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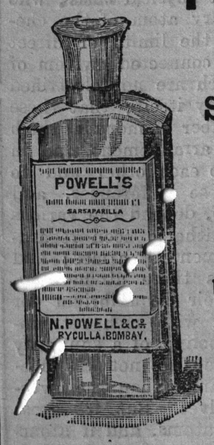

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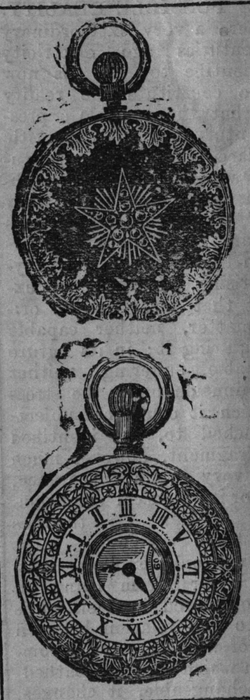
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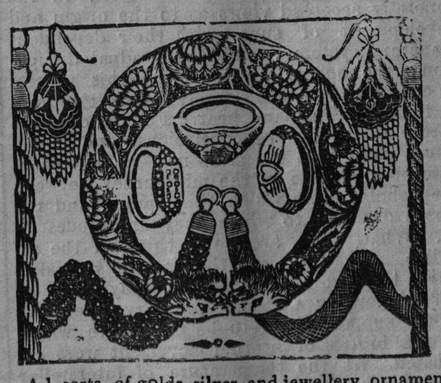
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THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

ADDRESS BY MR. BALFOUR.

Cambridge, Aug. 17.

The opening general meeting of the British Association took place in the Corn Exchange this evening, when before a gathering of more than 2,000 persons Mr. Balfour delivered his presidential address. The accommodation proved altogether inadequate for the number of those anxious to be present, and an assembly more fully representative of the Association has not been seen for many years. Among those present were:—Lord Kelvin, Lord Rayleigh, Lord Rosse, the Vice-Chancellor of the University (Dr. Chase), Lord Avebury, Sir J. Burdon-Sanderson, Sir W. Huggins, Sir A. Rucker, the Lord Lieutenant of county (Mr. Alexander Peckover), Sir J. Elliott, the Bishop of Hereford, the Master of Trinity, the High Sheriff, Sir J Evans, Sir H. Roscoe, Admiral Sir J. Dalrymple Hay, Sir A. Geikie, Sir W. Abney, Sir W. Ramsay, Sir J. Dewar, Mr. A. D. Elliot, M.P., Professor Becquerel, Professor Bruhl, Professor Von Greth, Sir D. Gill, Professor Herdman, Major Macmahon, Professor Carey Foster, Professor Schuster, M Yves Guyot, Professor Langley, Professor G. H. Darwin, and the Mayor of Cambridge Dr J. A. C. Dalton).

The somewhat bare aspect of the Corn Exchange was completely disguised under the elaborate decorations which had been devised for the occasion. The walls were hung with chintz and the pillars with coloured muslin, while the roof was draped with bright coloured material, giving the building the appearance of an enormous marquee. The gas jets which ordinarily provide illumination had been wisely discarded, and the electric light had been specially installed. Against the walls were hung the silken banners inscribed with the names of former presidents of the Association, with names and the arms of the towns in which the meetings over which they presided were held. Immediately behind the chairman's table was hung the new banner, which bears the name of "Balfour of Whittingehame," and on either side were hung the banners recording the Cambridge meetings in 1833 and 1862.

The chair was occupied at the opening of the meeting by Sir Norman Lockyer, the retiring president, Mr. Balfour, sitting on his right hand. Sir Norman Lorman Lockyer, rising after a short wait, said:—

"I know that you will be delighted to hear that my last duty as your president will not occupy me for more than one minute. I want in that minute, in the first instance, to call your attention to a telegram which was received by the council this afternoon from Cape Town and to the reply sent to it in your name. The telegram is as follows:—"Greeting. Best wishes for successful meetings this and next year British Association, South Africa"; and this is reply:—"Heartily reciprocate good wishes; anticipate successful meeting with you." (Cheers.) My next duty is to resign this chair to the new President, which I do at once. Mr. Balfour needs no recommendation from me. (Cheers.)

MR. BALFOUR'S ADDRESS.

Sir Norman Lockyer then left the chair, and Mr. Balfour, the new President, having taken his place amid much cheering, prefaced his address as follows:—"I am more accustomed to speak to audiences than to read to them, and if there be any deficiency in that respect in my manner of saying what I have to say to-night I hope you will forgive it. I have followed the invariable example of my predecessors, and have written out what I have to say. I am not sure that in so doing I have served either your interests or my own, but in any case I will do my best." He then delivered his address, which bore the title 'Reflections Suggested by the New Theory of Matter" in the following terms:—

The meetings of this great society have for the most part been held in crowded centres of population where our surroundings never permit us to forget, were such forgetfulness in any case possible, how close is the tie that binds modern science to modern industry, the abstract researches of the student to the labours of the inventor and the mechanic. This, no doubt, is as it should be. The interdependence of theory and practice cannot be ignored without inflicting injury on both; and he is but a poor friend to either who undervalues their mutual co-operation.

CAMBRIDGE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

Yet, after all, since the British Association exists for the advancement of science, it is well that now and again we should choose our place of gathering in some spot where science rather than its applications, knowledge not utility, are the ends to which research is primarily directed. If this be so, surely no happier selection could have been made than the quiet courts of this ancient University. For here, if anywhere, we tread the classic ground of physical discovery. Here, if anywhere, those who hold that physics is the true 'Scientia Scientiarum," the root of all the sciences which deal with inanimate nature, should feel themselves at home. For unless I am led astray by too partial an affection for my own University, there is nowhere to be found, in any corner of the world a spot with which have been connected, either by their training in youth, or by the labours of their maturer years, so many men eminent as the originators of new and fruitful physical conceptions. I say nothing of Bacon, the eloquent prophet of a new era; nor of Darwin, the Copernicus of biology; for my subject to-day is not the contributions of Cambridge to the general growth of scientific knowledge. I am concerned rather with the illustrious line of physicists who have learned or taught within a few hundred yards of this building—a line stretching from Newton in the 17th century, through Cavendish in the 18th, through Young, Stokes, Maxwell in the 19th, through Kelvin, who embodies an epoch in himself, down to Rayleigh, Larmor, J. J. Thompson, and the scientific school centred in the Cavendish laboratory, whose physical speculations bid fair to render the closing years of the old century and the opening years of the new as notable as the greatest which have preceded them.

THE REAL OBJECT: PHYSICAL REALITY.

Now what is the task which these men, and their illustrious fellow-labourers out of all lands, have set themselves to accomplish? To what end led these "new and fruitful physical conceptions" to which I have just referred? It is often described as the discovery of the "laws connecting phenomena." But this is certainly a misleading, and in my opinion a very inadequate, account of the subject. To begin with, it is not only inconvenient, but confusing, to describe as "phenomena" things which do not appear, which never have appeared, and which never can appear, to beings so poorly provided as ourselves with the apparatus of sense perception. But apart from this, which is a linguistic error too deeply rooted to be easily exterminated, is it not most inaccurate in substance to say that a knowledge of Nature's laws is all we seek when investigating natural? The physicist looks for something more than what, by any stretch of language, can be described as "co-existences" and "sequences" between so-called "phenomena." He seeks for something deeper than the laws connecting possible objects of experience. His object is physical reality; a reality which may or may not be capable of direct perception; a reality which is in any case independent of it; a reality which constitutes the permanent mechanism of that physical universe with which our immediate empirical connexion is so slight and so deceptive. That such a reality exists, though philosophers have doubted is the unalterable faith of science; and were that faith per impossibile to perish under the assaults of critical speculation, science, as men of science usually conceive it, would perish likewise. If this be so, if one of the tasks of science, and more particularly of physics, is to frame a conception of the physical universe in its inner reality then any attempt to compare the different modes in which, at different epochs of scientific development, this intellectual picture has been drawn cannot fail to suggest questions of the deepest interest. True, I am precluded from dealing with such of these questions as are purely philosophical by the character of this occasion; and with such of them as are purely scientific by my own incompetence. But some there may be sufficiently near the dividing line to induce the specialists who rule by right on either side of it to view with forgiving eyes any trespasses into their legitimate domain which I may be tempted, during the next few minutes, to commit.

TWO CONTRASTED VIEWS.

Let me, then, endeavour to compare the outlines of two such pictures, of which the first may be taken to represent the views prevalent towards the end of the 18th century; a little more than a hundred years from the publication of Newton's "Principia," and, roughly speaking, about midway between that epoch-making date and the present moment. I suppose that if at that period the average man of science had been asked to sketch his general conception of the physical universe, he would probably have said that it essentially consisted of various sorts of ponderable matter, scattered in different combinations through space, exhibiting most varied aspects under the influence of chemical affinity and temperature, but through every metamorphosis obedient to the laws of motion always retaining its mass unchanged, and exercising at all distances a force of attraction on other material masses according to a simple law. To this ponderable matter he would (in spite of Rumford) have probably added the so-called "imponderable" heat, then often ranked among the elements, together with the two "electrical fluids," and the corpuscular emanations supposed to constitute light. In the universe as thus conceived the most important forms of action between its constituents was action at a distance; the principle of the conservation of energy was, in any general form, undreamed of; electricity and magnetism though already the subjects of important investigation, played no great part in the Whole of things; nor was a diffused ether required to complete the machinery of the universe. Within a few months, however, of the date assigned for these deliverances of our hypothetical physicist, came an addition to this general conception of the world, destined profoundly to modify it. About a hundred years ago Young opened, or reopened, a great controversy which finally established the undulatory theory of light, and with it a belief in an interstellar medium by which undulations could be conveyed. But this discovery involved much more than the substitution of a theory of light which was consistent with the facts for one which was not, since here was the first authentic introduction (The hypothesis of an ether was, of course, not new. But before Young and Fresnel it cannot be said to have been established) into the scientific world-picture of a new and prodigious constituent—a constituent which has altered, and is still altering, the whole balance (so to speak) of the composition. Unending space, thinly strewn with suns and satellites, made or in the making, supplied sufficient material for the mechanism of the heavens as conceived by Laplace. Unending space filled with a continuous medium was a very different affair, and gave promise of strange developments. It could not be supposed that the ether, if its reality were once admitted, existed only to convey through interstellar regions the vibrations which happen to stimulate the optic nerve of man. Invented originally to fulfil this function, to this it could never be confined. And accordingly, as every one now knows, things which, from the point of view of sense perception, are as distinct as light and radiant heat, and things to which sense perception makes no response, like the electric waves of wireless telegraphy (First known through the theoretical work of Maxwell and the experiments of Hertz) intrinsically differ, not in kind, but in magnitude alone.

ELECTRICITY AND THE ETHER.

This, however, is not all, nor nearly all. If we jump over the century which separates 1804 from 1904, and attempt to give in outline the world-picture as it now presents itself to some leaders of contemporary speculation, we shall find that in the interval it has been modified, not merely by such far-reaching discoveries as the atomic and molecular composition of ordinary matter, the kinetic theory of gases, and the laws of the conservation and dissipation of energy, but by the more and more important part which electricity and the ether occupy in any representation of ultimate physical reality. Electricity was no more to the natural philosophers in the year 1700 than the hidden cause of an insignificant phenomenon. (The modern history of electricity begins with Gilbert, but I have throughout confined my observations to the post-Newtonian period). It was known, and had long been known, that such things as amber and glass could be made to attract light objects brought into their neighbourhood; yet it was about 50 years before the effects of electricity were perceived in the thunderstorm. It was about 100 years before it was detected in the form of a current. It was about 120 years before it was connected with magnetism; about 170 years before it was connected with light and ethereal radiation. But to-day there are those who regard gross matter, the matter of everyday experience, as the mere appearance of which electricity is the physical basis; who think that the elementary atom of the chemist, itself far beyond the limits of direct perception, is but a connected system of monads or subatoms which are not electrified matter, but the electricity itself; that these systems differ in the number of monads which they contain, in their arrangement and in their motion relative to each other and to the ether; that on these differences, and on these differences alone, depend the various qualities of what have hitherto been regarded as indivisible and elementary atmos; and that while in most cases these atomic systems may maintain their equilibrium for periods which, compared with such astronomical processes as the cooling of a sun, may seem almost eternal, they are not less obedient to the law of change than the everlasting heavens themselves. But if gross matter be a grouping of atoms, and if atoms be systems of electrical monads, what are these electrical monads? It may be that, as Professor Larmor has suggested, they are but a modification of the universal ether, a modification roughly comparable to a knot in a medium which is inextensible, incompressible, and continuous. But whether this final unification be accepted or not, it is certain that these monads cannot be considered apart from the ether. It is on their interaction with the ether that their qualities depend; and without the ether an electric theory of matter is impossible.

ELECTRICITY THE POSSIBLE REALITY.

Surely we have here a very extraordinary revolution. Two centuries ago electricity seemed but a scientific toy. It is now thought by many to constitute the reality of which matter is but the sensible expression. It is but a century ago that the title of an ether to a place among the constituents of the universe was authentically established. It seems possible now that it may be the stuff out of which that universe is wholly built. Nor are the collateral inferences associated with this view of the physical world less surprising. It used, for example, to be thought that mass was an original property of matter, neither capable of explanation nor requiring it; in its nature essentially unchangeable, suffering neither augmentation nor diminution under the stress of any forces to which it could be subjected; unalterably attached to, or identified with, each material fragment, however much that fragment might vary in its appearance, its bulk, its chemical or its physical condition. But if the new theories be accepted these views must be revised. Mass is not only explible, it is actually explained. So far from being an attribute of matter considered in itself, it is due, as I have said, to the relation between the electrical monads of which matter is composed and the ether in which they are bathed. So far from being unchangeable, it changes, when moving at very high speeds, with every change in its velocity. Perhaps, however, the most impressive alteration in our picture of the universe required by these new theories is to be sought in a different direction. We have all, I suppose, been interested in the generally accepted views as to the origin and development of suns with their dependent planetary systems; and the gradual dissipation of the energy which during this process of concentration has largely taken the form of light and radiant heat. Follow out the theory to its obvious conclusions, and it becomes plain that the stars now visibly incandescent are those in the midjourney between the nebulae from which they sprang and the frozen darkness to which they are predestined. What, then, are we to think of the invisible multitude of the heavenly bodies which this process has been already completed? According to the ordinary view, we should suppose them to be in a state where all possibilities of internal movement were exhausted. At the temperature of interstellar space their constituent elements would be solid and inert; chemical action and molecular movement would be alike impossible, and their exhausted energy could obtain no replenishment unless they were suddenly rejuvenated by some celestial collision, or travelled into other regions warmed by newer suns.

THE ELECTRIC THEORY OF MATTER.

This view must, however, be profoundly modified if we accept the electric theory of matter. We can then no longer hold that if the internal energy of a sun were as far as possible converted into heat either by its contraction under the stress of gravitation or by chemical reactions between its elements, or by any other interatomic force, and that, were the heat so generated to be dissipated, as in time it must be, through infinite space, its whole energy would be exhausted. On the contrary, the amount thus lost would be absolutely insignificant compared with what remained stored up within the separate atoms. The system in its corporate capacity would become bankrupt—the wealth of its individual constituents would be scarcely diminished. They would lie side by side, without movement, without chemical affinity; yet each one, howsoever inert in its external relations, the theatre of violent motions and of powerful internal forces. Or put the same thought in another form. When the sudden appearance of some new star in the telescopic field gives notice to the astronomer that he, and perhaps in the whole universe he alone is witnessing the conflagration of a world, the tremendous forces by which this far-off tragedy is being accomplished must surely move his awe. Yet not only would the members of each separate atomic system pursue their relative course unchanged, while the atoms themselves were thus driven violently apart in flaming vapour, but the forces by which such a world is shattered are really negligible compared with those by which each atom of it is held together. In common, therefore, with all other living things, we seem to be practically concerned chiefly with the feebler forces of nature, and with energy in its least powerful manifestations. Chemical affinity and cohesion are on this theory no more than the slight residual effects of the internal electrical forces which keep the atom in being. Gravitation, though it be the shaping force which concentrates nebulae into organized systems of suns and satellites, is trifling compared with the attractions and repulsions with which we are familiar between electrically charged bodies; while these again sink into insignificance beside the attractions and repulsions between the electric monads themselves. The irregular molecular movements which constitute heat, on which the very possibility of organic life seems absolutely to hang, and in whose transformations applied science is at present so largly concerned, cannot rival the kinetic energy stored within the molecules themselves. This prodigious mechanism seems outside the range of our immediate interests. We live so to speak, merely on its fringe. It has for us no promise of utilitarian value. It willl not drive our mills; we cannot harness it to our trains. Yet not less on that account does it stir the intellectual imagination. The starry heaven have from time immemorial moved the worship or the wonder of mankind. But if the dust beneath our feet be indeed compounded of innumerable systems, whose elements are ever in the most rapid motion, yet retain through uncounted ages their equilibrium unshaken, we can hardly deny that the marvels we directly see are not more worthy of admiration than those which recent discoveries have enabled us dimly to surmise.

UNIFICATION OF PHYSICAL NATURE.

Now, whether the main outlines of the world-picture which I have just imperfectly presented to you be destined to survive, or whether in their turn they are to be obliterated by some new drawing on the scientific palimpsest, all will, I think, admit that so bold an attempt to unify physical nature excites feelings of the most acute intellectual gratification. The satisfaction it gives is almost æsthetic in its intensity and quality. We feel the same sort of pleasurable shock as when from the crest of some melancholy pass we first see far below us the sudden glories of plain, river, and mountain. Whether this vehement sentiment in favour of a simple universe has any theoretical justification I will not venture to pronounce. There is no "a priori" reason that I know of for expecting that the material world should be a modification of a single medium, rather than a composite structure built out of 60 or 70 elementary substances, eternal and eternally different. Why, then, should we feel content with the first hypothesis and not with the second? Yet so it is. Men of science have always been restive under the multiplication of entities. They have eagerly noted any sign that the chemical atom was composite, and that the different chemical elements had a common origin. Nor, for my part, do I think such instincts should be ignored. John Mill, if I rightly remember, was contemptuous of those who saw any difficulty in accepting the doctrine of "action at a distance." So far as observation and experiment can tell us, bodies do actually influence each other at a distance. And why should they not? Why seek to go behind experience in obedience to some "a priori" sentiment for which no argument can be adduced? So reasoned Mill, and to his reasoning I have no reply. Nevertheless, we cannot forget that it was to Faraday's obstinate disbelief in "action at a distance" that we owe some of the crucial discoveries on which both our electric industries and the electric theory of matter are ultimately founded; while at this very moment physicists, however baffled in the quest for an explanation of gravity, refuse altogether to content themselves with the belief, so satisfying to Mill, that it is a simple and inexplicable property of masses acting on each other across space.

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THE HIGH ENGLISH SCHOOLS UNDER PRIVATE MANAGEMENT.—II.

(*Special for the Patrika.*)

Exceptions may be made in the case of experienced teachers of proved efficiency. The one should be strong in English, say for example, one who has obtained Honours in English in the B.A. Examination or one who has passed the M.A. Examination in that subject. The other should be a B. Course graduate who may therefore be presumed to have a good knowledge of Science and Mathematics. In this case also preference should be given to the candidate who has obtained Honours in Mathematics. I should also like to have another teacher who has read History in the B.A. class to teach that subject in the first two or three classes. It would be well if arrangements were made to teach English in all the classes by teachers who have passed beyond the Entrance standard. We should be more careful in the selection of lower teachers, since the future of the student is determined by the kind of training he receives in the earlier years of life. Let us next consider the question of number of teachers required. The teaching staff in many schools is not sufficient. There should be at least as many English-knowing teachers as there are classes in the school, so that the registers of pupil's attendance may be called in the first hour in all the classes. As a rule no class should be left without a teacher and one teacher should not be made to teach more classes than one at a time. I have often found that in some schools no arrangement can be made to keep a class employed when a teacher happens to be absent. The result is that the neighbouring classes are disturbed and if more teachers than one are absent, which not unfrequently happens, the state of things that prevails can be better imagined than described. I would also have a separate clerk for the school instead of a teacher doing the work of a clerk. The clerk may also teach drill. In some schools, the Head Master is not allowed time for supervision and the other teachers are not allowed a single hour for leisure. Thus they cannot work as well as they could but for this disadvantages. An overworked and underpaid officer cannot have his heart in the work. Then again a class is sometimes so large that one teacher can hardly manage it. It is not divided into sections, for that would necessitate appointment of more teachers. Thus we often find as many as 70 or 80 boys in a class with one teacher to teach them. He can hardly find time to question all the boys and at the same time to explain their lessons, if required. Then again some of them must sit so far from the teacher that he is not expected to know what they are doing in the farthest corner of the class. I think there should be a maximum limit to the number of boys to be taught at one and at the same time by a single teacher.

We now consider the question of change of teachers. It must be admitted on all hands that frequent change in the teaching staff is detrimental to the best interests of the school. A young man, fresh from College and quite ignorant of the art of teaching joins a school and when, after a few years of experience, he has just begun to be useful, he resigns his appointment and is succeeded by another young man who follows the example set before him by his predecessor in office. The question arises—Why should such men be appointed at all? The reason is that they consent to serve on a ridiculously low salary. A graduate served under a Head Master on a salary of Rs. 15 a month and a private candidate for the F.A. Examination on a nominal salary of Rs. 2-8 a month. The managers of schools would consider this a good bargain. I cannot do better than to describe the result of this short-sigted policy in the eloquent words of the veteran educationist to whose energetic efforts we are indebted for this splendid opportunity of meeting one another and exchanging our thoughts and ideas here at this assembly. "The result is that the teachers do not care to work with their heart or to stick to the posts for a sufficient length of time. School Master has come to be looked upon by some of our graduates and undergraduates as a stepping stone to better posts or more generally as a halting place for preparation for the Bar. Such men accept almost any salary offered, but from the moment they join their posts they are always on the look out for opportunities to leave them off." The teacher must be diligent. He must work both at school and at home for his boys."

The home preparations of teachers cannot be too strongly insisted on. The teacher should have himself read the lesson for the day and also read other books belonging to the lesson, so as to be able to exemplify and throw extra light on the subject. Exercises should be frequently given and corrected by the teacher. But if the teacher is to be a teacher of the school and nothing else, if he must devote all his time to the work of the school he should be suitably paid so that he may do without taking private work. It should also be borne in mind that he cannot look forward to the enjoyment of pension like the teacher of a Govt. School. As matters now stand he is miserably underpaid and he must supplement his small income by private work if he is to keep body and soul together and at the same time support his family. In these days of hard struggle for existence, the all-absorbing problem of bread requiners is to be solved first of all. The teacher is entrusted with the most responsible duty of shaping the life and character of hundreds of boys and how is his labour rewarded? A graduate thanks his stars if he gets a salary of Rs. 30 or 35 a month. His position too is not particularly respectable. A school master is an object of pity rather than of respect. The result is that the best men do not like to lead the obscure and miserable life of a teacher. We ought to be deeply grateful to our kind-hearted and sympathetic Inspector of Schools for inviting the public to suggest the best method of raising the status of the teachers.

Comilla, Sept. 4. D. N. Ghose

The Idea which some people have that chronic diarrhoea is incurable is a mistake. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy not only gives immediate relief but will effect a permanent cure. It never fails and is pleasant to take. For sale by
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THE

Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, SEPTEMER 11, 1904.

COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION AND SIR A. FRASER'S SCHEME

When the present combined system of examination, selection and promotion, for the recruitment of the subordinate executive service, was introduced in 1889 by Sir Stewart Bailey, he did it after great deliberation. His scheme was further developed in 1892 by Sir Charles Elliott, who recorded a Resolution on the 25th May of that year upon the examination of candidates for appointment as Deputy Magistrate-Collectors and Sub-Deputy Collectors. Since then the system has worked satisfactorily under two or three more Lieutenant-Governors, namely, Sir A. Mackenzie, Sir J. Woodburn and Mr. Bourdillon. As a matter of fact, it has produced a staff of officers of whom any Government may be proud. Why should it then be replaced by another?

What we beg to submit is that, before knocking the competitive examination on the head in an arbitrary manner, Sir Andrew Fraser might have strengthened his position by pointing out the fallacies of his predecessors, if they had any, in the arguments which they had employed, in bringing into existence the system which, in the opinion of His Honour, is not only superfluous but mischievous.

Unfortunately, Sir Andrew has done nothing of the kind. He has made no attempt to show the fallacies of his predecessors—nay, he has altogether ignored the Resolutions which, after great deliberation, introduced the present system for recruiting officers in the Provincial Service. What His Honour, on the other hand, has done is to advance certain arguments of his own against the system which, as we have showed are not quite sound, as the information upon which they are founded, is not strictly accurate.

His Honour's main argument against the competitive examination is that, it draws away students from the pursuit and completion of their University studies, into cramming for a different examination. This is, however, not the real situation, as we have already said, and the correctness of our assertion can be ascertained by a little enquiry. But, the alleged mischief, if it really exists, may easily be removed by allowing none except the passed graduates to appear at the competitive examination and giving such a character to the competitive examination as to make cramming an impossibility. By providing that none but graduates would be appointed to the Provincial Service, His Honour has removed one part of the alleged mischief; the other part of the mischief can also be removed in the way suggested above.

It will occur to many minds that the University examination helps cramming to a far greater extent than the competitive examination, which His Honour proposes to abolish. As a matter of fact, it often happens that a graduate has done very well in his University examinations, but when his capacity for service is tested, it is found that it was simply by good memory, and not by any natural talent, that he was able to distinguish himself in his University career. In the present competitive examination, the nature of the subjects will show at once that, unless the candidate has acquired a general knowledge requisite for holding higher grade appointments, it will be scarcely possible for him to obtain the necessary marks for securing an employment. But, as we said yesterday, the competitive examination was perhaps not meant so much to test the fitness of the candidates as to serve another object. In short, the competitive examination is only a means to select the best of the candidates

The situation is this. Under the rules only such candidates are allowed to appear at the competitive examination as have passed the B. A. examination or that he has received an education not below the standard of such examination. Three Deputy Collectorships and four Sub-Deputy Collectorships—in all seven appointments—are placed within their reach. From 150 to 200 graduates, on an average, come forward annually to compete for these appointments.

Under the nomination system, the Government would have found it very difficult to distribute these seven appointments impartially among these hundreds of candidates; for they were all strangers, and their comparative merits were totally unknown, to the Government. But the competitive examination saved it from this difficulty; for, it enabled the Government to make over the appointments to the first seven who obtained the highest marks. Under this system, nobody could accuse the Government of jobbery, partiality, or injustice; for, only those candidates were appointed who, at an open competitive examination, could give evidence of their superiority over their rivals.

The Lieutenant-Governor will thus see that, if the question is viewed from the above stand-point, not only should not the competitive examination be abolished, but it is perhaps the only way by which the Government can relieve itself of the serious responsibility which it has taken upon its shoulders by introducing the nomination system. The reader is already aware that, of the nineteen Deputy Collectorships to be annually appointed, Sir Andrew Fraser wants to keep only one in his own hand, and make over the rest to his various subordinates, to distribute them to the best candidates according to their light. Need we say why is His Honour going to part with such vast and valuable patronage which is his by right, and which very few Lieutenant-Governors would have cared to fling away to others?

Well, it is, because, Sir Andrew is scrupulously honest and conscientious; and he feels the awful responsibility of using his patronage on the strict principles of justice. He knows, it will be impossible for him to select the best men out of the hundreds of candidates, all strangers to him; and thus he apprehends he may do wrong if the choice were left in his hands. He hopes that the Collectors, who have greater experience of the country and its people, will possibly do better than he, and hence he proposes that it is they who, in consultation with their respective Divisional Commissioners, should be empowered to dispose of nine out of the nineteen appointments.

What seems to us to be very strange is that, it did not occur to the Lieutenant-Governor that his object would be served in an unexceptional way if, instead of abolishing the competitive examination, he had retained it, and provided that the nine non-official appointments, which he proposes to hand over to the Commissioners and the Collectors, should be secured in the same manner as the seven appointments—(three Deputy Collectorships and four Sub-Deputy Collectorships)—are secured now by the present method. Need we enumerate the advantages of His Honour's adopting this course?

Recently, if we remember aright, two Deputy Collectorships fell vacant; and the Lieutenant-Governor had to select two men, out of some 200 or more candidates. His Honour and his Secretaries, we are told, were at their wit's ends to make the best selection. The amount of anxious thought they had to give to the subject can be better imagined than described: At last they no doubt chose two men; but, we can guarantee that, they themselves are not quite sure that, in spite of their best efforts, they have been able to select the fittest two. But, His Honour would have saved himself from this unnecessary trouble, botheration and distraction, and, at the same time, given a fair opportunity to the smartest two of the 200 candidates to snatch the appointments, if he had held a competitive examination and selected two from the first two candidates on the list in order of merit.

Our humble submission to the Lieutenant-Governor, therefore, is that he will be pleased to reconsider his order and retain the present competitive examination, at least with regard to the nine non-official appointments, proposed to be made over to Commissioners and Collectors. The Government may think that it has gone too far to recede: we, however, do not think so. We humbly submit that the Government should adopt what is best. Here is a provision in the annual notification relating to the present competitive examination for admission to the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service published in 1899:—

"6. It is at present proposed to select three candidates for Deputy Collectorships, etc."

Our suggestion is that His Honour should be pleased to make a slight alteration in the above, namely, that he should be pleased to substitute the word "nine" in the place of "three." In other words, the sentence may be recast as follows:—

"Under the notification of 1899 three candidates for Deputy Collectorships were selected after a competitive examination: it is now proposed to select nine candidates in the same way according to order of merit in the list of the passed candidates."

This will be a real reform in the right direction, and worthy of the good and sympathetic ruler who now governs Bengal. It will disarm all public opposition and enable the Lieutenant-Governor to carry the entire country with him. And what is more, it will save His Honour from the trouble and the serious responsibility that the nomination system is bound to impose upon him as the head of the Government, and remove all chances of nepotism and abuse of patronage.

Perhaps it is all dissipation of energy on our part now to ask the Government to restore the system that has been abolished. But we must say what we feel to be right. It is by abolishing this competitive system that Sir A. Fraser has brought immense trouble upon himself. His Honour has been thinking and thinking; His Honour has lost his peace and rest; His Honour is in search of a remedy that would cure the mischief caused by the abolition; and all these shew that the system that obtained was natural and the one that is to replace it, is unnatural.

In our next article we intend to discuss whether it is possible for the Lieutenant-Governor to introduce the nomination system without its attendant evils. We must, however, frankly state that as His Honour's present scheme stands, it will not satisfy the public; for the chances are that, the Collectors will be influenced by their subordinates or pets to make their selections, and His Honour will unconsciously be led to sanction the appointments of several unworthy persons which he is so anxious to avoid. It is the sincere and earnest wish of the public that, the Lieutenant-Governor should keep the whole patronage, at least the nine non-official appointments, in his own hands, and distribute them in the least objectionable manner possible.

THE SAME

We know that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is aware that the abolition of the competitive examination for the Provincial Service has created the greatest possible excitement and alarm in the Province, specially among the higher classes, who are vitally interested in the contemplated change. We know further that Sir Andrew Fraser is trying his best to make his scheme at least as good, if possible, as the one that obtains now. His Honour has, however, to do two things to arrive at a proper conclusion. One is to give his own anxious thought on the subject, and the other is to invite public opinion.

We are glad to know that he is doing both; though we must say that he is inviting public opinion in a very limited sense. Indeed, we believe, only a very few of our leading men have been consulted on the subject.

His Honour has, after much anxious thought, prepared a scheme of his own, and asked the opinions of some of our leading men upon it. We beg to submit that the better course was to ask the opinion of the general public first, and then to prepare a scheme of his own, upon the views thus expressed. But since His Honour has already prepared one, we think, he should now invite the opinion of the general public upon it before arriving at a final decision.

It is true His Honour has asked the opinions of a few leading men. But the general public has not yet been taken into confidence. It would not be fair to ask the general public to accept the opinion of only a few men, however high their position may be in society, as the opinion of the country.

An intelligent Zemindar of culture naturally occupies the position of a leader in the country, but he may not be yet quite competent to give any opinion worth much upon a subject like this. The situation stands thus. The object of the Government is to replace, by a new method, the one that obtains now. But how many there are among the leading men of the country who know anything about the present system, that is proposed to be abolished? It would have been something if His Honour had put, along with his own scheme, the one that is condemned as not only superfluous but mischievous. But that has unfortunately not been done.

His Honour is of opinion that the competitive system that exists is a farce. But that has yet to be proved, not only that—but it has also to be proved that the contemplated change is better than the present system. This, the leading men consulted by His Honour, might have examined for themselves, if they had both methods before them. But as the system proposed to be abolished was not before their eyes, they were under a great disadvantage when giving their opinion on his Honour's scheme.

By no amount of argument, however, can the fact be concealed that the country, under the present system, enjoys advantages which the proposed change threatens to deprive them of. As we said yesterday, the present system for the recruitment of the Subordinate Executive Service was first introduced by Sir Stewart Bayley in his Resolution dated 24th April, 1899. It is a masterly document in which the question has been discussed impartially from every point of view and of which every Lieutenant-Governor may be proud. No one can read it without being struck with the statesmanship and foresight of Sir Stewart displayed by him throughout the Resolution. His conclusion was that competition was far superior to nomination. The scheme which he, as the then Lieutenant-Governor adopted for filling up vacancies in the grade of Deputy Magistrates, on an assumed basis of 12 vacancies a year, is as follows:—

"For the year 1889 no examination would be held, but the vacancies would be filled alternately by the promotion of Sub-Deputies qualified under Sir George Campbell's scheme, and by the direct appointment of candidates on the registered list. Of the former class twenty-one had been selected, after a rigorous scrutiny of their claims, out of the forty-two, and it was hoped that all of them would be promoted in the course of the next few years. Of the latter class, the Lieutenant-Governor had selected for immediate appointment six gentlemen, three of whom had received something like specific promises, while the other three possessed special and independent claims to consideration.

With 1890, said His Honour, "a combined system of examination, selection, and promotion would be introduced, and this system would be continued annually." The qualifications of the candidates for appointment by examination were prescribed in the following terms. They must be under 25 years of age, and must either have passed the B. A. Examination of the Calcutta University, or give proof of having been educated up to an analogous standard.

In order to mark the importance of the competition and the value of the prizes a high standard of examination was enforced, as it was proposed to assimilate the test, in some measure, to that prescribed in 1888 for the examination of candidates for the Statutory Civil Service. Candidates must also produce certificates of physical fitness (including ability to ride), of good moral character, and of social respectability. These were the general qualifications to be required before admission to the examination of 1890, and future years.

We now come to the most important part of the Resolution. Of the twelve appointments to be awarded, nine would be given on the results of the examination; namely, six to the first six candidates on the list in order of merit, and three to candidates having adequate claims to appointment by nomination, provided these latter obtained not less than one-third of the marks. The remaining three appointments would be given to Sub-Deputies on the selected list.

"In 1892 and subsequent years," the Resolution went on to say, "the same general distribution would be followed; but all candidates for admission to the examination would be required to have satisfied the ordinary conditions as to graduation, age, etc.; and the concession of special privileges to candidates on the selected list would come to an end."

Now, considering all circumstances, a better scheme than this cannot be conceived. Fancy that out of the twelve annual vacancies, nine were to be distributed according to the results of the examination, that is to say, three-fourths of the entire vacancies. In order to satisfy "conflicting interests" three out of the nine appointments were kept in the hands of the Government.

Now this liberal system is proposed to be knocked on the head, and, in its place, is to be substituted one which proposes to hand over nine non-official appointments, out of the entire nineteen, to the Collectors. Surely the proposed change of His Honour cannot be regarded as a reform but the very reverse of it.

The present competitive examination, in the opinion of Sir Andrew, draws away our students into cramming. But, Sir Stewart, it will be seen, sought to make it almost as high as the one prescribed for the candidates of the Statutory Civil Service.

It will be seen that Sir Stewart, in his Resolution, gave the assurance that the competitive examination would be "continued annually in 1892 and subsequent years." His main object in introducing this great reform was to put an end to "the concession of special privileges to candidates on the selected list," that is to say, to remove all chances of the abuse of patronage in future.

Now, why should Sir Andrew Fraser, who is not less just and high-minded than Sir Stewart, abolish this noble scheme of his predecessor, and replace it by one which is not only more illiberal but which is bound to impose unnecessary trouble upon his own shoulders? And why should the pledge of Sir Stewart that his system would be continued annually since 1892 be violated?

How liberal the scheme of Sir Stewart Bayley was would be evident from the fact that it enabled the fittest men of the country to secure, by merit alone, three-fourths of the Government appointments in an open competition. This system is proposed to be abolished, and the one substituted for it which will make them quite helpless at the mercy of the Collectors, and in many cases, at the mercy of their Sheristadars! Now, as an enlightened and a sincere friend of the people, why should not Sir Andrew not only keep the competitive system as it is, but also provide that three-fourths of the nineteen appointments should be given on the results of the examination, as Sir Stewart Bayley did, and as the present scheme provides?

By giving up the competitive system and replacing it by nomination, His Honour is going to abandon a straight path and adopt a circuitous one. His predecessors had not to take the trouble of selecting the best men,—the system did it for them. Sir Andrew will have to select the best men, and how he will be able to accomplish this most difficult feat, without doing injustice, nobody knows. The one way that has occured to His Honour will not be of much service. His Honour proposes to make a gigantic sacrifice by relinquishing the patronage which the system puts in his hands, in favour of District Officers. But how will that help His Honour? If a bad selection is made by his subordinates, it is His Honour who will be held responsible for the blunder before God and his people.

We think there is no need of hurry. The matter is very serious, and we hope His Honour will be pleased to give the country more time to help him with advice, which of course he is at liberty to accept or to reject.

We humbly think that the present system, and the scheme of His Honour, should be published, side by side; and the opinions of those, who are well-informed and directly interested in the subject, invited. We fear, most of those consulted by His Honour do not belong to this class of men.

THE PRESENT SYSTEM AND THE ONE PROPOSED BY SIR A. FRASER.

No Lieutenant-Governor gave such anxious thought to the subject of the recruitment of the Subordinate Executive Service as Sir Steuart Bayley did in 1889. This he was obliged to do, in consequence of the extreme complication and confusion, that arose out of the various defective schemes, introduced by previous Lieutenant Governors, and which required immediate remedy. What these difficulties were, had thus been graphically described by Sir Steuart himself in his famous Resolution, dated the 24th April, 1889, already referred to by us, and the full text of which is published in another column:—

"Notwithstanding the attempts thus made by successive Lieutenant-Governors to organise the recruitment of the Subordinate Executive Service on a permanent footing, Sir Steuart Bayley is compelled to express a doubt whether the question has yet been finally disposed of. Several radical changes of system and various temporary expedients have been tried and found wanting. Each change has given rise to a fresh set of claims, and has thereby enhanced the difficulty of satisfying the claims already on record. The registers of candidates for appointments in both branches of the Subordinate Executive Service are overloaded with names; some few promises of appointments have been given; many vague expectations of obtaining appointments have been formed and to some extent recognised; and distinct conditional pledges of promotion for good service have been only imperfectly fulfilled. These causes, operating concurrently during a period of twelve years, have produced a state of such extreme complication and confusion that the Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied of the necessity of introducing some comprehensive scheme which shall take account of the essential and permanent requirements of these provinces, and shall provide for giving play to more than one method of selection."

In 1868 Sir Willam Grey introduced a combined plan of nomination and competition, He, however, resigned before he could give a fair trial to his scheme. Sir George Campbell was the author of the famous "Native Civil Service," which evoked ridicule and opposition from one end of the country to the other. The next Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Richard Temple, directed that the examination should in future be competitive; but, his successor, Sir Ashley Eden, introduced a complete change of policy.

In short, Sir Ashley held that competitive examination had proved a failure as a method of recruiting the Subordinate Executive Service, and he substituted for it a system of nomination, pure and simple. This was, because, Sir Ashley Eden was an ardent patron of his pets and had to provide for them at any event. The evils which resulted from the system of Sir Ashley were sought to be neutralized by Sir Rivers Thompson; and, for this purpose, he again threw the service open to competition. But he made little progress in his reform as he himself was not always above the influence of his favourites. All this created a scandalous situation which required immediate solution at the hands of Sir Steuart Bayley, and this he sought to accomplish in his Resolution, alluded to above.

What amount of thought and care Sir Steuart had to devote to the subject, when inditing this remarkable document, will be at once realized from the following array of official papers which were incorporated in the Resolution and which he had to consult in order to discuss the question from all points of view, and then arrive at a satisfactory conclusion:—

Resolution.

Calcutta, the 24th April 1889.

Read—

Resolution on the appointment of candidates to the Subordinate Executive Service, No. 702, dated 24th February 1868.

Resolution on the same subject, No. 2288, dated 2nd June 1868.

Notification, dated the 26th September 1871, publishing rules for the examination of candidates for the Subordinate Executive Service, the Police and the Opium Departments.

Notification, dated the 3rd October 1871, amending the above rules.

Resolution, daed 20th March 1872, creating executive establishments for sub-divisions.

Notification of 9th July 1872, publishing rules for the examination of candidates for civil appointments.

Notification, dated the 23rd July 1872, regarding the appointment of candidates to the Subordinate Executive Service.

Letter No. 858, dated 5th August 1872, explaining the rules relating to the Civil Service classes and the examination of candidates for civil appointments.

Resolution, dated 15th April 1873, publishing lists of candidates passed at the Native Civil Service examination.

Resolution, dated 22nd April 1873, on the subject of sub-divisional executive establishments.

Letter to Director of Public Instruction, dated 10th October 1873, forwarding revised rules for the Native Civil Service examinations of 1875.

Resolution of 22nd June 1875, reviewing the results of the Native Civil Service examination, of that year.

Minute by Sir Richard Temple, dated 25th September 1875, on competitive examination for admission of candidates to the Native Civil Service of Bengal.

Notification, dated 23rd September 1875, publishing revised rules for Native Civil Service examination of 1876.

Resolution, dated 17th June 1876, reviewing the results of the Native Civil Service examination of that year.

Notification, dated 21st November 1876, of a competitive examination to be held in March 1877.

Resolution, dated 14th December 1876, exempting certain officers from the Native Civil Service examination.

Memorandum No. 5176A, dated 3rd November 1877, ordering the discontinuance of the Native Civil Service examination.

Resolution, dated 23rd February 1883, on the system of recruiting the Subordinate Executive Service.

Resolution, dated 30th April 1883, modifying the Resolution of 23rd February, and publishing the subjects of examination.

Resolution, dated 20th June 1883, modifying the Resolution of 23rd February 1883.

Resolution, dated 6th September 1883, modifying the Resolution of 23rd February 1883.

Notification, dated 18th December 1883, regarding the examination for the Subordinate Executive Service.

Resolution, dated 17th March 1884, reviewing the results of the examination held in that year.

Resolution, dated 21st April 1884, modifying the Resolution of 23rd February 1883.

Resolution, dated 3rd February 1885, postponing the complete introduction of the system of appointment by competition to the Subordinate Executive Service.

Resolution, dated 23rd March 1885, reviewing the results of the examination held in that year.

Resolution, dated 12th June 1885, regarding examination for the Subordinate Executive Service.

Resolution, dated 16th March 1886, reviewing the results of the examination held in that year.

Resolution, dated 19th March 1887, reviewing the results of the examination held in that year.

From a perusal of Sir S. Bayley's Resolution we gather the following points:—

(1) Of the six Lieutenant-Governors, who dealt with the question, four were in favour, and only two, namely, Sir George Campbell and Sir Ashley Eden, were against, competition.

(2) The last of the six, namely, Sir Steuart Bayley, who had an opportunity of watching the results of the working of the various systems introduced during the last twenty years, was emphatically of opinion that, "in any scheme that is to be final, the principle of competition must occupy a prominent, perhaps the most prominent, place."

(3) At the same time, Sir Steuart Bayley took into his consideration the cry of "conflicting interests," and provided that, "the power to make appointments by selection should still be retained. But, while reserving this discretion, he desires to exercise it on as small a scale as is possible, and to prepare the way for a further adoption of competition by allotting one-half of the available appointments in either (higher and lower) branch of the service in accordance with the results of the examination."

(4) The scheme of Sir Steuart Bayley, in short, stands thus. Assuming that twelve vacancies in the grade of Deputy Magistrates are to be filled every year, nine will be given on the results of the examination, namely, six to the first six candidates on the list in order of merit, and three to candidates having adequate claims to appointment by nomination, provided these latter obtain not less than one-third of the marks. By this means half of the available appointments were annually thrown open to about 200 graduates of the Calcutta University, who had to pass another competitive examination, and the first six successful of them in order of merit were entitled to get them.

(5) This system, which continues up till now, and which enables from half-a-dozen to a dozen of the best of our graduates annually to enter the Provincial Civil Service as Deputy Magistrates by sheer dint of merit, and without outside influence, is proposed to be knocked on the head.

And what are we going to have in return? A nomination system, pure and simple! Under this system, out of nineteen vacancies in the grade of Deputy Magistrates annually, nine are to be filled by the recommendations of the Collectors and Commissioners, and three by those of the Syndicate of the Calcutta University. Those candidates, who are without influence, however brilliant students they may be, have thus no chance for admission into the service, unless they can curry favour with the Collectors, or, perhaps with their Sheristadars. The Syndicate is no longer a popular body and does not command the confidence of the public. As regards the remaining seven appointments, they will be distributed to officials who are in Government service, the non-official public having nothing to do with them.

In short, under the present system, which is proposed to be abolished, half of the annual appointments in the Provincial Service are within the grasp of the best of our men; under the scheme to be introduced, the appointments will be absolutely beyond their reach, unless they have influence in high quarters. Need Sir Andrew Fraser now wonder why his measure, though introduced with the best of intentions, has created such consternation among the educated public?

Says the "Leicester Pioneer":

"Lord Curzon has been reappointed Viceroy of India. Poor, long-suffering India will not, I think, welcome the confirmation of their fears that this would be the case. Where will his Lordship break out next? We have had a hint that all is not quite satisfactory at Cabul."

Yes, India is going to have Lord Curzon again. But what is the harm? Says the bullock to his colleague: "Brother, have you heard the terrible news? Our master is going to sell us." The other replies: "I see nothing terrible in the news. Here we work and get a few bundles of hay and water, and there our lot is the same." When in 1860 the Indigo Commission sat to inquire into the condition of the ryots under the indigo planters, a ryot said that, "When oppressed by the Dewan we complained to the European Assistant, his superior; and the latter referred us to the same man against whom we had complained. If we complained against the Assistant to the Bara Saheb, the latter, in the same manner, referred us to the same party against whom we had lodged the complaint." It is thus all the same to us whether Lord Curzon comes back to India, or another is appointed in his place. Besides, whom would you have? Lord Ripon? Well, he was once here, but he was hissed out of the country. So you see, there is very little difference whether we get a sympathetic ma-bap or a tyrannical ruler. Our destiny, however, practically rests in our own hands. An American friend writes to us by the last mail:

"When I read the everlasting whining in the Indian papers about India's grievances it fairly makes me sick. When I read that the next National Congress is going to make a definite demand for some kind of representative Government, I balance between doubt and hope that the men, who are going to lead in the first definite movement of political importance in India, may be supported by all classes and races of the community, irrespective of religion and other consideration. What will be most needed in the leaders of the new movement in India will be a knowledge of economics. What will be

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most necessary to avoid will be the rapid oratory and frothy rubbish of the Irish movement that, after a century of agitation and ruin, leaves the country still without self-rule. If discussion is kept on the basis of material interest and good economic conditions, there will be no time or opportunity for religious and race questions to distract and draw the Indian people off on side issues as has been the case in Ireland."

Lord Ripon could do us no good, because he was not adequately supported by the people. No Viceroy can do us harm if he is persistently opposed. Nay it is in the power of the people to make Lord Curzon a truly beneficent ruler. It is our own fault if we have been reduced to the present position.

THE Government is often charged with having broken faith with the people of India. The accusation may be false or it may be true; for it was never judicially tested. Thus the Zemindars complain that the Government had no right to impose any Cess upon land. The ryot and the Zemindar both urge that the proceeds of the Road Cess belong to those absolutely who pay the impost. Of course the Government denies the claim, but the matter has not as yet been definitely settled. An American tribe, similarly placed, had a fight with the United States Government and have set a very good example to the people of this country.

MR. PINHEY, Collector of Malabar, it seems, has made himself exceedingly unpopular. In his vigorous administration has not diminished crimes in the district of which he is the lord, it has struck terror into the hearts of respectable people, for never, in the annals of the criminal administration of Malabar, have so many respectable and highly-connected gentlemen been dragged as accused as they have been during the time of Mr. Pinhey. Bear in mind, even two members of the Zamorin family were hauled up as criminals and sent to jail, though they were found innocent by the highest Court in the land. Sometime ago P. K. V. Rajah had applied for a license for keeping guns. He has extensive landed properties, and his residential place is infested with wild animals. But strange to say, Mr. Pinhey refused to grant him license. Be it noted here that he was the second accused in the now well-known dacoity case in which the local authorities took such lively interest and which resulted in his conviction, though he was afterwards acquitted on appeal. Malicious people naturally connect this action of Mr. Pinhey with the success of the Raja's appeal to the High Court.

THREE hundred American Indians live on a reservation of 6,000 acres on the extreme easterly point of Long Island, one hundred miles from New York City. Every man, woman, and child of the tribe has £2,000 to his or her credit in the United States Treasury. Each is paid the interest on his £2,000 quarterly by the Government; and any one of the 300 may draw the entire £2,000 at any time he chooses, without preliminary notice. The territory occupied by these Indians is called Montauk Point, and the red people themselves comprise the survivors of the once great Montauk tribe. The officials of the combination of Transatlantic steamship companies, headed by Pierpont Morgan, not long ago sought to get possession of Montauk Point, in order to make it the American terminus for their ocean lines. They expected thus to reduce the travelling time between Liverpool and New York by twelve hours. The Indians contested the right of way claimed by the steamship companies—and lost.

BUT they had, unlike the Indians of Asia, a leader. He is called King Pharaoh and his wife is Queen Maria. King Pharaoh is handsome, grave, and haughty. All his forefathers were Kings of the same tribe. He was graduated from Yale, working his way through the University by acting as guide to strangers. When he returned to his tribe, with his white man's education, he said: "The law is mightier than the tomahawk. So, instead of sharpening our weapons for physical attack on the white man, we will sharpen the points of law and attack him intellectually in the courts of justice." The "points of law" to which Pharaoh referred were: First, a treaty between the Montauks and the whites, made in 1662, by which the Montauks were to own Montaux Point for ever and ever; second, the whites, half a century ago, ignored the treaty and took possession of the Point; third, the whites who had thus taken unlawful possession sold the whole Point to a railway company;

TEN representatives of these three hundred Indians sat to confer on the situation. King Pharach pointed out that, as the great steamship companies coveted the land, now was the time to carry their suit to the Supreme Court at Washington and get Uncle Sam to redress their wrongs. One year later this "cause celebre" was ended. The Government would not give the Indians the land, but would buy it of them as the rightful owners, thus nullyfying all other claims. Forthwith every red nose was counted, including even the babies, and for every nose £2,000 was set aside in the national Treasury as a one three-hundredth share of the purchase money.

WHAT the Asiatic Indians have to do is to follow in the wake of their brethren in America. Let them carry their suits to the Supreme Court, and ultimately to Parliament, if necessary. When cornered in this manner, the rulers will be bound to afford the Indians proper relief, if the latter have got a strong case, out of which there is no getting out.

THE House of Commons was fairly full. An Irish member Mr. Gasper Tully was entertaining the assembly with some caustic criticism on Irish affairs. Mr. Brodrick then rose, and announced his Indian Budget, and there was a stampede of the members. There remained only Sir Henry Fowler, Sir Charles Dilke, Mr. Herbert Roberts, Mr. Shackleton, Mr. Bright, Mr. Weir, and Mr. James O'Keilly, on the Opposition side; and on the side of the Government, there remained Sir M. Bhownagiree, Lord G. Hamilton, Sir James Fergusson, Mr. Wyley and three or four others. So there were altogether about 15 or 16 members present to discuss the Indian Budget in which about three hundred millions were concerned! Some attempts were made to induce the British Government to pay a portion of the Tibetan war, but they failed. The fearful condition of Bombay, where a widespread famine is apprehended, was not very wisely mentioned. The Indians, when their affairs are discussed, should provide the House with some hot bonbons, say, "jilapees," to induce members to stay.

Scraps.

So far as present agricultural prospects go the only provinces in which some anxiety is felt, judging from the official weekly reports, are those of Bombay and the Central Provinces. In both of these parts of the country rain is urgently needed in several districts, but of the two Bombay seems to be worse off. In addition to the failure of the rains there over a large tract of country, there has been a great visitation of that agricultural pest—the locust—to contend with and vigorous measures are being taken by the authorities to deal with the situation caused by the plague of the insects.

One Chall was put on his trial before Mr. Campbell, the Agent to the Governor of the Vizagapatam Agency Division, on a charge of murdering one Tengali and attempting to murder another. The Assessors found the accused not guilty and were of opinion that the whole case was a police concoction. Surely, the Judge ought to have accepted the opinion of the Assessors and acquitted the accused, he being an alien and quite unacquainted with the manners, language &c. of the people. But his nice sense of justice and a belief in his infallibility would not permit him to do so. He found the accused guilty of murder without any extenuating circumstance in his favour and sentenced him to death. The case came on appeal before the Madras High Court the other day, when the Hon'ble Judges held that there was not sufficient evidence to connect the accused with the offence. They therefore set aside the capital sentence and ordered the release of Chall. We hope the result of the case will have a salutary effect upon Mr. Campbell and that he will, in future, be more careful in sending God's creatures to the gallows.

The Municipal authorities of Gujrat in the Panjab have of late enormously raised the house tax to meet the cost of the new drainage of the town. They carried this scheme of house tax in spite of vehement protests of the suffering thousands. Failing to get any redress at the hands of the local authorities, they sought to approach the Commissioner of the Rawalpindi circle, and an opportunity was soon presented itself. On a Saturday in August last fixed for the arrival of the Commissioner, all the citizens flocked to the Railway station, but the authorities actually drove them from there. Then they stood in rows on the road leading from the Ry. station and, as the Commissioner passed through it, loud cries of "moot gaya" and "mare gaye" were heard to peal forth from the lips of the people. The local authorities got frightened and managed to send back the crowd by telling them to see the Commissioner privately. Thereupon they assembled at the Commissioner's bunglow the next day (Sunday) but to be repulsed by the police. On Monday they again met at the bunglow, but were again not allowed to see the Commissioner. Failing to have an interview of the Commissioner, they at last wired the Commissioner, and sent our to him a petition udnder a registered cover. By petition under a registered cover. But this they gained their object. Their representatives were allowed to see the Commissioner, and the result is thus described by a correspondent of the "Tribune":—The Commissioner informed them that he had instructed the Municipal authorities to sell by public auction the waste lands belonging to the Municipality and thus to realise a part of the sum of money required for the execution of the "Drainage scheme." The remaining money, he added, may be realised from the public, but if, he went on, the public had any objection to pay this money, they must forward their petition to him at Rawalpindi and then he would advise the Municipality as to how the necessary funds may be raised. At the same time the Commissioner asked these gentlemen to assure the public that nothing in the shape of "zulum" shall be done to them and that if they feel any inconvenience they have only to forward their grievances to him.

Contracts have, it is understood, been let at home to a British firm for the supply of 32 more passenger locomotive engines and tenders to the East Indian Railway.

Terrible mortality has been caused by an outbreak of Asiatic cholera at Teherhan. In six weeks twenty thousand deaths resulted from the epidemic in the Persian capital.

A special notification has been issued at Ceylon, prohibiting the sale of cut horns of deer and sambur, for commercial or trade purposes, for a period of two years, beginning with the 1st instant.

There are a good many cases of enteric and typhoid in Poona just now in all the hospitals. Even a few cases from the College of Science have been admitted into the Sassoon Hospital.

A tremendous fire is raging in Hoboken, a large suburb of Antwerp, and is likely to continue for days. The ignition of some leakage caused the explosion of the Russian petroleum Company's tanks, which fired forty thousand tons of oil, including American Standard Oil Company's stock. The damage at present is £250,000.

A Bhownagar correspondent writes:—There are scarcely any hopes of rain falling here now, and relief works will shortly be opened in the villages under the Bhownagar [illegible]. The annual "Gokal Asthami" fair, which is held with great pomp in Wadhwan, and lasts for three days, was very poorly attended, owing to the gloomy outlook of famine.

The Nawab Mohsinul Mulk, accompanied by Raja Naushed Ali Khan, is visiting a number of places in Oudh with the object of obtaining funds for the Aligarh College at Sultanpur. The Nawab and party were entertained at a garden party and dinner, to which the raises of the district were invited. Subsequently at the Victoria Manzil Hall the Nawab made an appeal to his co-religionists on behalf of the college which was generously responded to, about Rs. 8,000 being contributed on the spot. This amount included a donation of Rs. 5,000 from Raja Mehdi Ali Khan, who presided at the meeting. Other donors were the Raja of Kurwar, Nawab Islamullah Khan, Babu Abdul Rahaman Khan, Mrs. Mahomed Baker Khan, Syed Mahomed Ali and Syed Ahmed Hussain.

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

[From our own Correspondent.]

London, Aug. 19.

THE INDIA COUNCILS ACT.

Among the measures which received Royal Assent at the prorogation of Parliament was the India Councils Bill, brought forward to amend the Act of 1874 by removing the necessity that the sixth member of the Viceroy's Executive Council should represent the Public Works Department. In 1861 the Council was constituted with five ordinary members, and this number was subsequently increased to six in 1874. Eleven years later an agitation for economy in administration was successful in reducing the number to the old standard of five, and the seat of the Member for Public Works fell into abeyance. Within recent years there has been a demand for the institution of a Ministry for Commerce which has received Lord Curzon's support to so great an extent that it is almost in working order. With this desire for the recognition of commerce there was accompanied a wish that it should also receive a place on the Executive Council, and here again Lord Curzon was ready to accede to the request. But there was a difficulty in providing room, for, although it was true that there was a vacant seat which could be revived, it was equally true that that seat could only be filled by a Public Works Minister. It was, therefore, necessary to amend the Council law, and by the present Act the sixth seat is no longer bound to represent Public Works. In answer to Mr. Cladwell on June 1 Mr. Brodrick declared that the Public Works interests would, in future, be divided among existing and future members of Council in the following manner:

The member for Revenue and Agriculture will represent civil works and irrigation;

The member for commerce and industry will represent railway matters and be the mouthpiece of the new Railway Board.

The new member of Council will occasion an expenditure of £5,333 on his salary alone, but, strictly speaking, the new expenditure is not due to the Act which has just been passed, for the sixth seat could have been revived at any time by the Viceroy: the Act has merely given him a freer choice in selection when he takes advantage of his power. Opposition to the measure has not been active in Parliament. Mr. Herbert Roberts has maintained an attitude of quiet hostility and on one occasion he was able to delay the course of the Bill. This action, however, was intended not so much as an attack upon the Bill, but rather as a protest that the reform of the Council did not go a little farther, seeing that alteration was to be made. On such an occasion it should have been possible to admit an Indian member to the Council. This view was clearly indicated by Mr. Schwann in a question to Mr. Brodrick, who replied that the Viceroy had already the power to nominate an Indian Member if he chose to do so. On the whole, the Act is a colourless piece of legislation. It is virtually a blank cheque to each Viceroy of the future who can fill it up badly or well as his wishes or prejudices may dicate.

RUSSIA AND REVOLUTION.

A highly placed official in St. Petersburg has been expressing his opinions to a French journalist, and his outlook on the condition of his country is gloomy indeed. "There is no denying," he says, "that the position is extremely grave, even threatening. The assassination of M. de Plehve cannot be regarded as an isolated incident. This is the third assassination of the kind we have had within the last three years; if we insist on pursuing our policy of spying and terrorising we shall have more regrettable and alarming results. What have we done up to now," he asks, "to check the revolutionary movement?" Answering his own question, the official states: "We have taken what people call 'energetic,' but what are really only violent measures. What opinion would you have of a surgeon whose treatment of a suppurating wound was to fill it up with small stones and put a plaster on the top? But that is exactly what we have done. Our policy has been one of irritation instead of soothing." He thinks also that there is no question about the serious discontent of the masses and the middle classes of the people of Russia. Even large provincial land owners, he adds, are bitterly regretting all the privileges which have been taken away from them on the plea of augmenting the public liberty. As a matter of fact, he continues, the privileges which were to be given to the people were never given. The result is general irritation; the subsequently energetic but tactless measures have had the result of forcing into the revolutionary ranks men who would probably have been perfectly quiet. The official then proceeds to describe the character of the assassinated M. de Plehve. "There was," he remarks, "nothing malicious about the late Minister for the Interior; but he was an obstinate man with narrow views. He would often talk like an enlightened liberal, but he acted always as a reactionary. To those who expressed surprise at this inconsistency he would reply that he was not a free agent. But to promise one thing and do another are faults which cost a Minister his life. Now the people are at last beginning to think for themselves. Little by little the misery which is their constant lot has fostered the spirit of revolt—the Christian idea of long punishment on earth and eternal happiness in paradise has not the hold upon their imagination that it used to have."

If it be widely true that the people are beginning to think for themselves, then the Russian Government is approaching a struggle which may be peaceable and long drawn out or rapid and very terrible. As to which it will be, even Russians themselves forbear to prophesy.

BRIEF NOTES.

1. INDIAN RAILWAYS.

The "Railway Magazine" for August contains a useful summary by Mr. C. A. Stanwell of Mr. T. Robertson's report on Indian railways. It is illustrated by three maps, and gives in a short space the leading facts of the report. As to the writer's opinion, readers are not left in the dark, for he declares that "though as an official document the report is most subdued in its language, it reveals a state of affairs which is altogether unsatisfactory." Fares on the railways, though nominally below the British charges, are actually higher having regard to the value of money and the cost of living in India. "It would probably be imagined," continued Mr. Stanwell, "that with so much State supervision the railway arrangements would show the most paternal regard for the safety of the public, but, this, on the contrary, is distinctly neglected."

II. A "PUNCH" CARTOON.

The "Punch" cartoon this week deals with the Tibetan trouble. In the backgrownd is the gate of Lhassa, and the notice, "Grand Lama Out: back in three years." In the foreground is the Lama—represented symbolically as the llama, a South American animal—attempting to escape. John Bull meanwhile pulls it by the tail, holding out an Anglo-Tibetan treaty and exclaiming: "Yes, that's all right, my friend. You may go away for three "hundred" years if you like. But this has got to be signed first." The cartoon is cleverly drawn, but it hardly represents the true situation. John Bull has not caught the Grand Lama yet, and meanwhile the winter is coming fast.

III. THE SOCIALIST CONGRESS ON INDIAN REFORM.

An international Congress of Socialists is meeting in Amsterdam attended by delegates from all countries in the world. Japanese Socialism has sent its delegates, and India is well represented by Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, though, strictly speaking, he was not there as an Indian representative, since, so far as I know, there is no Socialist body in India. Last Wednesday a resolution was moved by Mr. Hobson, of the Fabian Society, and supported by Mr. Naoroji. Its text ran: "That this Congress of all the delegates and the workers of the civilised world, after having heard representatives of Great Britain and India, who showed how the British Government, by continually robbing and draining more and more of the resources of the people, is purposely causing extreme pauperisation, and is creating the scourge of famine and privation on a greater and greater scale among more than 200,000,000 inhabitants of British territory in India, appeals to the workers of Great Britain to impress upon their Government the necessity of abandoning the present execrable and dishonourable system, and of establishing self-government in the best practical form by the Hindus themselves—under British sovereignty." Details of the speeches delivered have not yet reached England. Among the English representatives present is Mr. H. M. Hyndman, who was elected one of the two British delegates to the International Bureau.

Matters Commercial.

The net import of Gold into India during the month of July was 128,785 oz., and that of Silver for the same period 2,500, 146 oz.

In Assam, the Government revenue from leases of lime quarries, coal mines and mineral oil lands in 1904-05 is estimated at some Rs. 53,000.

Applications have been made to the local authorities for the lease of the marble quarry recently discovered at Bagaspur in the Nerbudda Division of the Central Provinces.

The revenue from mineral royalties, fees, etc. in the Central Provinces for the current financial year is estimated at Rs. 44,200 as against Rs. 37,208 actually relized in 1902-03.

An interesting official report on Gold and Silver work in the Bombay Presidency has just been published there, the author being Mr. C. L. Burns, Principal of the Bombay School of Art.

The visible supplies of copper are now stated at 12,232 tons, being a reduction of 585 tons on the total reported a fortnight ago. In the interval 12,719 tons have come forward, against deliveries of 13,304 tons, while the price has fallen from £67 5s. to £66 17s. 6d. per ton.

The Norwegian winter fisheries of cod in 1903 yilded 44,600,00 fish, against 41,000,000 in 1902 and 40,000,000 in 1901. The Norwegian herring fishery yields about 570,000 barrels, "fat" herring and 127,000 barrels "small" herring this latter fishery being carried on simultaneously with the former.

A source of State revenue in the Punjab, which probably does not exist elsewhere so far as we are aware, is what is known as "sajji leases" or leases for the collection of crude carbonate of soda. The revenue from these leases during the current official year is estimated at some Rs. 3,000.

An enquiry in which the Geological and Public Works Departments are at present cooperating is one relating to the testing of building stones used in the country for important structures, such as bridges and other large and heavy buildings. The Sibpur Engineering College is one of the centres at which the experiments are to be carried out.

Those concerned in the industry may be interested to learn that this year's sandalwood sales of the Mysore State are to take place between the 19th November and the 19th December. The total quantity to be offered for sale is about 2,300 tons distributed between the Mysore, Bangalore, Hassan, Kadur and Shimoga districts.

There has been a steady decline in the imports of dyeing materials into the North-West Frontier Province from Tirah, Afghanistan, Bajaur and Kashmir during the past three years. In 1903-04 the total imports were only 9,862 maunds of the value of Rs. 41,474 while in 1901-02 27,757 maunds were imported of the value of Rs. 2,55,676 and in 1902-03, 17.538 maunds of the value of Rs. 1,63,597.

The Bengal Government have given sanction to the acquisition of land for the establishment of one Divisional Farm every year for the future. The Government owned farms at present are those at Sibpur, Chittagong and Cuttack, while other farms are those at Sripur in the Hutwa Raj, the Tikari Farm, and the Burdwan and Dumraon Farms which are private properties.

We noticed lately the measures the Madras Government were about to take to further develop the industrial sections of the Government School of Art at Madras. These are to concern themselves with carpentry, weaving, carpet weaving, metal-work and other handicrafts and a sum of Rs. 72,000 has been sanctioned for the current official year for expenditure in starting the new development.

The Government Economic Products Department have sent home for examination and report by the Scientific Department of the Imperial Institute a consignment of leaves of the Assam dye plant ("Symplocos spicata"). Identification is also being made of several other Assam dye plants from the same Province so as to bring up to date Mr. Duncan's report on "Dyes and Dying in Assam." The same Department has under special investigation the plantain fibres of I[illegible]

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The Irrigation Conference at Simla closed yesterday after a very interesting session.

Wires a Poona correspondent:—There are no signs of rain and the sun is fierce, but quite a cool wind is blowing.

Active preparations are being made by the Bombay Government for dealing with famine if the late rains fail, and "mamlatdars" and District Officers have been ordered on tour in their charge, and will report on alternate days to Government.

In certain districts of the Punjab the harvest could not be reaped owing to the ravages of plague, and the Local Government have, therefore, remitted a proportion of the land revenue where crops have been left to rot on the ground.

The "United Province Times" writes:—With the advent of the cold weather there is every likelihood of plague making its appearance everywhere, though it is earnestly to be wished that such will not be the case. But the disease has been coming so regularly, winter after winter, that we should feel somewhat troubled about it at this time. We suggested in a previous issue of this paper that it would be advisable to carry out precautionary measures against this dreadful disease, even at times when it is not prevalent, so that, the place having been disinfected all along, the chances of plague appearing in an epidemic form would be smaller than otherwise.

For the first time in the history of Moulmein, so its oldest inhabitants say, it has witnessed inundations due to its spring tides to the extent it did last Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The rise in the spring tides on these days broke all previous records. The Lower Main Road in two or three parts became deeply flooded, and a large number of shops and private houses were inundated. Campbell Street and Fallon Road and other roads in that neighbourhood were several feet under water, a number of residents betaking themselves to canoes on pleasure bent. Some of the lowlying parts of Dinewunquin were submerged under what might be called deep water.—Moul. Adv.

Writes a Surat correspondent:—The force of the epidemic continues to increase day by day and people are now terror-stricken. The total number of deaths, due to plague, during the week ended on Friday last, was 198, as compared with 52 during the same period last year. The total mortality for the week was 698 as compared with 141 for the same week last year. At a meeting of the Sanitary, Committee of the Surat City Municipality, held on Friday last, it was resolved to request the Surgeon-General to give the loan of the services of one assistant surgeon and six hospital-assistants. It was further resolved to open a plague hospital in tht dharmsala near the railway station.

In the United Provinces Court of Wards' Report for last year we read regarding the working of agricultural banks, that in Sultanpur they are said to be working satisfactorily. In Gonda the people are found slow to appreciate the movement, and they are very backward in taking office, and in Bareilly the banks have worked much better than in the previous year, but their real object is not yet sufficiently realised. The Director of Land Records and Agriculture says there is some use for these banks even as loan societies, that is to say, if they never do more than take the responsibility of distributing a large number of small loans on behalf of the landholder, and in any case their development from loan societies into banks working mainly on their own deposit capital cannot be expected to take place all at once.

As dastardly and cold-bloded a murder as the Kandy Police Court one has just been heard of from Kanapadiwaatee Estate. A Moorman, having suspected his wife of unfaithfulness, paid her a surprise visit on Wednesday night and detected her in company with his own brother-in-law. Though the latter attempted to hurry off, he was very courteously accommodated by the owner of the house, who offered him the night's shelter, which was accepted. At dead of night the husband attacked the wife with a knife and wounded her in several places. Her cries roused the brother-in-law, who interfered, but only to receive his quietus immediately having been stabbed mortally in about four places. The murder appears to have attempted escape at first, but on second thought he decided to end his life, and after going about a ¼ mile stabbed himself to death. He no doubt believed his wife dead, but the latter had only been stunned by the suddenness of the attack and loss of blood from the wounds, which, however, are serious.

A Calicut correspondent writes to the "Madras Mail" under date 3rd September:—An interesting faction dispute has just arisen between two important sections of the large Moplah community in the town. One of these sections is known as the "Kumuttukar" (hand clappers) and the other as the "Kymuttathakar" (those who do not clap hands). The members of the former section clap their hands in accompaniment of the singing during religious and other processions, while those of the other section studiously avoid the clapping of hands. The two factions came into existence many years ago, and, at one time, the difference of opinion between them ran so high that the question was referred for decision to the highest ecclesiastical authorities at Mecca. Notwithstanding, the two factions have continued to exist, but the hand-clappers appear to be a larger and more influential body. The "Valia Kazi," or chief priest, of the big mosque in the town belongs to the smaller section. His daughter is to be married in a day or two to a Tangal in the neighbouring Moplah hamlet of Puthian gadi, and in the invitations which he has issued for the wedding festivities he has stated that the ceremonies will be conducted without the clapping of hands. This has given great offence to the hand-clapping section, among whom feeling in running high. The present Town Police Inspector, Mr. P. Chandu, received information a day or two ago of the likelihood of a serious breach of the peace, and he lost no time in calling upon the leading members of both sections and advising them to restrain their followers. This morning, Mr. George, D.P.S., Mr. Gopalan Nair, Deputy Magistrate, and other officials convened a meeting of leading Moplahs at the Himautul-Islam Sabah Hall and advised those who attended to use their best endeavours to prevent a disturbance, the consequences of which might be very serious. The wedding festivities begin to-morrow and will last till Monday or Tuesday. The authorities are on the alert.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

MIRZAPUR SENSATION.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

Mirzapur Sept. 5.

MR. DILLON'S REFUSAL TO APPEAR BEFORE MR. TUTE.

A CORRECTION.

The other day the Government Pleader drew my attention to a mistake that crept into my correspondence dated August 27 under the heading "Why Mr. G. W. Dillon refused to appear before Mr. Tute," published in the "Patrika" of August 29. The mistake is that in the last part of the note of Mr. Tute, Joint Magistrate, dated 19th August in re K.-E. vs. Mithu Khan there is the word "none" in the original, and not the word "more" as published in the "Patrika." The note of Mr. Tute which was published in the "Patrika" was only a copy from the certified copy, where the word is "more" and not "none." After this, I withdraw the remarks I made in my letter reading the sentence with the word "more," which the copyists made me to read, and I do it without regret. The sentence, as corrected, is as follows:—

"Above statement was made in my presence and Mr. Dillon has not asked for any other witnesses and apparently desires to call none.

(Sd.) H. C. Chatterjee, Govt. Pleader. (Sd.) Behari Lal, Reader."

I thank the Government Pleader for the trouble he has taken in pointing out the mistake; and, I think, he will do a public service if he takes a little more trouble in representing the matter in proper quarters with a view to prevent the commission of such mistakes in certified copies. Babu Satya Chandra Mukherjee, Vakil for Mithu Khan, also drew my attention to the mistake and I am also thankful to him. But why

MR. DILLON REFUSED TO APPEAR BEFORE MR. TUTE?

Mr. Dillon himself thus explained in his letter dated, Allahabad, the 19th August 1904, addressed to the Joint Magistrate, Mirzapur. The certified copy of the letter, which came to my hand only a few days ago, is as follows:—

"Sir,—After the incident which took place in Court yesterday during the trial of King-Emperor vs. Mithu Khan I do not feel myself in a position to again appear in your Court. The incident I refer to is the order framed by you to the following effect—

"'Mr. Dillon, Counsel for accused, states that with the exception of Sahai Ram the withdraws the rest of the evidence for the defence; on being asked to sign this statement counsel refused to do so.'

"And the further fact that after writing the above order you got your 'Peshkar" and the Government Pleader to witness my refusal. This I look upon as an insult. In justice to myself I hope you will file this with the record of the case of King Emperor vs. Mithu Khan.

Yours Faithfully,
G. W. Dillon."

MITHU KHAN GETS ONE YEAR.

To-day Mr. Tute, Joint Magistrate, came to court at 2-50 p.m. He called Mithu Khan 20 minutes later and told him "ek sal" (one year), which was the sum and substance of the judgment Mr. Tute chose to deliver. The Mukhtar, who appeared for the accused, then presented an application saying that Syed Arshad Ali and Munshi Bahadur Lal, Mukhtars, will stand sureties for Mithu Khan. Mr. Tute without even reading the application returned it saying "nehi" (no). Thus, in the above way the judgment was pronounced and substance explained by Mr. Tute according to the provision of sec. 366, Cr. P. C! But what does "ek sal" mean? The punishment must be in reference to the order which Mr. Tute made on 22nd May last according to the provision of Sec. 112, Cr. P. C., and also according to Sec. 118, Cr. P. C., that Mithu Khan should execute a personal bond in the sum of Rs. 1,000 "together with two sureties apiece each in the same sum to be of good behaviour" for "ek sal" (one year). If it means so, what is the meaning of "nehi" (no) when the application offering to stand as sureties was presented. Does it mean then that the accused should be imprisoned for one year and no chance should be given him to give security, though the law provides for imprisonment only when the accused fails to give any. If imprisonment be the intention of Mr. Tute, he had not pronounced the kind of imprisonment. I don't mean to say that the trying Magistrate has no power to reject sureties; undoubtedly he has; he can, however, only refuse to accept any surety offered on the ground of unfitness for reasons to be recorded; but surely he cannot refuse to accept the application for bail and then send the accused to jail to undergo imprisonment, when "the order is for the protection of society and not for the punishment of the individual." But this is not all. Two applications were, after the sentence was passed, presented to Munshi Aulad Muhammad Khan, Deputy Magistrate, for it is his duty to dispose of such applications—one for a certified copy of the judgment of Mr. Tute, and another for the signature of Mithu Khan in the Vakalatnama for appeal. The Deputy Magistrate referred the Mukhtear, who presented the applications to Mr. Tute, and when the applications were presented to Mr. Tute, the latter ordered for a copy of the judgment, and told the Mukhtear that the signature of the prisoner to the Vakalatnama would be taken "tomorrow." Tomorrow Mithu Khan will be in the District Jail and it will be the duty of the Jailor or Jail Superintendent to do the work, and not of Mr. Tute. It was, in this wonderful way, the case of Mithu Khan was disposed of by Mr. Tute, which needs no comment.

As the order to give security is for one year, the appeal lies with the District Magistrate; but Mr. Wyndham, the District Magistrate, had left the city yesterday, and it is said that he would return tomorrow. Thus all circumstances combined together for Mithu Khan to undergo imprisonment where security is the only thing wanted.

DECAY OF MIRZAPUR.

Mirzapur is no longer the centre of trade as it was before. Its one effect is the general fall in house-rent, so much so, that there is a tendency among house-owners to dispose of the rented-houses as these do not pay as to be desired. Accordingly a sort of speculative business has of late sprung up, in which some twenty men are engaged, for purchasing buildings only to pull them down and dig out to foundation in search of hidden treasure and scattered stones underneath. The materials are sold off. The plots of land are also sold. No new buildings are generally built on those plots and the waste lands are mostly used for the latrine purpose and for the purpose of throwing off house refuse. Thus filth is allowed to be accumulated only to vitiate the atmosphere to the detriment of public health. This state of things should draw the attention of the Municipality, especially as at the present moment plague is raging in some quarters of the city. It should also draw the attention of the Police as these waste lands, full of vegetation, afford shelter to thieves where they can hide without chance of detection. To return to the subject, the business does not seem to be a losing one, though often a higher price is paid to the owner to draw him to the transaction, as at least two of the well-known capitalists of this city are backing it with loans at a monthly interest of Rs. 1 to 2 per cent. In this city it is often seen that one building is in close union of another, so much so, that the side wall of one building rests on the side wall of another, even though the owners are different persons. If one building is demolished the other is materially damaged. In such a case the purchaser often realises a good amount from the owner of the proximate house for allowing the wall of the demolished house to stand over to prevent the damage of the other house. No doubt there is legal remedy in the shape of right if easement and curts injunction. But no one thinks to take the legal steps. Everybody will look up to the District Magistrate for a speedy remedy, and he, on his part, is not unwilling to afford it whenever he is in a position to do it. This is a place of personal rule and executive interference in these matters is welcomed. Some years ago Mr. Wyndham was moved by the public opinion to make an inquiry in connection with the sale by Mohant-Maharaj Anandgir of his house at Purani Bajaji quarter, but the matter was settled before he came to inquire. The house was not allowed to be demolished. Opposite to that house, a house has recently been sold which the purchaser wants to demolish. It is not a house fit to be condemned, and the public opinion of the locality is very strong against its demolition. It cannot be pulled down without doing material injury to another house situated in close union to it. This is a circumstance very favourable to the purchaser, though it ought to have been an unfavourable one, to make a good profit. I think Mr. Wyndham will be good enough to make an inquiry in the matter as he did on a similar occasion, and if he will extend his inquiry throughout, he will find other houses similarly circumstanced. It is only public opinion that has put down the trade on building to a great extent, and the flourishing of such a trade means the destruction of the city and the rederence of unhealthiness.

NOTES FROM BEHAR.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Bankipur, Sept. 7.

THE PROPOSED BENGALI ASSOCIATION.

A public meeting exclusively of the Bengali residents is likely to come off at an early date to consider what steps should be taken to guard the interests of the Bengali community in Behar. Already some of the prominent members of the local Bengali community have signified their hearty sympathy with the movement and volunteered their services for the sacred cause. Unfortunately, however, there has been in some quarters a misconception about the aim and object of the proposed society, and for the edification of these well-meaning men we like to say once for all that the proposed society aims at nothing more than the formation of a Bengali club and library. The club will be the nucleus of social gatherings from time to time and the library is meant to be the medium of propagating education among our boys and youngmen generally. Thus for instance an enthusiastic gentleman has already expressed his willingness to devote a part of his time in instructing boys in diverse scientific subjects with the help of magic lantern and the like. Hitherto the Bengalees have earned unenviable notoriety for lip-patriotism but that will do no more, and, if we are to survive in the present hard struggle for existence, we must do something practical. Under the circumstances it behoves every Bengalee gentleman to contribute his mite towards the completion of the proposed club and library. The cost of these can not exceed more than Rs. 4,000 and there are indeed so many well-to-do Bengalees here that any one of them alone can bear the whole expense but no, in the cause of national regeneration every man ought to have some share so that subscription from one pice upward will be cheerfully welcomed.

A STRIKE.

In one of my previous letters I drew attention of your readers to the attempt of the Municipal authorities to raise the wheel-tax to nearly double of what it is at present. The hackney carriage drivers thereupon decided to strike at the time when the Lieutenant-Governor visited this town. This being known the Municipal authorities postponed the enforcement of the harsh measure to some future period, and now when they are once more bent upon carrying out their intention the entire Gharry-wallas living within the area of the Patna Municipality have struck driving from the 7th September. We are told that an attempt will be made to bring them round by bringing some hackney carriages from outside. But this is not at all feasible for a few hackney carriages from Dinapur or somewhere else can not meet the requirements of a big town like Patna. The inconveniences of the public have been very great, but indolent and lethargic as they are they deserve it. For, who is after all to suffer if the wheel-tax was really raised so enormously? Not the Gharry-wallas but the public. For we are told that the Gharry-wallas have been told to charge 12 annas from the Railway station for any distance within 2 miles. That is to say they will in future charge 12 annas for what they at present charge 4½ annas, and in spite of this there is not a word of protest from the public. We hope some of the public-spirited gentlemen would take up the cause of the Gharry-wallas and see that they are not mercilessly fleeced simply to fill up the empty coffer of an insolvent Municipality.

SPORTING.

The semi-final match for the Institute Cup was played on Tuesday last between Patna College and B. S. Engineering. The game resulted in the college winning by three goals to nil. Rassik Behari in the wing and Sinha in the centre forward were conspicuous.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The present health of the town is far from being satisfactory. While plague mortality is rising steadily in the Patna City, obstinate cases of fever and bowel complaints are raging all over Bankipur.—We hear that Dr. Whitwell, the Superintendent of the Temple Medical School did not allow the Nagpur Military pupils to celebrate this year their annual Ganesh Puja festival which used to be celebrated during the Janmastami holidays. Perhaps Dr. Whitwell thought that Ganesh Puja of Nagpur students was akin to Ganapati movement of the Poona Brahmins and labouring under such a belief he thought of suppressing the wave of sedition coming to Patna. The action of Dr. Whitwell ought to make some sort of recognition in the hands of the Government.—The criminal case in which Kali Misser charged a European employee of Messrs. Ralli Brothers and Co., with assaulting him near Sudder Galee was to have come on on the 5th last but as there is a chance of the case being compromised out of court it has been postponed.—Pandit Sakha Ram Gonesh B.A., has been delivering here a series of interesting lectures on "Birth of Man." His command over English has taken the public by surprise.

MADRAS ITEMS.

Madras, Sept. 8.

The death is announced to-day of Mr. Shungra Subbier, ex-Dewan of Travancore, aged sixty-nine years. He served the Travancore Government for forty-four years, rising from a petty schoolmaster to be Dewan of the State, which post he held from 1892 to 1898.

CEYLON ITEMS.

Colombo, Sept. 8.

The Crown Prince of Siam and brother have entered the Buddhist priesthood.

Much annoyance is daily caused at the St. Louis Exhibition by robberies effected from displays. Ceylon has lost many valuable articles. Exhibitors are simply disgusted..

THE MADRAS UNIVERSITY.

Madras, Sept. 8.

The Indian Universities Act will come into force in Madras to-morrow. The election of Fellows under the new Act will be held at the Senate House on the 17th instant. The Registrar has gone to Ootacamund to consult the Chancellor regarding the details of the reconstitution.

BRITISH STEAMER WRECKED.

Colombo, Sept. 8.

The British steamer "Ashley," from Sourabaya to Suez with three thousand tons of [illegible], was stranded yesterday at Hambantota, on the southern coast of Ceylon, by striking on a rock. It is feared the vessel will be a total wreck. The cargo was all destroyed. Assistance was sent from Colombo.

ALLAHABAD UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

Lucknow, Sept. 8.

The results of the Allahabad University Examinations, held in July, show that 18 candidates passed the M. A. examination, 46 obtained the LL. B. degree, and over 200 candidates were successful in the B. A. examination. The majority of the successful candidates were from the Muir Central College, Allahabad, and the Aligarh College.

PUBLIC WORKS POSTINGS.

Simla, Sept. 8.

It is notified that the Hon. Benton, Chief Engineer and Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, Irrigation Branch, has been appointed to officiate as Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, Irrigation, Roads and Buildings, and Inspector-General of Irrigation during the absence of Mr. Preston, on privilege leave.

Mr. F. C. Murray, Superintending Engineer, Punjab, is permitted to retire from the service, with effect from the 7th instant.

Mr. Balarama Iyer, Government Examiner of Accounts Burma Railways, is granted combined leave for six months; Mr. G. B. Goyder to officiate.

SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Madras, Sept. 8.

The Tinnevelly-Quillon branch of the South Indian Railway is approaching completion. The slips on the ghat portion of the line are repaired and the opening of the line for through communication will take place within the next two months. The South Indian Railway is in treaty with Travancore to open out agencies in all large river and canal towns in Travancore to Quillon, but some difficulty has risen in this connection owing to the question whether the steamer service will not damage the banks of the canals. The Railway Company is also in treaty with the Durbar regarding a scheme for the collection of Customs together with railway freight. It is considered that this will help traders. The Railway is also pushing the question of improving Quillon harbour, without which the Railway cannot receive the full advantage of its position.

THE WEATHER.

Simla, Sept. 9.

The most important event in the meteorology of the past week was the formation of a cyclonic storm in the north of the Bay, as it was the means of reintroducing the conditions favourable for rain in the central parts of India, where rain was badly wanted. The storm commenced to form on Saturday, and after slowly developing crossed the Orissa coast on Wednesday morning. By Thursday it had advanced into the Central Provinces and showed signs of filling up. On Thursday morning 10 inches of rain were reported from Pachmarhi, three inches from Chanda, and two from Sutna, while moderately heavy falls had been given during the preceding 48 hours at Pendra, Raipur, Hazaribagh, Cuttack, False Point, Benares and Gaya. Good rain has fallen in the interior of Burma, but the rainfall of the past week has been very light in Assam. The week has been practically rainless in North-Western India, and only light showers have fallen on the west coast, though on Thursday the storm in the Central Provinces had caused a slight increase of rain fall in the latter region.

LAND-OWNERS' MEETING AT POONA.

Poona, Sept. 7.

A large meeting of the house-owners of the Poona Cantonment was held last evening at the Albert Edward Institute. There was a large attendance. Sardar Naorojee Pudumjee addressed the meeting, emphasising the importance of the existence of such an Association, and reminding the members that they represented lakhs of rupees' worth of property in the Cantonment, which is the largest in the Presidency. He said that, recently, questions relating to the increase of houses and tenure of land in the Cantonment had arisen, questions affecting all landlords in every Cantonment. He asked members to subscribe handsomely so that proper legal advice might be had in matters which concerned the interests of house-owners. Up to the present time the representations made to Government had been effective. He asked that a working committee be formed and supplied with funds to watch the interests of those concerned in questions affecting property in Cantonments. A large and influential committee was selected.

THE L.-G. OF THE PUNJAB.

Allahabad, Sept. 9.

Sir Charles Rivaz, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, pays a visit to Chail towards the end of this month.

LORD AND LADY CURZON.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Allahabad, Sept. 9.

Lord and Lady Curzon will reach Simla on the 17th October. Their arrival will be public.

INDIAN STAFF COLLEGE.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Allahabad, Sept. 9.

Deolali is mentioned as a possible temporary location for the Indian Staff College while necessary buildings are being erected at Quetta.

P. W. D. SECRETARY.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Allahabad, Sept. 9.

Mr. Benton, Chief Engineer and Secretary to the Punjab Government, Irrigation Branch, is appointed to officiate as Secretary to the India Government, Public Works Department, Irrigation, Roads and Buildings and Inspector-General of Irrigation during the absence of Mr. S. Preston on privilege leave.

SANITARY REFORM IN INDIA.

A RESOLUTION.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Allahabad, Sept. 9.

In connection with the question of sanitary reform in India it has been decided that a post of Imperial Sanitary Commissioner shall be created forthwith, separate and independent from the Director-Generalship of the Indian Medican Service. Major Leshi, I.M.S., now Secretary to the Director-General has been appointed to the post. A resolution on the subject dealing with the policy of sanitation will be issued this week.

THE MIRZAPUR SENSATION.

MITHU KHAN'S APPEAL.

JUDGMENT RESERVED.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

Mirzapur, Sept. 9.

The appeal filed to the District Magistrate against the conviction of Mithu Khan under sections 110 and 118 Criminal Procedure Code for one year by Mr. Tute, Joint Magistrate, was argued to-day by Mr. G. W. Dillon, counsel for accused. In the course of his arguments counsel drew the District Magistrate's attention to a note of Mr. Tute, dated the 19th August, making his peshkar and the Government pleader witnesses and Counsel's refusal to sign the statement about the withdrawal of certain defence witnesses by which counsel felt himself in a position not to appear again in his court. Counsel argued that the incident was an insult no less to Mr. Tute as it was to him,—to Mr. Tute because he did not think that his word alone would carry weight to counsel because Mr. Tute apparently thought that counsel would hereafter deny having made the statement. The District Magistrate assured Counsel that he would make separate order on the subject, but counsel pressed that the order should be made in the judgment. Another subject to which the Magistrate's attention was drawn was Mr. Tute's omission of mentioning the term of imprisonment, or its kind, Mithu Khan would undergo failing to give security and referred to section 123 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The Magistrate will deliver judgment to-morrow.

NEWS LATER THAN THE MAIL.

THE WAR.

Colombo, Sept. 8.

Oku weakened his force by fifteen regiments to assist Nogi at Port Arthur.

Japan's justification over the capture of the Rechitelni has created a strong impression that Japan is standing no nonsense. The reply consisted of eight points among them that Russia began hostilities and that Russia broke the agreement to restrict the war to Manchuria and Korea.

In a speech to the London Chamber of Commerce deputation Mr. Balfour said that neither the Russian Embassy in London nor the Russian Foreign Office at St. Petersburg were aware till recently that the orders sent to the Smolensk and Petersburg had not reached those vessels. The British contention stood on a solid basis; they recognised international law, but they were not able to accept the Russian doctrine that coal, foodstuffs, cotton and other specfied things were absolute or necessarily contraband. Mr. Balfour proceeded to urge that the whole episode of the Mlacca was exceptional. Adverting to the relative rates of insuranec on war risks in England and on the Continent Mr. Balfour said that the Government had no power to interfere. It rested with the underwriters to form an estimate of the risks they accepted. He surmised that they had fixed the present high rates more from the general impression that British ships were more likely relatively to be ill treated than owing to any specific cases mentioned by the deputation. He considered that it was one of the Government's chief duties to insist on absolute equality of treatment. The declaration on this subject contained in the King's speech was no vain phrase. The Government meant precisely what they said. Mr Balfour urged the deputation to remember that belligerants had rights equally with neutrals. Those at peace to-day might be at war to-morrow, but it must be hoped that all would appeal to the great body of international law, which though far from perfect and which required revision, had done much for civilisation.

In the siege of Port Arthur the victory is still hanging in the balance. The mines laid down by the Russians are working dreadful havoc in the ranks of the storming force. An eye witness to an explosion of a minefield declares that while the Japanese advanced not a single Russian was visible, and no guns or rifles were fired, but suddenly a series of dreadful explosions occurred, each of which opened a wide gap in the Japanese ranks and shot masses of them high aloft. As the smoke cleared the ground was seen littered with the limbs of men and piles of dead, and the air was filled with agonising cries.

All the defences about the harbour are within range of the Japanese guns. Many Russian forts and batteries continue to keep up a vigorous fire.

There are indications that the city and its defences on both sides of the entrance to the harbour will fall first. The final stage of the Russian defence will be reserved for the forts on the Liaotishan Promontory.

The citizens of Tokio are decorating the city preparatory to celebrating the fall of the great fortress.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Sept. 6.

Reuter at St. Petersburg says that it is announced that the united Russian forces are now north of Yentai where a detachment was left to cover the retreat; but it is rumoured late this evening that Kuropatkin's rearguard has been almost annihilated and that the main body is in imminent danger of being surrounded.

Kuropatkin reports that the retreat on the night of the 4th was carried out in good order and the rearguard stopped the enemy's insignificant attempts at pursuit.

The Japanese on the 4th strengthened their forces against the Russian left extending their line from the Yentai mines northward simultaneously the Japanese were seen crossing the Taitse and marching in the direction of Mukden.

London, Sept. 7.

Kuropatkin wires on 5th instant that the army is advancing north and has escaped a dangerous position. The enemy cannonaded the rearguards throughout the 5th, the Russian casualties being 100.

Reuter at Zanzibar wires that the Forte delivered the Tsar's orders to the cruisers Petersburg and Smolensk which have left on their return to Europe.

Two Japanese warships have appeared at Korsakoff in Saghalien. Russian troops fired on the Japanese launches which were examining the sunken cruiser Novik. The launches then withdrew.

Reuter at St. Petersburg states that Captain Wirren commanding the Bayan replaces Admiral Ukhtomsky in command of the Port Arthur Squadron.

The "Daily Telegraph" says that the Japanese triumph is one of the most extraordinary feats of arms ever performed by any people and stands alone in the long history of the East. Japan, it adds, has vindicated her claim to be a Great Power once and for all.

General Kuropatkin has arrived at Mukden.

Reuter, at St. Petersburg, says the bulk of the Russians have reached Mukden, where a temporary halt will be made, and the defences be manned.

The Japanese to the westward now constitute the main menace, but the Russians are heading them off.

Reuter at Mukden wires on 6th that a part of the Russian army was in constant danger yesterday and yesterday night of being cut off. The Japanese continuously shelled them from the hills.

Reuter at Zanzibar says that the "Forte," acted upon information supplied by the German Liner "Kronprinz," who reported that the "Petersburg" and "Smolensk" were coaling in territorial waters. The "Forte" found them within the three mile limit, but not coaling. After the "Forte's" information, the Volunteer Cruisers joined a German collier and proceeded in the direction of Daressalaam.

Hitherto there has been no official report of General Kuroki's movements. The pursuit of the Russians was obstructed by the high millet.

It is estimated at St. Petersburg that the Russian losses since the first attack on Liaoyang are 30,000.

Notwithstanding the ravages of the fire, the Japanese captured vast accumulations of stores and ammunition, besides guns, at Liaoyang.

London, Sept. 8.

Reuter at Tokio says the Emperor has congratulated the Army on its brilliant victory in face of tremendous difficulties, but points out that the end of the war is still distant, and that care and patience must be exercised

The Korean "Charge d' Affaires" in London being interviewed, denied that the agreement mentioned on the 5th instant meant a Japanese Protectorate. He declared that the independence of Korea is fully guaranteed.

General Kuropatkin reports last evening that General Kuroki was twenty-five miles east and Oku thirty miles west of the railway. The Russian army is concentrated around Mukden. The rearguard reaches seventeen miles southward and is in constant contact with the Japanese. Ceaseless fighting is going on.

Two Japanese cruisers bombarded Korsakovik yesterday, but did not attempt a landing.

Japan has ordered from America 7,500 tons of the finest nickel steel plates for battleships.

Prince Sviat polk Merski, Governor of Vilna, has been appointed Minister of the Interior, M. Platonoff having declined the post.

London, Sept. 9.

It is officially stated at St. Petersburg that the Japanese on their visit to Korakovsk on the 6th placed mines under the Novik, but the Russian fire prevented their exploding.

Reuter at Kronstadt says the Tsar yesterday inspected each ship in the Baltic fleet which is expected to sail on Saturday.

Reuter at Chifu says The Novykrai states that a Japanese battalion of 700 men marching in a valley in the vicinity of Port Arthur on the 1st instant was blown up by a land mine, and only a few escaped.

The Japanese have repaired and are utilising the Rpssian dry dock at Dalny.

GENERAL.

London, Sept. 8.

Major General Wynne, and not Lord Methuen, is in command of the defending force. The concentration at Redhill is explained by an expected invasion on the Sussex coast, but the landing at Clacton obliges General Wynne to hasten and re-inforce a small force in Essex.

A French Swimmer, Burgess, failed to swim the Channel yesterday evening, but established a record of speed. He gave up three miles from the French Coast, having covered 22 miles in nine hours. The sea was rough.

Colombo, Sept. 8.

Russia is spending a million pounds weekly, and it is estimated that by the end of the year her capital loss, including the initial outlay, will be a hundred million pounds.

The Japanese expenditure for the first twelve months will be sixty millions sterling. Russia's transportation expenses cost ten thousand pounds weekly, and on food supplies she is spending two hundred thousand pounds.

Strict censorship on all communications from Port Arthur is established at Niuchwang. Every message is read, and every traveller interrogated. On arrival of the Prince Heinrich's mails at Kobe, it was discovered that many registered letters from Japanese agents in Russia were missing.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

SIR STEUART BAYLEY'S RESOLUTION.

SUBORDINATE EXECUTIVE SERVICE.

The official papers read in this connection are reproduced in the leading article.

2. In 1868 Sir William Grey resolved as an experimental measure to appoint candidates to the Subordinate Executive Service on a combined plan of nomination and competition. Three nominations were made by the Lieutenant-Governor for every appointment that was expected to be available, and the final selection from among the nominees was determined by a competitive examination. The object of the examination was to test the general education and the intelligence of the candidates, and also their knowledge of English and of one of the chief vernacular languages of these provinces. All candidates were therefore required to write an English essay and to answer questions on general subjects; natives of India had also to write a vernacular essay and Europeans to translate papers from and into one of the vernacular languages. The first examination was held on the 26th of May 1868. Sixty-nine persons were allowed to appear, and twelve Europeans and eighteen native candidates were selected as eligible for appointments in the Subordinate Executive Service. Nearly three years, however, elapsed before all of these gentlemen had been actually provided with appointments, and for this reason no more examinations were held during Sir William Grey's tenure of office.

3. In 1871 a fresh set of rules, providing for the examination of candidates for the Subordinate Executive Service in law, surveying, engineering, and the vernacular languages, was drawn up under Sir George Campbell's orders, and published in the "Calcutta Gazette." The examination was open only to persons employed in one of the Civil Departments of the Government service, but the term of employment necessary to qualify for admission varied according to the University attainments of the candidate, so that a candidate who had passed only the Entrance examination must have been five years in Government service, while a graduate in Arts, Law or Engineering was admissible if he had held a permanent appointment for one year. The examination was not competitive. Every candidate who passed in the first and second class received a certificate, stating that he had passed in certain subjects and that he was qualified for an appointment in the Subordinate Executive Service. The first edition of the rules (notification of 26th September 1871) contained a note to the effect that this certificate would give no claim to an appointment. It was stated, however, in the resolution of 20th March 1872, creating Sub-Deputies and Canoongoes, that capable young men admitted into these lower grades of the Native Civil Service "would in course of time become fit for Deputy Magistracies and higher appointments, which appointments, will ordinarily be made from among those who have done well as Sub-Deputies." On the 23rd June 1872 it was notified "for the encouragement of candidates for the Native Civil Service" that arrangements had been made for employing in the public service all the candidates who passed the examination of February 1872, and it was added that qualified candidates accepting appointments of less than Rs. 100 per mensem would be eligible for promotion to the higher grades on showing their practical efficiency by good service. This assurance was repeated in the Resolution of 15th April 1873, in which qualified candidates were "recommended to accept lower grade appointments and to try to work themselves up." Finally, in the revised rules drawn up in 1873 and intended to come into force after the examination of 1874, it was laid down that "all appointments in the Subordinate Executive Service, and all posts of Rs. 50 monthly salary and upwards in the sub-divisional establishments, both in Regulation and Non-Regulation Provinces, will ordinarily be reserved for persons who pass the Native Civil Service examination."

4. The results of holding pass examinations open to all comers soon became apparent. The examinations of 1872, 1873 and 1874 had rendered 361 men eligible for appointments. Just at that time a lower branch of the Subordinate Executive Service was created in order to provide a general executive agency for sub-divisions, and appointments in this branch were made available for almost all those who had passed the examinations of 1872 and 1873. At the same time the operations undertaken for the relief of the famine of 1874 rendered it possible to give temporary employment to a number of the passed candidates of that year. But in spite of this very exceptional demand for subordinate executive officials, the number of candidates still unprovided with appointments was even then greatly in excess of the ordinary requirements of the service. In 1875 the standard of examination was raised, and the number of candidates who passed on that occasion was thereby greatly reduced. But there remained' as is stated in the Resolution of 22nd June 1875, no fewer than 80 passed candidates qualified for the higher grade and 120 qualified for the lower grade, for whom there was little prospect of appointments becoming available. It was therefore decided that no general examination would be held until further notice.

5. In his minute of the 25th September 1875, Sir Richard Temple reviewed the working of the system introduced by his predecessor. He pointed out that to pass all the candidates who attained a given standard must necessarily bring on the hands of Government a larger number of passed candidates than could conveniently be provided for, and that in fact about 155 candidates then remained unemployed. He directed, therefore, that instead of all candidates being passed who came up to a certain standard, the examination should in future be competitive, and that a fixed number of places in the higher and the lower classes of appointments should be allotted to the candidates who stood highest at the examination. It was further laid down that no candidate would be passed for the higher grade of appointments unless he obtained two-thirds, or for the lower grade unless he obtained one-half of the total number of marks. This change, while successfully preventing any large increase in the number of passed candidates from taking place in the future, did nothing to improve the prospects of the men who had passed in the first three years of Sir George Campbell's term of office.

6. Sir Ashley Eden introduced a complete change of policy. He held that competitive examination had proved a failure as a method of recruiting the Subordinate Executive Service, and he substituted for it a system of nomination, in which regard was had to the social position, moral character and educational attainments of candidates for appointments. The names of eligible candidates were entered in two registers—one for Deputy Magistrates, and another for Sub-Deputies; and when vacancies occurred, a selection was made from among the names on these lists. This mode of nomination was adhered to throughout Sir Ashley Eden's time.

7. In 1883, when the subject first came under Sir Rivers Thompson's consideration, both of the lists in question contained a large number of names, some of which had been on the registers for many years. In many cases, however, the information regarding the qualifications of the candidates was not full enough to enable a satisfactory selection to be made, and it was mainly for this reason that Sir Rivers Thompson determined to gradually introduce a system under which appointments to the Subordinate Executive Service should again be thrown open to competition. In order to satisfy the claims of those nominees who were still waiting their turn for appointments, it was arranged that all vacancies during 1883 were to be filled by candidates borne on the Government lists. In 1884, nominees who had not succeeded in getting appointments were, together with those Sub-Deputy Collectors who had passed the Native Civil Serivce examination or the Entrance examination of the Calcutta University, permitted to compete for the appointments that fell vacant in that year, and were relieved from the restriction excluding persons who are more than twenty-five years of age. In 1885 eight appointments were given by nomination and twelve by examination; in 1886 ten by examination, while in 1887 nine men were nominated and five admitted by examination.

8. Notwithstanding the attempts thus made by successive Lieutenant-Governors to organise the recruitment of the Subordinate Executive Service on a permanent footing, Sir Steuart Bayley is compelled to express a doubt whether the question has yet been finally disposed of. Several radical changes of system and various temporary expedients have been tried and found wanting. Each change has given rise to a fresh set of claims, and has thereby enhanced the difficulty of satisfying the claims already on record. The registers of candidates for appointments in both branches of the Subordinate Executive Service are overloaded with names; some few promises of appointments have been given; many vague expectations of obtaining appointments have been formed and to some extent recognised; and distinct conditional pledges of promotion for good service have been only imperfectly fulfilled. These causes, operating concurrently during a period of twelve years, have produced a state of such extreme complication and confusion that the Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied of the necessity of introducing some comprehensive scheme which shall take account of the essential and permanent requirements of these provinces, and shall provide for giving play to more than one method of selection.

9. In any scheme that is to be final, the principle of competition must occupy a prominent, perhaps the most prominent, place. But competition alone will not meet all our wants. We have to consider the diverse character of the population with which we are dealing, and to guard against a single race or class obtaining a virtual monopoly of the service by which a large proportion of the every-day work of administration is done. At the present time, and probably for many years to come, the immediate effect of recruiting the Subordinate Executive Service on an exclusively competitive basis would be to debar Mahomedans, natives of Behar, and natives of Orissa from any reasonable chance of obtaining appointments. Not only would this be unfair in itself and contrary to established policy, but it would tend to encourage feelings of race jealousy and antagonism, which have already begun to show themselves, and which might at any time give rise to serious difficulties. It is as true now as it was when Sir Richard Temple wrote his Minute of the 22nd September 1875, that "there may be many good reasons, besides the winning of a place in an examination, for appointing native gentlemen to the higher grades in the public service." Social or representative position, family connexions, distinguished University attainments, meritorious service in other branches of the administration—these are some of the qualifications which may give a claim to appointments by nomination. There remains also a third class of claimants comprising those Sub-Deputy Collectors who passed the Native Civil Service Examination in the years 1872-75, and who have earned by distinguished service in the lower branch the fulfilment of the promise of promotion to the upper which was given by Sir George Campbell.

10. Having thus defined generally the main classes of claims which have to be taken account of, it is now necessary to examine the question more minutely, and to classify the claims on record with reference to their comparative validity and the reasonable prospects of being able to satisfy them. Taking the latter point first, it should be explained that the Subordinate Executive Service is divided into two branches—an upper and a lower. The former is at present composed of 242 Deputy Collectors, 35 probationary or officiating Deputy Collectors, and 29 Special Deputy Collectors. In the latter there are 94 Sub-Deputy Collectors, 14 special and temporary officers, 8 tehsildars, and 67 canoongoes. The pay of a Deputy Collector of the lowest grade is Rs. 250 monthly. The pay of probationary or officiating Deputy Collectors is Rs. 200 monthly: that of Special Deputy Collectors varies from Rs. 200 to Rs. 400. The pay of the highest grade Sub-Deputy Collector is Rs. 200: that of the lowest Rs. 100. The pay of tehsildars is Rs. 200, and the pay of first-grade canoongoes Rs. 75 monthly. The number of officiating or probationary officers varies from time to time. It is thus obtained. A table is periodically compiled showing the number of Deputy Collectors absent on leave, deputation, etc. From the total of this the number of officers likely to rejoin or revert at an early date, and the number actually officiating are subtracted, and the balance is taken as the number of officiating vacancies to which selected candidates may be appointed on probation with a reasonable probability that none will be thrown out unless by their own fault. They are then required to pass the departmental standard examinations, after which they become eligible for confirmation when a temporary vacancy occurs in the seventh grade of Deputy Collectors. Special Deputy Collectors are appointed for specific temporary work, and so long as they are employed on such work, are not brought on the regular list without being seconded. As a rule, Special Deputy Collectors are chosen from the grades of Sub-Deputy Collectors, so that in the event of a man's special work coming to an end before he obtains an appointment in the regular line, he may have something to fall back upon. Although the work done by Special Deputy Collectors is in theory of a temporary character, the experience of the last few years seems to show that there is enough of it to furnish continuous employment to a certain number of officers; while the development of special branches of administration, such as excise, income-tax, and irrigation, may tend to increase that number. The question therefore arises whether the cadre of Deputy Collectors should not be increased so as to admit of the inclusion in the regular line of those Special Deputy Collectors whose duties, though in theory terminable, are for various reasons practically permanent. In order to determine this point, careful enquiries will have to be made by the administrative departments concerned in each case. Some excise appointments may probably be treated as permanent, and it is possible that certain of the Special Deputy Collectors employed in making partitions may be incorporated in the regular cadre. This question will be considered in the Revenue and Financial Departments.

11. Such being the constitution of the Subordinate Executive Service and the possibility of adding to the number of available appointments being limited, partly by the restriction of a definite cadre, and partly by occasional administrative requirements, the next point to consider is what claims to appointments in this service are now on record, and what prospects may reasonably be looked forward to of satisfying them in whole or in part. Commencing with men already in the lower branch of the service, there are among the grades of Sub-Deputy Collectors no less than 42 men who passed the higher grade of the Native Civil Service examination, and are entitled to the benefit of the pledge given by Sir George Campbell that such officers, if they did good service as Sub-Deputies, would be promoted to the superior branch of the service. The list of candidates for appointment by nomination to the upper branch of the service shows 84 names, many of which have been on record for several years. In dealing with numbers so utterly out of proportion to the possible vacancies that may be anticipated, it is obvious that some very stringent and searching method of selection has to be resorted to. Unless the lists of the very materially reduced, the claims of the next generation of candidates will be brought forward before those of the present generation have been disposed of. Following this principle, the Lieutenant-Governor has after the most careful consideration selected from among the list of Sub-Deputy Collectors who passed the Native Civil Service examination, twenty-two officers whose claims to promotion to the superior branch have been placed on record in the Secretariat, and will be dealt with in order; those who are special Deputy Collectors being promoted as occasion may offer to be probationary or officiating Deputy Collectors, and being seconded by Sub-Deputy Collectors whose claims have similarly been recognised.

12. The list of candidates for appointment by nomination presents far more serious difficulties. The practice in dealing with applications seems to have varied from time to time, and no attempt appears to have been made to restrict the number of names registered with reference to the number of appointments likely to be available within a reasonable time. Careful scrutiny of the papers of each individual case has, however enabled the Lieutenant-Governor to distinguish two classes of candidates—those to whom specific promises of appointments have been made by his predecessors, and those who, though holding no specific promises, have nevertheless indisputable claims upon Government in virtue of University distinctions of good work done in other departments, of their social or representative position, and of important services rendered by members of their family to the Government, and have been given to understand that these claims have in some measure been recognised. From among these there have been selected for appointment this year, should vacancies permit, the names of six gentlemen, three of whom appear to have received assurances of a more or less definite character approaching to specific promises, while the other three have independent claims of a high order to the special consideration of Government.

13. The number of vacancies that may be looked for in the Subordinate Executive Service during the year 1889 is still uncertain. The average number of vacancies arising from ordinary causes may be taken at eight, and it is probable that four appointments will be added to the regular cadre of Deputy Collectors in order to provide for the increased administrative requirements of the Excise Department. There will thus be twelve vacancies available in the course of the year. In the event of these expectations being realised, the Lieutenant-Governor proposes to allot six appointments, or every other vacancy that occurs, to those Special Deputy Collectors whose names have been recorded in the manner described in paragraph 11 above as eligible for promotion. These officers will not, however, be withdrawn from the special duties on which they are now employed, but will be seconded by those Sub-Deputy Collectors who have similar claims to be raised to the higher branch of the service. The remaining six appointments will be given in the form of every alternate vacancy to the six gentlemen referred to in the preceding paragraph. Should the number of appointments actually falling vacant be less or greater than the number assumed as probable in the present estimate, they will be divided in the ratio stated above, that is to say, one-half will be given to the Special Deputy Collectors and Sub-Deputy Collectors already selected for promotion, and one-half to those candidates for appointment by nomination who are found to have the strongest claims. No competitive examination will take place during the current year.

14. Early in 1890 an examination will be held for admission to the upper branch of the Subordinate Executive Service. This examination with some modifications to be published hereafter in the "Calcutta Gazette," will be of a general character resembling that set forth in the Resolution of the 22nd November 1887, prescribing revised rules for the Statutory Civil Service Examination. But it may be stated here that candidates will be required to have passed the B. A. examination of the Calcutta University, or to produce satisfactory evidence from competent authority of having received a good education up to an analogous standard. Their age must not exceed 25 years. They will have to give satisfactory proof of physical fitness, good moral character, and social respectability, and they will also have to produce a certificate, signed by a district officer, of their ability to ride well enough for the requirements of ordinary administrative work. Candidates for appointments by nomination whose names are entered on the lists kept up in the Secretariat will also be permitted to compete at the examination of 1890 provided that they have not attained the age of 30. With reference to the results of this examination, nine candidates will be declared to be qualified for appointment to the Subordinate Executive Service, and will at once be employed as probationers, on a subsistence allowance of Rs. 50 a month, in the manner described in the Government Resolution of the 19th March 1887. Six of the candidates thus selected will be those who obtain most marks in the examination, and three will be chosen from among those gentlemen who, having adequate claims to appointments by nomination, and having complied with the rules of the examination regarding educational qualifications, character, ability to ride, etc., have also succeeded in obtaining not less than one-third of the total marks. At the same time three Special Deputy Collectors, or Sub-Deputy Collectors, as the case may be, from among those already selected, will be notified as eligible for promotion to the upper branch of the service. All twelve names will be published in a combined list, and according to the position assigned to them by Government on that list, the candidates will be appointed to fill vacancies in the Subordinate Executive Service as they occur.

15. In the examination of 1891, as in that of 1890, gentlemen whose names are on record in the Secretariat as candidates for appointment by nomination will again be admitted to compete if they are under thirty, in addition to gentlemen possessing the general qualifications specified in the preceding paragraph. The number of appointments to be allotted after this examination will be in a great measure dependent upon the number of vacancies that may have occurred during the previous year. If the twelve candidates pronounced eligible in 1890 have been provided with appointments within the year, the list published in 1891 will comprise a number of names corresponding to the number of vacancies which may be expected during the year. If, on the other hand, some of the candidates selected in 1890 are still undisposed of, the list of 1891 will be reduced in proportion, and those whose names were published in the previous year will be held to have a superior claim to the first vacancies that occur. But whatever number of appointments may be available will be divided as far as possible in the ratio stated in the last paragraph between candidates selected by competition, candidates selected by nomination, and Sub-Deputy Collectors who are deemed fit for promotion. The privilege, conceded to candidates already on the Secretariat lists, of admission to the examination without reference to the ordinary limit of age will only be recognised at the examinations of 1890 and 1891. The examinations of 1892 and of subsequent years will be open only to candidates under 25 years of age, whether included in the Secretariat lists or not. In other respects the conditions laid down in the last paragraph will be adhered to in the case of all candidates.

16. The state of the case as regards the existing candidates for appointment to the lower branch of the Subordinate Executive Service is closely analogous to the circumstances affecting the upper branch. The list kept up in the Secretariat contains no less than 117 names. Some few of these gentlemen have received from former Lieutenant-Governors an intimation of the desire or intention to confer appointments upon them in the event of the state of the list rendering it possible to do so, and in some of these cases the expectations held out to the candidates may have been sufficiently distinct to warrant them in believing that a definite promise had been made. Of the rest a certain number, to whom no such communication appears to have been made, have nevertheless claims which the Government would be willing to recognise so far as the number of vacancies may permit. There are also among the officers now employed as canoongoes five gentlemen who passed in the first two classes at the Native Civil Service examination in Sir G. Campbell's time, and who are reported by the Commissioners under whom they to merit promotion to the post of Sub-Deputy Collector. As a matter of general policy, Sir S. Bayley thinks it doubtful whether canoongoes should as a rule be made eligible for promotion to the lower branch of the Subordinate Executive Service. Their duties and their official status are such as to place them rather in the position of ministerial officers, and this seems to be the place which they occupy in public estimation. As soon as existing anomalies have been got rid of, and the various grades of Subordinate Executive agency in Bengal reduced to some systematic order, the Lieutenant-Governor proposes to prohibit the promotion of canoongoes to be Sub-Deputy Collectors, and to arrange for the recruitment of the canoongoe service in connexion with the examination recently instituted for certain clerical appointments. Meanwhile it is necessary to consider the claims of the five canoongoes referred to above, who will be held to be entitled to appointment to the grade of Sub-Deputy Collector in the manner explained below. There are also some canoongoes who passed the Civil Service Examination instituted by Sir G. Campbell in the lowest division, or who have not passed any examination, but who have been strongly recommended for promotion by Commissioners, and some of whom have actually acted as Sub-Deputy Collectors. The Lieutenant-Governor will make an effort to promote the most deserving of these if practicable.

17. The average annual number of vacancies in the lower branch of the Subordinate Executive Service cannot be estimated at more than ten, while it has already been stated that the names of 117 candidates are entered on the Secretariat list. Even if every vacancy were allotted to these gentlemen, and no fresh claims were admitted, it would take about twelve years to exhaust the list, and the large majority of candidates would have passed the age of 25 many years before their turn to receive appointments could arrive. The prospect of being able to give appointments to any substantial proportion of these gentlemen would again be rendered more remote by the necessity of recognising the claims of those canoongoes who passed the Native Civil Service examination, and have since done good service and been favourably reported on. This being so, it is clear that the applications now on record must be as carefully scrutinised as those for appointment as Deputy Magistrates, and that a system of strict selection must be resorted to with the object of clearing the list.

18. It appears to the Lieutenant-Governor that the question of recruiting Sub-Deputy Collectors admits of being treated on virtually the same lines as the question of recruiting Deputy Collectors, and that a mixed system of competition and nomination will be found to meet the requirements of this, as well as of the higher, service. During the current year no examination will be held, and the appointments which may fall vacant will be equally divided between the five canoongoes deemed eligible for promotion and those candidates whose names are recorded in the Secretariat as possessing the strongest claims to consideration. Should there be more than ten vacancies during the year, they will be filled up from among candidates of the last-mentioned class. In 1890 the registered candidates for appointment as Sub-Deputy Collectors will be permitted to appear at an examination, the conditions of which will be defined in a notification in the "Calcutta Gazette," but which will be of the same general character as that for Deputy Collectors, though the standard will be lower. Registered candidates for appointments as Deputy Magistrates, who intimate before the examination their desire to be appointed as Sub-Deputy Collectors, will also be allowed to compete. From among these two classes (viz., Registered candidates for Sub-Deputyships only, and Registered candidates for Deputyships who are willing to take Sub-Deputyships), the ten candidates who obtain most marks will be declared eligible for appointment as Sub-Deputy Collectors, and will be appointed to fill vacancies in the grades of Sub-Deputy Collectors as they occur. Should there be more than ten vacancies during the year, the Lieutenant-Governor may be able to appoint some of the deserving canoongoes mentioned in the last sentence of paragraph 16. Pending their appointment, those of them who are not already in Government service will be employed as probationers on a subsistence allowance of Rs. 30 a month. A similar examination will be held in 1891, and at both examinations candidates whose names are entered on the Secretariat list will be permitted to appear provided they have not attained the age of thirty years. After 1891 there will be an examination held annually open to all persons who have passed the F. A. Examination, or can produce proof of analogous education. This examination will be conducted under rules to be notified in the Gazette, and the vacancies that may occur in the Sub-Deputy service will be divided equally between the candidates who obtain most marks in the examination and those nominees who obtain not less than one-third of the total marks. The names will be published in a combined list, and, according to the position assigned to them by Government on that last, the candidates will be appointed to fill vacancies as they occur. If the candidates whose names are published are not provided with appointments within the year, the list of the following year will be reduced in proportion.

19. The scheme set forth above commends itself to Sir Steuart Bayley as one which offers a practicable solution of a question of great difficulty and complication, and which promises to provide an adequate and final method of recruiting the Subordinate Executive Service in future. For the reasons already explained, it is obviously impossible to satisfy more than a small proportion of the expectations of appointment by nomination in one or other branch of the service of those who have been registered as candidates. It being, however, impossible to add to the number of appointments available for distribution, the only alternative is to reduce the number of candidates by strict scrutiny of their fitness and by giving a large scope to the principle of competition. The time has not come when open competition accepted as the sole method of recruiting the Subordinate executive Service. Some parts of Bengal and some classes of the population are as yet too backward educationally to be fitted for this larger reform, and, in consideration for their peculiar circumstances, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that the power to make appointments by selection should still be retained. But while reserving this discretion, he desires to exercise it on as small a scale as possible, and to prepare the way for a further adoption of competition by allotting one-half of the available appointments in either branch of the service in accordance with the results of the examination. At the same time an attempt has been made to improve the prospects of those candidates for nominations whose applications have already been recorded by admitting them to compete on exceptionally favourable terms.

THE UNIVERSITIES ACT.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Simla, Sept. 9.

It is notified under the Universities Act that notwithstanding anything contained in the notification of the Government of India in the Home Department of the 20th August last, any college situated elsewhere than in Bengal, Burma or Assam affiliated to the University of Calcutta before the passing of the said Act, may continue to exercise the rights conferred upon it by such affiliation, until the 31st day of December 1906, and students from any of such colleges may be examined by the said University up to that date, and degress may in due course be conferred upon them.

THE VICEROY'S COUNCIL.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Simla, Sept. 9.

Lord Ampthill presided at the Legislative Council this morning and the business was purely formal. The Indian Stamp Act amendment Bill was referred to a select committee consisting of the Hon. Sir Edward Law, Mr. Richards, Ms. Hewett and Lieut.-Col. Montgomery, and the Indian Articles of War Amendment Bills were passed without any speeches. Introducing the Bill in connection with the Bombay City Improvement Act 1898, Mr. Richards said under that Act a tribunal was constituted to decide certain questions of tribunals and appeals to the High Court. That was an Act of the Legislature. It has been recently held by the High Court of Bombay that the local legislature had no power to give appeal to the High Court, and the object of the present bill is to validate that provision and to give them the authority of the Governor-General in Council. The Council adjourned till the 30th September.

The Tibet Expedition

Lhasa, Sept. 7.—A formal treaty was signed today in Potala in the Ralai Lama's apartments. The ceremonials were perfectly simple and the surroundings were most quaint and picturesque. The terms of the treaty were read out only in Tibetan and such details as may seem politic to publish will be communicated hereafter by the Foreign Office at Simla. The proceedings closed with a speech from Colonel Younghusband.

Land at Insein seems to be getting as valuable as it is in Rangoon. Last week there were sales of small pieces at the rate of Rs. 28,400 per acre. These were sold by auction, and there was keen competition for them. A gentleman who came from Calcutta had a lot of some four and a quarter acres, and owing to his stay in Burma being short, he sold for Rs. 20,000. The purchaser was offered Rs. 9,000 profit the day the conveyance was registered, but refused it.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE INDIAN BUDGET.

DEBATE IN THE COMMONS.

Last week we published only a Summary of the Indian Budget Debate. The following is the full of account of the Debate:—

In the House of Commons on Friday, August 12th, on the motion that the House go into Committee on the Eas India Revenue Accounts, Mr. Brodrick said the task which was imposed upon him of unfolding the present position of the financial affairs of India was an agreeable one, owing to the nature of the statement which had been already placed before the House. Looking at these Estimates for the first time this year, a casual observer would conclude that the task of an Indian financial member was a very easy one. It had been pointed out last year that they had had four years of Budget surpluses, amounting in all to £11,000,000, and the revised Estimate for 1903-1904 showed results which were exactly in keeping with its predecessors in that respect. He was gratified to think that if the Chancellor of the Exchequer were sitting on the Treasury Bench, after the difficulties which had beset him during the session, he might be inclined to ejaculate, "What a Budget to lose!" He thought that no one present that afternoon would be tempted by it to forget that the Indian Budget was subject to great fluctuations and variations. A bad season in India meant infinitely more than a bad season in this country. The revenue of India largely depended on agricultural prosperity. Eighteen millions came directly from land revenue, and £20,000,000 came from the railways, which were largely occupied in moving agricultural produce and passengers. All the necessaries of life were affected in a bad year, and surpluses which looked large might be rapidly diminished by such an eventuality. What was above all wanted, in his opinion was a prudent treatment of Indian finance, and not too great a faith in the continuity of surpluses. That was their skeleton at the feast. Another consideration to remember was that in dealing with the Indian revenue they were necessarily dealing with a revenue which was to a large extent paid by people who were themselves not far removed from poverty. (Hear, hear.) As regarded 1902-1903, the figures accorded closely with the Revised Estimate, the difference on the whole being in our favour. It was only about £250,000, and that was mainly accounted for by the expenditure on the Army having been less in consequence of the absence of troops in South Africa, China, and Somaliland. The figures of 1903-1904 again showed a marked increase on their anticipation. The Budget Estimate was for a surplus of £948,700. The Revised Estimate showed £17,62,000, increase on that Estimate. With regard to this increase the explanatory statement showed that with regard to opium, railways, excise, customs, salt, irrigation and land revenue there were substantial increases amounting in all to £178,000, which justified them in congratulating themselves on the prosperity of almost every branch of revenue in India. The old tax on salt was Rs. 2-8. That was reduced by 8 as. or 20 per cent, and in most places the retail price had been favourably affected within a mouth of the reduction. That he thought was very satisfactory. (Hear, hear.) As to the incidence of that tax it had been urged that it was oppressive and fell on the poorest; but he was glad to see that at a discussion at the Indian Council a native councillor had stated that in his opinion the salt tax was the least oppressive tax levied by the Government in Upper India. One satisfactory point to which all statistics must be subordinate was that the receipts from the salt tax owing to the largely increased consumption had brought down the loss by nearly £250,000, and the Estimate for this year in that respect would be exceeded by £300,000. That was an exceedingly favourable indication that the lowering of the tax had enabled the population to increase their consumption. (Hear, hear.) He thought that they would all be glad that the Government of India had exercised their discretion in a good year of increasing the sum paid for purposes to which the provincial Governments were able to apply them. During the last few years of prosperity there had been a considerable increase in that respect. In 1897-98 the special grants-in-aid paid by the Government of India to the provincial Governments amounted to £254,000, but last year they had risen to £2,326,000. In the present year they had budgeted for smaller receipts and a larger expenditure. The receipts had fallen because the opium prices of 1903-1904 were reckoned to be abnormally high. The railway receipts had fallen, because it was desired to make further provision for special expenditure on renewals. They had also to face a considerable increase in expenditure on civil works, amounting to £584,000, would not be grudged by the House. There was a very considerable rise in the military charges. That increase, which amounted to about £1,700,000, was partly due to the fact that the troops which had been employed in China and in Somaliland came again in the charge of the Indian Government, and also partly to the increased pay, which was discussed on a previous occasion in that House, and which would have to be maintained under the scheme of the Secretary for War. He was glad to say that the larger amount of this charge was of a temporary character. The expenditure on special defence and military works, amounting to £242,000, was part of the programme which would be completed next year or the year after. The expenditure on artillery and rifles was on rearmament, which they were fortunate in being able to carry out without change in the other Budget provisions. Beyond that, they would have to face some further expenditure which had been recently demanded of them from India. Lord Kitchener had now been nearly two years in that country. It was expected of him, when he went out there, that he would undertake to some extent the reorganisation of the equipment and mobilisation of the Indian Army. Within the last five years they had had to incur a very heavy sum in order to bring their equipment up to modern requirements for mobilisation. The Indian Army required similar consideration. Lord Kitchener had gone carefully into the matter, and he had brought forward a scheme, after the most minute consideration, which was now being carefully gone into by the Indian Government, for the purpose of mobilising a large number of troops from already in India than it was previously proposed to mobilise in the event of trouble in the North-West frontier. However little they desired to increase the charge for the Army in India, the House would agree that whatever army they maintained there must be capable of rapid and effective mibilisation. It must also have its own power of manufacturing weapons, so that it might not be dependent on this country in case of hostilities, with the sea between them and us. India must also be self-dependent for the stores and transport necessary to mobilise its own troops. As regarded reinforcements from this country, that was a question on which a great deal of the scheme of the Secretary for War was based; but with respect to troops actually in India, there could be no doubt that Lord Kitchener was right in taking care that only troops which could be mobilised should be maintained, and that troops not thoroughly efficient should be replaced by troops which were efficient. It was necessary to add something to the charge this year for the purpose of providing equipment and stores. He would not then go into Lord Kitchener's general scheme, which would be brought before them at a later date after being considered by the Indian Council; but he might say that it was thought desirable by all who had to deal with the matter that they should, out of the surplus of the current year, provide extra stores and equipment, to the extent of £666,000, as demanded by Lord Kitchener. That, he thought, they would be able to do without the least difficulty from the increased revenue which by the present Estimates they had reason to expect. He had just received a telegram from the Viceroy stating that the last monsoon was distinctly favourable and that over the greater part of India, including the most densely populated areas, the monsoon promised to be effective and good. As at present advised, the Government of India were of opinion that the various sources of local revenue would yield 250 lakhs above the Estimate. Beyond the expenditure on the Army which they contemplated making out of that sum, the Government of India expected to have to spend 54 lakhs on Tibet, they also had in contemplation expenditure in advance on the new provincial settlements in Bombay and the Punjab. The material condition of India shown by the figures he had quoted was, therefore, one of steady improvement; but even more satisfactory than a temporary improvement was the extraordinary power which India had shown in recovering from the severe visitations of famine in 1896-97 and 1899-1900. Everybody would agree that, if the history of the British Government could now be written and the book closed, what our successors or critics would dwell upon would be, not the sums spent in defence or preserving civil order and good government, but the amount we had been able to spend in order to make India permanently more immune from those terrible visitations by which enormous numbers of the population had been swept away. (Cheers.) Some remarkable figures had been placed before him showing what had been the increase in revenue in everything that denoted the prosperity of the civil population within the last four or five years. The revenue from stamps had grown from £3,200,000 in 1899 to £3,500,000 in 1903. Over the same period the growth had been, in Excise, from £3,800,000 to £4,900,000; Customs, from £2,900,000 to £3,600,000; the Post Office, from £1,300,000 to £1,480,000; the seaborne trade, from 50,000,000 tons to 61,000,000 tons; the exports of merchandise, from 72,000,000 to 102,000,000 tons. The acreage under agriculture had increased from 204,000,000 in 1899, to 234,000,000 in 1903; the area irrigated, from 30,000,000, acres to 33,000,000 acres; and the area under cotton from 8,300,000 to 11,000,000. He looked with great interest on that increase in the growth of cotton, at present a product of which the world had not enough. This year the increase was even larger, and they were making great efforts to improve the quality of the cotton grown and to produce cotton of a longer staple. The Lancashire manufacturers told them that even if they could produce more short-staple cotton it could be used, and so free the cotton they desired for other purposes of manufacture. In 1899 the railways carried 40,000,000 tons of goods, whereas in 1903 they carried 48,000,000 tons; and as to passengers, in the former period they carried 163,000,000, while in the latter the number was 213,000,000 Whereas in old days it took years for the whole of Inia to recover from famine, the figures he had quoted showed how great was the progress, and how soon even the districts concerned now recovered from the effects of famine. Referring at length to the growth and development of the Indian railway system, the right hon. gentleman stated that Lord Dalhousie started the Indian railway system in 1851, and he was only able to point to 35 miles of railway in 1854.. In 1904 the mileage of Indian railways was 27,144, which was equal to one mile of railway for every 82 square miles of territory and every 12,231 inhabitants. Mr. Robertson, who had recently been appointed by the Government to examine the railway system of India, had made a most valuable report which showed that, while on the whole the progress of railways was satisfactory, some change in the method of their administration was both possible and desirable. They proposed to substitute for the present secratariat a railway board of three practical men to whom while saving the power of the Indian in matters of financial control would be handed the whole management of the Indian railways. Referring next to irrigation, the right hon. gentleman quoted the report of Sir Colin Scott Moncrieff, which had recommended caution in the commencement of new works. Some of there paid enormously while others paid but little, and the question to be kept in mind was not whether these works could all be made directly remunerative, but whether the financial burden was too high for the protection against famine. India was almost unique in the fact that the enormous amount of her debt had been incurred for reproductive public works, and that the £213,000,000 of which it consisted was more than covered by the practical assets in the shape of public works and of the cash balance in the various departments. Another point they had always before them was the education of the people of India. They were still sadly behind in primary education. Out of a population of 240,000,000. there were 18,000,000 children who ought to be at school, but, as a matter of fact, only one sixth of those were receiving education. In the Punjab and the United Provinces, eight or nine per cent was at school; in Bombay and Bengal the number went up as high as 22 or 23 per cent; but the census of 1901 showed that the illiterates were still 90 per cent among males, and that of the females only seven per thousand were literate. The rate of increase in schools and scholars had been as follows:—In 1870 there were 16,400 schools and 607,000 scholars; 1881-82, 83,000 schools and 2,061,000 scholars; and in 1890-91, 98,500 schools and 3,268,000 scholars. The expense in 1886-87 was Rs. 42,00,000, in 1891-92 Rs. 49,00,000 and in 1901-1902 Rs. 63,00,000. The Government of India could not avoid the conclusion that primary education had hitherto received insufficient attention and an inadequate share of public funds. They considered it possessed a strong claim to the sympathy both of the supreme Government and of the local Governments and they believed the local Governments were cordially in agreement with them in desiring such extension. Lord Curzon agrees with others that education was mainly a matter of money. He had referred to the extra grant of Rs. 40,00,000, or nearly £270,000, giving three years to run, to local Governments. These grants were in addition to the ordinary pecuniary assignments in the provincial settlements. They had also promised a contribution of Rs. 25,00,000 to Universities. He (Mr. Brodrick) should like, however, to go further and provide a series of sustained expenditure for educational improvements extending over a long period of years. If they were ever to cause manufactures and industries suitable to the country to grow up in India, they must prepare by extending the education of the people. The figures he had quoted would impress the House with the enormous increase of administrative work which had fallen upon the Government of Indian in the last 15 years. Practically the whole Home Office and Local Government Board work of India, far exceeding the work done by these departments in this country, fell on two men, one of whom in the last few months had broken down under the strain, and had had to go away for a holiday. They hoped to relieve that pressure by the delegation they would be able to carry out under the railway scheme he had described and by the appointment of an additional member to the Indian Council. In conclusion, he congratulated the House upon the fact that these debates were conducted on non-party lines, expressing a desire to see that principle applied not only to discussions in Foreign Office and Colonial Office affairs, but also to discussions on matters affecting the two great spending departments. (Hear, hear.)

Sir H. Fowler characterised the statement of the Secretary for India as lucid comprehensive, and fair, and congratulated the right hon. gentleman on the satisfactory character of his Budget. He complained, however, of the systematic manner in which surpluses were under-estimated, and of the smallness of the effort made to reduce taxation. The salt tax, which was slightly decreased last year, ought to have been reduced earlier. Like the income-tax in this country, it was a tax easy of imposition and collection, and one which should, in time of peace and ordinary administration, be kept as low as possible. The fact that our trade with India reached the figure of £164,000,000 was of great interest, and showed how impossible it was to ignore India in any considerations which affected trade. He was glad to say that the net profit on the coinage of silver was £6,376,000, and this gave an income of £166,000 a year. He thought that this was an ample justification for the Select Committee's recommendation and the legislation which followed. He did not say that this income would go on for ever, but, at all events, at present it provided a strong reserve. Again, the gold currency in the hands of the Government represented £10,500,000, and if any catastrophe happened to India there was that sum and the £6,500,000 he had alluded to to fall back upon. That was, he thought, a very desirable result. The Secretary of State gave them no hope that there would be any decrease in regard to military expenditure but rather indicated that there might be an increase. He thought, however, that India had been unfairly treated with regard to this expenditure because the Indian Army formed a relief for the Army of this country. In regard to Tibet, he should like to know what was the present intention of the Government as to the expedition. He had never been able to understand why the expedition was undertaken, and what we should gain by it even if it succeeded. Did the Prime Minister adhere to his previous declarations? There were signs that the Government were in favour of a Resident being appointed, but he thought that such a policy in view of what had happened at Cabul and other places, would be extremely dangerous. (Hear, hear.) It would be impossible to protect the Resident except at enormous cost, and a step of that kind would undoubtedly arouse the spirit of religious fanaticism which prevailed at Lhassa. He was one of those who did not apprehend danger on the North-West frontier, and he believed that it was in the interests of this country and of India that our relations with Russia should be of the most friendly character. He thought the time had come when the two great Asiatic Powers should define their respective spheres of influence, especially as all the great military authorities were agreed that there was no possibility of an invasion by Russia. He could not sit down without expressing his sense of the great services which the present Viceroy had rendered to India. (Cheers.) The noble lord went to that country with high ideals, some of which he had realised. He had been successful in his efforts for financial and administrative reform and in regard to education, railways, Civil Service and irrigation, and, indeed, in every branch of Indian administration. He thought it was due to Lord Curzon to say, whatever criticism they might utter, that in the main part of his administration he had the confidence of that House, (Sir C. Dilke and Mr. G. Bowles: "No.") Well, he would withdraw that expression, and say that in regard to the reforms he had mentioned he had their confidence. (Cheers.) On the whole, he thought the statement of the Secretary of State was eminently satisfactory, and he thought it showed that we were proceeding rapidly and safely. (Cheers.) He thought that the whole of our administration in India was never more satisfactory to this country and never conferred greater benefits upon India. (Cheers.)

Lord G. Hamilton associated himself with the congratulations which Sir H. Fowler had offered to Mr. Brodrick on his statement. He observed that a cautionary note ran through the remarks of the Secretary for India, and this, he thought, was justified. It was true that the trade returns and all the tests by which the prosperity and advancement of a community could be gauged responded now in the case of India satistactorily. But they must recollect that there was very little elasticity in the presen system of taxation in India, and great circumspection was always necessary. He had himself, when at the India Office, consistently fought for economy. He had great confidence that, as regards those matters which came within the purview of the Commander-in-Chief in India, the Government would do well to give every consideration to any matured request which Lord Kitchener might make. At the same time, if any military increase was demanded, the Secretary for India might insist, as a correlative to the concession of that demand, upon Lord Kitchener making use of his exceptional powers of discrimination to get rid of or diminish those portions of the Indian Navite Establishment which were not up to modern requirements. In connection with financial matters, he was glad to hear what was said as to the way in which the reduction of the salt tax had recouped itself through increased consumption of the article. He would be glad if it were found possible to make a further diminution of the tax. A heavy tax on salt hindered many industries, including that of the curing of fish, a very important industry in India. The operations in respect to railways and irrigation were a specially encouraging feature financially. He approved of the proposal to establish a commission for railway management, though he feared that one difficulty would be to get the best men from this country at such salaries as the Indian Government would be in a position to offer. The Indian Government had reason to be proud of the achievements in respect to irrigation, but some people in this country had an exaggerated notion of what might be done in counteracting the effects of drought by irrigation. They did not appreciate the difficulty of successful irrigation in cases where the works were dependent entirely on the local rainfall, and there was no outside supply. A good test of whether particular works were worth constructing or not was whether they would pay. Proceeding to refer to the Tibet expedition he said that the expedition was rendered necessary because the Tibetan authorities deliberately declined to give effect to their own Treaty. The Government of India was based on a network of treaties inside and outside India, and they could not allow any Government to snap its fingers at its obligations. There never was a question on which Indian opinion was more unanimous than it had been on the question of Tibet. The only mistake that was made was that when we sent the mission it was allowed to stop so long at one place without going forward. with a stiff-necked and insolent clique of monks intoxicated with the exuberance of their own sanctity—(laughter)—the only method was to be stiff and uncompromising, not in their terms, which might be considerable and generous, but in their procedure. (Hear, hear.) He had no doubt that the issue of the expedition would be satisfactory. Having next alluded to the success of the currency reforms which had been carried out in India, His Lordship said that he was glad that Lord Curzon was able to return to India, for he had done admirable service for that country. His power for work was omnivorous, and he never saved himself if he believed that any public duty was to be performed. (Cheers.) They might, he thought, look forward to the financial and economic future of India with confidence, but they must be cautious to adapt their Government to the sentiments, traditions, and race feelings of the people, and in respect to education, land legislation, and other important matters, avoid the danger of the adoption of immature European fads of the moment. (Hear, hear.) Clumsy as was the two headed system of the Government of India, it had, on the whole, worked well, and he believed that Mr. Brodrick had shown that its products were good. (Cheers.)

Sir M. Bhownaggree would like to have seen a further remission of the taxation which was inaugurated last year and to have seen it in the direction of the land tax and the salt tax. He regarded with satisfaction the fact that Lord Curzon had last year undertaken a project for the development of technical education in India. He saw some justification for the mission to Tibet and he believed that it would have been a gross dereliction of duty if the Indian Government had neglected to enforce the treaty obligations with Tibet. But at the same time the mission should be regarded not merely of Indian concern but of Imperial concern. Therefore, he moved as an amendment "That in the opinion of this House a substantial proportion of the expenses of the armed mission to Tibet should be defrayed by the British Exchequer as its objects, both politically and commercially, have been closely connected with, and its results will have a beneficial effect upon Imperial interests and British trade." He believed that the expedition to Tibet had been undertaken from Imperial ideas, and he maintained that the British Exchequer should, therefore, bear some portion of its cost.

Mr. H. Roberts did not believe in the necessity of the Tibetan expedition, and he only supported the amendment in the sense that if Imperial interests were involved the British Exchequer was bound to bear some portion of the cost. During the last 26 years there had been an increase of over 70 per cent in the military expenditure charged on the revenue of India, and Imperial interests had had a considerable share in making such a large increase in expenditure necessary.

Mr. Wylie said, as the Indian people had gained great benefit from the British protection and the late war—which was as much an Indian war as anything else, for if the Cape had been lost the Indian Empire would soon have followed—it wa incumbent on the Indian Government to bear all the expenses of this expedition, which was undertaken for the advantage of Indian trade.

Mr. Bowles did not agree with the last speaker that Indian trade was going to benefit from this expedition. In the words of Talleyrand, it was worse than a crime, it was a blunder. The expedition was calculated to prevent, and probably to defeat, any general agreement with Russia. It was Lord Curzon's Mission, an it was undertaken inspite of the pressure exercised by the Home Government. It was said that this expedition was for the advantage of the trade of India. The moment the word was used it seemed to cover the greatest blunder. There was an old French proverb which said, "Be my brother or I will kill you." In modern days it was, "Be my customer or I will kill you." (Laughter.)

An Hon. Member: Quite right, too!

Mr. Bowles said he did not agree with the hon. member. If you killed the man whom you wished to make your customer he was never likely to be a customer—(laughter)—while if you did not kill him there was always hope.

Mr. Brodrick said he was as ready as any one of his predecessors, perhaps more than some, to resist raids on the Indian Exchequer; but on the other hand, they must take firm ground and that was, he thought, only to be found in the principles laid down in the report of the Welby Commission. That Commission distinctly laid down what might be regarded as Imperial interests and what Indian interests. They must have regard as to whether the expedition was undertaken in furtherance of general Imperial policy, or in furtherance of the policy of a particular colony or dependency. This was a very special case, and the expedition went out in support of what were essentially Indian interests, and, therefore, India must bear the cost. His hon. friend asked who was to pay the piper; his reply was the men who called the tune. Sir H. Fowler had asked for an assurance that the policy laid down in the oft-quoted telegram of November 6th of last year was still the policy of the Government. On that point he could associate and reiterate the language used by the Prime Minister in April last. What was the policy of the Government in November last, was its policy in April, and it was equally so now. The reason which had forced us to advance in Tibet was strong enough then to offer us no alternative, and they felt that now, though the time taken and the cost had proved to be larger than were at first estimated. But when his hon. friend asked what would be the future course and whether the Government had been dragged downhill in this mission and were likely to give up pledges which they gave to the House, he might say that nothing had transpired to justify that apprehension. He thought it would be almost unreasonable, and certainly unwise, to give a pledge at this moment as to when and how the expedition would return to India. He could only say that they had reached Lhassa, with the full intention of evacuating it as soon as an arrangement could be made. They would not stay in Lhassa a day beyond the period which military judgment deemed it wise to stay there.

The Master of Elibank asked if the Indian Government intended to exact an indemnity.

Mr. Brodrick said the question of terms was a very difficult one to go into at that period. There certainly would have to be an indemnity of some description. They had had to ask Parliament to trust them with regard to the terms, but having laid down in the strongest manner that we were not there to make a permanent occupation of Lhassa, not there to establish a Protectorate, and said they did not propose to place a Resident in Lhassa, he could only repeat that those were the three main items in that settlement. They were determined to make the British name respected.

Mr. Malcolm asked whether it was to be understood that the expedition would not return till a Treaty had been signed, and reparation had been exacted?

Mr. Brodrick said he could not add to what he had said, but the expedition would not remain in Lhassa after an arrangement of terms had been come to. The Government adhered to their pledges, which had not been exacted by the House, but were dictated by their view of the policy which it was proper for this country to maintain. His Majesty's Government had fully explained their position to the Russian Government, and had obtained from them assurances which were satisfactory to the Foreign Secretary—(hear, hear)—and, acting on those assurances, he sincerely trusted they would be able to find an arrangement with Tibet which would put an end to all the present difficulties.

The amendment was negatived.

Sir C. Dilke asked whether the Indian Government had made any protest against the use made of the Peace Preservation Ordinance to prevent the immigration of British Indian subjects into the Transvaal. He complained that the annual statement in regard to Indian affairs was marked by a certain official optimism, which represented the state of things as somewhat more satisfactory than they could be considered to be in fact. The permanent existence in India of a frightful mortality from plague must, in itself, cause them to regard with some doubt the operation of the system of local government in that country. Then the abuses connected with the police system, and the oppressive nature of the salt tax, illustrated how far off they were from any situation in India on which they could rest and be thankful. He urged that in any future conferences which might be called together India ought to play a predominant part, in view of the fact that her contribution to Imperial purposes was overwhelmingly greater than that of any other part of the empire outside the United Kingdom.

Sir J. Fergusson fully recognised the desirability of a further reduction of the sa't duty, but thought that hon. members hardly realised how very much that article had been cheapened to the people by the improve-

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ment of communications. As regarded the police, he thought that, if that most splendid Viceroy, Lord Curzon, was able, before he left India, to add to the great many things he had already done a reform of the police system, it would greatly redound to the credit of his administration of that country.

Mr. J. Walton said that we were the trustees of the Indian people, and we ought to be careful not to extract from them more than was just.

Mr. Lonsdale said that it was not for the Government to cast a stone at the House for its neglect of the affairs of India, as they themselves had taken Sir Antony MacDonnel away from his Indian duties and sent him to Ireland.

Mr. Brodrick said that the loan of Sir Antony MacDonnell by the Indian Council for service elsewhere was a rarity, he should be only too glad when Sir Antony returned to his duty in India. But the Chief Secretary for Ireland had made it clear that he desired to retain his services, and that he could not at this moment fix a date for his return. He deeply regretted that there should be any feeling in the Transvaal against the introduction of Indian subjects. He was prepared to do anything in his power in the matter, and they had brought the question before the Colonial Secretary. Notwithstanding that it was absolutely necessary, in their opinion, that the righs and privileges of Indians should be secured for them in the Transvaal, yet, local opinion being so strongly pronounced there on the subject, they felt themselves unable to insist upon the further introduction of Indians except on the same regulations as obtained in Cape Colony and Natal. With regard to the Fiscal Question, although the interests of India had been very little mentioned, it was perfectly obvious that any system which concerned that country could not be entered into without the interests of India being, he would not say predominantly, but specially regarded. India was by far the greatest consumer of British goods of any of our colonies and dependencies, and must, of course, come very high in our consideration. He agreed with the general wish that had been expressed that the Indian Budget Statement should be made at an earlier period of the session, and he hoped he might be able next year to induce the Prime Minister to give a somewhat earlier date for its introduction.

After some observations by Mr. Weir the motion to go into Committee was agreed to. The House having gone into Committee the usual formal resolution was immediately agreed to and ordered to be reported to the House.

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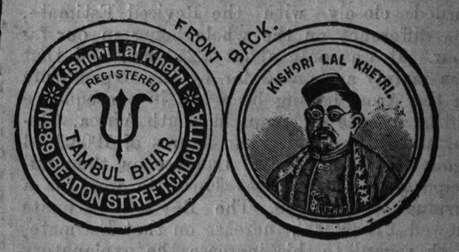

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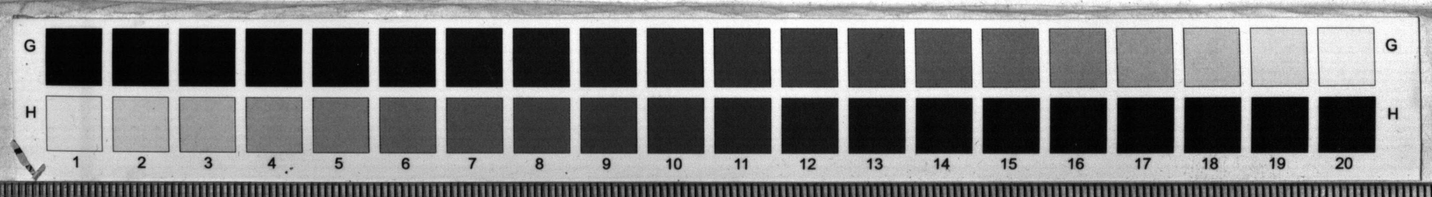

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

NOTES ON THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

THE SORTIE FROM PORT ARTHUR.

GRAPHIC ACCOUNTS OF THE FIGHTING.

The most stirring episode of the present war---the sortie from Arthur on the 10th August---is fully described in the Mail papers just to hand. Admiral Togo's report is terse as usual, but there is in this case an interesting report from the Russian side and the special correspondents have apparently found the inherent difficulties of obtaining a descriptive account of sea fighting less embarrassing than the restrictions of the cession on land. The following are Admiral Togo's despatches:—

"Our united squadron encountered the enemy who had made a sortie from Port Arthur, near Round Isand. The enemy attempted to go to the southward, but we pursued him to the eastward and fought him from one p.m. until nightfall, inflicting great damage on him. During the latter part of the fight the enemy's fire diminished, and his line became disordered. The cruisers "Askold" and "Novik," with some torpedo-boat destroyers, escaped to the southward, and the remaining ships ran toward Port Arthur, pursued by our destroyers and torpedo-boats. The enemy appears to have received further severe damage during his retreat. The "Tsarevitch" seems to have foundered as her lifebelts, etc., were seen floating about. I have not yet received a report about the result of our destroyers' attack. All the enemy's ships, except the "Askold," "Novik," "Tsarevitch," and "Pallada," appear to have got back to Port Arthur by yesterday morning. Our squadron has received no serious damage, nothing sufficient to interfere with our future movements. Our casualties number 270 officers and men.

"In the battle of the 10th August five of the enemy's battleships out of six apparently received considerable damage. The "Pobieda" had her two masts shot away, and her big guns became unmanageable. Our fire was contentrated on the flagship "Retvizan" at a range of 3,500 meters, and she appears to have been very badly damaged. The enemy's cruisers sustained comparatively slight injury. The "Bayan" did not come out. The damage to our vessels has been repaired."

In a vivid despatch, apparently of the same date as the second, Admiral Togo says that the Japanese gunboats "Akagi" and "Maya," which were on guard in the neighbourhood [illegible], discovered the Russian gunboats "Giljak" and "Otvazhni" near Shen-sen, shelling the Japanese land forces.

"The Japanese gunboats attacked the two Russian vessels, and a shell from the "Akagi" hitting the "Giljak" the Russian ship hastily retreated into Port Arthur.

"In all probability," the despatch continues "the Fifth Japanese Destroyer Flotilla, under Captain Mathuoka, sank the Russian cruiser 'Pallada' on the night of the 10th August."

"Captain Mathuoka reports that he approached a cruiser of the 'Pallada' type and fired a torpedo at her from a distance of four hundred yards. He saw the torpedo hit the vessel and explode."

THE RUSSIAN REPORT.

Admiral Matoussevitch sent to the Tsar, from Tsiytan the following telegram, dated the 12th August:—"At dawn on the 10th August our Port Arthur Squadron began to made for the open sea, and emerged from the port at nine o'clock. The squadron consisted of six battleships and the cruisers "Askold," "Diana," "Pallada," and "Novik" with eight torpedo-boats.

"The Japanese opposed the following forces to ours: a first detachment consisting of the battleships "Asahi," "Mikasa" "Fuji," Yoshima," "Shikishima," and the cruisers "Nishin," "Kasuga;" a second detachment consisting of the cruisers "Yakumo," "Kasagi," "Chitose," "Takasago;" and a third detachment consisting of the cruisers "Asushima," "Idzumi," "Matsushima," "Itsukushima," "Hashidate" and the battleship "Chinyen," with about thirty torpedo-boats.

"Our squadron manoeuvred so as to gain a passage through the line of the enemy's ships. In the meantime the Japanese torpedo-boats were laying floating mines on the way of our squadron, thus rendering their evolution very difficult.

"At one o'clock in the afternoon our squadron, after forty minutes' fighting, succeeded in effecting a passage and shaped a course towards Shan-tung. The enemy, who was following at full speed, caught up our ships slowly, and at five o'clock the fighting again began, and continued for some hours without either side obtaining any advantage. In the battle the Commander of our squadron was killed, and the Captain of the battleship "Tsarevitch" was wounded and lost consciousness. Almost at the same time the battleship's engines and steering gear were damaged, and she was obliged to stop for forty minutes. This forced the other ships to manoeuvre around her.

The command of the squadron devolved on Prince Oukhtomsky, and the command of the battleship "Tsarevitch" on her second-in-command. From nightfall the "Tsarevitch," not being able to follow the squadron, and losing sight of it, took a southerly course, in order to attempt to reach Vladivostok under her own steam. She was attacked by torpedo-boats in the night, and at dawn was in the vicinity of Shan-tung. Her second-in-command at midnight.

"The officer commanding the squadron having examined and determined the extent of the damage on board the battleship concluded that she could not arrive at Vladivostok, and allowed her Captain to proceed to Kiao-chau to repair.

"Those killed in the fighting included Admiral Withoeff, Navigating Flag-Lieutenant Azarieff, Flag Ensign Ellis and Navigating Lieutenant Draguishevitch.

Those slightly wounded included myself Gunnery Flag-Lieutenant Ketlinsky, Flag-Lieutenant Kedroff, Flag-Ensign Koushchinnikoff, Captain Wanoff, Commander Shoumoff, Gunnery Lieutenant Nenloukoff, Torpedo Lieutenant Pylkine, and Ensign Leontieff. A number of sailors were killed and wounded. Their number has not yet been accuately determined.

"I arrived at Kiao-chau at nine o'clock in the evening, and I found there the cruiser "Novik" and the torpedo-boat destroyer "Bezchumni."

"I am happy to bear witness to your Majesty of the unexampled bravery of both officers and men during these desperate encounters.

ON BOARD THE "TSAREVITCH."

A special correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph," wiring from Tsing-tao on the 16th August, gives the following statement by the officer in charge of the Russian battleship "Tsarevitch," which was interpreted for him by the ship's paymaster.

"We left Port Arthur at eight a.m., and immediately we saw the Japanese fleet on the horizon. It was drawn up in half-circle formation, with the large ships in the rear. The Japanese immediately saw us, and we steered to the south-east, the "Tsarevitch" leading.

"The Japanese flagship "Mikasa" opened the battle first, at a range of 5½ kilometres, with her 12-inch guns, and the fighting lasted one hour, both fleets steaming in parallel lines.

"At eleven a. m. we had time to dine and rest whilst again getting into position.

"The second attack began at two p.m., at five kilometres distance. The Russians this time opened the fight, the "Poltava" firing first. Fighting continued until darkness set in.

"Our Admiral was killed while he was directing the conflict from the port side of the ship. The same shell killed two flag officers, one navigation officer, and four sailors belonging to the signalling staff.

"A second shell struck the starboard side of the conning-tower, entered the blockhouse (? barbette), and burst. The effect was simply fearful, for it killed or wounded everybody in the vicinity. The Commander's arm was broken, and he sustained a contusion at the base of the skull.

"Yet a third shell burst in the foremost, leaving the foremast hanging in the stay-ropes.

"All these three 12-in shells were received in less than five minutes. The second shell damaged the telephones, telegraphs, compasses, and steering-gear, causing the ship to tremble and travel rapidly in circles for ten minutes until temporary repairs were executed.

"The Captain of frigates then took command and made for Tsing-tao, steering with the engines, and setting his course by the stars, all the compasses having been broken during the battle. The junior navigation officer, however, managed to fix some spare parts to a compass temporarily at three a. m.

"During the night the Japanese torpedo-boats attacked us no fewer than five times. We saw the torpedoes fired and they passed us very close, but none of them struck us. The Japanese left many floating mines in front of our fleet.

"I cannot say how our other ships fared. We saw fire break out aboard the "Retvisan," but it was soon extinguished. We also saw a great fire aboard the "Peresviet." A 12-in. shell struck the "Askold" between her funnels.

"All our ships received serious damage.

"The engines and guns worked splendidly, and there was no leakage. The Krupp 9-in. armour-plates, resisted the Japanese projectiles excellently, and the 12-in. shells recoiled from it.

"After our funnels were destroyed we burned 350 tons of Cardiff coal where 120 tons are generally used for the same speed.

"Our sailors kept well behind the armour during the action. We had, killed, 4 officers and 8 men, and wounded, 6 officers and 40 men. All the wounded are progressing well. We made sixteen knots after our funnels were damaged. Our sailors cheerfully faced the storm of red-hot iron.

"The "Tsarevitch" was riddled. Her foremast is tottering, but her guns are, apparently, undamaged. Her boats are useless, and her cooks' galleys completely destroyed. The Germans have taken full charge of the work of dismantling the ship. Both her anchors were carried away by one shell. The whole vessel presents a ghastly spectacle."

BY A JAPANESE COMBATANT.

Commander Ogura, of the "Mikasa," who arrived at Saseho wounded, gave the following description of the action to the "Times" Tokio correspondent:—

"On the morning of that day the guardship telegraphed information of the enemy's sortie. The news was received with delight. Admiral Togo rapidly made all dispositions. His plan was to draw the Russians as far south as possible in order to prevent a repetition of the fiasco of the June 23rd. He did not know whether the enemy's destination was Vladivostok, and therefore steered south, being constantly informed by his scouts of the enemy's movements.

"The squadron gradually approached, the Japanese squadron being on the east. At 12-30 p.m., being then 30 miles south of Port Arthur, Admiral Togo signalled to his ships to go into action. The Russians thereupon formed single column line ahead, their force consisting of six battleships, with the "Tsarevitch" in the van, four cruisers, eight destroyers, and one hospital ship.

"At 1 p.m. the action began. Twice the lines approached and twice they receded. There was a fierce cannonade on both sides. but whereas the Japanese gunners were absolutely calm and scored hits with few misses, the Russian projectiles nearly all flew wide.

"After two and a half hours' fighting both sides drew off for one hour, and then approached each other once more, the Russians now opening fire which was largely concentrated on the "Mikasa." Admiral Togo and his staff, however, were quite unconcerned and directed every operation.

"The enemy's vessels now changed their direction to the south-east, and the Japanese pursued them. At 7-30 p.m. the "Tsarevitch" line on the port side and suddenly turned was struck by a 12-in. shell below the wate to starboard, whereupon the other vessels, in order to avoid collision, put their helms to port and starboard and fell into confusion.

"This was an opportunity which the Japanese did not fail to seize, and they poured in a very hot fire at a range of 3,500 to 4,500 metres. The Russian fire was virtually silenced, except from the "Retvisan," which with conspicuous bravery maintained a cannonade until, having received the Japanese concentrated fire, she was reduced to fitful discharges from one or two guns.

"This slackening of the enemy's fire seemingly was not due to shortness of ammunition, but to the damage inflicted and the casualties sustained.

"At 8-30 p. m., when night fell, the combat terminated. The Russian cruisers and destroyers thereupon, under cover of darkness steamed away."

"ASKOLD" PIERCED BY NEARLY 200 SHELLS.

A special correspondent of Reuter's agency suceeded in visiting the "Askold" soon after her arrival at Shanghai. He writes:—"It seemed impossible to obtain permission to inspect her. And armed sentry on the gangway answered every request with a stern "Niet" (No), no matter in what language the application was made.

"Finally, however, Captain Grammatchikoff, with the consent of Admiral Reitzenstein, gave me the necessary permission.

"On reaching the deck of the vessel I found all in confusion, and no attempt had yet been made to put things shipshape.

"Everything gave evidence of her hurried flight and the running fight in which has had been engaged.

"I noticed, however, a remarkable spirit of cheerfulness and confidence on every hand, having expected, on the contrary, a universal feeling of depression and gloom.

"The crew generally appeared healthy, strong, and in good spirits, though some were downcast and wore an absent look. . . . It was easy to see that many of the Russians quite appreciated the bravery and readiness of the Japanese. Among the crew were quite a number who knew a little English, French, or German.

"The "Askold" lost one officer and 12 men killed and about 50 wounded.

"Considering the vessel's condition—she has been pierced by nearly two hundred shells—it is difficult to understand that the casualties were not much heavier. Repairing work is now proceeding night and day, and the crash of hammers and the noise of the workmen are audible all night.

"It is believed that in about ten days the "Askold" can be patched up sufficiently to render her sea-worthy. Full repairs would take much longer.

"Her first and third funnels are riddled with machine-gun bullets, and the base of one funnel has been almost entirely blown away at the level of the deck by a shell. The after funnel has been cut in two and telescoped.

"An 8-inch armour piercing shell entered the starboard side, forward, about two feet above the water line, and lodged in a bunker.

"As 12-inch shell exploded in the starboard hammock netting, amidships, the fragments riddling and destroying four metallic lifeboats. Another similar shell entered the state-room of the starboard quarter and cut its way across the deck, exploding in the officers' quarters on the port side and destroying everything en route.

"The deck-house, on the superstructure under the forward bridge, was riddled by fragments of a shell, which exploded in the forward funnel.

"The vessel's searchlights are all damaged beyond repair. The torpedo netting was cut up by a shell, and is practically useless.

"In the ship's bottom there are several old and new injuries, one torpedo having made a big hole through the side into a bunker, which happily proved fairly watertight.

"It is reported that the steering gear is damaged, but that the engines and boilers are practical[illegible]dition."

IF KUROPATKIN IS DEFEATED.

THE JAPANESE PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.

A question which one has heard constantly during the past few months, and which is becoming of immediate interest is:—What are the limits which the Japanese have put for themselves to a successful prosecution of the present war? Their plans have been so carefully laid out beforehand that they must, it is said, have drawn a line somewhere beyond which they have resolved not to go, and at which their military progress will be stopped. What is this line? They cannot propose to go on pursuing indefinitely an ever-retreating army. Quite recently I had an opportunity of discussing this matter with a Japanese official of position, writes a correspondent to the "Manchester Guardian," and although he did not profess to know the plans of the General Staff he probably reflected the opinions of the higher class of officials. The Japanese, he said, set before themselves the task of driving the Russians out of Korea and Manchuria. That is the primary object of the campaign. Now, assuming the continued success of the Japanese arms, Port Arthur will fall, and the fleet there either be wholly destroyed or it will become Japanese. General Kuropatkin will be defeated at Liao-yang or somewhere between that and Mukden. The defeat will either be a disastrous rout or will consist of a series of defeats followed by constant retreats, according as General Kuroki succeeds in effectually cutting off his retreat or not, and Mukden will fall into the Japanese hands. In either case the remnants of the Russian army will continue the retreat northwards to Harbin.

When Liao-yang and Mukden have fallen the first stage of the campaign will be over, and then the Japanese will launch a fresh army against Vladivostok, which they will attack by sea and land, as they have done Port Arthur. From Vladivostok, by the railway, they will advance on Harbin which will thus be attacked from the west as well as from the south and when that place has fallen their task will be complete. With all Manchuria, Korea, and Vladivostok in their hands they will sit down and fortify themselves while the sea is free and open behind them, and await in security either the attacks of a fresh Russian army or peace. Vladivostok and Harbin—these, according to this authority, are their termini and the Siberian or Manchurian Railway between the two—the limit of their advance. They do not intend to trouble themselves about the Amur which is the geographical boundary of Manchuria in this direction, because what is left of Manchuria to the north of Harbin is not worth troubling about.

Then as to the peace which must follow sooner or later my informant had certain very precise views, in which, again, I have excellent reason to believe he reflected intelligent public opinion in his own country as well as the resolve of the governing classes there. Japan desires now, as far as may be, to get rid once for all of the Russian menace in the Pacific, and, therefore, they will have no more Russian arsenals or dockyards or fortified places, whether in warm water or icebound ports on the Siberian shores of that ocean. If the Japanese do not retain Vladivostok they will not allow it to be a fortified place in Russian hands. They want the Amur to be the Russian boundary in Asia, as it was before General Ignatieff's cunning treaty with China in 1861, and they are willing that Vladivostok should remain as it is now, the commercial outlet for Eastern Siberia, as a free port, or under some similar arrangement. Then they want Saghalien Island restored to them. It was theirs before 1874, when, in a time of weakness and national convalescence from the consequences of the revolution, Russia took advantage of their situation to oblige them to cede the island to her. This has ever been a sore point with the Japanese people, and advantage will be taken of a victory now to repair the wrong (as the Japanese regard it) done them. Then there is the evacuation of Manchuria and its restoration to China, and the acknowledgment of a Japanese protectorate over Korea.

The cession of Saghalien, worthless and sterile as that island is, and especially the proposed new status of Vladivostok, would probably be the objectionable points in such a treaty from the Russian point of view. I should not omit to add that my informant mentioned also the free navigation to all nations of the Amur up to the point at which it ceases to be the common boundary between Siberia and Manchuria, and of its tributaries the Ussuri and Sungari, the latter of which is navigable up to Harbin, but the navigation of which is at present confined in practice to Russian ships, although by treaty it is open to Chinese and Korean vessels as well. These seem to be some of the main points which the Japanese hope to settle by the peace at the conclusion of the present war.

MUNICIPAL REPORTS.

The Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal has forwarded the undermentioned document to the Chairman of the Corporation of Calcutta for information with the request that he will be so good as to give effect to the instructions contained in the letter from the Government of India, Home Department, in all future Annual reports of the Corporation.

The Government of India have recently examined the several Municipal reports for the year 1901-02 with the object of ascertaining to what extent it has been found practicable to give effect to their wishes in the matter of the curtailment and reduction of periodical reports and returns forwarded by Local Governments and Administrations.

In paragraph 8 of the Home Department letter, dated the 26th March, 1901, certain suggestions were offered by the adoption of which, it was thought, the report of the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta could be greatly reduced in size without detracting from its value. The Government of India are glad to observe that the Corporation have readily responded to their invitation and note with satisfaction that the report in its present shape, constitutes a marked improvement over previous compilations. In one or two minor points, however, it appears to the Government of India to be still susceptible of improvement, and I am to request that, with the permission of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Corporation's attention may be invited to the following additional suggestions.

Taking the report of 1901-02, Section I, General, covers the entire ground of the year's administration and corresponds to the "Summary" of the Provincial Administration Reports, Sections II to IX inclusive give details under certain heads which correspond more or less to the headings in Section I, but they are not arranged in the same order and are not expressly referred to in that section. Then follows on page 56 an account of cases in which the Corporation was concerned which corresponds to paragraph 26 of Section 1, while the account of the Building Department, page 61, gives details answering to paragraph 22 of that section.

I am in the first place to suggest that if the departmental chapters, that is Sections II, III, etc., were arranged in the same order as the paragraphs of Section I, which might more appropriately be called the "Summary", the relation of the two parts would be clear and the report would be greatly improved. I am further to point out that, since the report proper seems to end at page 68 in Part I, the Appendices A to L and M which follow would be more appropriately included in Part II. I am to request that these improvements may be suggested for the acceptance of the Corporation. Lastly, I am to suggest that the usefulness of the report would be greatly enhanced by the addition both in Parts I and II of a table of contents.

On the 10th instant at the Chief Court of Bangalore a full Bench will sit to consider the question whether convictions ordered in summary cases by Magistrates who are not empowered to try the same, are legal or illegal. The power to try summary cases is vested [illegible] in the Magistrates of the cities of Bangalore and Mysore but it seems that Mr. Bowring, Magistrate, Kolar Gold Fields, has been trying summary cases these six months to try which he is not empowered, specially. The Hon'ble Chief Court while revising appeals having observed this, have held the convictions granted in these cases as illegal.—"Mysore Standard."

Five million rupees are being spent on eighteen irrigation tanks that are calculated to bring 250 square miles under cultivation. Writing on the subject, Mr. A. R. Slater in his report on the Blue Book for 1903, gives some interesting facts about Ceylon's great tank. The Giants Tank in the Northern Province, he says, is a fine specimen of the ancient irrigation works. It has a bund of 9¼ miles and has been restored to hold up 10 feet of water at the sluices: it has an area of 4,425 acres and a storage capacity of 1,046,000,000 cubic feet which, with the aid of the village tanks which are fed through its sluices, is stated to render irrigable an extent of about 20,000 acres.—T.C.

An experiment is being tried at Koilpatti with the cotton soil plough in black soil. In Bellary a large plough drawn by several yoke of cattle is usefully employed, and this is now being tried by Mr. C. Benson, the Deputy Director of Agriculture at Koilpatti. The Zemindar of Ettiyapuram and certain of his ryots visited the Koilpatti farm and watched the experiment of breaking up waste land infested with hariali and other grasses. The Zemindar and his ryots were convinced of the utility of the implement from the standpoint of efficiency of work and cheapness of the cost of labour in reclaiming waste lands affected with deep-rooted weeds. The Zemindar, we are informed, has decided to invest in a number of these ploughs for his own estate.

A SCHOOL MASTER DUPED BY A SHARPER.

On Monday before Mr. Ram Anugraha Narayan Sing, the popular Deputy Magistrate of Sealdah, an interesting case of cheating was heard the facts of which disclosed how cleverly a school master was cheated out of Rs. 2. Babu Behary Lall Mukherjee, a teacher attached to the Ripon Collegiate school, went to the Sealdah Railway station, to book himself for Goberdanga. It so happened that while waiting at the station he got high fever and laid himself down on a marble bench. He put his bundle of clothes, an umbrella and his pair of shoes close to the bench. Seeing him thus unattended a young sharper named Hari Bamun, a cook by profession came there and spread out his bedding near to the good natured school master. No body suspected that the man had any evil motive. A few yards off another man was seen sleeping. He noticed that Hari Bamun put his hands on the person of the school master. The Railway coolies on the other hand removed the bundle of clothes, the pair of shoes and the umbrella, as unclaimed into the godown. As the day dawned, the school master's fever abated and he opened his eyes. He found to his utter surprise that all his belongings were gone. As he was thinking of what had become of them, Hari Bamun turned up and consoled him by saying "don't be anxious. Your things are safe. If you give me Rs. 2-4-0, I will get them back." The gentleman thought it prudent to spend a rupee for the missing things and offered him a rupee. The man took the rupee and went away. Soon after he returned with the umbrella and the pair of old shoes and said "If you give me Rs. 1-4-0 you will get back the bundle of clothes." This conversation was overheard by a man who was standing there. He immediately went inside the office of the station master and on inquiries learnt that Hari Bamun paid only annas four to a coolie and claimed the things as his own and got delivery of them. In the meantime, the school master paid Hari another rupee but scarcely he had gone a few paces from the place he was seized and made over to the police on a charge of cheating. The case against him was partly gone into and was adjourned to the 16th instant.

HAMMERS AND EGGS.

I have seen hammers, weighing many tons each and operated by steam, that would crack an egg without crushing it, and yet at one blow smash a lump of iron as big as your head as flat and thin as this sheet of paper. There are several such hammers at Essen, in Prussia, where the German Emperor's big guns are made, and at Armstrong's foundry, by the river Tyne, in England.

I have looked at these hammers with admiration and awe. They are things to take one's hat off to Oh, to have the power of a thunderbolt combined with muscular control that would enable me to take a moth between my thum and finger without brushing the flour from its wings! And health, too, of course, health which should never, since I began to breathe, have been modified by an ache, a weakness or any physical suggestion that this condition would ever end.

But there! If wishes were horses beggars might ride.

Whether the Creator so inteded it I cannot say, but every human life falls short of the ideal.

Here is an extract from a letter written by Mrs. H.C. Oosthuizen, who lives at Stand 875, Richt Street, Burghersdrop, Transvaal, on April 14 of this year, 1904, in which she tells you exactly how she suffered and what the chief symptoms were. If you are suffering from pains in the stomach, or kidneys, or from rheumatism, have any of the symptoms she describes, it would be well for you to act on the recommendation she gives when she tells you what cured her. She says: "For nearly fifteen years I suffered from kidney complaint. I was hardly ever free from rheumatism, pains and backache. became so ill at last that while in the Women's Camp at Bloemfontein, during the war I was taken into hospital and there remained for over two months. The treatment given me by the hospital doctors gave temporary relief and I was discharged from hospital. The rough conditions under which we were living at the time away from all home comforts did not tend toward building up my already shattered state of health. Having some friends in the camp who had been cured by Mother Seigel's Syrup, I visited them and from them heard the wonders of that remedy. I purchased two bottles and began to feel my health improve. I continued using the Syrup until I was completely cured."

There is no mistaking that story—it is a plain and simple one. But perhaps you would like to know more about the wonderful curative effects of this remarkable medicine in another case—this time the patient being a man. If so, read the accompanying extract from a letter written on March 27th, this same year, 1904, by Mr. X. Norodien, of the Malay Location, Johannesburg. He says: "For nine years I suffered from severe pains in the vicinity of the kidneys, lost my appetite completely, and could only take milk and beef tea; anything more substantial would not remain in the stomach. I became so ill that I was forced to take to my bed. A doctor treated me for almost two months, but without success. On arriving at Cape Town at the outbreak of hostilities, a Malay friend told me of the wonderful qualities of Mother Seigel's Syrup. One bottle relieved me, and now I am never without a bottle in my house."

Only one bottle, he says, cured him, but he has such confidence in the remedy that he keeps it always handy. He can eat and enjoy and digest his food now. Without fire, no heat. Without digested food, no strength. That's Nature's law. Relief and cure for digestive disorders reside in Mother Seigel's Syrup. Cases on which excellent doctors have looked in despair are daily cure by it, and it is constantly adding to the working strength and happiness of the world.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

ALLEGED FATAL ASSAULT BY A SAHIB.

CONVICTION OF WARDEN.

On Tuesday, before Mr. Ram Anugraha Narain Sing, the popular Deputy Magistrate of Sealdah, Mr. C. J. Warden, a Customs Preventive Officer, was re-arraigned on a charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder by causing the death of a cooly named Shaik Ramjan, and also with having caused hurt to the man.

Babu Siddeswar Chatterjee, Court Inspector, conducted the prosecution and Babu Promotho Nath Mukerjee with Babu Probodh Chander Bose appeared for the defence. As the case was resumed, the Court inquired under what section the case was challaned. The Court Inspector informed him that it was under section 304 I.P.C.

Babu Promotho Nath, the pleader for the defence, said that the accused never intended to do more than an ordinary assault and with these words he handed over the written statement of the defendant. It runs thus:—

"Written statement on behalf of C. V. Warden, accused in the above case.

"On the 1st August at about 6-30 p.m. I left my house No. 5 Convent Road, Entally with my wife in a gharry and went to the New Market to make some purchases. Having finished it, I returned home, the cooly who had attended us and in whose basket the various things were kept getting on the top of the gharry with his articles which remained in his charge. On returning home and after the things had been taken down, we missed a tin of jelly. I thereupon told the cooly and the coachman that I could not pay them up until I made enquiries of the shop-keepers. The coachman kept quiet but the cooly was very impertinent and kept saying in a loud voice "kai rakam dastur hai" "kabi nahi hoga," etc., he also kept addressing me "tum tum." I remonstrated with the man and told him to stop his noise and leave the verandah. He would not listen and went on in his old way. I then gave him a slap with the back of my open hand in the face. On this he started a greater row and I gave him a kick with my left foot on his posterious I had a pair of canvas boot at the time. On receiving the kick the man ran out of the house and commenced creating more noise on the street, immediately outside. He then walked away home. I did not see him drop in front of our house and it is not true that he fell unconscious after receiving the kick. I never intended to cause, nor did I cause to this man anything beyond ordinary assault.

Charles V. Warden."

Court:—(Looking at the statement.) Is it signed by you?

Defendant:—Yes, sir.

Court:—(To the pleader.) Have you got to say anything?

The Court then framed a charge against the defendant under section 334 I.P.C. (doing rash and negligent act and thereby caused hurt on provocation).

The pleader in addressing the Court said: The circumstance under which this act was done—we would not deny. Some articles pere purchased from the New Market and a tin of jelly was missed. My client enquired of the coolie what had become of it and he grew impertinent and in the presence of his wife abused him. The man was then told to leave the premises. He did not do it and Mr. Warden by way of chastisement gave him a gentle kick. A great deal was attempted to make out of the case and Mr. Warder was charged by the police with culpable homicide not amounting to murder. I shall only show to the Court the examination of Dr. Moir. There was no rupture of the urethra. If there was lasceration then the man might have bled immediately. It was not by the kick that the man died but it was either for his own negligence or for the unskilful treatment he received in hospital. It was proved that the man did not fall down unconscious." (Here the pleader read out a portion from a medical book and then went on). It was tried to show to the Court that the man died of traumatic pneumonia but after Dr. Moir's evidence that opinion vanished. Lastly I submit that your honor should not hold my client responsible for this. We are very sorry that the man had died."

Court:—(interrupted him.) The misfortune is that Mr. Warden, as you say, had kicked and it fell on the perenium of the man.

Pleader went on:—"What I submit is that Mr. Warden is a family man. He gets Rs. 300 a month with family and children. His conduct from the beginning is very straightforward. He admitted having given a slap and there was no concealment of it. It was a case purely accidental for which he regrets. He (my client) has been put to good deal of expenses and he is attending the Court. The lesson he has learnt, he would not forget soon."

The Court then delivered the following judgment.

"It is admitted that on the evening of the first August Charles Vallantyne Warden, an appraiser of Customs Department went with his wife to the New Market to make some purchases. They bought some articles and engaged the services of one Ramjan to carry those articles home in Convent Road Entally. On reaching home in Convent Road, Warden missed a tin of jelly which he had purchased in the New Market, amongst other articles, which the deceased carried for them. The accused taxed the cooly for the missing tin and refused to pay his wages. On this the cooly is said to have grown impertinent, Warden got angry and gave him a slap and a kick which fell on the perenium of the deceased. The cooly ran out of the house crying that he had been kicked by the sahib. He stated this fact to the hackney carriage driver (Sheik Jan) who had brought Mr. and Mrs. Warden from the New Market to the house and to Sheik Hingo, butler of a neighbour. The cooly (deceased) got himself admitted first in the Chandney Hospital on the morning of the second instant and took his discharge on the evening of the 5th and then got into the Medical College Hospital on the 6th instant, where he died on the mid-night of the 11th instant.

"I have examined all the medical men connected with this case—Jotindra Nath Mittra, an Assistant Surgeon who attended the deceased while he was in the Chandney Hospital, Asutosh Dutt, another Assistant Surgeon, who admitted the deceased into the Medical College Hospital, Bepin Krishna Mukerjee, another Assistant, who gave the death certificate; Nerode Chander Mukerjee, Assistant immediately in charge of the Ward in which the deceased was treated at the Medical College Hospital, Major Moir I.M.S., the Medical Officer, who looked after the deceased during his stay at the hospital, Captain Unwin who performed an operation on the evening of the 11th, Military Assistant Surgeon Daley who performed the post mortem examination.

"I have considered the medical evidence on the record in the light of the very able argument of the learned pleader Babu Promotho Nath Mukerjee who has conducted the case for the accused with great ability and industry.

"I unhesitatingly come to the conclusion that the deceased died from pneumonia brought on by fever and diseased condition of the kidney and his general debilitated condition of the health. I also hold that the hurt on the perenium (if any) was slight—for if the rupture of the urethra were complete Dr. Moir's soft instrument would not have got in easily and there would have been extravasation of blood and the urine would not have been so clear as Dr. Moir found on the 3 days that he made careful examination of the same. The man would not have been able to walk at all, after the complete rupture of the urethra whereas the oral evidence shows that he was able to do so on the first day as well as on the day he went to Chandney Hospital If the Chandney Hospital authorities were assured of the rupture of the urethra, they would have tried in a Cathiter and kept him on bed, according to Dr. Moir's opinion.

"I am therefore clearly of opinion that this is a case of causing hurt on provocation. The accused has pleaded guilty to the charge under section 334 I.P.C. I have now to determine the sentence. The accused is a married man on receipt of a salary of Rs. 300 per month. His conduct has been straightforward from the beginning. I therefore sentence him to pay a fine of Rs. 100 only in default to undergo simple imprisonment for one month.

The fine when realized will be paid to the wife of the deceased.

"It must be borne in mind by all that it is very risky and dangerous to kick at another as no one knows on what parts of the body the blow may fall and what the ultimate consequences may be. I have satisfied myself that in the present case death was due to pneumonia which Dr. Moir says may be brought by several causes.

(Sd.) R. A. N. Singh,
Police Magistrate,
Sealdah.

After the sentence was passed, the pleader for the defence submitted a petition to the Magistrate, praying that a fortnight's time might be given to his client to pay the fine. The Court granted a week's time to the defendant for the deposit of the fine, within that period.

MYSTERIOUS SHOWERS OF STONES.

In referring to the report that a mysterious shower of stones had fallen recently at Arcot, a correspondent writes:—

The falling of stones, heated and heavy, at Arcot, is not a unique occurrence at all. The people of Malabar and the adjacent districts are familiar with such scenes and to some even more severe in their aspect. The scenes are, it is said, the result of some one of the members of the house, in which it occurs, being practised upon by some magician; and most probably, the master of that particular house at Arcot may have been one of the victims of such cruel agents.

I was myself an eye-witness to an even more curious and interesting scene of this class in a village of the Coimbatore District. The master of a certain house there was said to be one of these victims, and in his house I saw the following scenes. As at Arcot, huge and massive, but not heated, stones were let fall from and near the tops of the house near a group of men but not on the persons; and when the stones were not heavy but mere pellets they were thrown on the men too. Blows could be heard administered on the body of a certain girl belonging to the house, but no hand or person could be seen near her. And with all these, that same girl had been the victim of other such cruel pranks. Small cans of castor oil could be seen emptied in her mouth and her mouth full of it. Moreover the clothes and other dresses worn by the members of the house would be seen taking fire in one of the corners, and the wretched victim had to strip himself of his clothes to prevent himself from being burnt alive. But fortunately for them there was no serious loss in this direction. In addition to all these, the exhibition at Arcot—the burning of a portion of the house—was seen there too. And on a particular occasion when one of such burning scenes was going on, a small quantity of chillie powder was dashed in the eyes of a poor woman, who was drawing water to quench the fire. Thus the cruel agent of such mischief had been able even to prevent the wretched victim from extinguishing the fire. The only remedy, they said, was in asking another magician, well versed in these arts, to practise this against the original agent whom he need not know at all. These scenes were enacted in that house for nearly six months, after which time nothing of that sort has as yet occurred again there. Perhaps the magician was tired of his own mischief and gave his spirit some rest. And most probably the same may be the case at Arcot, where the magician, in order to screen the true victim, has practised it on the whole town.

NEW FLYING MACHINE.

Round the Maxim flying machine roundabout at the Crystal Palace there travelled at a furious pace, calculated at about 130 miles an hour, what appeared to be a huge mechanical swallow with wings extended.

Sir Hiram Maxim was carrying out a private experiment in connection with the flying machine which it is his ambition and determination to build. The "swallow" was in reality a wooden kite 20ft. long attached to the roundabout. It was fitted with several aeroplanes, each about 6ft. long by 1ft. wide. In the middle of the machine was a kind of saddle, on which some day a man will lie at full length and grasp a pair of handles. With these it is expected he will be able to raise and lower the machine, and by means of a box kite at the rear steer the machine outwards or inwards within the compass permitted by its attachment to the roundabout.

On Aug. 19, however, a few bags of sand did duty for the man, and the experiment was simply one for testing the lifting power of the aeroplanes. When the roundabout was in motion the machine raised itself almost to the level of the top of the centrepost.

The experiments are at present in their initial stages.

The Crown Princess-elect of Germany is the Duchess Cecile Augustine Marie, the sister of the reigning Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. She is eighteen years of age, and her mother was a Grand Duchess of the Russian Imperial Family. Prince Frederick William Victor August Ernest, whom she is to marry, is 22. He is said to be of a very lively disposition.

The Assam Government are offering a reward of Rs. 50 for the destruction of a solitary rogue elephant, about 9ft. high, tail a little more than a cubit in length. Right hand tusk about 18in., left tusk about 9in. long. Left hind foot is a little shorter than the right hind foot. It is doing damage to the crops of Atiabari, Chekwari, and Ambuk villages in pargana Habraghat. The Rani of Bijni will also give a reward to the person killing this animal.

Serious allegations have been made against a Tashildar in the Madras Presidency that he tortured a native who was reported to have discovered several thousands of rupees worth of buried treasure. The Tashildar is alleged to have wrongfully confined the finder of the treasure and certain others, and with the assistance of the Police to have tortured them by causing thorns to be inserted under their finger nails, etc. The version given by the Tashildar is that he did nothing in the matter beyond placing the parties under the surveillance of the village thalayaris, and that the allegations of torture, etc., are untrue. The matter has been reported to the Board of Revenue.

Sir James Bourdillon, Resident in Mysore, returns to India in October and resumes his appointment at Bangalore. Lady Bourdillon will accompany him.

H. T. The Governor of Madras in Council has nominated Mr. V. C. Desika Chariar an Additional Member of the Madras Legislative Council, in accordance with the recommendation made by the Municipal Commissioners for the city of Madras.

B. Wilson, shorthand writer and typist to the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma, was on the 6th instant, placed before the District Magistrate by the Police upon charges of forgery and attempted cheating, for having ordered a gramophone and twelve records from Messrs. Misquith and company in the name of Captain Labertouche, A.-D.-C. to General Macleod, Commanding the Forces in Burma. Accused was admitted to bail, and the case was adjourned to the 9th instant. The defence is a denial.

"No Doctors to Treat Me!"

"In my distant village home, and the consequence is, that the baneful effects of Malaria, have reduced my health to the present state. I am shattered, weak, pale, emaciated and uncared for in my own home."—Complaints of above nature come to us every now and then and we would advise the complainants to use our PANCHATIKTA BATIKA, the infallible specific for Malarial and other periodical fevers which will do away with the necessity of calling a doctor and will cure him thoroughly at a nominal charge.

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

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INDISPUTABLE EVIDENCE OF THE DOCTORS OF WORLD-WIDE REPUTATION

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

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

3. Dr, B. K. Bose I M S Surgeon Major, M. D. C. M. says:— , , , I have tried Healing Balm in cases of acute Gonorrhœa with success.

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

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

6. Dr. G. C. Bez Borua. L. R. C. P, (Edin) L. F. P. and S., L. M, (Glasgow) Late Civil Surgeon British Guiana, (America), etc says:—I tried Healing Balm. It is a splendid remedy for the diseases of Gentito-urinary tract and it acts like a charm. Its diaretic property is well marked

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

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

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

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

11 R. NEWGENT L. R. C. P. and S. (Edin) says:—R. Laugin's Healing Balm for obstinate Gonorrhoea has been proved to the only medicine that will effectively cure Indian patients and fulfil whan is claimed for it

12 Dr. T. U AHMED M. B. C. M, L S A (London) His Majesty's Vice Consul, says:—I can recommend this Healing Balm strongly to the suffering public

13 DR, R. MONNIER M. B. C. M, (Edin) Resident Surgeon, Park street Goverment Charitable Dispensary, says:—Healing Balm was used by me in several cases of Gonorrhœa and was found successful.

14 Dr. M. N. Bnerjee B. A. M.R. C. S. L, S A, (Lond) says: I have found it good in Gonorrhœa

15 M. L. Dey M. B,, M. Ch., Late Resident Medical Officer, Paisley Assylum (London) says:—Healing Balm contains some of the choicest drugs for the cure of Gonorrhœa and Gleet.

16 Dr. K. P. CHAKERBUTTY M. B. Late Superintendent and Medical officer, Lewis Jubileeu Sanitarium, Darjiling, says:—"It is called Healing Balm and may be rightly called so In chronic. cases of Gleet and Cystitis it acts with wonderful effect."

17 Dr. Atul Chandra Kasu M, B, Late House Surgeon Medical College, says:— Healing Balm will prove very officacious in Gonorrhœa and Gleet of long standing.

18 Dr Kedarnath Dutt M B says:—The preparation is an admirable one in curing Gonorrhoea and gleet of all kind. I can recommend it safely to the suffering public.

19 Dr. Troylakya Nath Banerjee M. B. says:— I am glad to be able to report very favourably of Healing Balm all the cases treated having derived great benefit in a remarkably short time.

20 Dr. Upendra Nath Mittra M B. Says:— I have no hesitation in recommending it use by the public who I am sure will be immensely benefited by the Medicine.

21 Dr Akshay Kumar Nandi M, B. says:— I have used it beneficial Sufferers may with confiden use it.

Dr Surendra Nath Bose L. M. S, says:—The Balm has proved efficacions in many case o chronic and acute Gonorrhœa

23 Dr Bidhu Bhusan Ghose L, M, S, Medical officer Maniktolah Municipal Dispensary, says:—I have used it among many of my patients and found it successful in one and all of them

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We understand that a public meeting will be held in the Pachaiyappa's Hall under the auspices of the Mahajana Sabha on Friday, the 9th instant, to protest against India being burdened with the cost of the Thibet expedition.

TYPE FORM OF NOTICE FOR PRESS CALLING FOR TENDERS.

Settled tenders in Form F. I. will be received at the office of the Executive Engineer, Rangoon Town Lands Reclamation Works Division, up to noon on the 21st September 1904, for supplying 12 Bogie cars complete with screw brake. Amount of Estimate Rs. 38,052.

No tenders will be received without a deposit of Rs. 800 as earnest-money. Blank forms of tenders can be obtained free of cost at the office of the Executive Engineer, where plans and specifications of the work can be seen and all other particulars obtained during office hours on each day to 20 September 1904.

Rangoon.
E. G. FOY,
Executive Engineer,
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Rangoon, the 2nd Sept. 1904.

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