বাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

পদকল্পতরু।

সম্পূর্ণ হইয়াছে

মূল্য ৩।০ টাকা।

পরিশিষ্ট যন্ত্রস্থ।

অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য

শ্রীঅদ্বৈত প্রকাশ।

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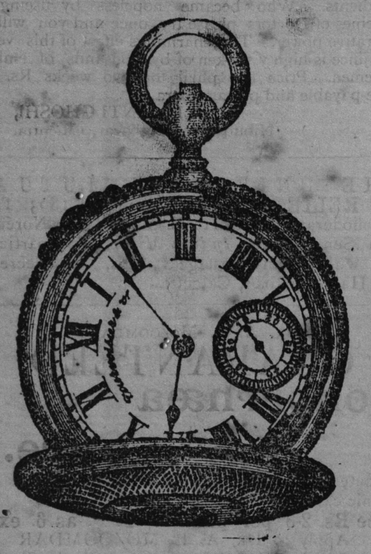

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After years of incessant toil and experiment, I have discovered a medicine which, can confidently say will cure the patient of acidity, I and its worse stage of dyspepsia in a short time, effectively and radically, however, chronic and long-standing the complained however violent its attack, the Acidity Pill will give instant and permanent relief as has been proved in hundreds of cases. Here are a few unsolicited testimonials :—

The Hon'ble G. M. Chitnavis C. I. E., Member of H. E. the Viceroy's Legislative Council writes :—The Acidity Pills are giving satisfaction to all those on whom I tried th m.

Babu Bhobo Tosh Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate of Dacca, writes under date of 6th March, 1898 :—Many thinks for your Acidity Pills I was suffering form Dyspepsia and Colic pains of the last 18 years. I tried many kinds of medicines to no effect. Some of them gave me temporary relief only for a day or two. Bu since I have been taking your pills (3 weeks or more) I have not had any attack for a moment even during this time. The Pill is an excellent medicine for this nasty disease which is very painful. Please sent me three boxes of that pills per V. P. P. at your earliest convenience and oblige.

(From Babu Ramdhani Paure, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Arrah) "I am really glad to sertify that your Acidity Pills have a wonderful power to cure that ailments they are intended for and I have to thank you very much for the pills you sent me on December last.

(From Mr. S. C. Haldar, Politica Agency Gilgit.)

I am exceedtngly glad to let you know that your Acidity Pills have miraculously relieved me of the colic pains and Bowel-Coemplaints from which I was very bad y suffering for the last two years and more.

Kumar Hemendra Krishna of the Sovabazar sPladmily, writes :—"I am glad to state that I have de Refi rmuch benefit by the use of a box of your Acidity vilj. Really I did not expect so happy a result. Kindly send me two more boxes.

Babu Nilmoni Dey, Assistant Settlement Officer writes from Camp Patepur, Dt. Mozafferpur :—I have treid your Acidity Pill and found them to be and excellent remedy in removing acidity immediately. They are a great boon after a heavy dinner. They are in valuable in the Moftusil. They should find place every tourist's bag. Pease send me two boxes immediately.

The **Amrita Bazar Patrika** says;- **Dr. H.** Biswas,s Acidity pilf has an extraordinary digestive power so hat men suffering from Dyspepsia may give a fair trial. It is exclusive y prepared from some ative herbs is perfectly sate.

Babu Sarasi Lall Sarcar, M. A. writes :—I have tried Dr. Biswas Acidity Pills, and found them to be of great use not only in the ease of Acidity but in general Dyspepsia. The medicine, it stems, is prepared solelv from indigenous herbs, and perfectly harmless. Dyspetic persons will find it to be a great boon for curing this dead disease.

Babu T. K. Baksi, Professor, Government College Jubbulpore, writes :—Dr. Bis was's medicine for Acidity and dyspepsia has been tried in our family with marked efficacy and I can safely declare that suffers who may give it a fair trial are sure to derive much benefit from it.

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IN connection with the Homœopathic Dispensary carried on in the name and style of HAHNEMANN HOUSE, and the Electro-Homœopathic Dispensary recently carried on in the name and style of BATABYAL Co., we beg to draw the attention of the public that we had to renounce the name of BATABYAL and Co., and have amalgamated the Dispensaries under the common name and style of HAHNEMANN HOME, the former as HAHNEMANN HOME, Homœopathic Branch, at No. 2-1 College Street, and the latter as HAHNEMANN HOME, Electro-Homœopathic Branch, at No. 2-2 College Street, Calcutta, in the same house and with the same stock of medicines, etc., the proprietors retaining the name. We need hardly add that our medicines will, as hitherto, be of the same superior quality and imported from the same firms in England, America, Germany and Italy as before.

We therefore respectfully request our constituents both in town and in the mofussil to send their orders for Homœopathic as well as Electro-Homœopathic Medicines to the address of HAHNEMANN HOME.

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PROPRIETORS.

BOUNTY-FED SUGAR AND THE DECAY OF THE INDIAN INDUSTRY.

THE Indian Chambers of Commerce have successfully urged upon the Government a course which demand careful scrutiny. Sir Seymour King recently asked in the House of Commons whether the Secretary of State was aware that the imports of bounty-fed sugar into India were seriously affecting the Indian production, reducing the area of sugar-cultivation, and consequently curtailing the public revenues, "and what steps the Government proposed to take to prevent the destruction of the industry?" Lord George Hamilton replied that he had for some time past been in communication with the Indian authorities on the subject, but that the correspondence had not yet reached a point which enabled him to publish it. Under this conciliatory answer was veiled the fact that during the past year a keen discussion has been going on which raises issues of wider extent and more vital to Imperial interests than even the West India problem that has received so much attention from Parliament. The result of the discussion is the Bill to be introduced into the Indian Legislature to-day.

Sir Seymour King, in using the startling words "the destruction of an industry," merely gave expression to the conviction at which the Chambers of Commerce of Madras, Calcutta, and Upper India have deliberately arrived. Each of these bodies has examined the subject from evidence separately collected throughout the three great areas of British territory that it represents. If their conclusions can be maintained we are face to face with one of the largest economic question with which the Indian Government and the English nation has for some time back been called to deal. But before entering on an examination of their statements, it is well to clear the ground of false analogies between the situation of the East and the West Indies. As regards sugar, India is a consuming, not an exporting country. To protect the West Indian industry countervailing duties would be required in England itself. To protect the East Indian industry all that is wanted is a countervailing duty in India. The English market would be in no way affected, unless, indeed, the partial closing of India to beet-sugar should operate to still further lower the price of that commodity for the English breakfast-table. In the second place, a countervailing duty in India would act in a very different way upon the Indian population from that in which a countervailing duty in England would act on the English population. In England the whole people, rich and poor, use refine sugar; and a countervailing duty which raised the price of beet-sugar would increase the cost of a staple article of consumption. In India the great body of the people, and the poorest classes almost universally, still use unrefined sugar in its various forms as sold in the village bazaars. A countervailing duty would not, therefore, touch the poor, but chiefly the richer classes and only to the extent that they use the refined article. In the third place, the decay of the native sugar industry under the competition of the bounty-fed beet-sugar strikes direct at the Indian revenue. Only those who are intimately acquainted with the conditions of Indian agriculture can estimate the loss thus already inflicted on the public income and the still greater loss now threatened. Sugar cultivation in many large districts is the basis of the land and canal revenue, and its curtailment caused by the rivalry of bounty-fed beet-sugar, is operating to check the expansion of irrigation, on which the safety of the people from famine and their freedom from fresh taxation largely depend. An officer who has held the highest position in the revenue direction of the Government of India sends us a communication in which he declares that the reduction of sugar cultivation "will go far to create a necessity for imposing fresh taxation, which is the one thing that all Indian administrators are anxious to avoid." A countervailing duty in India would, therefore, take the place of the losses caused by foreign bounties to the Indian revenue. While securing a national industry, it would fall on the richer classes, who are best able to bear it. Finally, a countervailing duty similar in effect has been already sanctioned for India by the British Parliament in the form of an excise levied on cotton goods manufactured in India to countervail the Indian duty on imported goods. Parliament, after full discussion, accepted the principle of protecting Manchester goods against Indian fiscal regulations by means of a countervailing excise. The Indian Chambers of Commerce and the Indian sugar producers now ask that it shall act in the same equitable spirit towards India, and protect a staple industry of that country against foreign fiscal regulations by a countervailing duty.

The statistics which the Indian Chambers of Commerce bring forward in support of their case are of a striking character. They tend to show that the fall in prices is rendering the Ind an industry unprofitable, and that it has already curtailed it to a very serious extent. They also show that this fall in prices is the result of vast imports of bounty-fed sugar which would never have reached the Indian market on a basis of fair competition. It is difficult to present the whole range of figures without burdening the reader with weights and measures unfamiliar to the English eye. But as regards prices the main contention is that, prior to the augmentation of the sugar bounties, the price of the better class of refined Indian sugars ranged from Rs. 11 to Rs. 16 per maund, while beet-sugar was forced by the bounty system into the country at Rs. 8 per maund. The effect makes itself apparent in the import returnsd During the last decade the value of "all other articles of food and drink" imported into India remained stationary, while the imports of sugar multiplied by nearly threefold. In 1888-89 the value of imported sugar was only 30 per cent. of "all other articles of food and drink;" by 1897-98 its proportion had risen to 78 per cent. We suspend our own judgment until the publication of the complete papers referred to by Lord George Hamilton. But unless there is some reply to the figures now published on the authority of the Indian Chambers, this seems to be a clear case of an industry, almost vital to the well-being of the Indian people, being crushed by foreign fiscal regulations. The few figures which space permits us to select give a very imperfect view of the facts as set before us.

The enhancement in the quantity of bounty-fed sugar imported into Indian since 1889-90 is equal to the annual out-turn of 326,911 acres of peasant-cultivated land. In spite of the enormous increase of the Indian population, to which Sir Robert Giffen so seriously alluded the other day, there was an actual decrease of the area under sugar amounting to 8½ per cent. for all India in 1896-97 as compared with the preceding five years. In the great sugar provinces of Bombay and Bengal the shrinkage had reached the ominous figures of 13½ and 19 per cent. Again we suspend our judgement until the whole papers are published. But to whichever side of the case as now presented by the Indian Chambers of Commerce we turn, it assumes dimensions and threatens difficulties of the gravest import.

The only province which has shown an expansion under sugar-cane is the Punjab, where the rapid opening up of canals and the universal demand for the raw commodity sufficiently explain the increase. In other provinces the decline of the industry is threatening the principle on which successful canal extension depends. That principle is that irrigation returns must expand by a gradual increase of the crop area requiring an artificial water supply. From the papers now before us, it appears that throughout extensive districts the main crop from which the necessary development of the canal revenue was expected is sugar-cane. If the sugar area had merely been prevented from expanding by the competition of bounty-fed imports the loss of the anticipated revenue increase would have been serious. Unfortunately it is not merely a case of arrested expansion, but of absolute contraction, should the figures now put forward be sustained. This, however, only states the case from the revenue point of view. It is the peasant cultivator who suffers most severely. For his well-irrigated fields are the first to succumb under the competition of bounty-fed sugar. Canal-irrigated fields are able to hold out longer against it, and in certain localities they may even for a time expand in spite of it, as the margin of profit from such irrigation is often large. Yet it is on the private enterprise and self-help which well-irrigation represents that the safety of the Indian agriculturist largely depends. Those who have had the opportunity of observing the results most closely believe that the decay of the sugar industry, under the pressure of bounty-fed competition, does more to deteriorate the Indian peasant than all our schools can effect for his improvement. It would, however, be unwise to jump to the conclusion that in the Bill to be brought forward in the Viceroy's Council to-day the true solution of the difficulty has been found. We must suspend our judgment till its provisions are known.—*Times.*

সর্পাঘাতের চিকিৎসা।

৬ষ্ঠ সংস্করণ।

মূল্য পাঁচ আনা মাত্র। ডাকমাশুল অর্দ্ধ আনা

এই পুস্তক-লিখিত-প্রণালী অনুসারে চিকিৎসা করিলে সর্পদষ্ট ব্যক্তি কখনই মরিবে না। ইহার চিকিৎসা প্রণালী এত সহজ এবং পুস্তকের ভাষাও এত সরল, যে স্ত্রীলোকেরা পর্য্যন্তও এই পুস্তক পাঠ করিয়া অনায়াসে চিকিৎসা করিতে পারে। গ্রন্থকার ত্রিশ বৎসর যাবত এই প্রণালী অনুসারে অনেক সর্পদষ্ট ব্যক্তিকে নিজহস্তে চিকিৎসা করিয়া আরাম করিয়াছেন, এবং অপরকেও আরাম করিতে দেখিয়াছেন।

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শ্রীগোলাপলাল ঘোষ।

অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিস, কলিকাতা।

KAVIRAJ

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Saktisagar—*Or the giver of giant strength*, is the surest cure for nervous debility, wet-dreams, full of partial loss of manhood, physical inability to enjoy nuptial bliss, diabetis and *meha* of any kind. It enables one to truly relish life and society. Price of 14 sweet powders and 14 sweet pills for a fortnight, Rs. 4. Postage 4 ans.

Jeebanarista—*Or the immediate life-giver*, purifies the blood, roots out from the system even the last lingering taint of Mercury or Syphilis. It strengthens the nerves, rectifies the liver, sharpens appetite and thoroughly improves general health. Price 2 Rs each phial. Post extra.

Kalpa Kusum Oil—An excellent hair-oil for every-day use, best-scented and the surest to cool the head and enrich it with beautiful hair; a nice brain-tonic, and very useful to students, pleaders, &c., whose work involves much mental strain. Price 1 Re. for 4 oz. phial 4 phials to be had at 3 Rs. Please sent ½ anna stamp to take our Catalogue.

THEORY OF THE FLAMING SWORD.

"Ah, talk of blessings! What a blessing is digestion! To digest. Do you know what it means? It is to have the sun always shining and the shade always ready for you. It is to be met by smiles and greeted with kisses. It is to hear sweet sounds, to sleep with pleasant dreams, to be touched ever by gentle, soft, cool hands. It is to be in Paradise.

"There came a great indigestion upon the earth and it was called a deluge. All the evil comes from this. Macbeth could not sleep; it was the supper, not the murder. His wife talked and talked; it was the supper again. Milton had a bad digestion and Carlyle must have had the worst digestion in the world. Ah! to digest is to be happy!"

There!—how does that strike you for a burst of eloquence? I quite from Trollope. If there is anything wrong about the theolgy you must hold him responsible. As for its physiology and pathology (pardon all these "ologies") I can answer for the corec ness of these two. And so can millions of people besides me. They speak of the curse of indigestion continually in every language; they groan and writhe uncer it in every land and climate.

"For many years" says one of this innumerable army of martyrs, "I was obliged to bear as best I could the torments of indigestion. My appetite was practically destroyed. I ate, of course, because one must eat or die! but after meals I had great pain at the chest and around the sides. Sleep almost forsook my pillow and naturally I was tired and exhausted. Sometimes better and then worse, but never free from pain and illness, I lived on with little or no hope af getting well. It is hardly necessary to say that I had medical treatment, yet no real benefit resulted from it. Happily at this time Mother Seigel's Syrup was brought to my notice and so strongly commended that I laid aside other medicines, which were doing me no good, and began using this one only.

"In a short time I realised a great improvement; food agreed with me and I gained strength. A little later—continuing to take the Syrup regularly as directed—the pains at the stomach, sides and chest wholly ceased, and I have not felt them since. My indigestion was cured at last, and I enjoyed the blessing of health. My son, who suffered severely from rheumatism, has been relieved by Mother Seigel's Syrup as by nothing else he ever tried. In gratitude I give you full permission to publish my letter should you desire." (Signed)(Mrs) Ann Barker, Field Lone. Braughing, Ware, Herts. Oct. 7th 1898.

It was a fortunate circumstance for Mrs. Sarah Gell, of Melchbourne, Bedfordshire, that one dae she had a personal talk with Mr. Smith, the butchry at Rushden. He told the lady that in his opinion if she went on suffering from indigestion and asthma (one of its consequence) it would be because she neglected to use Mother Seigel's Syrup. "And", said Mr. Smith, "I speak from knowledge." She had been ill with this abominable ailment for many years, and had spent time and money in unavailing efforts to obtain relief.

Acting on Mr. Smith's advice Mrs. Gell began using this remedy at once and tells the outcome in a letter of which we have room for the conclusion only :—

"I was better almost immediately, and was soon as well and healthy as one could wish to be. Now I keep 'Mother Seigel' in the house and it never fails to help us when needed for any passing complaints. (Signed Sarah Gell, Oct. 5th 1898.

Judging from the force of his comment on the disease, I should say Mr. Trollope knew something about indigestion from experience. Most literary people do. To them, and to all other victims, I confidently commend the best remedy yet found—Mother Seigel's Syrup.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, APRIL 2, 1899.

MAXIMUM SENTENCE DOUBLED.

THE manner in which some Magistrates are administering justice in the Moffussil is creating seething discontent in this country. The idea is getting hold of the public mind that Government is either too weak, or unwilling to afford protection to the people from official vagaries. Now, where are the people to go to for the redress of their grievances if they do not get it from the chief ruler of the Province or his ministers?

Here are the facts of a case which reach us from Singbhum. Mr. W. B. Thomson is the Deputy Commissioner or Magistrate of that district. In February last he happened to be on tour at a place called Ghatsilla, about 50 miles from Chaibassa, the head-quarters of the district of Singbhum. From certain information that he received, (the nature of which, however, does not appear from the record) he directed the Sub-Inspector of Police, Ghatsilla, to hold an investigation; and from the result of the enquiries made by that officer, it appeared to the Deputy Commissioner that an offence under section 417 Indian Penal Code (cheating) had been committed by one Satyanath Mahapatra.

Thereupon the Deputy Commissioner directed the immediate prosecution of the man; and, as the prosecution witnesses were *then* present at Ghatsilla, *having been brought there by the Sub-Inspector*, he proceeded to try the case himself, then and there. The trial commenced on the 18th of February last, and twelve witnesses for the prosecution were examined that day. The accused, of course, went undefended, for, it was impossible for him to secure legal help when matters were carried with such railway speed. A charge under section 417 I. P. C. was framed and the 20th February was fixed for the hearing of the defence. The 19th was, however, Sunday, and so practically *one day was given to the accused* to prepare his defence.

One can now easily imagine the condition of the accused. The Deputy Commissioner was practically his prosecutor and judge. The trial was being held at a place which was 50 miles from the sudder station, and only one day was granted to him to prepare his defence. On the 20th, accused somehow or other secured the help of a pleader who appeared on his behalf. As for his witnesses, the Deputy Commissioner very kindly directed *the police to send for them.* It is not clear whether all the defence witnesses were produced or not. What the Deputy Commissioner, however, did was to examine only a single witness for the defence and then sentence accused to rigorous imprisonment for two years, the maximum sentence provided for the offence being only one year!

The Judicial Commissioner of Chota Nagpur has, on being appealed to by the accused, set aside the conviction and sentence, and directed a retrial by some competent Magistrate other than the Deputy Commissioner. We will now let the Judicial Commissioner speak about the case:—

In the Court of the Judicial Commissioner of Chota Nagpore.

Present,—F. S. Hamilton Esq, I. C. S., Offg. Judicial Commissioner.

The 22nd March 1899.

Criminal Appeal No 101 of 1899.

Appeal from the order of W. B. Thomson Esq. District Magistrate and Deputy Commissioner of Singbhoom dated 20th February 1899.

Satyanath Mahapatra—Appellant.

The appellant has been convicted of an offence under Section 417 I. P. C. and has been sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment.

It may be observed at the outset that the sentence provides a maximum of one year's rigorous imprisonment.

The charge drawn up against the appellant runs thus:—"That you committed cheating by falsely representing to Hari Kheria and others that you had obtained the right to collect *kar* rents and so inducing" them to pay certain rawa as rent. The charge should have been more definite and should have specified what sum each person was induced to part with.

Under section 191 C. P. C. the Magistrate was bound to inform the appellent before taking the evidence that he was entitled to have the case tried by another Court. The order sheet shows that the Magistrate had taken cognisance of the case under subsection (1) clause (c) of Section 190 C. P. C. and he was therefore bound to give the appellant an opportunity of applying for a transfer more particularly as the appellant was then without a pleader. As the Magistrate did not do this I am bound to set his proceedings aside.

Further I do not think that the Magistrate was the proper person to try the case. The zemindari of Dhalbhoom is managed by a person subordinate him in his capacity of Deputy Commissioner. A he instituted the proceedings the case is similar to that of Pherozsha Pestonji. (1. L. R. 18 Bomb. 1892)

I therefore set aside the conviction and sentence and order a retrial of the appellant. The case should be heard by some competent Magistrate other than the Deputy Commissioner.

Purulia } (Sd.) F. S. HAMILTON,
March 22, 1899. } Offg. Judicial Commissioner.

As the case is *sub-judice* we will not make any comments upon its merits; but there are features in the proceedings of the Deputy Commissioner which are too serious to be ignored. First of all, the case was instituted by a subordinate of the Deputy Commissioner, and the Judicial Commissioner thinks that this alone incapacitated him from trying the accused. But he was also debarred from trying the case on another ground. Having taken cognizance of the case under clause (c) subsection 1 of section 190 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, he was disqualified from trying the case and bound under Section 191 C. P. C. to inform the accused that he was at liberty to apply for the transfer of the case to another Magistrate.

Then, again, mark the haste and precipitancy with which the case was proceeded with. It was instituted on the 18th February at a place which is 50 miles from the sudder station. The examination of all the prosecution witnesses was finished the same day though the accused was then undefended. Two days after, the trial was finished, and the man was sent to jail for two years!

But we have not yet told all. The man was sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment, though the law provides for only one year!

Comments on such a case are unnecessary. There cannot, however, be two opinions that an officer who can act in this grossly illegal manner is not fit to be entrusted with the duty of administering justice. That being the case, Mr. Thomson should either be relegated to a department, where he cannot play ducks and drakes with the liberties of the Queen's subjects, or some public notice of his conduct should be taken. The Indian Penal Code is draconian enough in all conscience; but, if Magistrates, charged with the administration of the law would double the maximum sentence provided by the Code, where are the people to look to for the safety of their liberties, honour and property?

MORE than four hundred years ago when Lord Gauranga flourished in Nadia, the intellectual capital of Bengal, or rather of India, in short, when he had just revealed himself to his followers, a Kirtan party was organised by him. The reason was this. The Lord preached equality—the doctrine that a pious man of the lowest caste was superior to a Brahmin who was an infidel—and some Brahmins fearing the destruction of their undisputed sway over other castes, rose in opposition to the new teaching. But numerically the Lord was stronger, and what they did was to take the protection of the Mussalman governor whom they requested to destroy the influence of the rising Prophet. The Mussalman governor was delighted at the proposal of these ill-advised Hindus, and undertook to stop the Prophet by physical force, and he began to practise horrible oppressions. The Lord thereupon sent a proclamation in the city at about nine o'clock in the morning, through his disciple Nityananda, summoning his followers to come and join him in a Kirtan procession to the Governor. The result was that before 4 P. M. the Lord was surrounded by several lacs of people, who came with light, for the procession. With this large crowd the Lord proceeded to the house of the governor doing kirtan all the while, softened his heart, and made a pious man of him.

The object of Monday's organization was to soften the heart of Calcutta and lead the citizens to a higher life. We hope this religious revival will produce an abiding and permanent influence on the minds of men, lessen crime, and further good-will amongst fellow-beings. We hope it will strengthen the hearts of men to be able to withstand the transient miseries of this world, and we hope it will enable our fellow-brethren to realize that the most paramount duty of man is to keep himself in touch with the lotus feet of God.

A RUMOUR came to be circulated in the Town and believed to be true by some that the Europeans in Calcutta, who are upholding the Municipal Bill, are trying to get support from the tea and indigo planters of the moffussil, in short, that they are going to form a strong European combination like the one that evoked such bad feelings during the Ilbert Bill controversy. The Chamber says that if the Bill is not allowed to be passed, plague bacilli will destroy the town. This position, assumed by the Chamber of Commerce, is very clear. Plague has appeared in the town because, insinuates the Chamber, the Municipal Bill has not been passed, and it will continue to rage so long the Bill is not passed. But what business have the tea-planters to mingle in the affair? Is it urged that the indigo plant will not yield the dye, and tea plant the leaves if the Bill is not passed? Suppose the Europeans combine and coerce the Government, yet we do not think, they will obtain any real advantage by the victory. If the elective system is destroyed by this measure, the Indians will at once withdraw in a body from the Corporation. This is absolutely certain. If the Commissioners had got any pay, Government might have hoped to induce a few to stay, but as the service done is free, no one will care to remain after the Bill has been passed. And then there will be fun indeed!

THE *Indian Empire* refers to the "changes that have been wrought over the spirit of Lord George Hamilton." His Lordship has given up issuing mandates, that is to say, he has acknowledged the independence of the Government of India. But his Lordship has done more. He once called the Indians savages—indirectly, and the statement created some surprise and indignation. This is what his Lordship now says, on receipt of Mr. Dutt's latest work, Mahabharat, which was presented to him by the author:—

My dear Mr. Dutt,—I have to thank you for the handsomely bound volume of your work, "Epic of Ancient India," which you so kindly sent me. I will read it with interest and pleasure. Your labour and trouble in translating such a classical poem will well be repaid, for it will bring home to many, who before were wholly ignorant of the fact, what Indian Civilization and Literature were when we were *com aratively savages* and it will shew the high ideal and aspirations to which so many of India's best subjects still attempt to rise.

One can easily see why the words, italicized above were used by his Lordship. It was only to do the *am nde honorable*. We thank him for it.

OF course there is some cause for Mr. Steevens' malignant feelings towards the Bengalees. We know he had a discussion with Babu Nalin Behari Sarkar over the Municipal Bill, in which he was so hopelessly worsted that he looked at the time a picture of despair. He has written much against Bengalees since his description of his victim's calves. Here is a sentence from one of his letters:—

Let disloyalty talk and write as it will; after all why should a Bengali be loyal to Britain? But the moment it begins to act, shoot and spare not.

But where is the sport in shooting a Bengalee? If the disarmed Bengalee had a gun to return the fire, there would have been some sport. Even if he could run like a hare, shooting him might have been called a pastime. Just mark how the writer advises the Bengalee that he would be a fool to be loyal to Britain. And it was Tilak who was sent to jail for preaching sedition! Mr. Steevens is a man; his maliness shews it; let us now return to a woman who calls herself Mrs. Wiseman.

SHE wanted money from the English people; that was her main object. But she concealed her real motive and posed as a philanthropist. She said she wanted the money only to be able to do good to the women of India. She had to excite for this the sympathy of her audience. And so she addressed a meeting at Brighton in these terms:—

The most difficult thing to realise was the terrible condition of the women. It was almost impossible to put it in words. They were sometimes accused of exaggerating these things, but when she had exhausted language she felt she had told her audience nothing of the misery and wretchedness of the women of India. From the low-caste woman who worked in the fields to the high-caste lady in the zenana there was no difference. A man valued his bullock more than his wife, and would not hesitate to tell one he could replace the wife easier than the bullock. She used to wonder which she pitied most, the little child-wives, hundreds of whom were sacrificed to early marriage, or the child-widows, or the childless wives who were put on one side when new wives were brought in, women who looked as if the iron had entered into their souls, and the most difficult of all classes to reach.

Well Mrs. Wiseman is too pious to resort to "exaggeration"; only she made a slight mistake in her statement, which is, that the Indian has more than one wife and that they replace their old wives by new ones in shoals! The Age of Consent measure was the work of meddlesome women of Europe, who concocted most obscene stories unblushingly to make out a case.

ANOTHER English woman, a painter, came with a recommendation letter to Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore. Of course, the Maharaja gave her work, and this is how she describes that unfortunate nobleman. She says that the Maharaja objected to shades to his face, because he feared that if that was done his "wives" would think that his skin was darker on one side than on the other. Let the Maharaja take a warning, from the above. Of course, Mrs. Merrick is not coming to India again, but others may follow her with similar recommendation letters to our noblemen.

BUT to return to Mr. Steevens. We do not see why the Bengalee should not be loyal to Britain. The Bengalee loves an intellectual and spiritual life; he loves to live in the midst of his family in peace. All this has been secured to him by Englishmen. When a *Gazi* is possessed by a devil, it is an Englishman that is killed and not a Bengalee. When the Russians or the French undertake any movement, the Bengalee does not deign even to examine its object. It is the Englishman who passes sleepless nights over such questions. If the Borderers rise, it is the Englishman who fights, and takes upon himself the sin of shedding human blood, and it is the Englishman who gets killed. But the Bengalee, while the Englishman is fighting on the border, is quietly worshipping the lotus feet of God. The Bengalees are not such fools as not to be able to realize the inestimable services that the Englishman is doing them, at his cost. If it is only remembered that, we human beings, are only for thirty-three years, on an average, in this material world, one can see at a glance, that the humble Bengalee is much better placed than his master, the lordly Englishman.

OUR Shastras say that the passage down to pandemonium is paved with polished marble, and that righteousness resides on the top of an almost inaccessible hill. It is said Mr. Kipling's poem turned the scales in America in favour of spoliation. That may or may not be. But there is no doubt of it, Mr. Kipling's work was made very much easy by the fact, that his counsels accorded with the baser instincts of the Americans. If he had advised restraint, none would have paid any heed to his counsels. There was *loot* before the Americans, and they were hesitating, on moral grounds, to avail of the material gain that was tempting them. But Mr. Kipling said they must take it, which was no *loot* at all but only a burden. Assuming an attitude of prayerfulness and turning the pupils of his eyes upwards and hiding them under the lids, he proclaimed that it was no *loot* but a burden, and White men must bear it. That is their destiny. They must serve the sullen, ungrateful colored men who cannot manage their own affairs; they must prepare roads but they must not use them; they must prepare ports not for their own use, but that of the grumbling savages. Mr. Kipling's poem we saw in an American paper, but he had taken a copy-right and so we did not know whether it would be proper to reproduce it. Anyhow the following, also taken from an American paper, will give the public an idea as to the argument and matter of Mr. Kipling's poem:—

"What is the White Man's burden
That Rudyard Kipling sings?
And what the many blessings
It to the savage brings,
As clad in heavy harness
The fluttered folk and wild
He slays with ruthless bullets—
Woman, and man, and child?
Is it the White Man's burden—
His mission proud and grand—
To veil the threat of terror
With words suave and bland:
With Bible and with Hymn book,
With bullet and with rum,
To teach the sullen savage
To pray "Thy Kingdom come?"
To drive him from the forest,
Or from his native plain,
In pretence of humaneness—
In fact for sordid gain?
To open fields for tillage,
To open marts for trade,
And fill up Mammon's chalice
With blood-wine ye have made?
Is it the White Man's burden
To fight that Money Kings
May keep from serf and sweeper
The tale of common things:
May seize the ports ye enter,
May seize the roads ye tread.
And when the battle's over
Deny you even bread?
Then bear the White Man's burden
And reap his old reward;
The blame of those ye better;
Contempt of those ye guard.
The cry of hosts—your masters—
As if asserting fight;
"Our business is to govern;
The soldier's is to fight."
Some day the White Man's burden
May grow too great to bear;
He too will call for freedom;
For freedom he will dare:
Not like the sullen savage
Will he be put to rout,
But he will claim his birthright,
Although so long shut out.
Then with a HUMAN burden—
Done with his childish days—
The White Man and the Black Man,
With scorn of Mammon's praise,
Will battle for their Manhood.
Rememb'ring thankless years
Till White Man, Black and Yellow
Acknowledged are as peers."

THE sympathetic spirit in which the new plague regulations have been issued will appear from the following extract from the Government Resolution on the subject:—

The re-appearance of plague in Calcutta and the occurrence of local outbreaks—all happily of small dimensions, though of virulent character—in Backergunge, Faridpur, Dacca, Saran and Darbhanga, in all of which it has been proved that the infection was carried by fugitives from Calcutta, have led the Lieutenant-Governor to the conclusion that steps must be taken to afford some protection to districts in the interior against the importation of infection from the town. Since December 1897, the only observation and detention camps have been those at Chausa, Mairwa, Chakradharpur and Khurda Road. These are all situated at or near the frontiers of the Province. Their object was to protect Bengal against the importation of the disease from other provinces to the west and south. From their situation they cannot and were not designed to act as a protection to Bengal districts against infection from Calcutta, and though for some time past up trains have been subject to inspection as well as down trains, this measure was designed merely to prevent the carrying of infection outside Bengal.

2. Now, however, Calcutta has itself become a centre of infection, and is, by reason of its more constant intercourse with the mufassal, a more serious source of immediate danger than any infected area more remote. Steps must therefore be taken to guard the interior of the Province not only against infection from other provinces, but also from Calcutta. The measures which the Lieutenant-Governor thinks it necessary to adopt are set forth in Plague Resolution No. 15 of this date. Nothing in the nature of land quarantine is proposed, or would be permissible. Nothing can or should, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, be done to prevent persons not actually suffering from or infected with plague from leaving the town as freely as they please. Nothing is practicable which would seek to interfere with the enormous suburban traffic between Calcutta and its neighbourhood or with the traffic that passes in and out of the town by road or country boat. There seem, however, to be two measures which can properly be adopted and which will afford to mufassal districts the protection they need, without hampering the legitimate movements of the people of Calcutta. The first of these is to ensure that no person who is actually suffering from or infected with plague shall be allowed, when leaving Calcutta, to travel by public modes of conveyance, such as rail or steamer. This is already prohibited by the ordinary law of the country; but the cases which have been mentioned above have shown that the prohibition needs to be enforced. The other is to arrange that when any person not suffering from plague leaves an infected area and proceeds to his home in the mufassal, timely intimation shall be furnished of his arrival to the local authorities in the district of destination. All such persons will be allowed to move about freely and without hindrance, but it is reasonable that the local authorities should have prompt notice of their arrival, in order that they may be forewarned and on their guard.

3. The Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied that the measures now prescribed will not interfere in an unreasonable way with the free movements of the residents of Calcutta or with the necessary operations of trade or business. No one will be detained at the places of inspection unless there is distinct evidence that he is infected with plague. Reliance is chiefly placed on the ability of the local officers to deal efficaciously with imported cases, and experience shows that this can be done successfully, with, as a rule, the hearty consent and co-operation of the people if prompt information is given of them. Plague is not now increasing in Calcutta and the Lieutenant-Governor is hopeful that with the advent of the hot weather it will fail to hold its ground either in the town or in the Province.

We are extremely grateful to Sir John Woodburn for the manner in which His Honor has dealt with this delicate subject There is no question that the Mofussil needs immediate protection, and the measure could not have been taken too soon. And then, the measure is very mild and, at the same time, effective. What His Honor proposes is that only persons actually suffering from plague should be detained if they were found travelling by railway or boats. There can be no objection to this arrangement. On the other hand, it is absolutely necessary, in the interests of the public, that they should not be allowed to go into the interior of the country and disseminate the poison there. The free movements of all who are not affected by the disease, though coming from Calcutta or other infected quarters, will not be interfered with in any way. This assurance on the part of the Lieutenant-Governor should remove all anxiety in this connection. The wording of some of the provisions of the Regulations may, however, lead to misconception and harassment. First of all, the word "plague" is not defined at all. What is plague? There are cases on record in which simple fever was mistaken for plague. Some definite symptoms of what constitutes plague should be officially published, both for the information of the public and of the medical officers, charged with the duty of examination. The reason why this medical examination is dreaded so much by the people is that, not only the plague-stricken, but others perfectly healthy, have been now and then detained on mere suspicion and subjected to troubles. All this can be avoided to a considerable extent if the people know precisely what is plague and what is not. This is all the more necessary inasmuch as some of the medical officers, dressed in brief authority, may be tempted to abuse their powers. Then, again, it is not clear where the patients are to be located and treated when they happen to be detected in a train. There is another matter which deserves the serious attention of Government. Villages have to be protected not only from plague which has broken out in Calcutta, but from malarial fever which has fixed its habitation there, and which has committed and is committing far greater havoc than plague can ever hope to do. Similarly, cholera also carries off tens of thousands of men annually in the districts. Government ought to take prompt measures to protect the people from these monsters. One of the chief sources of cholera and malarial fever is impure water. Steps ought, therefore, to be taken to supply wholesome drinking water to the people in the Mofussil, and thus save them from the visitations of the above scourges of Bengal.

THE *Globe*, Mr. Steevens and others of their way of thinking, would be glad if the Bengalees and the Poona Brahmins had given them the pleasure of shooting them or punishing them in other ways. We have already quoted the suggestion of Mr. Steevens. This is what the *Globe* says:—

The fear is expressed in many quarters that the Poona outrages may be the result of some organised conspiracy. It would, as a matter of fact, be a subject for congratulation if they were, as indeed we hope they are. A conspiracy is in its very nature limited to comparatively few people, whom the Indian Government may be trusted to discover and punish.

The *Globe's* idea is that it would be a fun to get hold of the conspirators and hang them. Yes, only when "comparatively few people" are implicated in it. But would it be a fun, if the conspiracy fever extends to more than half-a-dozen? Do you know what Vasudeva did? He drew a revolver from the folds of his dress, and shot a policeman near him. So, you see, here was a desperate man, utterly regardless of consequences. Would it be a fun if five hundred such desperate characters were let loose in society? The *Globe* bases its pious wish on the supposition that the conspirators would always be a few in number. But his supposition is based upon the flimsiest of grounds. If the people of India are ruled under the principles preached by the *Globe* and Mr. Steevens, the number of Vasudevs would increase in no time. *Capital* said wisely that such writings as indulged in by Mr. Steevens and other irresponsible writers, only embarrass the responsible rulers of the land, who are always doing their best to see that the susceptibilities of the people are not unnecessarily hurt. The English people keep a keen watch as to how matters are managed in India by their countrymen, whom they send out here to rule. Even such questions as the number of cubic feet, allowed to lascar seamen, are not allowed to escape their notice. But all their noble intentions are spoiled by a few bloodthirsty and irresponsible writers in the English press. They raised the cry of conspiracy on the last occasion, and they very well succeeded. So well did they succeed indeed, that they made Tilak's portrait to be sold in the streets of London. This time also the same attempt has been made, but the Indians have made a conspiracy of silence and left their ravings unnoticed. They tried to create a sensation, but the Indian press kept quiet and the matter dropped of its own accord. If the Indian papers had noticed these charges, they would have found a good opportunity of continuing the agitation. We hope the Anglo-Indian papers will continue to display the same friendly attitude that they are doing now, so that the *Globe* and other papers will find no opportunity of betraying such malignant hatred towards the people, who are dependent on them.

THE unprecedented scene, witnessed on Monday, in connection with the birth-day ceremony of Lord Gauranga, has been described by our contremporay, of the

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Basuxiati. The crowd was at its height before its doors, and it had the best opportunity of witnessing the thing from the beginning to the end. The description of the *Basumati*, however, falls far short of the reality, perhaps the scene is not within the range of an accurate description. There are wise men, however, who do not like these mad ebullitions displayed in *Kirtans*. We admit that there is a higher *Kirtan*,—*Kirtan* within doors. These mad ebullitions, dancing with uplifted arms, are not decent, say the wise men. Let them show, however, a way by which communion with God could be established in so speedy and so easy a manner as by *Kirtan*. *Kirtan*, the gift of Lord Gauranga to mankind, is the only way by which worldly men, the sceptics, and others can at once enjoy the sweets of *bhakti*, without any effort on their part. *Kirtan*, as a means of communion with God, is so good that the Brahmos and latterly the Christians, have had to adopt it. In civilized countries of the West, they have their dances. Beautiful women and handsome men, all gaudily dressed, enter brilliantly lighted palaces to dance to the accompaniment of music. On these occasions, some are delighted to find an opportunity of speaking words of love to their partners, while others are consumed by jealousy. When exhausted they refresh themselves with wine and eatables. *Kirtan* is the ball dance of the Europeans,—spiritualized. The broad world is the palace, and the light comes from within. Here they talk of love and men embrace men—and they enjoy the sweets of love without jealousy. They realize that the common Father is good, and dance in the ecstacy of their heart. If ball-dances are not mad ebullitions, *Kirtan* dances ought not to be also regarded as such.

THERE was an interesting debate at Manchester New College, Oxford, under the presidency of Dr. Drummond, the Principal. We quote from *India*:—

Mr. Woods, one of the senior students of the college, moved "that in the opinion of this house it is desirable that England should speedily retire from India." The mover sought to argue his case upon two grounds: (1) That England had no moral right to be in India, inasmuch as she was there only for her own gain, and her dominion was leading to the gradual but sure impoverishment of the Indian people; and (2) that Indians, as was proved by the success of the National Congress, being fairly educated, could be trusted to manage their own affairs more efficiently than the English were managing them. The mover made some apt quotation from Mr. Bright's speeches.

Babu Bipin Chander Pal opposed the motion. He said that India having been under foreign rule for a considerable time, has now forgotten how to manage her own affairs. India has been so emasculated that it would be cruel on the part of England to leave her now alone. Now, this is the natural position for the rulers and the ruled to take. What, however, is done, is this. Englishmen are always on the alert to see that Indians do not combine against the British Raj. But what they should do is to threaten to leave India, so that the people may appreciate the value of their rule all the more. To be able to secure this position, British rule ought to be made more sympathetic than it is now, They have given a share to the people of India of the benefits of their civilization and a lesson in modern arts and sciences,—but they must also give the people a share of the political freedom they enjoy. Without some sort of political freedom, all other advantages are sometimes converted into curses. A Hindu is taught from his infancy that "resistance to tyrants is obedience to God," and that Englishmen, who were in the beginning too weak to be able to resist the inroads of the Picts, have gradually become the strongest nation in the world. And now, when they have been thoroughly taught the value of political freedom which every British subject considers his birth-right, they are told by Mr. Steevens, that the Bengalees should be shot down if they show any signs of aspiring o privileges!

But to return to the debate. We reproduce the following summary from *India*:—

Professor Carpenter expressed sincere sympathy with the feelings and aspirations of his Indian fellow-subjects. He said, however, that the growing poverty of the Indian people was not perhaps wholly or even very largely due to mal-administration, but was also largely attributable to the enormous increase of populati n. He made a powerful appeal to the audience to rise to a proper sense of their responsibilities to the people of India; and declared that it was the ideal of England so to administer the affairs of India that the Indians might be trained thereby ultimately to administer their own affairs.

Rev. Charles Travers (of Carlisle) generally supported Mr. Pal. He said that the Unitarian body had done a good thing in founding the Indian scholarships, which made it possible for educated Indians to come over to England and rouse, as Mr. Pal had been rousing, the English public to a sense of their sacred responsibilities to India.

Mr. Hem Chandra Sirkar spoke in support of the opposer, and replied to Professor Carpenter's remarks on Indian poverty. Though population was increasing, India, he said, had still enough room and to spare for her growing populations.

Professor Carpenter then moved an amendment to the effect that "this House, while recognising the good already done to India by England, thinks that larger scope should be given for the development of the people of that country by faithfully carrying out the repeated pledges of British statesmen, with regard to the employment of educated Indians in the higher grades of the civil and military services, and a further expansion and development of the schemes of self-government already in operation.

The amendment was seconded by the Rev. Chas. Travers, and accepted by the mover of the original motion.

The President, in summing up the debate, said that it was a pity that Englishmen knew so little of the actual state of things in India. He was glad to think that the college over which he presided made possible for Indian gentlemen like Mr. Pal, who knew the condition of their country and the feelings of their educated countrymen, to come over to England and not only help the students there but also enlighten the public outside the college on Indian questions, as Mr. Pal was doing by his lectures in the country. He expressed sincere regret at the "vulgar and insolent" way in which some Englishmen now and then treated their Indian fellow-subjects; but he asked his Indian friends when they went back to their homes to tell their people that Englishmen at home were not so; that large bodies of Englishmen always deeply sympathised with all the legitimate aspirations of the Indian people. At present there was a tide of reaction among a class of men, and retrograde measures might have therefore been adopted in India, like the recent Press laws; but that sort of difficulty they had now and then to fight against even in England. Whatever reactionary statesmen, moved by an Imperialism that was vulgar and unreasonable, might do occasionally, he assured the House and his Indian friends especially that the heart of the great English people was always with them.

The amendment was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

One of the causes of the friction between the two races is the increase in the number of claimants, both among Europeans and Indians, to posts in the gift of Government. Previously the number of such claimants was few, but it has now increased enormously. Every post worth having is claimed by Europeans, and, as a rule, they get it. The Indians have been excluded even from the Indian States, any, from many Zemindaries. As for the Indians they must practise economy; learn to live upon a handful of rice; improve their social system; and try to lead a life of spirituality. That is the only way by which they can win the victory in this unequal struggle. It must be borne in mind that excessive wealth and power are not only not necessary for the happiness of man, but are positively harmful.

IT is no longer a secret that Sir A. P. MacDonnell, while recently in Calcutta, had, in the course of his conversation with several Indian gentlemen, referred to the Calcutta Municipal Bill, and expressed his regret at the proportions which the agitation against the measure had been allowed to assume. The impression which he left upon the minds of some of his Indian visitors was that if he had been in charge of affairs he would never have ignored the influential agitation raised against the measure but made reasonable concessions and tried to nip it in the bud. Of course, we cannot vouch for the absolute correctness of what is stated above, for, we ourselves had no conversation with Sir Antony on the subject; but judging from the antecedents of His Honor there is nothing improbable in the suggestion that he would never have gone against the united voice of the entire people upon a measure introduced ostensibly for their benefit. Here is, however, proof positive of the fact that His Honor treats Indian public opinion with great consideration. The Court of Wards Bill was introduced into the Legislative Council of the N.-W. Provinces with the best of intentions. It, however, contains provisions which, in the opinion of those affected by it, are very objectionable, and thus evoked the opposition of the Oudh Taluqdars' Association. It was, however, thought that the measure would not meet with very general disapproval and that Government would be able to pass it without causing any popular outburst. But the opposition became widespread, and the prospect of the Bill being hurriedly passed, excited great alarm and anxiety. The result is that the Bill has been postponed, and, if it becomes law at a future period, it will be thoroughly redrafted and shorn of all its obnoxious features. Has the Government of Sir A. P. MacDonnell in any way lost by showing this deference to Indian public opinion? On the other hand, the secret of Sir A. P. MacDonnell's success as a ruler is that he has never ruthlessly trampled native opinion under foot. The Calcutta Municipal Bill is a far more important measure than the Court of Wards Bill of the N.-W. Provinces, for it affects the whole of India. It has also called forth far greater opposition than the other. Unfortunately, Sir John Woodburn has not yet seen his way to postpone the measure, though that is the prayer of the whole nation.

THE letter of Babu Manmatha Nath Dutt, published in another column, shows a way out of the difficulty. The difficulty is the money difficulty. The European merchants and traders of Calcutta are for converting this city into heaven. But where is the money to come from? Our European friends are shrewd enough to find that more money cannot be squeezed out of the native citizens of Calcutta, without injuring their own interests. For, they need a large number of coolies and middle class men to carry on their business, and it will be impossible for these to live in Calcutta if they are made to pay more than what they do now. So their suggestion is that the Imperial Government should spend money for the improvement of Calcutta. But how could Government agree to this absurd proposal when the people outside this city, and not Calcutta men, contribute to the Imperial Exchequer? Babu Manmatha Nath, therefore, suggests that when the European merchants are so very anxious to make Calcutta the healthiest town in the world, let them supply the necessary fund from their own pockets. He says that, this is a just and fair propasal, as they contribute practically nothing to the funds of the Corporation. They pay no octroi, as merchants in Bombay and other places do. Indeed, merchants here, as *merchants*, pay absolutely nothing. What they pay is either in the shape of a license-tax or as lodgers which every one who lives in the town and carries on a profession is bound to do. We hope, the European traders and merchants will seriously consider the proposal of Babu Manmatha Nath before they talk of improving the condition of the town, for the benefit of their trade and commerce.

PUNDIT SATYA CHARAN SHASTRI, who has made himself renowned by his lives of *Shivaji* and *Pratapaditya*, has published a very well-written life of the famous Maharaja Nanda Kumar, who was sought so strenuously to be belittled by a certain class of Anglo-Indian writers. Maharaja Nanda Kumar was certainly not an intriguing wretch, but a hero and a statesman. He was a general in the army of Suraj-ud-dowla and a minister of Meerjafer. Those, who, like the now notorious Mr. Steevens, libel the Bengalees as a nation of cowards, should read this book, for it proves that not only did Maharaja Nanda Kumar receive a command of 5000 horse from the Emperor of Delhi, but he took part in several engagements and covered himself with glory. The Pandit has spared no pains to make the book interesting. He has rummaged musty English, French, Persian and Bengali volumes and records, and brought out many new facts and incidents of Nanda Kumar's life, not known to most historians. He has also inserted half-tone blocks of the portraits of Nawabs Ali Verdi and Suraj-ud-dowla and a *facsimile* of the signature of the celebrated Rani Bhowani and others. Every one who can read Bengali ought to have a copy of this volume by him.

A RAI BAREILLY correspondent writes us to say that the Loco Foreman there is in hot water. It is alleged that he stands charged with making an attempt to outrage the modesty of an Indian woman. The woman, it is said, went to the Engine shed on a private business. The case came on for hearing on the 23rd instant, when judgment, however, was not delivered. Some sensation has naturally been caused at Rai Bareilly.

THE announcement that Mr. Justice Jenkins of the Calcutta High Court has been appointed Chief Justice of Bombay in place of Sir Louis Kershaw, has been received here with a mixed feeling of pleasure and regret. Though it is but a short time that Mr. Jenkins has been in our midst he has already given evidence of a strong individuality, and a profound knowledge of law. The Bombay High Court will gain by the arrangement, while, let us hope, Calcutta may not lose.

THE *Englishman* has received the following telegram from Madras, which we give *verbatim*:—"It is reported that the Chief Justice and the Sheriffs of Madras have fallen out and the matter has been reported to Government. It appearr that at the last session a little bill for the punkah coolies, etc., for the jury room was presented to the Sheriff for payment. The Sheriff, Mr. Smith, refused to pay the bill. The matter in due course was brought to the notice of the Chief Justice, who called upon Mr. Smith peremptorily to pay the bill."

WE are pained to read the followng which comes from a Trevandrum correspondent, more especially as Travancore has long enjoyed the reputation of a Model State. We hope however, that there is another side to the shield. This is what the correspondent writes:—"Deaths of persons under police custody are becoming numerous in Travancore of late. For the cold-blooded murder of an under-trial prisoner in the Alangad station last year, the police inspector and several other police officers were sentenced to various terms of rigorous imprisonment. Again an under-trial prisoner in the Kartigapali lock-up was found hanging dead in his cell by his cloth. The case is under enquiry at present. Another instance of the same kind hails from Shenkottai, where an under-trial prisoner was again found dead from the reports to hand. The police, it would appear, took the man before the local Magistrate to record his confession one evening, and he ordered the police to bring the accused before him the next morning, and before that he died in his cell in the police station. The Sub-Magistrate reported the matter to the District Magistaate who prohibited the local Medical Officer holding *post-mortem*, and ordered the neighbouring officer to hold the *post-mortem* at Punalore, in the presence of Pathanabapuram and Kottarakarai Magistrates. The Shenkottai Police Inspector and other police officers have been transferred from there. The case is under enquiry."

EVERY one will hail with joy the announcement made by the Director General of the Post-office of India about inland post-cards. We are told that with effect from the 1st proximo single and reply cards of private manufacture will be allowed to be posted for transmission by the inland post as postcards, provided that they are in conformity, as regards size and weight, with the inland postcards issued by the Indian Post Office. Such postcards may be posted either with or without adhesive stamps affixed to them in payment of postage; if sent unpaid, however, double the postage rate for a postcard will be charged on delivery. It has also been decided, with effect from the same date, to allow advertisements, engravings and certain other matter, viz, the name and address of the sender, and the date of posting on the address side of postcards whether issued by the Post Office or of private manufacture. This will be subject to the condition that sufficient room shall be left for a clear address and for the official marks of the Post Office. The privilege of the permission to write something on the address side of the card cannot fail to be welcome to all sections of the community.

ROUGHLY speaking the Hindus were never a commercial nation. This was mainly due to the fact that they were an unambitious and simple people who got all they wanted in their own country. In pre-British days each village contained all that was needed by its inhabitants to lead a life of ease and contentment, and consequently they had no necessity to open communication with foreign countries. Every village had its blacksmith, its weaver, its carpenter and so forth. There were village schools conducted by Pandits who led a life of intellectual and spiritual culture, and the village physician was there too who could minister to the needs of the ailing. Of course, there were industrial centres here and there, but not on so extensive a scale as is found in Western countries. Every one knows that Dacca supplied the finest of muslins ever seen in the world. But times are changed now, and the unenterprising and home-loving Indians have to forsake the path of their forefathers and follow in the wake of the Western nations and compete with them. Of course, no one will deny the fact that this change we owe only to the enterprize of Englishmen. It is, therefore, impossible for the Hindus to make any progress in that direction, unless their English masters take them by the hand and work with them. In the beginning of British rule indigo factories were established in several parts of the country. Unfortunately the indigo planters proved oppressive and ruined themselves and the people. Similarly tea and coffee plantations are not without their evil. The recent imposition of countervailing duties on imported sugar proves conclusively that Government can do a good deal to improve the indigenous industries of the country, if only they are willing to do so. If England wishes to profit by the possession of India, now and hereafter, she must first of all, remove the chronic poverty of its people. No nation can grow prosperous that has not its own manufactures. About sugar we are sorry to learn that despite the legislation imposing countervailing duties, a veteran manufacturer like Mr. Minchin has decided to close his works at Aska in the Ganjam district. At Samulcotta, in Godavery, however, a huge factory is in course of erection and should more than fill the gap created by the closing of the Aska manufactory. Whenever any European Company, with their inherent qualifications, undertake any such business it is invariably seen to thrive, so that it is always desirable that they should co-operate with the natives to carry on such industries in India. In Bengal, Mr. E. R. Osgood, superintendent of the Cossipur-Sugar Works, belonging to Messrs. Turner Morrison and Co, deserves our thanks for his indefatigable labours to procure country sugar from the interior and after refining it to sell at a cheaper price than what is imported from other countries.

ANENT the capture of the notorious dacoit, Gordhana, an account appeared in the *Pioneer* which has now been called into question by a correspondent who signs himself "Dacoit." From the statement of "Dacoit" it appeart that Mr. Gregson, the District Superintendent of Police, did not leave home, much less direct the operations. His wife was too sick for that. The Military and Civil police force which went out was under the command of the Assistant District Superintendent and the Reserve Inspector. Then again, the redoubtable Gordhana was not rendered *horse de-combat* by one well-directed blow apparently because he was then under the influence of liquor. According to "Dacoit" the fact was that as Gordhana was walking along, a military police constable sprang upon him and pluckily held him fast by the waist. Other policemen rushed to support their comrade and the dacoit was brought down but not without some trouble. The credit of the capture therefore lies with the constable, who, fully aware of the desperate character of the quarry, did not hesitate to close with him.

THE following regrettable incident has been unearthed by the *Tribune* of Lahore: "Mehta Ganda Mal is an Inspector of Police in charge of the Cantonment Police Station, Peshawar. He has been in the department for over 30 years and has always given perfect satisfaction to his superior officers. The other day, Mr. Plowden, District Superintendent of Police, paid a visit to the police station and ordered the Mohurrir to show him the diary (*Roznamcha*) containing reports about thefts of rifles. Mehta Ganda Mal, the Inspector, who has standing by, suggested that the District Superintendent might also see the *Parcha Halat*, which would give full details. The District Superintendent of Police considered this suggestion impertinent and used abusive language towards the Inspector in the presence of all his subordinates. He next suspended the Inspector for being impertinent to his superior officer. Fortunately, Mr. Brown, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Western Circle, was at Peshawar at the time and the matter coming to his knowledge he summoned both officers and recorded their statements. He cancelled the order of suspension and ordered the Inspector to return to duty. It is reported that he also cautioned the District Superintendent of Police not to use abusive language towards subordinate police officers." It appears to us that it is not quite safe or judicious to keep an officer of the alleged temperament of the present District Superintendent of Police in a district like Peshawar. The Inspector fortunately happened to be a Hindu. Had he been a Mahomedan as most police officers on the frontiers are, there might have been some real insubordination, and perhaps a little row.

TEA plantation in Assam has been so very successful because it is carried on by Europeans. A century back none ever would have dreamt of the possibility of the rank and wild vegetation of tea in the jungly tracts of Assam turning into a source of income to India. The English residents here, belonging to an enterprising nation, should co-operate with Indians for the development of indigenous industries of India. The other day we suggested that Government ought to do something towards the agricultural education of the people, somewhat after the manner of the Russian Government. We are very glad to learn on the authority of the *Charu Mihir* that the District Judge of Maimansigh, Mr. Ambica Charan Sen, held a conference the other day, at his own house, to consider the steps necessary for the improvement of agriculture in the district. He said that there are three places in that district where agriculture could be carried on with considerable success. Mr. Sen, who had made the subject of agriculture his special study while in England, said among other things that his experiments on the soil of the east part of Kishorganj showed that it could be made to grow tobacco of so fine a quality as is grown in Rangpur. We are very glad to find that Mr. Sen could manage to find time to carry on such pursuits for the welfare of the country inspite of his arduous official duties. How desirable is it that District Magistrates throughout the country should devote a portion of their time iy developing the resources of the country!

MR. CLARKE, who had long been connected with Delhi as Deputy Commissioner and Commissioner, has left the town for Europe on long furlough. On the occasion of his departure the Hindu and Mahomedan residents of Delhi gave him a farewell demonstration. This is how the correspondent of an Anglo-Indian paper describes it:—"With much tact the organisers of this farewell demonstration did not make known their intentions until, quite literally, the eleventh hour. In the first instance, a deputation of ten native gentlemen proceeded in carriages to the Commissioner's residence whence they accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Clarke and party to the station a strong body of mounted police providing an imposing escort. At the Mori Gate another party of ten well-known inhabitants, mounted on horseback, awaited the arrival of the cortege, and here a very handsome device with an appropriate motto was thrown across the road. After crossing the Dufferin Bridge the party made their way towards the station along a road festooned and decorated elaborately. When a halt was made, the horses were taken from Mr. and Mrs. Clarke's carriage and they were dragged with willing hands and amidst much enthusiasm to the station entrance where a detachment of police formed a guard-of-honour. What with festoons of flowers and gold lace, Mr. and Mrs. Clarke were loaded with good wishes. The whole of the R. M. R. platform was lavishly decorated and carpeted with flowers. Indeed, this farewell demonstration was so genuine and affecting that their last half-hour in Delhi obvoiusly proved a trying, if memorable, one for them. Of course, all the chief European residents in Delhi headed by the new Commissioner, Mr. Fanshawe, were present but they were submerged amidst a sea of Hindus and Mahomedans." The above proves one thing: The Indians are not ungrateful. On the other hand, "effusiveness" and loyalty are the most important traits in their character. They hanker for a drop of sympathy from those in whose hands providence has entrusted their destinies. Yes, a drop; and yet, oftener than not, do they hanker in vain A little kindness, a little sympathy will satisfy them; but such is their ill-fortune that in this too, they are disappointed. Mr. Clarke made himself popular at Delhi, and naturally enough the people did all in their power to do him honour on the occasion of his leaving the shores of India. The demonstration in itself had nothing "sincerely insincere" about it, as farewell addresses often are. There was a touch of spontaniety about it which one cannot mistake We feel sure that Mr. and Mrs. Clarke will carry the remembrance of that short hour to their graves. Other officials can, in the same manner, enjoy the blessing of being loved by those whom they govern, if only they like.

THE discovery of a method of applying the Rontgen rays to printing was recently announced from America, but the inventor's promise to produce 5,000,000 copies of a newspaper by a single process did not inspire confidence. M. Izambard, a French inventor, claims to have discovered a process which, while being considerably more modest in its pretensions, renders both typographical composition and printing machines unnecessary. It consists of exposing the original, either hand or type-written, to the X rays, over a block of sensitive paper, the original being, in a special ink, impermeable to the rays. Thousands of sheets, it is stated, may be panetrated and impressed simultaneously with the characters of the original in a few minutes, or even, if necessary, in a few seconds. There are processes which simplify the development and fixing, and others which enable both sides of a sheet to be printed at once. The inventor believes that by his method newspapers will be produced with ten times the present speed, with a much smaller staff, and with a greatly reduced cost on account of material. For the present, however, the more intimate details of the revolutionary discovery are the secret ot the patent offices.

YUSSUF-UD-DIN'S suit for nearly four lakhs of rupees against the Secretary of State for India in Council was resumed on Wednesday last for argument before the District Judge, Secunderabad, upon three issues, framed at the last hearing, *viz*., whether the Secretary of State was liable for wrongful acts of the officers of the Government of India; whether the suit was barred by limitation, and whether the Court has jurisdiction. Upon these issues the Counsel for the plaintiff affirmed that the Secretary of State himself admitted that the whole criminal proccedings against Yussuf-ud-Din were wrong, and that the Government of India had accordingly dropped them. He relied on Chapter 17, C. P. Code, which allowed action for damages against Government for wrongful acts. Counsel then proceeded to cite Indian Law Report cases in support of his argument that the Secretary of State was responsible in this case, there were a series of wrongful acts done by the servants of the Government of India, and if the Secretary of State declined all responsibility for those acts, then Chapter 17 should find no place in the C. P. Code. With regard to limitation section 23 protected Yussuf-ud-Din. The wrongful action had been continual and was finally ended on the 3rd August, 1896, from which date only could limitation have effect, but the suit was filed within two months of the required period. Article 23 of the section allowed one year for institution of suit for damages, and other articles allowed longer intervals. Counsel also maintained that notice of the suit was given within the prescribed period. The pleader for the defendant argued on the strength of "Broom's Legal Maxims" that an act of State did not make the Secretary of State responsible, and this was essentially an act of State. The King could do no wrong, or, in other words, the Secretary of State, who represented the Crown, was not affected by acts of the servants of the Government of India. He quoted legal authorities at length on the point and also on subsequent issues of limitation and jurisdiction, when the case was adjourned till April 12th.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Calcutta and Mofussil.

Indian Sketches

BY

Shishir Kumar Ghose

WITH AN INTRODUCTION

BY

W. S. Caine

PRICE—1 RUPEE AND 6 ANNAS.

"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-interesting volume of miscellaneous articles from the pen of Shishir Kumar Ghose".—W. S. Caine in the Introduction.

The sketches are written in excellent English and an attractive style. These sketches are of a miscellaneous character—stories with a distinctive imaginative faculty on every page; excellent descriptions of exciting scenes, theological essays, dissertation ons Sutteeism; poetry; a spirited and long defence of their political rights ignored by the Government, entitled "The perpetual slavery of India" which it would do good to certain of the English people, if they would only take the trouble to read, and many other interesting essays. . . . it is pleasant to find that our friends in India are capable of writing in such an interesting strain as to be found in this book. —*London Review.*

To be had at the *Patrika* Office.

DARJEELING ITEMS.—The Earl of Lonsdale arrived in Darjeeling by Wednesday's mail train, Captain Tizzard with a wing of the Royal Munisters, and the band of the same regiment arrived on Tuesday at Lebong from Dinapur.

HARI PREMASRAM.—This evening, at 7 P.M., Pundit Balaram Misra Sarbabhaum will deliver a lecture on "the Incarnation of Lord Gouranga," at the above Sabha, at 2 Balaram Ghose's Street. The speech will be followed by *Sankirtan.*

A LECTURE.—A correspondent writes to say that on the 26th ultimo Babu Manoranjan Bannerjee delivered an interesting lecture at Kidderpore Ripon Hall on "Lord Gauranga and His Doctrines." There was a large attendance of Hindus, Mahomedans and others.

A YOUNG ARTIST.—We have seen several productions of a very young artist, Babu Khetter Mohan Bose, which do him credit, considering the fact that he has had very slight extraneous help. We are confident that the young artist will one day achieve great success in his profession.

AN APPOINTMENT.—The *Behar Herald* hears that Mr. C. Still, C. I. E., of the Motihari factory, will get the post of the Manager, Bettia Raj, when Mr. J. Lowis goes on leave in April.

TIGER SCARE.—There is a tigar scare just now in many parts of Bengal; and the services of *shikaries* are sought for in all such places. A tiger has made its appearance in the neighbourhood of Baraset and its presence felt by killing a cow. From several villages in Nadia too comes the same report. At Joanial in this district, tigers are seen on the prow, even in the day time.

TRADES ASSOCIATION.—Mr. Henry Elworthy, Master of the Calcutta Trades Association, has been nominated by the Committee of that body to serve on the representative Committee which the Lieutenant-Governor intends to appoint for the purpose of considering certain proposals which have recently been put forward in connection with the provision of a Central Railway Station for Calcutta.

CLUBBED A TIGER.—Clubbing a tiger to death is not an easy task, but such has been the experience of a party of weavers and washermen of Krishnabasar in Bankura. These men went out about a fortnight before to the woods to capture hares. They set their snare, and while two men hid themselves behind a bush, the others began to serve as beaters. Soon there came the sound of an animal falling into the net; but in the uncertain light of the waning moon the first two hunters did not know what animal it was. They thought that it was perhaps a jackal if not a large hare. They rushed out of cover, and began to strike the animal trying to extrictate itself from the meshes of the net, with their lathies. When however, the sticks broke, they came to realise their position and to feel that it was nothing short of a tiger—a Jingafuli. Then they raised the cry of "the tiger—the tiger," which soon brought the beaters up. By the combined efforts of the whole party the ferocious brute was accounted for.

AN IMPORTANT QUESTION OF LAW.—Last week a question of some importance came before the Original Side of the High Court, with reference to an application for letters of administration to the estate of a Hindoo woman of the town (*In the goods of Joymani Bewah*) Two persons claimed letters of administration one against the other on the ground that they were her relatives. The solicitor on behalf of the Secretary of State had written to the applicant to say that he would not oppose the grant to the applicant. The learned Judge, who heard the suit, came to the conclusion, that the applicant was related to the deceased, whereas the caveator was not, but held that the suit must be dismissed inasmuch as there can be no heir to a woman of her class and therefore no letters of administration can issue. Theresult of this decision is, that the estate of a woman of this class, no matter how large it may be, cannot be represented after her deaih if she dies intestate, except possibly by the Crown. The state of the law is hardly satisfactory, because every estate, no matter what its value, ought to be represented in order that the estate may be got in, its debts paid and the funeral expenses discharged. Grant of letters of administration does not establish the heirship to property. Anyone rightly claiming the deceased's estate can bring a suit to establish his claim. The administrator gives security to the Court to administer the estate and his office is one of pure trust with regard to the estate of the deceased and in earlier decisions that fact has been recognised and administration has been granted to undegraded relatives of Hindu women of this kind, on the ground of expediency.—*Calcutta Weekly Notes,*

A SAD FATALITY.—A terrible accident on the river took place on Sunday. A party of thirty-six passengers, mostly women and children, had put off from Smyth's Ghat, Hughli, in a boat to go over to Ghoshpara to mingle in the rejoicings incidental to the Dol Jatra festival. There was a heavy gale at the time and the river was rough. The boat with its freight of human beings sank just opposite the Circuit House, and all the passengers, except about a dozen that could swim, were drowned within the sight of terrified spectators on the bank. The accident is said to have been so sudden that help was rendered impossible.

DACOITY.—A correspondent reports a serious attempt at dacoity at Ashannagar Bhimpur, in the district of Nadia. On the night of the 2nd *Chaitra* last, a band of 20 or 25 armed dacoits with lighted torches attacked the house of one Matur Karmakar in the village and mercilessly assaulted the owner. Attracted by the latter's cries of distress, several neighbours came to the scene, but the dacoits kept them off by showers of bricks and utensils. The owner fled to escape further mal-treatment. Some time after, a Mahomedan neighbour, named Reajuddin, fired a gun, and at the report of the piece, the marauders made haste to leave the scene. As they were retiring, another villager, Achmat Mandal, struck at one of them with a *lathie* which felled him to the ground and left him a prisoner in the hands of the villagers. The dacoits, however, returned to rescue their companion, in which they succeeded after having again maltreated Matur. The police, it is alleged, did not appear on the scene till 12 hours had passed.

THE BHOWAL RAJ.—This week's *Anusandhan* contains a portrait and a short notice of Raja Rajendra Narain Roy Bahadur of Bhowal. Our contemporary very rightly describes him as one of the brightest gems of East Bengal,—the pink of courtesy and personification of kindness and generosity—the true friend of Bengali literature. The Raja Bahadur is adorned with many virtues—he is not only simple-minded and well educated, but what is more, he is kind and charitable to a fault, loves his tenantry, and feels for others, and above all feels for his mother language. Indeed, the story of his patronage to Bengali literature will be handed down to posterity. Along with him will live, ever green and ever fragrant, the name of his Minister, Rai Kali Prasanna Ghosh, —the pride of East Bengal and the high priest of Bengali literature. Not only is he a profound philosopher and a graceful writer, but is the right hand of his master in his attempts to raise the standard of the Bengali literature. We wish them both long life and a prosperous voyage through life.

MAHABHARATA.—We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of Part 1 of an English Translation of the Mahabharata with a philosophical introduction and esoteric commentary edited by Babu S. C. Mukhopadhaya, M, A., editor of the *Light of the East* and the *New Age* (20, Grey Street, Calcutta). The special feature claimed for this translation lies in that it is accompanied by exhaustive esoteric notes explaining the abstruse philosophies as also the various rites, usages and characters which abound in this great epic. The translation before us is an excellent one while the introduction and the esoteric notes fully maintain the reputation of its able editor, who seems to be thoroughly fitted for the arduous task he has undertaken. The printing and get-up are admirable, and the whole series will be illustrated by a number of full-page engravings. We wis he venture every success.

Money Market and Trade.

Calcutta, March 30th.

Government Loans

3 per cent	... 95 Nominal			
3 1/2 per cent Loans	... 101	2	to 101	3
One month's sight	... 101	4	to 101	5
small sums	... 101	5	to 101	6

Calcutta Port Trust Debentures

4½ Per cent of 1881-1883	... Rs.	103
5½ Per cent of 1883	... ,,	118

Interest and Discount.

Bank of England	3
Bank of Benga.	7%
Bank of Bombay	7%
Bank of Madras	6 ,,

EXCHANGE ON LONDON.

Bank Wire	...	1-3	31-32	Steady
,, Demand	...	1-4		
,, 3 month's sight	...	1-4	1-16	
,, 4 do	...	1-4	3-32	
,, 6 do D A	...	1-4	1-4	
,, 3 do D A	...	1-4	3-16	
,, 6 do D P	...	1-4	1-4	
,, 3 do D P	...	1-4	3-16	

CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.

			Rs.
5 Per cent of 1897	(1908)	...	105
5 Per cent of 1884-85	(1905)	...	104
5 Per cent of 11885-86	(1915)	...	109
5 Per cent of 181886-87	(1916)	...	110
5 Per cent of 18887-88	(1918)	...	111
5 Per cent of 1889-90	(1919)	...	112
5 Per cent of 190-91	(1920)	...	113
5 Per cent of 18882	(1902)	...	101-8
4 1-2 Per cent of 1891-92	(1802)	...	104-8

The following transactions were reported to-day:

Katras Jheria Coal	...	16¼ to 16¾
Bengal Nagpore Coal	...	8⅞ to 8¾
Sinjell Tea	...	75, 76.
Eastern Cachar Tea	...	51, 52.

Toolsi Das Roy & Brothers.
9, China Bazar, Calcutta.

LIVERPOOL SALT MARKET.

Quotations for this day's sales.

Calcutta, 30th March, 1899.

Ex-Ships		
Eclificon	...	1735...66
Lindfields	...	125...66
Holkar	...	1000...65
		2,860
Ex Gollahs.		
Croftsman	...	900...67
Rhines ...	...	100...67
		1,000

K. D. Roy,
SALT BROKER.
Custom House

Telegrams.

[INDIAN TELEGRAMS]

SEVERE STORM AT SIL HAR.

SILCHAR, MAR. 30.

There was a cyclonic hail storm here at 5 o'clock in the evening yesterday, causing serious damage to houses including the charitable dispensary, the Roman Catholic Church, the Regimental and Military Police Barracks, the Volunteer Sergeant-Major's bungalow, the Silchar Hotel, the Billiard House, and the Narsingh School. One life was lost in town. Mofussil reports have not yet been received.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, MAR. 29.

A Reuter's despatch from Apia, dated the 23rd of March, says that, in consequence of the Chief Mataafa, the German Protege, continuing to disregard the treaty, the British and American Consuls and Naval officers sent him an ultimatum on the 15th instant. The Mataafans responded by attacking Apia and killed three blue-jackets, one of whom was an American, and wounded several others. The British and American ship thereupon bombarded Mataafa's position. The Germans in Apia took refuge aboard the warship Faike.

LONDON, MAR. 30.

The *Times'* Rome correspondent states that the Anglo-French agreement is bitterly resented in Italy, as its terms are regarded as excluding Italy from the eventual occupation of Tripoli and the Hinderland.

The *Times* in an article, discussing the feeling of Italy, urges that the acrimony is due to misconstruction of the agreement with France.

LONDON, MAR. 30.

Captain Novitsky, lecturing at the Guards Headquarters in St. Petersburg, in the presence of the highest authorities, commented upon the inferior ducation of Indian Native Officers, and declared that the fortifications of the north-west frontier of India were unsatisfactory and very different from what British accounts presented.

LONDON, MAR. 30.

There is a movement of Chinese troops towards Pekin.

The Kangsu troops, whose withdrawal from he Capital the Powers demanded last autumn, will encamp in the immediate vicinity of Peking.

LONDON, MAR. 30.

Quarantine on arrivals from Mauritius has been reimposed by Alexandria.

LONDON, MAR. 30.

The British revenue for the year ending the thirty-first of March shows a net increase of £1,841,039.

THE Railway Police Department has been organized in Madras and will come into force from the 1st proximo. Mr. J. F. Fowcet, Assistant to the Government in the Intelligence Branch, is to be Superintendent of the Force with head-quarters at Madras, and Mr. Hannington, Assistant Superintendent with head-quarters at Bezwada.

AT the Madras High Court on Wednesday the rioters in the Hindupur murder case appealed against the conviction by the Sessions Judge of Bellary for the murder of Mr. Sundersa Iyer, Tehsildar of Hindupur, who was killed in a plague riot. His Lordship refused to interfere, and confirmed the finding and sentence of the Sessions Judge.

ON Tuesday last a Burman killed his wife and mother-in-law and dangerously wounded five other members of his wife's family in the neighbourhood of Rangoon. He was divorced from his wife two years ago, and visited her to induce her to return to him, and on her refusal he ran amuck among the household.

THE Jat Sikh of the Jullundur and Hoshiarpur districts is by no means wanting in enterprise. There is hardly a village from which some young blood does not go out yearly to Africa to seek his fortune in the capacity of overseer constable, or sepoy, returning after three years with pockets full of rupees, ivory, ornaments and yarns full of adventure, which he spins to an admiring throng seated under the shade of the spreading pipal tree.

AT the annual meeting of the Bombay Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, His Excellency the Governor announced that Raja Venugopau', Bahadoor, a well-known sportsman and owner of race-horses, had generously offered to build an infirmary for animals at a cost of Rs. 15,000, provided the hospital bore his name.

DEWAN BAHADUR P. Srinivasa Rao, Judge, City Civil Court, Madras, retired on Wednesday from the service, in which he passed the long period of 55 years, of which 40 were in the Judicial service. Prior to his retirement, the members of the Madras Bar, both European and Native assembled in his Court to give him valedictory addresses. Mr. Eardly Norton, on behalf of the European Bar, referred, in glowing terms, to the valuable services rendered by the retiring Judge, and the courteous and friendly relations which it had always been his endeavour to maintain with all appearing before him. A similar address was also voted on behalf of the Native Bar. The retiring Judge made a touching reply in suitable terms.

BULLION MARKET.

Calcutta, 30th March 1899.

GOLD—.				
English Bar—(100 touch)	per tollah Rs.	24	0	0
Do Small portion	,, ,,	24	1	0
Australian Bar (100 touch)	,, ,,	24	1	0
Chin Leaf 3 Brand	,, ,,	25	12	0
Do 2 do	,, ,,	25	10	0
China Bar	,, ,,	Nominal		
Calcutta Bar (100 touch Mint Assay)	,, ,,	24	0	0
Sovereign Victoria				
Sheild	per piece ,,	15	9	0
Do Jubilee	,, ,,	15	1	3
SILVER.				
Englslh (Silver Bar of 17 1-2 dwt. better	per 100 tollah	74	5	0
Do small portion		74	10	0

RUSSICK LAL CHUNDER,
BULLION AND STOCK DEALER
54, Khungraputty, Burra Bazar.

PEARLING IN MERGUI

MANY persons will be interested in the following few particulars jotted down after interviewing Captain Bennet of Mergui, who for some time, was pearling in the Mergu Archipelago, and Captain Reid of the s. s. *Ambolna*, who was on the same pearling ground for two years, and quitted it disappointed—

Captain Bennet started with £800, and built a schooner of 15 tons. while the vessel was being built, he sent to England for as many diving-dresses and pumps as he could afford, namely, for at £12 each outfit. Manilla men were engaged as divers. They usually demand an advance of Rs. 800 or Rs. 1,000 which they get, and sometimes clear out for good with the money. Cap ain Reid built his schooner ready for work for Rs. 7,000, and sent to McCallister's of Singapur for four diving-apparatuses. When they arrived, Captain Reid engaged four Burmese boats, at Rs. 100 a month, each with a crew of four men to work the pumps. Four divers (Manilla men) were also engaged at Rs. 250 a month and 5 per cent. on the gross receipts. These divers had to be found in the best of living all the time at sea. The pearling-ground among the islands of the Archipelago is two or three days' sai from Mergui; and the time for arrival there is at the beginning of the neap tides. It is impossible to work on the spring tides, or, in fact, while there is any tide running. Having arrived at a likely spot, the schooner anchors; and the boat and divers put off for a good fishing-ground, always keeping in sight of the schooner. Then the divers, before beginning the work for which they are paid handsomely, "buy over" the Burmese in the boats, binding them to secrecy regarding certain subsequent proceedings, after which pearl-fishing begins in earnest. If the boat is in shoal water, say of 6 to 10 fathoms, the divers can remain down at the bottom for an hour; but when there is deep water of 20 fathoms, they can only stay down for 15 minutes at a time. In the afternoon, before turning back for the schooner, the divers sort over all the pearl oysters they have collected, and from long experience the diver can discriminate which oyster is the most likely to contain the largest pearls. These they select, open them, extract and stow away all the pearls, and throw the shells overboard, their contract being to deliver the pearl oysters intact to employer at the schooner. When a boat is loaded, and the diver has picked out the best for himself, it proceeds to the schooner, and the pearl oysters are handed over; and the boats go back for more. This is the procedure every day, until the schooner is loaded. The oysters are opened on board the schooner later on, and the oyster taken from the shells, and pearls are collected—generally one pearl for every 50 shells and then merely a small pearl. After trying every conceivable way to check-mate the divers, and after two years of hard work, on finding that the bare expenses alone were covered, it is not astonishing that pearling was given up. But the Burmese are learning the art of diving; and there may be some chance of making money later on, the Burmese being generally more honest people. Manilla men have another way of procedure besides that given above. They enter the schooner's hold when the oysters are dry, and sprinkle salt water on the shells, which causes the bivalves to open their shells wide, which are instantly plugged apart with bits of wood. The divers then leisurely steel all the pearls, take away the plugs, and allow the oysters to close their shells, which are found innocet of pearls—*Times of Burma.*

A NEW DISEASE IN BOMBAY.

A PRESENT FROM EAST AFRICA.

IT might naturally be supposed that at the present moment Bombay was slightly crowded with diseases, and that there was barely room for a new intruder. But such is not the case, for whilst we are paying the closest attention to plague, relapsing fever, measles, and a few other epidemics we have found an opportunity of introducing a novelty possessing some striking and entirely new features. The introduction is necessarily somewhat limited, but nevertheless it is a start and the new arrival may prove itself capable of vast things. The new visitant rejoices in the name of "chigger" and has been referred to as "jigger". Paragraphs have recently appeared in the papers reporting the arrival of a vessel with (*inter alia*) "four cases of jigger on board." These notifications have occasionen-d considerable mystification. Long discussions have been going on as to what "jigger" really is. At first it was put down as merchandise and very expensive at that because four cases was not much in the way of consignment. Most people were agreed that it was something either to eat or drink, but which opinion was divided excepting that gin as an individual article held the field. We listened to all these theories as to "jigger" and then decided on making enquiries. Our search has led to the knowledge that "jigger" is not jigger but "chigger" and is nothing either to eat or to drink, nothing more than a wee modest flea Wee it is, and modest and therein lies all the trouble It is none of your bumping, jumping, bounding hilarious common or garden fleas, but a timid little thing ever trying to escape attention. In truth it is a case of "where is the lady" and having discovered her the rest is fairly simple. But to particularise.

There are at present no less than twelve patients in the Gokuldas Tejpal Hospital suffering from this newly-imported disease from British East Africa. As we have said chigger is a very minute flea, and the disease is caused by the fertile female which burrows under the skin. Any part of the body may be attacked, but the feet are usually infested, mainly between the toes and near or under the toe nail.

The presence of the insect under the cuticle is at first marked only by a minute black spot which may be invisible without a magnifying glass, especially in a dark skin. The parasite soon enlarges to the size of a small pea by development of the egg-sack which, when mature looks like a drop of pus beneath the cuticle with the body of the flea as a black spot in its centre. If left alone the sac bursts and the eggs escape. Severe pain attends the presence of the parasite, and troublesome ulceration and even necrosis of bone may follow.

Captain P. P. Kilkelly, M. B., I.M.S., lately officiating in medical charge, 4th Bombay Infantry, when that Corps was serving in British East Africa, was the first to report in Bombay in the early part of January last, that chigger had firmly established itself at Mombasa. The regiment left that island on December 3rd in the S.S. Canara, and on December 17th during the voyage between Aden and Bombay 26 fresh cases of fully developed chigger were found amongst the men and followers. Many coolies returning in the ship were found to be affected by the parasite. Captain Kilkelly in his report added:—"There is no reason to doubt the probability that this insect will establish itself in India, and I need not emphasize the great necessity of taking all possible steps to prevent its importation, and if, it should obtain a foothold, to limit its spread."

The Surgeon-General to the Government of Bombay has drawn the attention of all Civil Surgeons and other medical officers in the Presidency to the Government resolutions regarding the measures to be taken to prevent the importation of chigger into India, and adds that it is probable that in persons coming to India from Africa with chigger the abcess will usually have burst before arrival. It is, however, important to treat promptly cases in which this has not happened in order that the chances of the flea's eggs being scattered may be diminished by breaking the egg-sack.

HUSBAND POISONER.

WRETCHED STORY OF INTRIGUE AND CRIME.

A CASE which, according to a Daziel despatch, had been the talk of Paris for weeks, came before the Seine Assizes, when Madame Bianchini was placed on trial for attempting to murder her husband by administering poison. The accused is a fine-looking woman. M. Bianchini is her second husband, her first having obtained a divorce. The victim is a well-known figure in the threatical world. He was appointed costumier to the opera, and he and his wife went to live in a flat on a boulevard lent by a journalist friend M. Mayer. The latter was on intimate terms with Mdme, but in order to attenuate the scandal it was arranged that divorce should be obtained against M. Bianchini. The prosecution allege, however, that prisoner's mother threatened to break off all relations with her if she were again divorced, and that this is why she tried to get rid of her husband by poisoning him. M. Bianchini was taken ill on the morning of March 10, 1898. His wife recommended him to take a soothing powder and dissolved it herself in a glass of water. From that moment he got rapidly worse, and presented all the symtoms of poisoning. Several physicians were called in, and a day or two afterwards Madame Bianchini asked one of them to write her a prescription for a large dose of morphia. The doctor finally gave her obe for some atropine, which she said, was for a dog suffering with its eyes. But the doctor's suspicions were aroused, his brother doctors confirmed them and a special watch was placed over the patient, who recovered in a remarkable way directly his wife was prevented from tending to his wants. It was subsequently ascertained that by means of forged prescriptions the prisoner had obtained large quantities of poison at the moment of the illness. The defence was that M. Bianchini attempted to commit suicide to avoid prosecution for the theft of a pearl necklace and obtained the poison from a bottle which he took from his wife some months before, when she procured it with the object of taking her own life. As for the dose brought during her husband's illness, prisoner declared that she used it for toilet purposes only and to increase the beauty of her eyes. She answered the judge's questions readily enough and without emotion. She said she was 34 years of age, and that she married her husband when she was 23. She knew very well that his affairs were not prosperous then, but she loved him very much, and persuaded her mother to advance all the necessary funds. Besides her personal fortune, her mother had lost several million francs in M. Bianchini's numerous enterprises, and was practically ruined. She was sure that the pecuniary strain bearing on the mind of her husband had induced him to attempt to commit suicide. It was untrue to say that she desired her husband's death in order to marry M. Mayer for she was quite content with matters as they were.

Addressing the Court on behalf of the prisoner (says Reuter) the learned counsel submitted that there was no adequate motive, since M. Bianchini was so easy-going a man where his wife was concerned that there was no need to put him out of the way.—The prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to five years' penal servitude. The sentence caused a sensation in court, the public being apparently unprepared for a serious penalty. On leaving the dock the prisoner attempted to stab herself with a hat pin, but she was prevented, and stasuined no injury.

INTERESTING ITEM.

THE CURE OF PNEUMONIA.

JOYFUL tidings came from the Bacteriological Institute at Berlin provided they are true. Professor Wassermann, one of the most dilligent and capable pupils of Professor Koch, hopes to have found the serum for the cure of pneumonia. One may imagine what such a discovery would mean, but in view of former disappointments, jubilation would be premature. Pneumonia, as is known, is said to be caused by the pneumo-caccus bacillus. Dr. Wassermann inoculated rabbits with this, and, with the serum thus gained, he inoculated mice infected by pneumonia. After prolonged experiments, he discovered that it was the red marrow of the bones in which the production of the anti.toxin took place, and the most promising discovery is that the red marrow taken from a human subject dead from pneumoni and used as serum, will cure mice infected with tha disease. Professor Wassermann thinks, therefore he has reason to hope that the serum discovered by him will also prove effective with human beings.

SAND-SOAP.

IN these days, when a well advertised soap offers the potentiality of becoming rich beyond the dreams of avarice, it is strange that no one has turned his attention to exploiting the sand-soap of Upper Burma. In spite of the superior attractions of the cheap scented home soaps which can now be bought in the remotest bazar of Burma or the Shan States, the Burma sand-soap still holds its own with thousands of people in this province. Like a largely advertised European soap the Burma sand-soap "will not wash clothes." But for cleansing the human body it acts efficiently, and is in great favour with all sections of the Burmese population. Its great merit, perhaps, in its cheapness for a sufficient quantity to last a family a week can be procured for a couple of pice. We have not seen this soap made up into cakes. It is ordinarily wrapped in a leaf, and has the appearance of a dark coloured sand. It is a good detergent, and if made into tablets, considering how plentiful it is, there might be a good demand for it outside of Burma.

HIS Excellency the Viceroy's shooting trip to the Changa Manga forest has been definitely abandoned, owing to reports from the Conservator of Forests being unfavourable as regards prospects of sport. Lord Curzon will inspect the Museum and other public buildings in Lahore on the 4th April, the date which was originally fixed for the *shikar.* The weather is fine but unusually warm, the temperature being ten degrees above normal.

ON Tuesday Mrs. Dundee, wife of Captain Dundee, R. E., now serving in the Khyber, was robbed of her jewels valued at between two and three thousand rupees. They were abstracted from her room in Flashman's hotel in Lahore, during her temporary absence, evidently by some one who knew the premises well. The Police have the case in hand and have arrested a former servant lately discharged who was found on search to have more than one hundred rupees on his person, which remains to be satisfactorily accounted for.

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Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Correspondence.

THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—In my observations on the Calcutta Municipal Bill published some time ago, I had occasion to remark that "we may venture to submit to the kind consideration of the European Mercantile and Trading Community and the Government the fact that the Commissioners failed to carry out the sanitation of Calcutta on a much more extended scale for want of adequate funds; the Government instead of bringing out this Bill, which if passed into law, would virtually transfer from the general body of the Commissioners all the real powers to the General Committee, should have been pleased to provide them with adequate funds by recasting the finance of the Corporation and imposing a tax that should have touched all kinds of income derived in Calcutta on equal ground, and warned the Commissioners that, if they then failed to carry out the sanitation of Calcutta, their power would be taken away," and also that "we are sorry to find that the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and the Calcutta Trades Association, the two most influential bodies in the land, who are so very anxious to have a reasonable share in the management of the Municipal affairs of the city, did not favour the Building Commission with any suggestion as to how the money was to be provided, although they recognised the urgent need for the improvements in the City."

Now that the Mackenzie Bill is about to transfer the municipal government of Calcutta from his so-called "Bengalee adventurers" to the white European merchants and traders of the city the European merchants and traders with the quickness which is peculiar to all men of business have at once foreseen that the mere transfer of the municipal government from the Indians to the Europeans would not improve the sanitation of Calcutta by one jot, but that the same cause, namely the want of adequate funds, that prevented the Indian Commissioners from carrying out the sanitation of Calcutta would prevent the European Commissioners as well, and that is why I find Mr. McGregor, the Master of the Calcutta Trades Association, addressing the annual meeting of the Association regarding the Municipal Bill thus:—"I am not one of those who anticipate an immediate improvement as the result of the passing of the Bill; I look on it as a step in that direction; the duties of the Chairman will be more clearly defined and his responsibility cannot be evaded. But if the Act is to be a genuine success it will be necessary to make some radical changes in the executive of the Municipality; in Mr. Bright, the Chairman, we have every confidence, but that confidence does not extend very much beyond him;" and that is why I find the Honorable Mr. Turner, President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce addressing the annual meeting of the Chamber regarding the improvement and sanitation of Calcutta thus:—"A most important question which must engage the attention of all before long will be the improvement of Calcutta. Most of us know what is required in the way of the opening out of congested areas in the most thickly populated parts of the City, but few of us, I think, would like to give opinion as to how the money required for the purpose of improvements can be raised. Bombay is ahead of us in this respect, an Improvement Trust has been formed in that city, and the members are already at work, but both Bombay and Calcutta will be severely handicapped for want of funds, and seeing how great is the importance of the work, and that Bombay and Calcutta are two of the great gates of trade in India, I consider we should be quite justified in asking the Imperial Government to come to our assistance by means of pecuniary grants from the Imperial Exchequer We cannot help remembering that during the past five years, about 5 1-2 crores of rupees have been spent in Frontier Expedit ons. It seems, therefore, not unreasonable that a few crores should now be spent in putting the sea ports of India into a proper position to withstand the attacks of disease and for their general improvement." If any thing was wanting to convince the Government that the Commissioners failed to carry out the sanitation of Calcutta on a much more extended scale for want of adequate funds and apathy of the executive officers of the Corporation, it is the foregoing opportune remark of the Master of the Trades Association and the wished-for applica ion of the President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Himself an Honorable Member of the Bengal Council pondering over this Bill) to the Imperial Government to come to their assistance by means of pecuniary grants from the Imperial Exchequer, would supply such wants. But in my humble opinion, it would have been more becoming to the Honorable gentleman, had he at any time during the last twenty-two years seen the necessity of applying to the Government to come to the assistance of the Commissioners and brought his immense Imperial influence and that of his respected Chamber to bear upon the Government for that purpose.

It is, indeed, very sad to find the Honorable President of the Merchant-Princes of Calcutta, who, the other day, in the Bengal Council, boasted of the annual value of the imports and exports of Calcutta being 38 and 51 crores respectively, suggesting the begging from the Imperial Exchequer of funds for the improvement of Calcutta. Would it not have been more creditable to the Honorable gentleman and the mercantile community he represents if he had seen that the commercial contribution to the Municipal taxation is grossly inadequate and offered to pay an increased commercial contribution to the annual taxation, compatible with the desire for more adequate representation and bearing a proportionate ratio to the taxation which house-holder and ground landlord contribute in respect of their holdings of the annual value of Rs, 2,10,00,000, two crores and ten lacs.

It is very amusing to find that while the Municipal Bill is yet in the hands of the Select Committee, Sir Patrick Playfair is talking of the election for the representative of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce on the General Committee of the Municipality under the new Act when it becomes law and naming the Vice-President of the Chamber and the mercantile member of the Legislative Council to be ex-officio members, I wish Sir Patrick Playfair had deferred his nomination till the passing of the Bill. I do not know how to characterise the conduc of the European community which, while paying 2·33 per cent. of the Municipal rates and taxes, wants to have control over the whole of the Municipal fund, the bulk of which belongs to other people. In conclusion I ask, sir, is the Government of Lord Curzon going to humour the European merchants of Calcutta by contributing the whole of the cost of the improvements of Calcutta from the Imperial exchequer, such cost not being less than ten crores of rupees? I think not. Why should the Government pay when it can by a stroke of this pen raise sufficient funds by making the merchants and tradesmen of Calcutta pay their legitimate share of Municipal taxation? In no maritime city of the world, commerce is allowed to get on by paying so light a taxation as in Calcutta; and unless the taxation is revised and the Europeans are made to pay their legitimate share of the rates and taxes, there is no earthly hope of getting the sanitary condition of Calcutta improved.

MONMOTHO NATH DUTT

52 Grey Street.

THE MUNICIPAL BILL: MUSSALMAN VIEW.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—It has been remarked by the supporters of the Calcutta Municipal Bill that the measure is intended, among other things, to safeguard the interests of the Mahomedans and the poor. As a Mahomedan and a poor Mahomedan in the bargain I am deeply grateful to Lord George Hamilton and Sir John Woodburn for their sympathy in our behalf. But I regret to say that I cannot make myself believe that they can at all be serious in this matter.

Does Lord George Hamilton think that his nominated Europeans will be more accessible to the poor of Calcutta than the elected native Commissioners who live amongst the poor and daily come in contact with them? The Europeans as a rule are such a busy people that they can be made to attend municipal meetings only on the promise of a handsome fee. Will they have time enough even if they have the inclination, to attend to the grievances of the poor? Respectable native gentlemen can seldom approach Europeans, and a child can say that it is practically impossible for the poor to do so.

As for the Mahomedans I have only to say that at present they form nearly a third part of the Corporation as well as of the General Committee, whereas by the new rules they will have only one seat out of the twelve on the General Committee, that is to say, they will be four times worse off than now. Besides this the present members owe their seats to their constituents and as such they are expected to serve them by all means in their power, while the new dignitary will be a Government nominee and bound to follow the officials in all matters without the least consideration for the feelings and prejudices of the Moslem public.

As for the attitude of the Mahomedans I need only remind you that they mustered strong at the Town Hall protest meeting held sometime ago, and some of them took an active part in the proceedings.

Among the signatories to the various memorials submitted to Government by the different Ward Committees, many are Mahomedan gentlemen of influence and position and they have subscribed liberally to the agitation fund. This fact, I think, clearly shows that they are as much opposed to the Bill as their Hindu fellow-citizens. Being the poorer of the two communities they will be the greater sufferers.

As for the two Mahomedan Associations, whose support created so much fuss here and in England I will write to you later on. Of the so-called Mahomedan leaders who are so loud in singing the praises of this Bill no one has got an inch of land in Calcutta to call his own and his interest in the town is of the same nature as that of the Europeans.

VOX ISLAMIA.

16th March 1899.

THE VICEROY AT LAHORE.

HERE is His Excellency the Viceroy's reply to the address presented to him by the Lahore Municipality:—

Your Honor and Gentlemen,—I am glad at this early stage of my period of office to have the pleasure of visiting the historic and important city of Lahore. Every Viceroy must desire to become as soon as possible acquainted with the Punjab and with its capital. A good deal of the success and the greater part of the tranquillity of his administration will be decided by what passes during his term upon the frontier of this province. In its leading city he will observe the relics of a kingly past, he will be brought into contact with a race that still begets not merely men but heroes and he will have the opportunity of consulting with the officers upon whose tact and experience the management of what are more than provincial interests in the main depends. If in my case these experiences are not entirely novel they do not render it any the less agreeable to me to return as Viceroy to a locality which I have more than once visited as student and which has always possessed for me a peculiar fascination. We are in the habit in England of celebrating important anniversaries in our history with the object either of recalling great events or of commemorating great men. I cannot fail therefore to notice upon the present occasion that yesterday when I arrived in Lahore was the exact 50th anniversary of the day on which the treaty was signed by which the Punjab was included in the dominions of the British Crown. Were the Governor-General now living who concluded that treaty he might indeed congratulate himself upon the issues of his policy and upon the reception accorded half a century later to his eleventh successor in that high office. While I sympath se with you in the sufferings from famine and plague which have in recent years visited the Punjab in common with so many other parts o India, I may yet congratulate you upon having escaped far more lightly than some of them have done. As head of the Government I cannot be insensible to your gratifying recognition both of the efforts of the Administration in India and of the generosity of the British public. They have not merely contributed greatly to the mitigation of your hardships, but they have testified to a unity of interest and sentiment which it is my desire to encourage in both countries. In the fourth paragraph of your address you assure me of loyal support from the inhabitants of this province in the pursuance of a policy that shall at once protect and pacify your frontiers. This is not the occasion for any pronouncement upon frontier affairs. It will be sufficient for me to say that my desire is to keep India safe, to respect tribe independence, to be friendly to those who will be friendly, but firm towards those who attack without provocation. No man can forecast what may happen in a region so fertile in surprises as the Indian border but I shall perhaps not err if I record my own conviction that frontier politics are not an exact science and that their prudent management is less dependent upon hard and fast rules than it is upon methods and manners, and still more upon men The ideal frontier is that in respect of which its own sons are largely enlisted in its defence.

In the next place you call my attention to the efforts which you have long been making and are continuing to make for the improvement of the drainage and water-supply of your city. I have been brought up in England as a member of a political party whose leader once prescribed for it the motto *Sanitas sanitatum, omnia sanitas.*

I have therefore what I may almost call a hereditary political prepossession in favour of such exertions which, I may observe, are even more urgently called for in the conditions of an Eastern climate, an Eastern soil, and Eastern habits of life than they are in the West. Having thus appealed to a predisposition upon which you can safely rely, you proceed to ask me to evince my sympathies by reducing the rate of interest upon a loan which you have already contracted with the Government as well as upon another for which you are about to apply. That the Government do not take altogether the same view of the question as yourselves is apparent from the fact that you included the same appeal in your address to Lord Elgin five years ago. Its repetition in substantially the same form now would seem to indicate that you have not been able to convince the Supreme Government in the interim. It will of course be both my duty and my pleasure to consider any fresh application that may reach me from your Government, which is the proper channel of communication, nor will there be any predisposition on my part to treat such an apeal from the exclusive standpoint of official or financial pedantry. I must, however, point out to you, on the one hand, that in every country in the world State loans to local bodies are only granted upon a margin beyond the actual burdened incurred by the State, because its credit is to a certain extent diminished by this hypothecation of its resources; on the other hand that there is a growing tendency in India to regard the State as a milch cow whose duty it is to provide universal sustenance, whereas the real function of the State as a money-lender is to lend in quarters which cannot borrow on their own account, rather than to supplement and prop up an independent and already existing credit.

You conclude by inviting my attention and support to the provision of technical education in the Punjab either by the founding of suitable institutions or by the gift of grants-in-aid. By technical education I understand you to mean the sort of education that will fit a man for the professions of life rather than for the arm-chair or the study. In this respect I concur with you aspirations, and I have ascertained that the local Government already supports a medical college, a veterinary college, a school of art, and a number of industrial schools, and that the number of pupils under technical training in the Punjab exceeds 2,0000. There are two observations, however, which I am tempted to make in this connection. In England such matters as technical education are largely taken up and pressed forward by Municipal Corporations. May I ask if the Lahore Municipality have taken any independent steps on behalf of the interest which they have so much at heart? The second observation is this, that technical education is not exclusively a State obligation, but may be largely assisted by private enterprises. I have heard of one such industrial school at Rawalpindi in this provinces, but of one alone. Grants-in-aid are available on easy terms for any similar institutions that may be founded, and if the demand be as urgent as is represented there should be little difficulty in enlisting public or private generosity up to the point at which the State may legitimately be called upon to assist.

In conclusion, allow me to thank you, gentlemen, for your loyal address, which, I understand, it is intended to enclose in a specimen of the silver work of Lahore. I would give a great deal to review the ancient art industry of this once ingenious and artistic country.

The members of the deputation were then introduced to His Excellency. The Viceroy will have a interview with the Frontier officers now at Lahore in the course of to-day. Sir Mackworth and Lady Young give a dinner party this evening at Government House.

THE BIRTH-DAY DEMONSTRATION.

LIST OF SANKIRTAN PARTIES.

IT is estimated that 4 to 5 hundred Sankirtan parties took part in Monday's demonstration in honour a Sree Gauranga's birth-day, out of which Dr. Rasik Mohan Chankravarti, Secretary of the Gauranga Samaj, has been able to collect the names of the following Kirtan parties. He hopes that others whose names are not included in the lis, will kindly communicate with him at 29 Sobhabazar Street. Here are the names:—

Sree Gauranga Samaj; Simla Bazar (Hira a; Thakur); Bahir Simla (Akhaya Kumar Nandi; Kantapukur (Natabar Das); Goabagan (Durgadas Chandra); Chorebagan-Dhobapara Uladingi (Rashahari Das); Syamb zar (Umakanta; Smritiratna); Hatkhola (Tinkari Karmakar); Pathuriaghata (Madhusudan Misri) Belgachia-Chhatu Babu's Garden (Gopalchandra Samanta); Jorabagan (Dwarkanath Saha); Pathuriaghata (Rajah Sir Sourendra-Mohan Tagore Bahadur); Hatkhola (Gurucharan Datta); Goabagan (Rash Behari Bain); Bagbazar-Mukherjipara (Satyanarayan Sava, Benimadhab Banerjee); Rambagan (Atulchandra, Champati) B.A.; Jorabagan (Mathura Nath Das); Ultadingi-Aratdarpatti; Surtibagan; Hatkhola Golabari (Nimaicharan Sardar); Sonagachi Dewanpara (Pyari Mohan Das); Bagbazar Kneroposta; Chitpore (Sita Nath Saha); Hatkhola (Bhaja Gobinda Sabha); Kambaliatola; Bartola; Sinti Seventank (Mati Lal Das); Kasaripara Madhu Ray's Lane (Dwarka Nath Biswas); Tirretabazar; Barabazar Daccapati (Traiylokyanath Bysak); Kumartuli, Thakur Shyam Sunder's house; Bhawanipur (Sriman Annanda Charan Mitra); Chasa-dhobapara (Shyama Charan Chakrabarti); Beadon Street (Mukanda Ghosh); Kumartuli (Bandhab Samiti); Kumartuli (Balaksampradaya); Bhawanipur (Upendranath Mukerjee); Kambaliatola (Gopa-Chandra Seal); Bagbazar-Balaksampradaya; Rajballabpara (Pramathanath Dutt); Tala (Rajendralal Das Ghosh); Shibpur-Engineering College, Shibpur; Beniatola (Rakhalchandra Chatterjee); Natherbagan (Kalachand Sardar); Hatkhola (Khetranath Banerjee); Hatkhola (Bipinbehari Ray); Kumartuli (Rameswar Pal); Darjeepara, Sridam Mudi's Lane (Ramananda Pal); Jay Mitra's Lane (Jadab Chandra Pal); Kambuliatola (Uttamchandra Laha) 1 Darmahatta-Suripara; Nadan-bagan (Shibchandra Ghosh); Nutan-Bazar Charaktola; Kansaripara (Krishnadas Biswas); Shyampukur (Shyama Charan Chatterjee); Pantipukur (Behari Lal Hazra); Pantipukur (Haradhone Samanta); Sankaritola (Gurudas Ghosh); Barabazar Chaulpati (Madhab Chandra Ta); Chorebagan (Adi Hari-Sava); Surtibagan (Gokul Chandra Goswami); Chunagalee (Haribhakti Sampradaya); Kambuliatola (Jogiram Mitra), Palbagan (Behari Lal Panja) Lalbagan (Nimaicharan Das); Joy Mitra's Lane (Haricharan Karmakar); Simla Malibagan; Pataldanga (Hari Charan Das); Kali Ghosh's Bagan (Purnachandra Das); Kansaripara (Shibchandra Pal); Chorebagan (Manindra Nath Mukherjee); Badurbagan; Chorebagan (Adi Hari Sava); Chorebagan (New Hari Sava); Khidderpur (Nabadwip Chandra Das); Kodalia (Umeschandra Adhikari); Bosepara (Gobinddhand Goswami); Amulya Biswas' party; Mirzapur—Rajah's Bazar; Dharer Bagan (Shyamacharan Dhar); Nababdi Ostaghar's Lane (Makhan Lal Das); Halsi-bagan; Natherbagan (Tarachand Sarma); Nimtola—Kathergola (Girish Chandra Chakravarti); Jorasanko; Darjeepara (Banimadhub Bhatacharjee); Sankibhanga; Haldar Bagan; Baranasi Ghose's Street (Balakdal); Roy-bagan; Barabazar—Sinduriapati; Pathuriaghata (Umesh Chandra Mandal); Kaylaghata (Devendra Nath Mukherjee); Simla Goswami House; Simla—Sooripara (Upendra Nath Mitra; Barabazar—Sonapati; Mallick-bazar (Makhan Lal Banerjee); Jorasanko (Behari Lal (Mukherje; Maniktola—Dewanjee-bagan; Bengal Theatre; Nimtola Street—Kalitola; Anath Babu's Bazar; Salkea (Ishan Chandra Nandi); Barabazar—Doyehatta (Chintamani Das); Hatkhola Bandhabsamiti (Sarat Chundra Choudhuri); Hatkhola Binapani-Sampradaya; Basanti Samiti (Gobardhan Banerjee); Maniktola—Gadadhar Mitra's Bagan; Haritaki-bagan (Sasibhusan Das); Andulia Hari Sava; Jhorhat Hari Sava (Sasibhusan Ghosh); Dulleh Hari Sava Harish Chandra Devasarma); Howrah Hari Sava; Sinti—Atapara—Shibtola (Rajkrishna Mukherjee); Simla (Ram Chandra Bidyabinod); Maniktola—Chutarpara; Nebubagan Harisava; Rashpur Hari Sava (Anukul Chandra Mandal); Thalia Harisava (Nibaran Chandra Chatterjee); Behala Hari Sava; Amta Hari Sava; Ulubaria Hari Sava; Gouribaria (Akhilchandra Mitra); Ultadingi (Khetramohan Ghosh); Ahiritola (Brajahari De Choudhuri); Sikdarbagan (Baninath Nandi); Champatola (Gobinda Babajee; Sankars Bagan (Datta's (Benimadhab Dutta); Ratan Sankar's Garden Street (Hari Sadhan Samaj); Balaram Dey's Street (Dwarkanath Madak); Barabazar Daccapati (Barajanath Bysak); Hatkhola—Darmahatta; Barabazar Hari Sava; Intally Hari Sava; Simla Harisankirtan-sampradaya (Jivan Krishna Sarkar); Barabazar Daccapati (Lalmohan Bysak); Bowbazar Sadharan Hari bhakti-pradayini Sava; Sankaritola Hari Sava; Chaldabagan Hari Sava; Nandaram Choudhuri's Lane (Naba Krishna Kar); Garpar—Anandasram (Fakirchand Ghosh); Maniktola Bazar (Shyama Charan Rakhit); Maniktola Hari Sava (Hem Chandra Chakravarti); Garpar (Abinash Chandra Bannerjee); Alambazar (Chandra Lal Chakravarti); Sinti-Utterpara Hari Sava; Haritakibagan (Nagendra Nath Devasarma); Haritakibagan (Bipin Behari Dutta); Hatkhola (Jagannath Saha); Hatkhola (Dhaniram Kasiram); Nanda ram Sen's Lane (Keshab Chandra Karmakar); Hatkhola Sadharan Hari Sava; Hatkhola (Chandra Mohan Karmakar); Kansaripara (Tinkari Tarafdar); Bagbazar—Madanmohan tola (Hari Mohun Biswas); Narikeldanga Hari Sava; Shambazar Haripremasram (Paramananda Sen Gupta); Hatkhola (Maharaj Harendra Kumar Saha); Hatkhola (Dharanidhar Chhidam Chandra Saha); Hatkhola (Dwarka Nath Makhanlal Saha).

INDIA AND ENGLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, MARCH 10.

A BYE-ELECTION.

THE Bye-Election at Elland is a very significant comment on Lord Salisbury's foreign policy. The candidate on the Liberal side was Mr. C. P. Trevelyan, a stranger to the constituency but with an honorable place in the party due to his being the son of Sir George Trevelyan, Secretary for Ireland, in Mr. Gladstone's 1880-5 Government. The Tory candidate was a strong and popular local man. The contest was equal from a personal standpoint, and the issue was fairly raised on party lines only, in one of the most enlightened constituencies in the country. In 1895 the figures were Libera 5387, Tory 5081=Liberal majority 306. Yesterday the poll was declared to be Liberal 6 42, Tory 5057=Liberal majority 984. All who have taken part in the contest bear witness that the one question that most affected the electors was the Foreign policy of the Government. The Indian policy was also well to the front, as being in full sympathy with their Foreign policy. It is a splendid Liberal victory, which treading on the heels of West Lanark, is full of warning to Lord Salisbury.

FINANCIAL TROUBLES.

The financial troubles of the Government are as great as their Foreign troubles. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach will find himself some five millions short on the Budget, for the increase in expenditure all round is very great. There will be an increase of expenditure, in the Civil and Revenue departments of £1,150,000, in the army of £1,400,000, and in the Navy of £2,800,000. The total to be spent next year on the Army and Navy is estimated at the enormous sum of £47,211,700. Of course, there will have to be additional taxation which, after the remissions of last year which ought never to have been made at all, will be exceedingly unpopular and will damage Government more and more with the electors.

Yesterday Mr. Goschen introduced the Naval Estimates for the year. The House was very crowded, the air being full of war and rumours thereof. Muscat and China were words in every member's mouth Questions have elicited that the Muscat scare has passed away, France being unexpectedly moderate and reasonable; but it was clear to every member's mind that the Government are anxious and harassed about Russia's attitude in China, though the crisis would appear to be staved off for the moment.

All this prepared a very congenial atmosphere into which to fire off Mr. Goschen's attack on the pockets of the British tax-payers. He told them that in spite of the Engineers' strike the seven battle-ships and eight cruisers now on the stocks, were proceeding rapidly, that the recruiting for the navy was well up to requirements, and that all goes well all round in the greatest spending department of any nation in the world. Then, he said, he wanted more! His demands only amounted to 4250 men and boys, a million for armament and gunnery, half a million for repairs and two millions for two new battle-ships and four cruisers. The net increase of expenditure over last year being the trifling sum of £2,816,000. Having thus put the increasing demands of the Government before the House, Mr. Goschen proceeded to deal in earnest and weighty words with the Disarmament Conference, which is to meet presently at the instance of Russia. These culminated in a sentence which he read carefully from a paper, an act conveying to the House that he spoke on behalf of the whole cabinet:—

"I have to state on behalf of her Majesty's Government that if the other great Naval Powers are prepared to diminish their program, we shall be prepared to modify ours."

This sentence was received with an outburst of cheers from every part of the House, and it was accepted both as a relief from the strain of added financial burden, equally with that of the tightened situation in China.

Apart from these somewhat hazy prospects of peace and reduction, let us view for moment what this stupendous increase on armaments really presents, and judge these naval estimates on their merits. If it has become a necessity for the British Empire to spend £47,000,000 on armaments from British taxation and some £25,000,000 more from Indian taxation, and if the steady unbroken increase in expenditure, or a peace footing, produces an international competition which can throw the richest of all nations into a deficit of five millions, where on earth is it to stop? And what is to become of all that expenditure which ought to increase steadily, which is incurred for the education, sanitation, and general social elevation of national life? All these are swallowed up in this horrid Moloch of War! All this is the most powerful comment on the Czar's Rescript, which affords a golden opportunity for Britain and Russia, the greatest sinners of all in this devilish race for military and naval supremacy, to bring forth "works meet for repentance." Our bloated naval estimates are the inevitable reply to Russia's action last year in undertaking a rapid and impressive increase in her battle-ships. Dare we hope that we have at last reached high water mark? And that the coming conference will, under sufficient safeguards, be consented to by all the Powers, enable the Chancellor of the Exchequer to remit the inevitable taxation which must otherwise be imposed, by enabling Mr. Goschen to cancel the orders for his new battle-ships and cruisers? It would be the beginning of a new era of happiness and prosperity to the world, and great will be the guilt of that nation which prevents its inauguration.

Plague News.

PLAGUE AT CHINSURAH.

TWO fresh cases of plague were reported at Chinsurah a few days ago near Khaluabazar. They were of the pneumonic type. Both ended fatally on Tuesday.

BOMBAY FIGURES.

THE number of plague attacks at Bombay on Thursday was 233 and plague deaths 145, the total mortality being 320; last year the number of plague attacks was 244, and in 1897, 168.

INCREASING IN KARACHI.

THERE were 32 cases and 33 deaths from plague on the 29th ultimo. Thursday's returns give 51 cases and 38 deaths. The totals to date are 841 cases and 565 deaths

RECRUDESCENCE IN POONA.

PLAGUE is still bad in Poona City, and nearly half of the town is empty. Fifteen cases and eight deaths have been recorded.

A PLAGUE RIOT.

A DISTURBANCE took place at Nagpur on Tuesday. Mr Mayes, Deputy Commissioner, Captain Hogg and Lieutenant Aimes, plague officers, and Mr. Greany, Assistant Commissioner, were removing a plague case when they were attacked by a mob. Sticks and stones were used and the little party had to take refuge in the Mayo Hospital. Mr. Nedham, Commissioner, and a force of reserve police afterwards arrived and dispersed the mob. Several arrests have been made in connection with the disturbance. None of the officers was injured by the mob, though stones were thrown and sticks brandished.

THE death is announced is London of Lady White Ridley, wife of the Home Secretary.

THE Government of India has sanctioned the construction of the Delhi-Agra Railway at an estimated cost of 83 lakhs of rupees.

THE Bombay Highcourt has confirmed the death sentences passed upon Wasudey Chapakar and Mahadey Ranade for murdering the two Dravids. The prisoners are now appealing to the Bombay Government.

ON the 18the ultimo at the village of Chaggatpur, in the Jullundur District, a Brahmin petition-writer, who was on his way home from a local kutcherry, was murdered and thrown into a well. The deceased is said to have made a host of enemies for himself by fomenting litigation, concocting false cases exercising an evil influence in cases generally and it is held probable that some of his numerous victims have had a hand in his death.

A TELEGRAM, received in London, reports the return to Aden of the Socotra scientific expedition, after a very successful exploration of the Island. The collections made include several very remarkable forms, especially some beautiful butterflies. A wild donkey, said to be a species new to science, is among the curiosities of the place, and of this a live example has been secured for the Zoological Gardens. A great part of the interior of Socotra has been surveyed, and correct geographical data obtained for a revised map. The Sultan proved amiable, and gave such aid as he could to the explorers, though he also showed himself to be a very good man of business.

IT has now, we learn, been arranged that the States of Kashmir, Baroda, Mysore, Hyderabad, Jeypur, and Gwalior shall send collections of artware and local manufactures to the exhibitors' court at the forthcoming Exhibition in Paris. This Indian court should prove a great attraction, as it will be ornamented with carved wood work provided by the Forest Department, and the six wealthy States we have mentioned may safely be depended on to send interesting and appropriate exhibits. We understand also that the Government of India has agreed to build and furnish tea rooms at the Exhibition, and may perhaps give a grant-in-aid towards assisting the Tea Association to suitably advertise the industry. Sir Edward Buck, one of the Royal Commissioners for India at the Exhibition, and who has been recently visiting one or two of the Native States concerned, has just sailed from Bombay for England.

THE petition for grant of probate of the will of the late Sardar Dial Singh Majjthia, whereby the deceased has bequeathed his property of several lakhs for a College and a Library, came on for hearing before Mr. Justice Reid, of the Chief Court, Punjab. The applicants are three native lawyers; Rani Bhagwan Kaur, the widow of the deceased and Mr. Rundle, who alleges that she is junior widow of the deceased filed *caveats* objecting to the grant of the probate, but at the request of the counsel of all parties the hearing was adjourned to 24th April next. It is expected that there will soon be a regular suit questioning the validity of the will.—*Civil and Military Gazette.*

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT IN BENGAL.

A YEAR'S RECORD.

THE following passages are taken from the Government resolution on the Survey and Settlement Reports for the year ending 30th September 1898 :

The total area cadastrally surveyed was 1,302 square miles, and the cost of cadastral survey and record-writing taken together was Rs. 237,297, giving an average cost rate of Rs. 182 per square mile. In 1896-97 the cost worked out to Rs. 211 per square mile, but this abnormally high rate was due to the general contraction of the survey programme in Bihar in consequence of the famine. It was considered undesirable to break up the establishment which had been so carefully collected and the contraction of programme was accompanied by no corresponding reduction of establishment. The exceptionally low rate in Noakhali (Rs. 91-73 per square mile) was due to the largeness of the fields and to the smallness of the expenditure incurred on account of supervision, the Settlement Officer having supervised both survey and settlement work. In Saran the rate was high owing to the minute private divisions of proprietary rights and to the small size of the fields, which averaged only 0·30 of an acre each. Another important factor which contributed to the high rate in this district was the fact that a very considerable portion of the tract dealt with consisted of village sites which had to be surveyed on the 64 inch scale at ten times the ordinary cost rate. The rates in Darbhanga were moderate considering the difficulties encountered. Allowing, however, for the circumstance that the famine had much to do (particularly in Saran) with the high cost rates of 1896-97, the Lieutenant-Governor considers that the fall in the cost of cadastral survey and record-writing from Rs. 271 to Rs. 193 in Saran and from Rs. 166 to Rs. 153 in Durbhanga, is satisfactory so far as it goes, but it is observed that the cost rate was owing to the diminution in the total area surveyed, higher in 1897-98 than in 1895-96 or any of the preceding years.

Several improvements in procedure were introduced during the year. Area slips which had previously only been granted to tenants were during the year under report, also issued to landlords. The work of compiling the *khewats* was transferred with successful results, from the Amins to the Survey Inspectors. Another important and useful change was in the appointment of kanungos to assist Assistant Settlement Officers in dealing with disputes as to boundary or occupancy arising during record-writing. All minor disputes are thus disposed or before the records are made over to the Settlement Department. The officers of the Settlemeet Department continued to exercise a joint control over the survey establishment, especially in regard to record writing, and the usual harmony between the two Departments was maintained.

It appears that the number of tenancies of which records of rights were prepared and existing rents ascertained and recorded in Bihar alone exceeded two millions—a number which is more than double the entire number of tenants holdings in Great Britain and Ireland together. Of these, fair rents were settled on application for 189,524 holdings, or for about 9 per cent. of the whole, the existing rents being left untouched in the case of the remaining 91 per cent. The rents of the limited number of tenancies for which fair rents were settled were enhanced by nearly 19 per cent. in Muzaffarpur, 9 per cent. in Champaran, nearly 11 per cent in Saran, and 8 per cent, in Darbhanga, mainly in all cases on the ground of excess area. The reports of the Settlement Officer show that steady progress was made in all branches of the work and that the programme for the year was fully carried out.

The district of Muzaffarpur, which has an area of 3,069 square miles, contains 4,505 villages with an estimated number of 1,036,000 tenants. At the beginning of the year under report the records of only fixe villages remained to be attested. These were finished, and the records of 121 villages were published in draft and those of 698 villages published finally leaving a balance of only 21 villages for draft publication and 194 villages for final publication.

The settlement operations in Champaran include the whole district with the exception of an area of 250 square miles of hill jungle. The total number of villages settled is 2,860, and the estimated total number of tenants 450,156. Though the area of the district surveyed is 216 square miles larger than Muzaffarpur, it has less than half the number of tenancies and over a million fewer plots. The initial record-writing was completed before the beginning of the year under report. The appeals filed during the year against orders passed in section 106 cases numbered 571, bringing the total number up to 629, of which only 36 have been decided by the special Judge.

The area under settlement in Saran is 2,622 square miles, containing 4,296 villages with an estimated number of 600,900 tenants. Thirty-nine appeals were filed against the decisions given, in 30 of which the orders of the Assistant Settlement Officer were upheld and six modified, the remaining cases being remanded for further enquiry. From the commencement of the operations up to 30th September, 1898, fair rents had been settled for 57, 628, or 9·59 per cent. of the total number of tenants in the district. The total rental in these cases was raised from Rs. 6,45,981 to Rs. 7,16,125, or by 10·85 per cent. These enhancements were large especially for a district already highly rented; but the Settlement Officer points out that they relate in the main to villages owned by the Hatwa Raj, of which a measurement was made by the Court of Wards in 1874; and that even within recent years there was a considerable portion of waste land available for cultivation on the west side of Saran. The percentage of increase for the district will certainly undergo considerable reduction by the time the operations are closed, but meanwhile there can be no doubt that the Raj authorities have taken full advantage of their opportunities of enhancing the rent of their tenants.

In Darbhanga great difficulty was experienced in ascertaining the existing rents in some villages, especially in those in which a partition had taken place. The difficulties which the Settlement Officer overcame with tact and thoroughness are attributed chiefly to the ignorance on the part of the raiyats of their rights under the Tenancy Act, and to their reluctance to disclose abuses.

The very satisfactory collections in every district indicate the readiness with which the assessees paid the amounts due by them, and their growing appreciation of the advantages conferred by the settlement. The realisation from the tenants especially were remarkably good, and were effected without friction and mainly without recourse to coercive processes.

It was originally anticipated that the settlement of Orissa would be completed by the 31st March 1898, but it would appear that there is still work for another year. Delay was caused by the necessity of reattesting nearly all the records in the district of Cuttack before the settlement of fair rents could proceed.

Appeals against the decision of the Assistant Settlement Officers in these cases have been very few. In 1897-98 only 11 appeals were filed, while six were pending from the previous year's file ; 15 appeals were decided by the Special Judge in 13 of which the decision of the Lower Court was upheld and in too reversed. The increase of revenue obtained is apparently high, but it is to be remembered that the last settlement lasted for 60 years, that rents or assets increased largely during that period, and that the Government share of the assets now being taken as revenue is far smaller than in the previous settlement. In fact the settlement with the proprietors is a very lenient one, assessments are being made by the Settlement Officer with the utmost care and consideration, and they have been accepted by the zemindars with readiness. In Balasore, where the enhancement of revenue is greatest, the moderation of the assessment is shown by the fact that cultivation is rapidly expanding instead of the settlement operations being accompanied, as they sometimes are, by temporary abandonment of cultivation. Some 18 cases of recusancy were reported, but in only five of these have the proprietors continued recusants. One is the case of the Kotdesh estate, where the revenue has been raised from Rs. 81,000 to Rs 1,04,000. This state, however, has passed, in execution of a decree of the Civil Court, into the hands of the proprietor's creditors who are reported to have expressed their willingness to accept settlement on the terms offered. The other cases in which the proprietors are rescusant are of a less important nature, and involve a revenue of Rs. 1,522 only. The new revenue introduced in April, 1898, has been practically paid up in full.

The assessment of revenue in Chittagong was completed, and the total increase obtained amounts to Rs. 1,84,153, or nearly 50·5 per cent. on the previous revenue.

The settlements of the Darjeeling Terai and the Palan Government estate were practically completed during 1896-97. The rents of 15,746 raiyats were settled during the year, an increase of 20,66 per cent. being obtained. Taking the raiyati and tenure cases together, the total increase to the Raj rent-roll since the beginning of the settlement proceedings has been Rs. 69,664, of which Rs. 50,764 were due to the fair rent cases disposed of during the year under report. The appointment of an additional Special Judge to deal with the accumulation of appeals in the Special Judges Court has resulted in the disposal of 732 appeals during the year, leaving, however, 242 appeals still to be disposed of. The decision of the Lower Court has been upheld in 85 per cent. of the cases modified in 13·75 per cent. and reversed in only 1·25 per cent.—figures which reflect credit on the settlement staff. The records of 40 cases are said to be still with the High Court.

The preparations on the Patashpur temporarily-settled estates in Midnapore were completed during the year. The new settlement, which will run for 15 years has increased the Government revenue by Rs. 8,175 or 23·99 per cent, but the cost of the operations was very high, amounting to Rs. 54,054. The new rents settled for the raiyats are being paid in full.

The settlement of the Jeypore Government estates in Bogra has also been completed. The result of the new settlement, which has been made for 20 years, is an enhancement of Rs. 11,196, or 28 per cent., while the cost of the operations, owing to indifferent management in its earlier stages, was very high, and amounted to Rs. 47,461.

The 16 Government estates under settlement in the district of Noakhali comprise an area of 109·57 square miles, with 10,000 tenants. Fair rents were settled for 5,149 tenants, raising the existing rental by Rs. 16,803, or 36 per cent, the enhancement being due mostly to expansion of cultivation. The enhanced rents have in all cases been accepted by the tenants. Only one appeal was instituted during the year and that was dismissed.

The settlement of four out of the eight estates under settlement in the districts of Backergunge and Faridpur was concluded during the year, and resulted in an increase of Rs. 21,612 in the revenue.

A REPORT of the Select Committee on the Hon'ble Bhashyam Iyenger's Hindu Gains of Learning Bill has been published in this week's *Fort St. George Gazette.*

THE work of the Jammu-Kashmir Railway survey has been commenced and is being actively pushed on. Sirdar Momakh Singh has been appointed Executive Engineer of the railway survey, subordinate to Mr. M. Nethersole, State Engineer.

Remarkable Cure of Rheumatism.

KENNA, Jackson Co., W. Va.

About three years ago my wife had an attack of rheumatism which confined her to her bed for over a month and rendered her unable to walk a step without assistance, her limbs being swollen to double their normal size. Mr. S. Maddox insisted on my using Chamberlain's Pain Balm. I purchased a fifty-cent bottle and used it according to the directions and the next morning she walked to breakfast without assistance in any manner, and she has not had a similar attack since.—A. B. PARSONS, For sale by *

SMITH STANSTREET & CO. and B. K. PAUL & CO.

The Best in the World.

We believe Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the best in the world. A few weeks ago we suffered with a severe cold and a troublesome cough, and having read their advertisements in our own and other papers we purchased a bottle to see how it would affect us. It cured us before the bottle was more than half used. It is the best medicine out for colds and coughs.—The Herald, Andersonville, Ind. For sale by *

SMITH STANISTREET & CO. and B. K. PAUL CO.,

A PERILOUS FLIRTATION.

I FELT that it was unless to argue with Sedley as I meekly followed him across the plaza to the doorway of the church. Besides, I had seen for myself that the girl was of exceptional beauty. As she had passed us I had caught a glimpse of the perfect oval of an exquisite face, the finely-pencilled lines of a pair of dark eyebrows, a head of glossy raven hair, a pure olive complexion, warmed by the glow of the rich blood beneath, and finally two dark and lustrous eyes, which rested on Sedley and myself with a half-roguish regard as she passed.

Sedley and myself had been in Seville four days, and for three out of the four I had practically listened to little else than Sedley's amorous panegyric on some wondrous vision of loveliness he had encountered on the day of our arrival. This girl was evidently the subject of his ravings.

As we reached the door of the church, however, I paused.

"Surely," I protested, "you would not interrupt the lady in her devotions ?"

Sedley drew up.

"Eh ? Certainly not," he replied. "Still, we must see the interior. The place is evidently of historic interest." And he glanced up at the crumbling arch above.

I smiled sarcastically, but he drew me along. Entering the church by the small wicket, we looked around. It was a Gothic interior, dimly lighted by richly-stained windows ; one or two wax candles burning at a shrine to the right seeming to accentuate still further the dim, religious solemnity of the place. As we looked around a fat-faced verger approached and saluted us respectfully.

"The vaults below, if the senores would care to inspect them, contain many relics," he observed.

Sedley thanked him respectfully as he tendered him a coin and explained that it was merely the interior we have come to study and admire.

His eyes, as the verger bowed himself away a few paces, wandered round the ancient edifice, and rested a moment on a devotional figure that knelt at the lighted shrine. It was "she" evidently. The rounded contour of a lovely cheek showed in the light as she knelt there, and Sedley eyed her furtively. Then with a final salutation to the obsequious verger, we retired and once more stood in the warm sunlit plaza.

"Well ?" I asked satirically.

"We must wait," replied Sedley.

"And then ?"

"We must trust to luck."

"I hope our trust won't lead us into ultimate trouble," I observed. "We Englishmen have been none too well received since the war, let alone the danger of flirting with pretty girls."

"Bah !" said Sedley. "In Seville—Andalusia ? The land of the serenade, the guitar, and castanets ? You forget yourself, my dear fellow." He broke off into the chorus of a song and hummed the lines cheerfully :

" 'Andalusia ! Andalusia !
What land so fair that can compare
With Andalusia !' "

He paused as a young and somewhat jaunty-looking Spaniard strode past and halted at the church door. The latter wore a short, braided jacket, with a gaudy sash beneath, and tight corded trousers that showed his limbs to perfection. As he walked his head was thrown back, and he swaggered with his elbows well out. We were already familiar with the type, and we knew it for a somewhat vicious one. As we eyed him he scowled openly back, and drawing a heavy silver watch from his pocket, consulted it ostentatiously. Then, passing through the doorway of the church, he disappeared to return a moment later with a look of satisfaction.

" Confound the low rascal !" muttered Sedley. "Who is he ?"

" Her lover, most likely," I hazarded.

Sedley eyed him distastefully, and the Spaniard, catching his glance, gazed back with tranquil insolence.

Lighting a cigarillo, he blew forth a cloud of smoke as he swaggered past us, while Sedley and I sauntered ten yards in the opposite direction and returned. Three times we met each other before the door of the church ; then suddenly the Spaniard drew up some five yards away, and, uttering a furious ejaculation, glared at us under the emotion of some sudden thought. As he did so there came the sound of a light step in the archway, and the next moment the girl strode forth. Her eyes, as she appeared, caught Sedley and his flashy rival at a glance, and a row of pearly teeth were bared in ravishing smile.

Sedley took a half step forward.

"Truly, what fascinating beauty !" he murmured, with audible Andalusian gallantry.

"At last, my adorable Teresita !" exclaimed his rival.

The pearly teeth gleamed whiter still ; then a melodious laugh rippled forth as its owner bent her head and ran swiftly across the plaza.

As she did so her two admirers came face to face and glared angrily at each other.

"Curse you !" ejaculated the Spaniard fiercely.

"Deuce take it !" responded Sedley with equal discomfiture. Then each, with a final scowl, turned his back and strode away.

II.

This was the beginning of Sedley's silly infatuation ; but more was yet to come. It was in vain that I expostulated with him as day after day for the next week he hunted the plaza of the little church. Twice again he caught a glimpse of his passing charmer, whose coy but laughing glance as she hurried past worked still greater havoc with Sedley's feelings ; then suddenly her visits ceased. The following day, however, our friend of the sash sauntered past with a scarcely concealed grin.

"You see," I said to Sedley, "you have made us the laughing stock of this loafing Spaniard ; there is evidently an understanding between the girl and himself."

" Nonsense !" said Sedley. "What possible understanding can there be between her and this vulgar scoundrel ? That she can have no liking for a ruffian like this I feel pretty certain."

" No girl dislikes a man who calls her his 'adorable Teresita,' " I replied.

The remark seemed to annoy Sedley, but he made no rejoinder.

For the next few days I absented myself from Sedley's company ; but he attended in the vicinity of the church with religious regularity.

On the eighth day he had something fresh.

" This old verger at the church," he explained, " is not a bad sort at all. It is odd I never thought of him before, but he approached me himself, and I have now got full information. The girl is an orphan, it seems, and lives with her only relative—an old uncle, who keeps a little 'taberna' not far away. Our swaggerer of the square is a well-known customer there, and is after the girl, but she has many suitors."

" Then I presume you are now prepared to drop the matter ?" I said.

" Not at all," replied Sedley, " I am, as a matter of fact, going round to the 'taberna' to-night —you will come, of course?"

Had I known at the time what was in store I should certainly have declined to have any further share in Sedley's adventure.

III.

The following night we made our way to the "taberna," finding it with some little difficulty in the rambling old Moorish quarter in which it was situated. Entering, we found the usual interior of a Spanish wine-shop. A row of bulky casks stood behind the counter at one end, and shelves with great fat bottles of red wine gave an air of convivial sociality to the place. Seated about the room drinking their cheap glasses of "aguardiente" and " manzanillo " were the customers, the easy freedom of the place being still further enhanced by a man who, sitting negligently on the end of the counter, indolently twanged the strings of a guitar. He paused as we entered, however, and as I glanced towards him I recognised our swaggering acquaintance of the plaza.

He glared with undisguised astonishment and anger at Sedley and myself as we took our seats and ordered a bottle of wine from the alert-looking little proprietor.

Relinquishing his seat, he joined a noisy quartette of young Spaniards at a table and entered into an animated conversation with them, evidently at our expense. The word " Americanos" floated towards us more than once, and it was abundantly clear we were rapidly gaining in disfavour.

In this way some half-hour passed, then through the narrow doorway, flanked by casks, behind the counter, there came the flutter of drapery, and the object of Sedley's infatuation appeared.

Her glossy black hair was neatly coiled above her shapely head and neck, while from its folds peeped a damask rose, as though to match the ripe warmth of her lips and sparkling black eyes. As she entered with a bewitching smile, the banal surroundings of the "taberna" seemed lighted up by her presence, and a low murmur of pleasure passed around. Sedley's face, indeed, was a study of delight.

"Another bottle," he called, as he rose and caught the alert eye of the little proprietor. "And if the senorita would but pour it, the wine would certainly taste the sweeter." He bowed as he spoke, and the face of the girl, from a momentary gravity, lighted to a smile of recognition.

"At once, senor, and to your wishes," grinned the little proprietor. But an interruption came.

"What !" broke in the voice of Sedley's rival. 'Is our Spanish beauty for nothing but to wait on these thieving 'Amerieanos' "?

An angry murmur arose as he spoke.

"You mistake, senor," said Sedley politely. "We are English."

"It is one," rejoined the Spaniard. "Both are robbers alike, as all the world knows. Pah !"—and he rose furiously—"I spit on the mongrel dogs !"

"I trust we shall be no worse for that, senor," said Sedley with imperturbable irony.

"Then for this, " cried the ruffian, as he rose and flung his glass of wine full in Sedley's face.

In another second all was uproar. I saw Sedley spring fiercely up, and, catching the Spaniard by the throat, hurl him crashing into the neighbouring corner. At the same moment chairs were overturned and glasses upset as an angry shout broke around. There came a movement towards us, and the furious voice of the bully as he rose.

"At them, comrades!" he cried.

The girl clasped her hands with a shriek as Sedley, gripping the heavy stool on which he had been sitting, swung it over his shoulder. But an opportune interruption came.

"Of what are you thinking, my friends? " cried the greasy little proprietor, as he rushed excitedly for word. Would you ruin me ? Stand back, there !"

As he spoke he rushed between and thrust Sedley and myself back towards the counter.

"Quick, Teresita !" he whispered. "By the little side door! Go, senores, for the love of heaven! Stand back there, I say ! Am I not master in my own house ?"

It seemed folly not to take his advice. Another moment, amid his eloquent expostulations and the frantic vituperations of our enraged assailants, we were making our way through a series of passages, court, and la garden.

"Quick, senores!" cried the girl as she led the way in the dark. With the appeal she took Sedley's hand and led him, while I stumbled behind. In a few moments we stood at a small door in the wall. Unlocking it, she flung it open, "To the left, senores!" she cried.

Lifting her hand, Sedley pressed it to his lips.

"Till we meet again, senorita!" he whispered tenderly.

"No! Go. Go for ever " she cried. "I thank you, senor—but know—yes, know that I—I——"

What?" cried Sedley.

"Am betrothed."

CYCLONE IN CACHAR.

HERE are fuller particulars of the destructive cyclone in Cachar :—

It is difficult to describe the havoc caused by last evening's hurricane. It looks as if it was of a cyclonic nature, but before getting further information from the interior it is not easy to tell exactly. In the station it came at first from the west, and then from the south-west. The fury of the storm was most felt from the infantry lines to the Cout compound, and it carried away everything before it. Besides the mehter girl reported in my last night's message, a female sweeper in the cantonments was killed by the falling of a roof. Five more were badly wounded, also the drummer of the 10th Jats and a dresser in the Charitable Dispensary, whose hip joint was badly dislocated, the dislocation being with great difficulty reduced after administering chloroform. A *syce* of the District Superintendent's was also badly wounded. The indoor patients in the Charitable Dispensary who were with considerable difficulty extricated from the *debris* are doing well. Besides the Charitable Dispensary building the following public offices and institutions fared worst:—The Staff quarters of the Surma Valley Light Horse, are a complete wreck. Sergeant-Major Easterbook, who, with Mrs. Easterbrook, was inside the building, suffered worst. He himself received a wound on his head from a beam when the whole roof came down. Mrs. Easterbrook, with a little baby in her arms saved herself by crawling under the bed during the storm. The Mission Girls' School is gone. The office of the Assistant Superintendent of Telegraphs is levelled to the ground. In the Jail one of the wards has crumbled and one of the pallisades has been blown away. Miss Evans's bungalow has half of its roof torn off. All outhouses in the compound of the District Superintendent of Police, as also those of Mr. Jones, were blown away, about one-third of the regimental barracks were levelled to the ground as also the buildings in the railway station, excepting the station building itself. The iron roofs of the Nursing School, the billiard rooms attached to the Silchar hotel, the offices attached to the Government School, sheds over the Municipal masonary wells, and shops in the Municipal Market have all been blown away, and in some cases carried some distance and in others twisted into all sorts of fantastic shapes. In some instances roofs have been carried on to the tops of trees. The number of private houses and huts destroyed is simply innumerable. Big trees have been uprooted and in some instances carried away across the public road, many of the public thoroughfares being blocked in consequence. Captain Powell, the Commandant of the Military Police Battalion, also suffered badly, some of his property having been destroyed by a big tree which penetrated the roof of his bungalow. The loss of private property must be considerable. The Deputy Commissioner has ordered the closing of the public offices in order to assist the residents in putting their houses in order temporarily.

Mofussil News.

SYLHET, MARCH 24.

A SEVERE shock of earthquake was felt at 4-5 A. M. on the 21st instant and 5 or 6 more, of a feebler nature, in the morning of the 22nd. The 1st shock was very severe, and was regarded as the second severe shock after that of 12th June 1897. Almost all the new buildings built recently have been cracked in some part or other. The Jail walls have been cracked in many places.—The river Surma is in some parts much silted up.

GOSAIN-DURGAPUR, MARCH 26.

PARTY spirit has been running high here for the last 2 years. The contending parties should be reconciled to each other, after all that has transpired. It is evident that incalculable mischief will accrue, if this state of things continues any longer.—We are having here delightfully cool and refreshing mornings and evenings now-a-days. The change of season has not been followed by any serious outbreak of illness. Cattle disease is prevalent here and in the neighbourhood. Lands have been prepared for the Bhadoi paddy. Prices of rice are stationary.

MALDA, MARCH 26.

A VERY serious charge has been brought against a Police Sub-Inspector, a constable and two Duffadars attached to the Ratna Thana of this district. The alleged offenders, it is said, in their attempt to extort confession from a person during the investigation of a criminal case, gave him such a sound and severe beating that the poor man immediately died of its effects. His dead body was then hung up to a tree, and it was announced that the deceased had committed suicide ; but the theroy thus set up was refuted at the post-mortem examination inasmuch as it was found by the Civil Surgeon that death had been due to the infliction of bodily injury. The District Superintendent of Police, Rai Jadab Chandra Deb Bahadur, went to the scene of occurrence, to hold a local enquiry and the senior Deputy Magistrate, Moulvie Abdus Samad, has also been ordered by the Magistrate personally to proceed to the spot for the same purpose.

KOOSHTIA, MARCH 24.

A GREAT rioting case is pending in the Subdivisional Court between the Tagore Babus and Fatik Chandra Majumdar of Kumarkhali. The prosecution having been closed, the Magistrate has called for the defence.—General health of the town is not very good. A few cases of pneumonia and diarrhoea have been reported from the town. Cases of fever are also frequent. The days are very hot and nights cold.—The harvesting of the Rabi crop except that of barley and wheat is nearly over. As most mango trees have not at all blossomed, so there is little prospect of a mango crop this year. Rabi crops are now selling at a very low rate. Good wheat sells at Re. 1-3 per pucca maund.—The large chur which was formed in the river Gorai just on the north side of the quarter of the town known as Amdapara, is being gradually washed away by the river.—At a meeting of the members of the Kooshtia H. E School on the 18th instant, the members agreed to extend the school building as the present one has but little accommodation. Subscriptions are being raised for the purpose with the help of Babus Hem Chandra Mitter, Second Munsiff. and Upendra Nath Chatterjee, Additional Munsiff, to both of whom we offer our hearty thanks.

SERAMPORE, MARCH 24.

AFTER a few cool nights it is again getting warm. Public health is very satisfactory. Plague, however, seems to be knocking at our door. The case of plague which was imported from Calcutta and terminated fatally here, is fortunately the only case on record at Serampore, thanks to the precautionary measures adopted by the Municipality against its spread. —The sudden death of Mr. J. A. Craven from fatty degeneration of the heart and not from pneumonia as was erroneously reported, which is so largely mourned, has deprived Serampore of a kind and considerate officer, with broad views and a sympathetic heart. The virtues he possessed endeared him to the people.—All arrangements about the examination of the exhibits and other matters in connection with the Serampore Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition were upset by the death of its president Mr Craven. The exhibits had to be taken away without being inspected by the Committee, presided over by Mr. Craven. It is a pity no cattle or improved agricultural implements were exhibited. The fruits, vegetables and seeds as well as big-sized Dal brought to the exhibition were worth exhibiting, while the dolls from Krishnaghar were quite life-like and were greatly admired.—The two constables of Police who were prosecuted before the late Mr. Craven on the sanction of Babu Mahendra Chundra Lahiri, Honorary Magistrate of Serampore, on a charge of wrongfully restraining a shopkeeper at Seoraphuli on a false charge, the particulars of which duly appeared in these columns, have been convicted and sentenced to pay a fine.—Our good and worthy Small Cause Court Judge, Babu Mahendra Nath Mitra, has this week been transferred to Birbhum as Subordinate Judge there.

As an instance of the remarkable rapidty with which news is conveyed nowadays it may be mentioned that the intelligence of President Faure's death was known in London as soon as in Paris itself, and that the comments of the London morning papers were telephoned to Paris and reproduced in the *Eclair* and other Perisian journals on sale in Paris at 6 o'clock the same morning.

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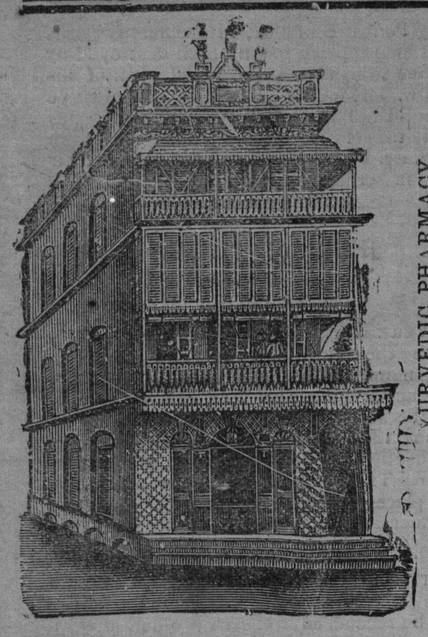

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