REGD C. 59

Amrita Bazar Patrika

BI-WEEKLY EDITION---PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AND SU NDAY

VOL XXXV CALCUTTA SUNDAY AUGUST 7, 1904. NO. 65

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BANKIPUR NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Bankipur, Aug. 2.

A CLEVER FRAUD.

A notorious budmash representing himself to be the manager of a certain local firm, wrote to a well-known Calcutta firm to supply him certain articles on commission sale. The Calcutta firm duly supplied them to him, but, when the time of payment came, several letters brought no reply from him. The Calcutta firm thinking that they had been duped sent one of their agents to investigate the matter personally. On enquiry the agent came to learn the whereabouts of the cheat and traced him to a place where he had been hiding himself. Although the man was identified to the agent, the latter was so cleverly hoodwinked that he dared not hand him over to the police. In the meantime the offender made his escape and the agent had to return to Calcutta with the description of the man against whom the machinery of law will be soon set in motion.

A SENSATIONAL RIOT.

A sensational case in which two wealthy Zamindars and a number of their men have been committed to take their trial at the present Sessions will commence from the 3rd August. It is rumoured that Mr. Jackson has been retained on behalf of the accused and a special Jury will be empannelled on the occasion. The facts of the case are the following:—Within the jurisdiction of thana Bhakan at village Rannia, there took place on the 12th March a serious riot in which several people sustained severe injuries and one Ram Saran actually died shortly after making a dying declaration. For sometimes past, Raghunandan Singh, a brother of the two accused Sindhar Babu and Lal Babu had been bringing cases and suits against various members of the other party. Some suits are still pending in respect to the rent of a certain six annas Taluka in Rannia which was sold in a Government Revenue sale and was bought by a certain Nanku Singh. The Thica which was formerly held by Raghunandan is stated to have ceased six years ago, but the riot and the rent suits show that Raghunandan still claims rent for these lands. The evidence of the prosecution witnesses shows that, since Nanku came in as auction purchaser, they have paying rents to him in consequence of which the amlas of Raghunandan had been harrassing and threatening them and this ultimately ended in a riot with the result stated above. During the riot, the Babus, it is alleged, came on horse-back to personally superintend the affair. On the 13th March chowkidar Suar (h.g) Singh went to the thana to inform of a breach of peace between Saligram and Raghunandan. The Head Constable Sunder Lal started out for Rannia sending two constables by one route and he himself went with another constable by a different route. The two constables arrested 3 dusadh, the three accused Singh, Jhameli and Pertab carrying Khasari bundles. These confessed before the Honorary Magistrate that they were ordered to cut crops by the Babus and one of these men Pertab sticks to his statement even before the trying Magistrate, although the other two plead that they were ordered by the police into a confession. Sunder Lal, the Head Constable having gone to Rannia found 11 wounded men at the Dalan of one Dwarka Singh. Two of these men were in precarious state and he recorded their dying declarations. It was in Rannia that Sunder Lal met Foujdar, the complainant the accused to the Sessions who had run off to the thanna when the riot began and he had followed Sunder Lal back to Rannia. The lower court in committing remarks: "The revelation made to me by the witnesses when examined on the 30th clearly shows that there had been a great system of terrorism while the case has been pending. The wonder is that there had not been greater inconsistencies in the identification of the two Babus. Had I not discovered what was going on I am convinced that the case would have utterly broken down and all the witnesses would have perjured themselves through sheer terror. . . . . I maintain that there is ample and overwhelming evidence that the two Babus were actually among the rioters and that whatever contradictions have subsequently been made by the witnesses are due first to the hasty way in which Sunder Lal was compelled to record their statement owing to the pressure of March 13 and secondly to the threats held out to the witnesses by the agent of Sindhar and Lal Babu. To sum up shortly we have established facts of the riot, the wounding of men, the death of Ram Saran and the previous enmity between the Babus and the prosecution. We have ample evidence on record to show that all the accused charged participated in riot, the only point taken by the defence that of identification having broken down. Under these circumstances I commit all the accused to take their trial before the Court of Sessions.

"I refuse bail to all the accused and in doing so I think I am amply justified by the facts on record. If the two Babus are allowed out on bail the terrorism exercised by them will be renewed with increased vigour and the witnesses will be subjected to severe pressure. The witnesses have been put in fear of their lives and have been threatened with a counter-charge of murder and I think it is the duty of the Court to offer all possible protection to witnesses who have been beaten almost to the point of death by the accused and are now being subjected to a mental and physical fear which will tell on them as much as their injuries ever did. Bail I maintain is absolutely impossible in this case. I only press this point because the counsel for the accused pleaded that they were chiefly concerned with the question of obtaining bail for the two Babus. I am sorry to say that I cannot allow any bail whatsoever large in amount. Witnesses must be protected and apart from this there is against the two Babus mass of evidence which is uncontradicted."

The committing Magistrate having expressed himself so strongly even the High Court refused to grant bail to the accused Babus.

MIRZAPUR SENSATION.

(*From our Special Correspondent.*)

Mirzapur, Aug. 2.

MITHU KHAN'S CASE.

It appears that Mithu Khan's case is becoming a matter of general interest, and some other newspapers are taking advantage of what is published in the "Patrika" for the enlightenment of their subscribers. In these provinces, especially in this district, I am told, the "Patrika" is sought for greedily, specially when it contains anything about Mirzapur. Newspapers are however an eyesore to the police here generally speaking.

This is how the troubles of Mithu Khan began. He and one Ahmed Ali quarrelled. I need not enter into the details of this dispute. Suffice it to say that one day Ahmad Ali complained against Mithu, Husaini, Madar, Bhangar, Kudrat and Ismail, under sec. 143 and 352, I.P.C., for their being the alleged members of an unlawful assembly and their alleged use of criminal force otherwise than on grave provocation. The case was investigated by Inspector Sajjad Husain, and tried by Sheikh Yawar Husain, Tahsildar. The Tahsildar, in his judgment in Urdu, dated 22nd June 1903, found the case not proved and discharged the accused. He, however, suggested that for preservation of the public peace Ahmad Ali and Mithu Khan be bound down with heavy sureties and directed that the record for the case be sent to the Joint Magistrate Mr. Walker (I suppose) for due consideration of that suggestion. Ismail on being discharged or acquitted, as the case may be, applied for permission to prosecute Ahmad Ali, under sec. 211 and 198, I.P.C., for bringing false charge and giving false evidence against him. The Tahsildar, on the 24th August 1903 granted the permission. Against this order of the Tahsildar Ahmad Ali appealed first to the District Magistrate and next to the Sessions Judge and had it cancelled.

It appears that no action was taken by the late Joint Magistrate Mr. Walker to bind down Ahmad Ali and Mithu Khan as suggested by the Tahsildar. On the 22nd June 1904, however, Mr. Tute, the present Joint Magistrate, passed the following order on which the present prosecution of Mithu Khan commenced:—

"Whereas I have learnt on information which I believed to be trustworthy that the following persons, namely,

Bachao Khan	500/-
Mithu Khan	1,000/-
Madar Khan	200/-
Husaini Khan	200/-
Bakar of Bhangar	500/-

form a gang of habitual thieves, extortioners and committers of mischief and are moreover persons of desperate and dangerous character whose being at large without security is hazardous to the community, I therefore call upon them to show cause why they should not be ordered to execute personal bonds in the sums noted opposite their names together with two sureties apiece each in the same sum to be of good behaviour for three years [order under 110 (a) (d) (e) (f) C.P.C.]. Warrants will issue because there is reason to believe that the men will abscond."

A certified copy of the above order of Mr. Tute was procured from the Allahabad High Court on the 28th July last. Though there is provision in the code that the summons or warrant issued shall be accompanied by a copy of the order and such copy shall be delivered by the officer serving or executing such summons or warrant to the person served with or arrested under the same, no such thing was done in the case of Mithu Khan. In this summons case warrant was issued in the first instance and Mithu Khan was arrested on the 29th May, that he might not abscond, and he was shut up in the lock-up, though the alleged commission of offence was bailable, on the ground that he might not "use his liberty for the purpose of intimidating witnesses," until his release on bail on the 28th June by the second order of the High Court.

It is however a coincidence, possibly accidental, that, excepting Bachao Khan, all the remaining four persons whom Mr. Tute called upon to show cause figured as accused in the unproved case brought by Ahmad Ali. This may be food for reflection to idle minds.

The 1st of August was the date fixed for taking up Mithu Khan's case. It was not done. I hear that the record of the case has not come back from the High Court. Most probably the inquiry will be proceeded on when the record comes.

The case, in which C. Rungasawmy Mudali, Sub-Manager, Singer's Manufacturing Company, Broadway, Madras, charged Mr. J. M. Cotta, boot-maker and merchant residing in Broadway, with insult, wrongful restraint and criminal trespass, was disposed of by Mr. C. Gahan, Presidency Magistrate, Black Town. The facts are briefly these. The accused had been occupying a portion of the complainant's premises, No. 175, Broadway, as a sub-tenant of the Company, paying a monthly rent of Rs. 15. The Company had served the accused with a notice to quit and deliver possession of the said portion to the complainant on the 31st July, 1904; after this, the accused had been annoying and insulting the complainant in various ways. On the 23rd ultimo, at about 5-30 p. m., complainant, seeing the accused abuse and push his peon Abdul Rahaman, near the godown doorway, questioned him as to the cause of his doing so. Thereupon, the accused rushed at complainant, abusing him and trespassed into his godown and also began to strike him, hence the present prosecution. His Worship, after recording the evidence of the witnesses for the prosecution and for the defence, found the accused guilty under Sections 341, 447 and 504 I. P. C., and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 25. Out of this fine, a sum of Rs. 10 was directed to be paid to the complainant as compensation for expenses incurred in the case. His Worship further warned the accused, that, if he were to behave in future similarly towards the complainant, he would be bound over to keep the peace.

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High Court—Aug. 4

CRIMINAL BENCH.

(*Before Justices Pratt and Bodilly.*)

A MURDER CASE FROM BACKERGUNJ.

Abdul Rahim and Abdul Barik are brothers. On the 13th March last at about 5-30 p. m. Basiruddi came from the east, and went to the house of his neighbour Jinnatullah. About 10 or 12 days before the occurrence, Jinnat had taken eleven maunds of rice from Basiruddi for Rs. 10 and the latter asked Jinnat to pay the money; but he said he could not as the rice was still in his "bari" and that he would pay after selling it. Basiruddi then proceeded homeward. Shortly afterwards Jinnat heard him cry, looking back he saw deceased standing and was being held by Abdul Rahim, Abdul Barik and Basiruddi; Gaheruddi was striking him with a "dao." Gaheruddi went into his hut and the other three ran away. Jinnat and one Sraj Khan came there and held Basiruddi who was just able to walk. They helped him towards his "bari," but Basiruddi after going a little distance was not able to go any further and sat down. Various people came and the wound was bandaged. Basiruddi made a statement and was taken to the thanah. In that statement Basiruddi stated that Basiruddi, Abdul Rohim and Abdul Barik caught hold of him; Gaheruddi gave him a cut on the left side of his abdomen, a cut on the left side of his head, a cut on the left arm and another on the tip of his left thumb. At that time Jinnatulla, his wife, his son Torap Ali and Sheraj Khan saw him being wounded. Basiruddi thereafter died. The medical evidence showed that the death was the result of bleeding. Gahiruddi and Basiruddi were on bad terms as the latter had got a Small Cause Court decree against the former. On these facts Gahiruddi, Abdul Rohim and Abdul Barik were placed on their trial before a Deputy Magistrate, who committed the case to the court of sessions on charges under sections 302 and 302 with 114 of the Indian Penal Code. At the sessions court the trial was held by Mr. J. H. Temple, Sessions Judge, with the aid of two assessors. Both the assessors found Gohiruddi guilty; but they did not believe that Abdul Rahim or Abdul Barik were implicated in the murder. The Sessions Judge disagreeing with them convicted Abdul Rahim and Abdul Barik of abetment of murder under Section 302 with sec. 114 I.P.C. and sentenced each of them to transportation for life. Agreeing with both the assessors the Sessions Judge convicted Gohiruddi of murder under sec. 302 I.P.C. and sentenced him to death. Against that conviction and sentence an appeal was preferred to this court. Their Lordships saw no reason to interfere with the judgment of the lower court. The conviction and sentence passed by the Sessions Judge upon the accused persons were confirmed.

AN ALLEGED FALSE CASE.

Babu Dasarathi Sanyel appeared in support of a rule obtained on behalf of one Sheonarayan Pandit against whom a proceeding under Sec. 476 Cr. P. C. was drawn up by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Buxar directing his prosecution under Sec. 211 I.P.C. for causing the institution of a false case of theft against one Udit Ahir and three other persons before the police. It appeared that on the 13th March one Ramgati Ahir laid an information before the police alleging that Udit Ahir and three other persons uprooted his crops from his land and thereby committed an offence under Sec. 379 I. P. Code. The police made an investigation but reported that though the occurrence was true some wrong persons had been named as accused by the complainant. The report was submitted before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate who directed the complainant to prove his case. The Magistrate examined some witnesses and ordered the case to be entered as false. The Magistrate then drew up a proceeding under sec. 476 Cr. P. C. directing the prosecution of the complainant Ramgati Ahir and also that of the petitioner, who was alleged to have instigated the complainant Ramgati Ahir in bringing the false complaint. The petitioner's complaint was that he had no notice to show cause why the prosecution should not be ordered against him. He had nothing to do with the complainant Ramgati. A rule was obtained by the petitioner to show cause why the order so far it affected the petitioner should not be set aside.

It was contended that the order of the Magistrate was wrong and that he did not exercise a sound discretion in omitting to give notice to the petitioner. The petitioner was no party to the previous proceedings.

The rule was made absolute, and the order of the Magistrate was set aside.

THE DARJEELING OUTRAGE CASE.

THE APPLICATION REJECTED.

In this case, it will be remembered, that one Dhone Kishore a writer constable attached to the office of the local Court Sub-Inspector had been charged under sections 354 I.P.C. (using criminal force) and 456 I. P.C. (lurking house trespass) before the Deputy Magistrate of Darjeeling and was sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment under each of those sections. On the evening of the 28th of May last Mrs. Dass, wife of a Barrister-at-law, Mrs. Gunivan, governess in the employ of Mrs Dass, and a son of Mrs. Dass, aged about seven years, went out for a walk. Between 6-30 and 7 p.m. as they were returning home, they heard footsteps behind them and they saw the accused, who was in his uniform following them. The accused followed them whistling, stopping when they stopped and going faster when they went faster to avoid him, and also accosted them saying "mem shaib sono." The ladies did not answer him or pay sufficient heed to his imprudent conduct at first, but ultimately they got frightened and they came down from the upper road, which is a solitary one, to the cart road, near St. Joseph's College, thinking they would be safer there. When the ladies came near the house of Dr. D. N. Roy of Darjeeling and was going to leave the cart road in order to go up to the house by a zigzag road, the accused went up to them and caught hold of Mrs. Dass' arm and neck and jerked them. Mrs. Dass moved him off with her umbrella. The ladies then succeeded in reaching home. Half an hour after this when Dr. Roy was sitting upstairs he heard Mrs. Gunivan crying out that there was a man running at the door of her house. In his attempt to escape the man entered one of the bed-rooms on the ground floor but finding no way out through the bed-room, he tried to escape through the drawing room and fell down on the steps. He was then caught hold of by Dr. Roy and his servants and was made over to the thana. It should be mentioned here that Mr. Dass is the brother-in-law of Dr. Roy and was living with his wife in the house of Dr. Roy. The house was a solitary one, away from the town, about half a mile from St. Joseph's School, towards the Lebong cantonment. On these facts the accused was convicted and sentenced as stated above. An appeal was preferred to the Sessions Judge of Dinajpur and the Sessions Judge reduced the sentence passed on one of the charges (viz., one under section 354 I.P.C.) from one year to three months and in all other respects dismissed the appeal. Aggrieved with the said order the accused moved this Court for the issue of a rule.

Mr. Remfry, who with Babu Surendra Krishna Dutta appeared for the petitioner, contended that the facts in evidence did not amount to offences under either of the said charges; that there was no evidence of criminal intent; that the convictions were bad as they were based on certain facts which were not in evidence; that the original charge made against the petitioner being only of house trespass, the Deputy Magistrate ought not to have tried him under section 354 I.P.C., that the petitioner was materially prejudiced by being tried for two separate offences, which were committed at two different places, and at two different times; and that the sentence is too severe.

Their Lordships delivered the following judgment: We see no reason to interfere with the conviction and having regard to the fact that the accused was a member of the police force we are not prepared to say that the sentence is too severe. The application is therefore rejected.

BARISAL NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Barisal, July 30.

WEATHER.

Though it is the mid-season water has not risen to the extent it is usual and necessary for our part of the country. It will tell heavily upon the Ashus crop. The plants have not got their full development, so the yield must be very small. Rain is making up the deficiency to a certain extent indeed, but it is also pouring in in an abnormal rate. For about a week we are seldom getting sight of sun as heavy showers come down punctually at 12 a.m. every day. We are tired of it, roads have become impassable in certain quarters.

IN AID OF THE S. AND I. ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last there was held a meeting in aid of the proposed Scientific and Industrial Association at Bhola, a sub-division of the District. It was very largely attended and influentially represented. It was held in the Bhola School Hall which could not afford sufficient space to the audience. The people who are generally averse to all these movements rushed to the spot. Great enthusiasm prevailed. Babu Rajani Kanta Kar, pleader, Babu Nabin Chander Das B.L. and Babu Suresh Chandra Talukder M.A., B.L., were the principal speakers. They spoke very impressively. Many offered subscription then and there. The local Bar Library agreed to subscribe a regular sum annually. The School boys, as it customary, evinced strong sympathy with the movement and strove their utmost to make it a success. A committee has been formed of the representative men of the locality. It is expected that a sum of a hundred Rupees will be very easily collected in that sub-division. In conclusion Babu Suresh Chandra Talukdar M.A., B.L., was highly thanked for his exertion to bring about the meeting and make it a success.

In this connection I have to say something regarding the organisers of the movement. The men in Calcutta are working in strict silence. We do not know whether they empower this moffusil committee to realise the promised sum or are we to remain content with the promise of the donors and their signatures in the bond chits? So meetings are being organised in towns and cities only and not in villages. What are we to do in that respect? Unless a strong head comes forward what are all these insignificant limbs worth? A formal meeting has no value at all. I can not devine what definite lines are we to follow in these respects. It is not at all difficult to hold meetings in towns. The question of village meetings present many difficulties, for this is a movement in quite a new direction, and hence we want light.

Rajkot, says a correspondent, is to be congratulated on having got rid of a dangerous inhabitant of the Randedra Talav. For many years past a large "magar" has been allowed to enjoy the occupancy of the lake and lately his depredations invested him with a new interest. Not content with carrying off a few goats, his taste for human flesh (which was evidently an acquired one) made him attack one of Mr. Davis's wormen, the other day, so that he had become a kind of terror to the people about there. Sometime ago a woman disappeared from Bechedi near Laipuri, and she is supposed to have been one of his victims, as she was last washing clothes near the lake. Such aggressions, of course, could not be tolerated, and Captain Saville and Mr. Stanley went out to "interview" the animal, and they succeeded in putting an end to his exploits. He measured eight feet long. Three silver bangles and five beads were found in him. They probably belonged to another of his victims.

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Smith Stanstreet and Co. Wholesale Agents, B.K. Paul and Co., Abdool Rahaman Abdool Karim, Calcutta.

Correspondence.

APPEAL TO THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION COMMITTEE.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—Will you kindly bring the following suggestions prominently to the notice of the Industrial Exhibition Committee, Bombay?

It is a very happy sign of the times that the educated classes of India have begun to realize the necessity of reviving old industries and starting new ones. But apart from capital or skilled labour, the principal difficulty that threatens any new enterprise is the want of a guaranteed market or permanent custom on which to rely for the sale of articles produced. This difficulty, can only be removed, by securing the sympathy and co-operation of whole-sale merchants. The bulk of the import trade of foreign articles, is to-day in the hands of a few Bora or Mahommedan Merchants at the principal ports like Bombay, Madras, Karachi and Calcutta. These merchants are not at all in touch either with the Congress or the Industrial Exhibitions and the consequence is that, though a native factory may offer them country-made articles equal in quality and cheaper in rates as compared with foreign goods, still they are not inclined to encourage their sale. It is, therefore, suggested that as soon as the sessions of the Congress are over, the Managing Committee of the Industrial Exhibitions should select, out of the numerous exhibits, such articles of daily requirements as can compete in quality and prices with foreign products, and approach the wholesale merchants of the place through some of their educated leaders with definite proposals and prevail upon them to enter into an agreement to purchase those articles upto a certain limit every year. This would in my opinion be a very practical step, without which no amount of lecturing on industrial questions or awarding prizes to good exhibits will have any permanent effect. As retail sale cannot be depended upon, it is always necessary to secure the co-operation of wholesale dealers before starting a new industry.

In several towns in India, Depots have been opened for the collection and sale of Indian stores. To reader these Depots as complete as possible, it is necessary to compile something like a directory of Indian Arts and industries containing the names and full addresses of the Mills and factories and of the manufacturers or supplying agents of various articles. This directory should be a complete guide to the manufactures and natural products (vegetable and mineral) of India and should contain also statistical information on important arts and industries. In America, they have got the Peck's Buyers' Index to manufactures and products of U. S. A. I. have been for sometime thinking of compiling such a directory and have already collected 2,500 names, but I find, from practical experience, that it is very hard to approach the individual manufacturers who never advertise their wares, nor care to read newspapers, in case appeals are made to them through the Press to communicate their own names as well as the names of the articles produced. To meet this inconvenience, I would suggest that the proceedings of each year's Industrial Exhibition be published together with a complete list of the Exhibits, as well as the addresses and names of the manufacturers or the senders of those articles. If this suggestion be accepted, there will be within four or five years, a reliable record of the raw materials as well as manufactures of the various provinces in India.

At every session of the Congress, appeals should be made for funds for the purpose of sending out promising students to foreign countries to learn a particular art or industry which may be fixed upon by the Industrial Committee. The surpluses that may remain after defraying the expenses of the Exhibitions should be utilized for this or similar other purpose. It is reported that the Ahmedabad Industrial Committee has got a balance of about Rs. 12,000 and much controversy is going on regarding the way of its disposal. I would take this opportunity of suggesting that the money may be used in sending a few deserving students to Japan or any other foreign country.

There has arisen a desire amongst the educated classes to purchase cloth of Indian manufacture and it is high time that the leaders of the Congress movement should themselves set an example in this matter, which will surely have a far-reaching consequence in reviving the Mill industry of India which is reported to be already on the verge of bankrupty. Why should not our leaders forget the behests of fashion and false taste and set an example by appearing in this national assembly in dresses of country-made cloth?

Secondly it is also necessary to collect the trade-marks and names of all weaving Mills in India. If the facsimiles of these trade-marks be printed in pamphlet form, these pamphlets will be very reliable guide to distinguish foreign from country-made cloth, because trade-marks in themselves are very misleading. The names of Native Importers are sometimes stamped on foreign cloth, to give them the appearance of Indian-made, while native manufacturers with that their cloth should pass off as foreign made. This difficulty can also be solved easily if all the manufacturers make it a point to stamp their goods with the words "Indian-made."

In principal cities in India, societies should be started pledging themselves to patronise Indian-made cloth and other articles.

There is also the necessity of opening Depots all over India for the collection and sale of country-made articles. This will be a very useful opening to enterprising educated men.

M. B. SANT.

Intimation has reached Simla that the rest of the Tibet Mission have crossed the Brahmaputra.

EVERY COMMUNITY has been benefitted by the introduction of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy into this country. There is scarcely a neighbourhood but that someone can be found whose life has been saved by its use. It is the best known medicine for all forms of stomach and bowel troubles. It never fails to give immediace relief and can always be depended upon. For sale by

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Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, AUGUST 7, 1904.

HOW DISTRICT MAGISTRATES WEILD GREATER POWERS THAN THE CZAR.

MR. FOSTER, Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh, resented the interference of the High Court in his explanation in reference to a certain case in his file, the particulars of which will be stated presently. The feeling of the people, on the other hand, is that the control of the High Court is, as a rule, very feeble, as this very case will shew. One Mr. Christian had got lease of a portion of a village, called Gadi Masnadi in Hazaribagh. But he had broken the terms of the lease, and the Civil Court was moved to oust him by the proprietors of the village. A decree was obtained, whereupon the Zemindars' people proceeded to take possession, and they declared that they were assaulted and driven by Mr. Christian's servants. A criminal complaint was therefore lodged against the latter before the Deputy Commissioner, who ordered a judicial enquiry. But while the judicial inquiry was pending, the Deputy Commissioner ordered the institution of proceedings under section 107 Cr. P. C. to bind down both the Zemindars and Mr. Christian. Immediately after this, the complaint of the Zemindars alluded to above was rejected, and Mr. Foster took up the case under section 107 for trial.

Summonses were issued to both parties in regard to the above case; but the Zemindars not having got them failed to appear. Warrants were at once issued against them, and the Nazir was called upon to explain why the summonses had not been served in proper time upon the Zemindars.

The Zemindars' party duly appeared before the Deputy Commissioner and were enlarged on their personal recognizance of Rs. 1,000 each. And the Police were ordered to find "(1) what signs there are that the Zemindars people are taking forcible possession of the village: (2) What is the present state of affairs in the village."

The complaint of the Zemindars that they had been forcibly ousted from the possession of a property which they had obtained by a decree from the civil court was altogether ignored, and the police was deputed to make an enquiry on behalf of Mr. Christian upon his one-sided statement that the Zemindars were taking forcible possession of the village! Thus the tables were completely turned upon the Zemindars.

Mr. Foster was kind enough, however, to propose a conference for a compromise and the pleaders of the Zemindars were asked to attend it; but before the conference could take place, the District Superintendent began his enquiry. The proper course for the Police Superintendent was to keep himself aloof from both parties, but he chose to hold his investigation by stopping at the Bungalow of Mr. Macfayder, manager of Mr. Christian, where the Zemindars' party had to go with their witnesses.

The two parties were fighting, and it did not occur to the Police Superintendent that it was indecent on his part to stop at the house of one,—and this one a European—and summon the other there. However he did not see the impropriety of the arrangement.

On the 16th May last the bail of the Zemindars' party was reduced to Rs. 500, but on the following day (17th May), they were, all of a sudden, re-arrested and sent to hajut forthwith. Why? Why were they re-arrested and confined in a lock-up? When they enquired of the reason, they were shown a telegram by Mr. Warde Jones, the Senior Deputy Magistrate, from the Deputy Commissioner who was then away from headquarters but were not allowed a copy thereof though they applied for such copy.

A fresh application was preferred to the said Deputy Magistrate as the Deputy Commissioner was then on tour in a distant part of the district of Hazaribagh, 60 or 70 miles distant from the head-quarters.

On the following day several applications were also made for copies of the order for bail passed on the 16th, of the letter of the District Superintendent of Police and other papers but Mr. Warde Jones, the Deputy Magistrate, refused to pass any direct order on them, but simply referred them to the Deputy Commissioner.

Is it not this very convenient way of administering the affairs of a district? Mr. Foster was 60 or 70 miles away. From there he sends a telegram, and His Majesty's subjects are arrested on the strength of this telegram and sent to jail! And when they wanted copies of the telegram and other papers, they were coolly told by the Deputy Magistrate to go to the head of the district, who was 70 miles away in the interior! And if the Hon'ble Judges object to such proceedings, Mr. Foster resents the meddlesomeness of the idiots who preside over the High Court!

Failing to obtain any justice from the Hazaribagh authorities, the accused had to come to the High Court for protection. Here let the accused tell their own tale in their petition to the High Court:—

"That the Hon'ble Court was pleased to direct that your petitioners might be admitted to bail and deferred passing any order upon the application for transfer of proceedings and called for an explanation from the said learned Deputy Commissioner.

"That the matter having come on for disposal (Criminal Revisional case No. 580 of 1904) before the Hon'ble Court their Lordships the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pratt and the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Handley, by their judgment dated the 14th June 1904, held that the said Deputy Commissioner's action in not allowing bail was illegal.

"That in the explanation submitted by the said learned Deputy Commissioner he stated that he had passed orders to the effect that your petitioners might be released on bail.

"That the said learned Deputy Commissioner while so ordering that bail might be given, coupled it with the direction that the person standing bail must first appear before him.

"That the persons who had at first expressed their willingness to stand bail among whom was Sheonarain Sett, one of the richest bankers of Hazaribagh, on hearing of the orders of the Deputy Commissioner became afraid to stand bail,

"That your petitioners being residents of another district could not easily induce people to stand bail for them and finding the people who had at first expressed their willingness to stand bail, they or their relatives or friends have not been able to induce others to stand bail.

"That as a matter of fact after great difficulty your petitioners' relatives and friends were able to induce 5 persons, namely, Gopal Mahto, Chaturi Mahto, Keeala Bhagta, Thekuri Mahto and Latoo Mahto, to stand bail for your petitioners and that the said persons having so expressed their willingness in a petition to the Deputy Commissioner stating that they were each possessed of properties worth Rs. 5,000, the matter was referred to the Police for enquiry.

"That the Police having submitted an unfavourable report the said persons were not accepted as suitable persons to stand bail.

"That notwithstanding the order of this Hon'ble Court, the result has been that your petitioners have remained in jail and are there even now."

We said that the control that the High Court exercises over the Magistrates is oftentimes feeble. Just see how these men were illegally detained. The High Court said so and ordered their release, but the Hon'ble Court could not yet enforce their own order! In spite of the order, the men had to rot in the jail all the same.

Mr. Foster now adopted another tactics. But let us quote again from the petition:—

"That on or about the 7th June 1904, the said Deputy Commissioner took up the case at Koderma, which is a great distance from Hazaribagh, and which is very close to Mr. Christian's place.

That your petitioners were at first ordered to be marched from Hazaribagh to Koderma for the hearing of the case on the 8th June 1904, but on representation being made that their health would suffer they were allowed to travel in bullock carts. The expenses of which your petitioners had to meet."

So they must walk; and these respectable men must be marched from Hazaribagh all the way to Koderma, so that the people might see what a great man Mr. Foster was! Pray, was not this a little bit silly on the part of an official enjoying such a high position? We must quote from the petition again:—

"That after the deposition of some witnesses on behalf of Mr. Macfayder, manager of Mr. Christian, had been taken at Koderma on the 7th day of June 1904, the case was again postponed to the 24th day of June 1904 for hearing at Hazaribagh.

"That your petitioners could not get any legal assistance whatsoever at Hazaribagh. None of the pleaders or muktears practising there being willing to take up their case and defend lest by so doing they may incur the displeasure of the Deputy Commissioner.

"That as a last resort your petitioners' relatives secured the services at great expense of a legal gentleman from Gaya, namely, Mr. Shah, Barrister of Gaya.

"That Mr. Shah appeared before the said Deputy Commissioner on the 24th day of June 1904, and having represented to him the state in which your petitioners were, prayed that the case might be transferred to some other Magistrate and that copies might be allowed of the order sheet and other papers in the record of the case.

"That the said Deputy Commissioner did not pass any order but remarked that the case would be taken up when the records were at Hazaribagh and that thereupon the said Mr. Shah left Hazaribagh.

"That the case was next fixed for hearing on the 2nd July 1904 and on that date it was postponed to the 6th July 1904.

"That on the 6th day of July 1904 your petitioners were not represented by any pleader as no pleader could be found in Hazaribagh willing to act on their behalf.

"That the case was again postponed to the 13th day of July 1904, as the records were reported to be not in Hazaribagh.

"That from time to time when the case was called on for hearing the Deputy Commissioner remarked that the records were wit the civil authorities elsewhere."

Is this administering justice or prostituting it? Mind one of the parties in the case is a European. But let us continue.

So a day is fixed and the parties are summoned to appear. But when they appear they are told that the records are not in Hazaribagh, and the case is again postponed and the accused remanded. Again a day is fixed. In this manner they have to "dance" attendance over and over again to suit the convenience of the lord of the district. We do not know how to characterise such proceedings.

On the 13th July they were brought from the jail, and sent back there, as the records were not in Hazaribagh.

On the 22nd the same process was repeated. Various applications for copies of papers were made, but they got them not. In this way the accused have been detained in jail for over two and half months for what faults nobody yet knows, and under a procedure which, according to the High Court, is illegal. This is the boasted liberty of His Majesty's Indian subjects in India!

The High Court has directed the Deputy Commissioner to release the petitioners upon their personal recognizance of Rs. 2,000 each. We have now to see if Mr. Foster obeys this order or disputes the authority of the High Court. Up to this time Mr. Foster has suffered nothing by defying the authority of the High Court. We, therefore, do not see why should he not do it again. Sir Andrew Fraser is touring. We trust, his attention will be drawn to the case.

THE GREATEST BOON CONVERTED INTO THE GREATEST CURSE.

IF good comes out of evil, the reverse is also now and then true, at least in India. Was not the measure of local self-government a great boon, and hailed with joy by our people from one end of the country to the other? Did it not promise many valuable blessings to us? We have, however, seen very little of its benefits, though we have enough of its disastrous results. It has sowed dissensions where there was peace and harmony; it has taken away the manliness and self-respect of our representatives; it has enabled the officials to so demoralize our leading men as to make them willing tools in their hands for the purpose of enormously increasing taxation in municipal towns as well as for sanctioning wrongs, the odium of which the officials would never care to take upon their own shoulders. And, lastly, this self-government threatens the imposition of fresh taxation in Bengal. One of its fruits is the District Board, and the "Hindu Patriot" thus describes its constitution:—

"It is an undeniable fact that District Boards are semi-official bodies. In fact, constituted as they are at present, they are found to exist to register the decrees of official mandates on the whole, and that being so, we may not be guilty of using the language of hyperbole if we say that these Boards cannot be much distinguishable from Departments of Government."

In support of the statement of our contemporary, we shall quote the following from the letter of our Barisal correspondent, who being on the spot is in a position to speak on the subject with some authority, specially as the conduct of the local District Board attracted considerable public attention in consequence of its extraordinary address to Sir Andrew Fraser during his recent visit to that town:—

"Your editorial articles on the extraordinary doings of the District Boards are highly appreciated. I wish to let you know something about the constitution of our present District Board. Through the direct and underhand influence of the District officials, it has been denuded of all popular and public spirited members. Babu Aswinikumar has no place on the Board and it is being manned chiefly by those, who are subservient to the wishes of the local authority and many of whom do not know English. These puppets have been placed in the front by the official clique, who guides the whole affair in the town. These people are doing incalculable mischief. They obey any mandate that comes from the President and Mr. Beatson Bell. They even do not understand the illegality of subscribing Rs. 5,000 for the construction of water-works. There are some people on the Board, who are public spirited and educated enough to understand all this, but they can not assert themselves."

Yes, in every District Board, like that of Barisal, there are a few independent members. Can they explain why are they there at all? They do not get any pay; they receive no consideration. On the other hand, they are now and then insulted if they show any independence. If they have any self-respect, how can they reconcile it with the treatment they receive? If they want to maintain their representative character, they should resign their positions like those patriotic members of the Dacca Board who resigned in a body when asked to sign the address to Lord Curzon which they could not honestly do. Since they can do no good, they should not remain to sanction wrongs.

Nothing advanced the cause of local self-government better than the resignation of the 28 members of the Calcutta Municipality. We regret one of the most prominent among them subsequently rejoined the institution. If we mistake not, he did it to carry out a specific object. It was further understood that he would be only six months in the Municipality; and on the expiry of the term, he would resign the post. It is high time he should keep himself aloof from the Municipality. It should be borne in mind that, if the resignation of the 28 Commissioners advanced the cause of local self-government, the re-entry of some of the most prominent of them is likely to cause vital injury to it. And need we explain, why?

Well, they resigned because they honestly felt that a great wrong was done to them personally and the cause of local self-government. By their subsequent conduct, the authorities only aggravated the wrong, and made it utterly impossible for the Commissioners to take part in the work of the Corporation. In short, the grave aspersions case on their character were not removed; on the other hand, the constitution of the Municipality was so changed as to reduce the Commissioners into mere figure-heads. The wrong, instead of being removed, was thus rendered more unjustifiable. How can they then join the institution again? To withdraw their resignation and join the Corporation now, when the wrong not only exists but continues in an aggravated form, is to sanction and accept it, and for ever to remove the chance of getting it righted.

The "Hindu Patriot" goes on to say:—

"To invest these Boards by law with the power of taxation will seem to imply that the Government themselves mean to take power by doing so. The explanation is obvious. The District Boards are presided over by District Magistrates and composed of half the official members, where the official element generally preponderates and where the District Magistrate is armed with sufficient power to carry whatever proposal he likes. The District Magistrate being the Sovereign's representative in the district, whose prospect of success having been dependent upon the good will of Government, no wonder that the Government view must prevail, as a matter of course, in the District Boards.

And our contemporary thus explains the nature of the taxation the Government proposes to impose:—

"In connection with the Indian Government offer of loan to the Local Boards for construction of Railways, we notice that the Local Self-Government Amendment Bill, which is now pending consideration in the Legislative Council of the Government of Bengal, contemplates taking a step further in the direction of an apprehended inroad on the Permanent Settlement. It is idle to deny the fact that the Local Self-Government Amendment Bill, that is now on the legislative anvil, has been viewed by the public mind with grave concern all over the land. As a matter of fact, it has created grave misgivings throughout the country. The Bill proposes to vest District Boards with the legal authority for imposing an additional cess for construction of tramways and railways."

The people have not yet been able to fully realize the grave nature of the Bill in question. It not only proposes fresh taxation, but an impost which will touch the pocket of every ryot in Bengal. And how beautifully will the thing be managed! A number of additional duties will be thrown upon the District Board. With the resources at its disposal—the only fund it has is the Road Cess fund—it will be of course impossible for it to carry them on. Over and above this, the Board will be empowered to construct railways and tramways. These need a large capital. The Government is, however, prepared to advance it. If the Government had paid it without interest, even then it would have been scarcely possible for the Board to repay it; for, a district railway or a tramway can scarcely be a paying concern. But the Government will neither make a free gift of the money nor lend it without interest. On the other hand the Board will have to pay the usual interest—4 per cent. per annum we believe;—and it goes without saying that it will be utterly beyond its means to pay it. And as soon as the Board "is unable to make any payment guaranteed under section 82 in respect of a railway or tramway," to quote the words of section 46 A.

"The Lieutenant Governor may, by notification in the "Colcutta Gazette," for the purpose of providing the required funds, impose a rate on the annual value of lands as defined in section 4 of the Cess Act, 1880."

So you see, what is proposed to be done is to fasten railways or tramways and other works upon the District Boards; and, when they are, as they must be, unable to meet the cost for want of fund, the Government will step in, and, by an executive order, empower them to tax the people at their sweet will to secure the required money! Even the formality of a discussion in the Legislative Council will not be gone through—the Cess will be imposed by mere notification in the "Calcutta Gazette!"

Nor is this all. Yet another Cess will be imposed upon land. And this also in clear violation of the terms of the Permanent Settlement. It was the Road Cess first; it was the Public Works Cess next; the Education Cess was proposed but given up; it is now the railwoy or tramway Cess; other Cesses will follow in due course; and, in the end, the kernel of the Permanent Settlement will be taken away and its shell only will remain!

It is the business of the Government or private enterprise to construct railways and tramways. Why should the District Board be hampered with such works and then converted into an engine of oppression? As long as the Board is the custodian of the Road Cess fund, it has no other legitimate duty than that of making "village roads and local paths," and looking after the sanitary improvement of the rural population by supplying them with sufficient and wholesome water and removing the defective drainage of their villages. The Road Cess Fund is hardly sufficient for these great works which are urgently needed for ridding the Province of the scourge of cholera and malaria,—that is to say, for the very existence of the people. If the Government chooses to throw further burdens upon the Boards, it must not make the Cess Fund bear them but meet their cost from its own exchequer.

WHEN we heard of the prosecution of a Punjab vernacular paper by the Government and the apology of its editor, withdrawing all objectionable expressions, we came to remember the story of the Rajah and the ganja smoker. The Rajah was going out for bird-shooting on his big elephant, and a ganja-smoker was found sitting by the side of the road. The latter, being inflated with the effects of the drug, was feeling himself as the monarch of the universe. He, therefore, regarded the Rajah, his elephant and his gaudily-dressed attendants with utter contempt. "Are you the malik, (owner) of this sorry brute?" asked the ganja-smoker of the Rajah. The latter, very much amused, without taking offence gave a civil reply. He said: "Yes, but why do you ask." The smoker replied that he wanted to purchase the elephant, for he was in need of a hundred such. The Rajah observed he would see to it when he came back. The Rajah proceeded on his way, the smoker waited for his return. After a couple of hours the Rajah returned, and sought the ganja-smoker. But, that man, on seeing the Prince, tried to fly. This he was not permitted by the attendants of the Prince who brought him before His Highness. "Well now," said the Rajah addressing the smoker, "you wanted to purchase my elephant. Here I am. Fetch your money, I shall let you have it cheap." The smoker had then got sober. He replied humbly that he had no need of the elephant. "But you wanted to purchase it," said the Rajah with some warmth. The smoker replied: "Your Highness, the party which wanted to purchase the elephant was not myself but my ganja. It is gone now."

So we thought that the writer of the Amritsar sedition wanted, in his patriotic fury, to rid his country of its foreign yoke. But as soon as the ganja was gone, he was all humility. But when we had subsequently procured a translation of the condemned writing we were compelled to change our views. The writing shews that it is not only outspoken but candid to perfection. This fact, with the statement that the defendant told in his defence, convinces us that the defendants are victims, and not conspirators. In the writing, we see, the people of India are urged to shed "maunds, nay, hundred maunds of red ink or blood" for "driving out the tormentors beyond the ocean from this country" and "not to sarink from converting existence into non-existence as long as their rights are not secured." Now it is impossible to believe that any writer in India would express himself in that way in a newspaper, unless he was backed by at least one hundred thousand bayonets or unless he was insane. But he has not the regiments at his back, nor is he even a man of consequence. How could then the article come to be inserted? He says he had enemies who had taken advantage of his absence to induce his inexperienced son in charge of the press to admit the article in his paper. Now if there was the slightest attempt on the part of the writer to veil his sedition, we could have doubted the statement of the Editor. But there is no attempt at concealment. On the other hand, the writer is very anxious to show that he had written nothing but sedition. This supports the theory that it was written by an enemy to implicate the paper. It is an impossible supposition that they deliberately wrote rank sedition, and apologized immediately afterwards. The authorities, it seems, have lost temper, and well they might, since the writer urges the people of India to make a clear sweep of all them. But let them give the parties a fair hearing. We are convinced that a proper investigation will prove what we are contending for, namely, that it is impossible for sane man to write open sedition in his newspaper unless backed by hundred thousand bayonets which, of course, the accused had not.

SECTION 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code is a terrible engine of oppression in the hands of the executive authorities here. A Police Officer has simply to report that so and so is a bad and dangerous character, and the latter is done for. The trial is held by the Magistrate, and he has the privilege of believing or disbelieving any evidence. He believes the police evidence and disbelieves the evidence of the accused, and the latter is ruined. What happens usually is this. A warrant is issued against the accused, and he is at once put in hajut or lock-up. He asks for bail, and this is refused, mainly on the ground that he is too dangerous to be set free, and that, if released, he will intimidate prosecution witnesses. If the man is too poor to move the appellate Court, he rots in jail at the sweet pleasure of the Magistrate. In this way hundreds of men are made to suffer the rigours of jail annually, and they are given no opportunities to establish their innocence in courts of justice. But those, who have the means, seek the protection of the High or the Chief Court; and the latter, as a rule, directs the Magistrate to release the unfortunate man on bail. The Magistrate, however, without directly disobeying this order, defeats its object in a very simple way. He demands securities for good behaviour, and the accused produces respectable parties to stand bail for him. The Magistrate, however, rejects them as men of no consequence and the unfortunate man is thus prevented from coming out of the jail. He then again runs to the High Court for protection; and this time, the Hon'ble Judges, as a rule, either release him on his own recognizance, or insist on the Magistrate to release him on suitable bail, and the man is then allowed to come out of the jail. We may remark "en passant" that, when people are hauled up under other sections of the Criminal Codes, even then Magistrates resort to these tactics to keep them confined in lock-up. Take, for instance, the case of the Gya Zemindars noticed by us

By adopting this procedure, Mr. Foster, Magistrate of Hazaribag, has been able to keep them rotting in jail for over two and half months, though they were charged under section 107 Cr. P. Code, that is to say, only to show cause why they should not be bound down to keep the peace! But to return to the victim of section 110. His trouble, however, is not at an end when he is at last bailed out. The same Magistrate, who kept him detained in hajut, tries him, disbelieves his evidence, convicts him, brands him in his judgment as a badmash, and directs him to furnish heavy security for his good conduct, failing which he is consigned to jail. This is almost invariably the fate of the man hauled up under section 110. All the above process, except the trial, has been gone through in the case of Mithu Khan of Mirzapore which has been reported several times in these columns; and a few more particulars about which will be found in the letter of our special correspondent published in another column.

Now a similar case occurred in Lahore in December last which is of special interest in consequence of the remarkable judgment delivered upon it by the Chief Judge of the Chief Court of the Punjab. It was a case in which one Nur-ud-din of the Mochi Gate, Lahore, apealed against his conviction by the City Magistrate on the charge of being a notorious bad character. The Chief Judge, after perusing the order of the City Magistrate, in which the accused was described as a notorious character who can be paid for and used for nefarious purposes by any party to a quarrel, and "as in fact taking the place of a hired assasain of olden times," and the order of the District Magistrate in which Nur-ud-din is described as "being so desperate and dangerous as to render his being at large without security hazardous to the community," recorded the following judgment:—

"On the evidence in the record no case is made out against Nur-ud-din on any of the clauses of section 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code, and this is admitted by the District Magistrate, who relies upon the local knowledge of the City Magistrate and himself to make up for the deficiency of evidence. The Magistrate says: 'It is impossible that the City or District Magistrate, who has been for some years in the city or district, should not know fairly well who are really noted bad characters within his jurisdiction. The City Magistrate has shewn in his judgment that he knew the character of Nur-ud-din, and knew the amount of reliance to be placed on the evidence of the various witnesses."

In short, the City Magistrate rejected the evidence produced by the accused simply, because, he and the District Magistrate knew that Nur-ud-din was a badmash, and upon this knowledge only convicted the man! The Chief Judge makes the following remarks upon this way of administering justice:—

"This raises the question whether, in a trial under section 110 C.P.C., Magistrates may base their orders on their local and personal knowledge of the accused and the evidence of witnesses. The District Magistrate is of opinion that they may. In this opinion I am unable to agree. The proceedings under section 110 C.P.C. are judicial and not executive proceedings. It is a fundamental principle in the administration of justice that the accused should know what is the evidence against him and should have an opportunity of testing it by cross-examination. This principle is violated when the Magistrate's order is based upon knowledge locked within his own breast and not put upon the record. Strong authority would be necessary to support any violation of this principle, and none has been quoted to me by the learned counsel appearing for the Government. On the other hand, there is a considerable amount of authority to support the enforcement of this principle."

Of course the man was acquitted. But just see the way he was convicted. The City Magistrate heard from some body that Nur-ud-din was a badmash, and he at once became a badmash in his eyes. If so, he should have never ventured to try him, for he was prejudiced against him. Indeed, as the Chief Judge remarks, "if it is important to utilize personal knowledge of a Magistrate the proper procedure is for the case to be tried by another Magistrate and for the Magistrate with the personal knowledge to give evidence as a witness." In this country, however, not only is the same official the Judge and the prosecutor, but he will utilize his knowledge or belief, which is locked within his breast, for the purpose of securing the conviction of an accused! They will, however, never utilize it for his acquittal! To what a sad pass have the authorities in this country reduced

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themselves! Is there really any pleasure in this passion for conviction and putting fellow-beings into trouble? They cannot often distinguish right from wrong which is plain to the meanest apprehension. And yet the lives, honour, and liberty of millions of men are entrusted to their keeping!

At the United Club where Lord Curzon was entertained on August 1, Mr. Balfour praised the former; and Lord Curzon, no doubt, also praised Mr. Balfour, though Reuter has not wired it. There is no harm in such mutual adulation. Indeed, when others do not praise men in authority, they praise themselves; and as the praises of men in authority are of greater value than those of the laymen, it is not of much moment to them whether they are praised by the latter or not. But, it is a quite different thing, when Lord Curzon, who is yet the Viceroy of India, openly declares that "they do not require Parliamentary interference in governing India." Yes, Parliament is as much a nuisance to the responsible rulers of India as the High Court is to good many District Magistrates. What Lord Curzon wants is a carte blanche to do whatever he likes as Viceroy. But why will the English people at home agree to this arrangement? For, the arrangement he proposes will no doubt make him supreme in India, but, it will, at the same time take away the authority which the English nation have over Indian affairs through their representative body, Parliament. If Lord Curzon loves power, so does every Englishman. Why will then the forty million Englishmen at home part with it, and permit him alone to enjoy it? It should have thus occurred to Lord Curzon that his proposal was a little selfish and unreasonable. But does the British Parliament exercise any real control now? Has it much control even over purely British affairs? Is not Mr. Chamberlain practically the dictator? For ourselves we have no objection to him, but the real fact is, Parliament has not the same control over him as he has over Parliament. As for India, queer enough, the Viceroy has little power here. The country is now governed between the Secretary of State and the District Magistrates.

Russian papers are making much of the 600 miles of the new railway from Orenburg to Tashkent, which have been opened for traffic. This means that the trains are running two-thirds of the way to the terminus in Central Asia. The railway, says the "Pioneer," is purely a strategical one, the object being to have a line alternative to the Transcaspian Railway, in case of the "advance" upon India through Afghanistan and the Pamir region. It is quite possible that, being worsted by the Japanese, the Russians will try to worry England by their threats upon India. But, we are assured by the Allahabad paper, that the changed conditions have been foreseen and are being provided against. In short, the Russian railway is not likely to cause any alarm in India. We are told that, not until the Russians have built a railway from Tashkent to the Oxus, south of Mazar-i-sharif will they be able to mobilise and maintain any large army moving into Afghan Turkestan, and it will be very difficult for them to accomplish such a feat. However, says the "Pioneer", Afghanistan must always be on the alert, keeping a close watch upon Russian movements, not only in the direction of Herat but also in that of Mazar-i-sharif. The Amir however labours under one great disadvantage. His army is without good and trained officers.

Judging from the success of the Town Hall meeting held on Monday last, the movement set on foot for the scientific and industrial development of the country bids fair to have a very hopeful future before it. A movement of this kind has this advantage that all classes of our people may join in it freely. Nay, it may also enlist the sympathy of many a European, official and non-official. Fancy, the Town Hall meeting, though convened by the Indians, was presided over by an English Judge of the High Court! The list of the donations, already promised, which the Secretary of the Association read at the meeting, disclosed the gratifying fact that, though only a few months old, it has been able to secure substantial support of good many members of the wealthy section of our community. There are, however, hundreds yet who should now open their purse-strings and contribute their mite to the good cause. The middle class men, both higher and lower, should also do their part of the duty. In this way the Association should not only be able to secure a large fund, but also the representatives of every respectable class of the Indian community; and when it has assumed a national character, many a generous-hearted European, of their own motion, will come forward to further its object. Steps for the formation of committees in every district and sub-divisional towns of Bengal should be taken as speedily as possible; and when a considerable number of such committees have been organised, agents should be sent to other Provinces for expanding the scope of the movement. What the country needs is a national organization in its literal sense. When such an organization has been secured, it will be an easy matter to improve our society in every direction. As we pointed out the other day, litigation is one of the great curses which has followed Western civilization in this country. But, if every sub-division gets its representative committee, it will be quite possible for the latter to establish arbitration courts in important villages and mitigate this evil as far as that is possible. Similarly, through the means of these committees home-made articles may be introduced everywhere in the place of the foreign-made. And, thus, the newly-organized Association may produce grand results provided it is carried on with unselfish and single-minded devotion. May God bless its work!

We are glad that the strike of the students in the Campbell Medical School is at an end. What is very gratifying is that the amicable settlement has been brought about exactly in the way it should have been. The Inspector-General of Hospitals wrote to the students to say, in answer to their petition, that he was prepared to do them justice provided they would attend the school and do their hospital duties. The students readily agreed to this proposal; and they, in a body, entered the school hall. When the Superintendent Dr. Walsh, came, they all rose upon their feet to show their mark of respect for him. This evidently very much moved the Doctor, who expressed his regret at the incident, and said that he had no idea that the matter would assume such a serious aspect. He promised an enquiry into their grievances and declared that, the seven days they were absent from the school, would be regarded as holidays by him. The way the matter has ended does credit to all parties. We have, no doubt, Dr. Walsh has now been convinced that Indian students are very much unlike the students of European countries. The latter, we need hardly say, would have behaved in a quite different manner, if they had been treated in the manner their confreres in Bengal were.

So they acted Shakuntala in the United States! That was done at the Smith College, Northampton. The public were invited to witness the performance, and we are assured, the audience went away highly delighted. But why did not they seek the help of the Hindus who are now in America? There are many such who would have been very glad to help them. The performance took place on the 20th June and here is an account taken from the "Evening Post" of New York, June 25th:—

After nine years of William Shakespeare, Smith College has turned to him who has been called the Shakespeare of India, and on June 17 and 18 the Senior Dramatic Club gave a presentation of Kalidasa's "Shakuntala," the acknowledged masterpiece of the Hindu Drama. It is pleasant to say at the outset that the production is worthy of commendation in many ways. Evidence of hard work on the part of the students was visible from the invocation to the end of the last act, during three hours and a half of sustained effort. It was thorough, conscientious work, which showed itself in many details liable to escape notice, in the studied stride befitting the male characters, in the carefully trained-down voices, which scarcely betrayed the femininity of the same difficult parts, and in the perfect smoothness of the acting, which even at the first presentation showed no hitch or hesitancy. A double need of praise is perhaps due to those who were content to act well parts which were the last one could imagine to be acceptable to a girl actor, such as those of the negro mute and the unkempt fisherman. Further, the effect of the whole was certainly beautiful. The robes and stage setting, however incongruous at times, were artistic; and, to those who did not demand too minute a regard for Oriental propriety, eminently pleasing. The same may be said of the music, especially composed for the play by Professor Coerne of Smith College. It had Oriental suggestions, although it did not attempt to reproduce the airs appropriate to the lyrical parts of the drama. The presentation must first be accepted for what it professed to be, not a rendition of "Shakuntala" as it was once rendered in India, but as an effort to present the typical features of the play under the limitations imposed by the conditions.

"That these limitations were so great as to forbid a satisfactory rendition, it is too much to say. The "Shakuntala" of Smith College gave much satisfaction. At the same time it must be said that any such attempt as this is so daring as to be predestined to give less satisfaction than an English or even a Greek drama. In the latter one has, if not the Greek music, at least the music of the Greek, whereas in "Shakuntala" an English version of varying elegance and correctness represented the exquisite metres of the original. The length of a Sanskrit play required pruning and compression, but the Smith College version, by what can be described only as an unfortunate contradiction, was not only compressed, but unnecessarily expanded; the scene of the sage's curse being worked up for effect which, to be frank, failed because of its inherent impossibility. It is difficult enough to give the Hindu atmosphere even with strict adherence to the Hindu text; to invent is to seek danger without compensation. Another unfortunate and unnessary failure was the whole conception of the jester, who was so Americanized as to be almost unrecognizable. This was, of course, the general fault to be expected, and it speaks well for the acting of the students that they were able to convey any Oriental effect when hampered by American scenery, American clothes, and American music. Some finer points of the original were naturally lost, sometimes by exaggeration sometimes by a failure to appreciate. But how could it be otherwise with a text that only rudely represented the original with actors whose ideas of India were furnished by the text, and with music which, however excellent, was not Indian? The Smith College Dramatic Association may be congratulated on having given a real pleasure to many who, by means of this representation, have learned in some measure how pretty a comedy "Shakuntala" must have been when given in India fifteen hundred years ago. They may also rest in the assurance that the parts of Shakuntala and Dushyanta, the heroine and hero, came close to the original conception, and that, had these two spoken and sung as they did in India, the effect would have been that intended by Kalidasa. The dance of the maidens in the fourth act was perhaps the prettiest single scene, as well as recognizably Oriental.

"On the whole, the comedy was a source of genuine delight to a large audience, and really taught them something of India. It was also a beautiful thing to see, and perhaps minuter criticism may seem only invidious, for the performance was given for the general public, and that the general public appreciated it was evident not only in the applause, but in the less formal acknowledgment of pleasure to be heard on every hand."

The bogus telegram case and its off-shoots are day by day getting sensational. To send a bogus telegram, cheapen the consols, and make profit out of the circumstance are ideas which are absolutely foreign to Asiatic minds. And, as a matter of fact, there is no Asiatic implicated in the cases under notice, if we may except Thomas who is a Eurasion. When we first heard of it, we could not understand the object of the transaction at all. How would a man benefit if the Thibetans presented a bold front or Japs fought with energy? It is, however, getting clear day by day, though it is not yet quite clear.

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

[*From our own Correspondent.*]

London, July 15.

GOOD SENSE REGARDING SOCIAL INTERCOURSE.

Anglo-Indian stories in English magazines are not usually a success. Sometimes they describe the impossible pranks of Mr. Kipling's Anglo-Indian in a manner is a long way behind Mr. Kipling. In such cases they are merely tiring. At other times, they are lurid melodramas in which the Englishmen are invariably a mixture of Tamerlane, Sir John Lawrence, and the Admirable Crichton, while the Indians, with equal invariety, are a compound of a fool, the devil, and Mecaulay's view of Omichund. A few writers show a noticeable exception to either of these two classes. Sir Edmund C. Cox, for example, who is contributing a series of "Leaves from the Notebook of John Carruthers, Indian Policeman" to "Cassell's Magazine," begins with a few reflections in the customary strain, thus: "The manners and customs of Europeans and Orientals are so diverse that it has been found almost impossible to bridge the gulf that exists between their respective societies. Time after time have efforts been made to overcome the difficulty; but the success achieved can only euphemistically be described as questionable. Intercourse between the two races is almost invariably stilted and conventional. What common ground is there to go upon when a native gentleman, be he Brahmin or Mahomedan, thinks that to eat with you involves defilement from which he can only be purified by stringent religious ceremonies? How can you meet on really intimate terms a man who will, on no account, allow you to see the face of his wife, and who, you are aware, regards you, in his heart of hearts, with contempt because the Mem-Sahib is suffered to go about unveiled?" This is not an uncommon argument among Anglo-Indians, but unlike the average Anglo-Indian, Sir Edmund does not leave the matter there. He goes on to show that in spite of all difficulties a real friendship can grow up between an Englishman and an Indian. "There is no real necessity," he says in one significant sentence, "to bring to the front the inherent differences of the East and West. He continues, wisely, "Much can, after all, be found in the way of mutual interest. If, when going round the district on successive tours a zemindar finds that you remember all about your last visit, the stages of his son's education, his horses, his crops, the new mango grove that he has planted the embankment that he has built, and the adventures that he encountered when he went on a pilgrimage to Mecca half a dozen years ago, he naturally feels warmly complimented; and friendly relations are soon established."

Sir Edmund Cox then deals with the old unworthy sneer that the Indian is only friendly for the sake of that which he expects to obtain from the friendship: "It is commonly said that natives have no sense of gratitude; but I have often found that a little kindness or attention is most gratefully remembered." Sir Edmund explains that a good deal of his time in India was taken up in replying to letters from Indian friends who lived in districts in which he had previously served. "If it be urged," he adds, "that these communications may have been written from that gratitude that has been defined as an expectation of favours to come, this argument cannot apply when officers after their retirement constantly hear from old acquaintances in the East." He declares that he has partaken of the hospitality of Mahomedan land-holders in Northern India and much appreciated the curries and pillaos that they provided for him. The only desideratum required was that he should provide his own knife, fork, and spoon. Hindu gentlemen, also, he states, had frequently furnished him with a meal of lighter description, and had explained with pardonable pride how the delicious pastry and sweetmeats were prepared by the ladies of the household. "As I came to know the people, more intimately," he adds significantly, "I grew to like them more in proportion."

The "I," of course, just referred to, designates "John Carruthers," the assumed narrator of the story. Nevertheless, the opinions expressed are Sir Edmund's opinions, and they show him to possess a broad intelligence and human sympathy which are not clouded by the outer distinctions of social life.

THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO KNOW INDIA!

That outspoken democratic journal "Reynold's Newspaper" is gently satirical at the expense of the East India Association. It writes that "half a century ago public attention was being called to the fact that no one outside a few Anglo-Indian members of the East India Company knew anything about the people of India. Well, those servants of the Company had the respect of the natives. It can be said that no one knows anything about India to-day outside a few Anglo-Indian officials and merchants gathered at the Westminster Palace Hotel, who call themselves the East India Association. War, plague, pestilence, and famine are of yearly occurrence in India. In no other country in the world could the people be governed by the police and Salt officials without disturbance. Their once busy ports and harbours have been closed, and their millions of acres of land are uncultivated. The development of new industries by the European has resulted in many native productive industries being neglected—notably, fishing." One or two of these statements are inaccurate without some qualification and the paragraph seems somehow inconclusive. But it is interesting to learn that the East India Association, as a body, knows about India. It is a compliment that the Association should appreprate—and try to live up to.

THE PRAISE OF INDIAN SELF-SACRIFICE.

Each week the "Westminister Gazette," in its Saturday edition, holds a literary competition in which tasks are set for its readers to accomplish in the succeeding days. A recent question was based upon an Indian incident. In his essay on Clive, Lord Macaulay narrates the noble story of the Indian troops who were besieged with Clive in the fort of Arcot. Provisions had run short and the garrison was gradually reduced to a meagre allowance of rice. In this extremity the Indian showed the metal they were made of. They came to Clive and pointed out that they could bear privation better than the English troops who were accustomed to regular daily meals. They, therefore, offered to give their portion of grain to the white soldiers and content themselves with the water in which the rice had been boiled. This notable self-sacrifice was accepted by Lord Clive. Readers of the "Westminster" were invited to rewrite this incident in verse on the pattern of Macaulay's poetry. The competition proved a very popular one, and numerous poems were sent in. Of these, the best was contributed by "Roe O'Neill," whose verse was of a standard comparatively high in newspaper contests. The poem runs thus:

"True were the Julian legions,
Napoleon's Guards were true
From Calpe unto Caucasus
Where his proud eagles flew.
And this tale shall live for ever
Writ in some glorious tome
Where dwell the deeds of conquering France,
The deeds of lordly Rome.
Up spake a bearded Sepoy,
And unto Clive he said:
'We are not as your English lads
That pine for beef and bread.
They have not known the famine,
They have not known the flood,
They have not seen the sun in dro
Go down like a ball of blood.
But we know well the famine,
We know what ills befall
When empty is the garner
And empty is the stall.
Then when for daily portion
The steaming caldrons brew,
Leave you for us the water,
The grain we leave for you!'
Ho, Britons, hear the story!
Ho, singers, sound their praise!
Ho, craftsmen, give their deeds in stone,
Crowned with a crown of bays!
And praise to their great at captain,
From rise to set of sun—
To those by whom such things were wrought,
For whom such deeds were done."

Among the competitors one, "Zachary" writes in a satiric vein under which now and then he utters a truth which is perhaps more fundamental than he imagines. For example, he concludes with the following couplet:

"And e'en to-day in India, in country or in town,
It's pudding for the white man, and it's water for the brown."

But the modern Indian is not so well placed as the soldiers in Arcot, for Clive's "brown" men received their equal shares of "pudding" until, voluntarily, they gave them up. But the Government to-day, takes as much as it can possibly get, while the people in all grades of society must content themselves with the little that is left. In the division of to-day there is no room for the practice of self-sacrifice—at least so far as the Indians are concerned.

LAW'S DELAY IN ENGLAND.

There is much discussion and indignation in London with regard to the serious delays that occur in the Royal Courts of Justice. The Bench is understaffed and badly distributed with the result that more than half of the Judges are engaged on cases of minor importance, while the remainder make desperate and ineffectual efforts to clear their arrears of work and keep pace with the fresh litigation which increases faster than it can be dealt with. Unfortunate litigants are kept in suspense for months and it is not only individuals who suffer this inconvenience. In many cases great business and commercial interests are hindered by the doubt and uncertainty. The reason of this unsatisfactory condition of affairs is not far to seek. In spite of an increase of population in Great Britain the Common Law Judges have actually been diminished in number within the last thirty years. In 1851 the Judges at the Common Law Courts were fifteen in number; in 1871 there were seventeen; to-day they total only fifteen including the Lord Chief Justice. The scarcity of Judges is artificially heightened at this time of the year by the circuit system. Eight out of the scanty fifteen are compelled to spend several weeks touring through the provincial towns in order to try the more important cases that have occurred. This circuit travelling was necessary and beneficent in the olden days when means of communication were cumbrous and inefficient. Nowadays there is no need for it and, owing to alterations in procedure and in criminal instinct, the Judges on circuit have very little work to do. Meanwhile in London the congestion of business increases. But even in the Royal Courts there is much additional delay owing to the misadjustment of business. At the present time, for instance, there are three Judges sitting as a divisional Court to hear appeals from Magistrates and County Court Judges, although two would form a quorum and be amply competent to deal with the business. While there are eight on circuit and two are ill, the misuse of one of the five remaining for duty in London causes great mischief. Discontent against the irritating and absurd delay has been growing from year to year; each midsummer the same complaints are made with increasing intensity. Unfortunately nothing is done. The Judges have refused to shorten the Long Vacation, and no attempt is being made to reform or abolish the circuit system. Caution and deliberation are needed in making any change in the conduct of form of a country's law. Caution, however, frequently degenerates into a foolish conservatism and the legal system is allowed to fall behind the general progress of the country.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN REAPPEARS.

Mr. Chamberlain has again come to the fore during the past week, but there seems a certain lack of power and influence behind his appearance. This feeling arises principally from the apathy in the country towards his view, and also to the lack of force and magnetism in his speeches. There is an absence of the definite proposals and arguments put forward earlier in his campaign—arguments and proposals withdrawn and forgotten after they had been demolished by his opponents. A vague, undescribed protection and preference is substituted for the cut and dried schemes which were laid before the country last year. In a word: Mr. Chamberlain seems to be borrowing a manœuvre from Mr. Balfour. The evidence from his speeches and from the country should not blind a politician, however, to the real strength and power Mr. Chamberlain still possesses. Though the mass of the people may be against him, practically the whole of the Unionist electoral "machine" is in his hands. This alone is an important and disquieting fact. The organisation of a political party cannot force that party along a path which it desires not to tread; but it can guide it gently in a certain direction until it finds itself bound for a goal not greatly dissimilar from that which it refused at first to approach. And it is here that the danger lies in Mr. Chamberlain's present position. At the end of last week a complimentary dinner was given to him by Unionist M.P.'s At this gathering one hundred and seventy-seven were present, and if to this number be added those who would have been there if not unavoidably detained, the total number of his supporters in the House of Commons would reach two hundred—a portentous figure. Yesterday a further scene in the Protectionist drama was enacted. In the afternoon Mr. Chamberlain attended the first meeting of the new Liberal Unionist Council which has united all Unionist associations under his banner by evicting any members who still maintained a belief in Free Trade. A resolution was passed in favour of "a complete reform of the fiscal system," with increased powers to deal with hostile tariffs, the practice of dumping, and the adoption of preferential arrangements between Great Britain and the Colonies. Here, in the last clause, it will be seen that India is again left out. The assumed benefits of protection are to be obtained for the colonies but India may be safely overlooked in the reckoning. This is not the first time that Mr. Chamberlain has thrown light upon the breadth of his Imperialism by ignoring India. In all probability it will not be the last. At the evening meeting Mr. Chamberlain delivered a speech. It must have proved a disappoin pronouncement even to his supporters. All the old mis-statements against the Liberal Party and its policy were repeated. Jibes which have almost gone out of fashion even among Primrose Leaguers in county districts, were repeated. But there was not much about preference, and what there was was singularly unilluminating. Meanwhile, it is interesting to chronicle a change in Mr. Chamberlain's creed. Last year England was told that she was on the high road to destruction; that if the views of Mr. Chamberlain were not adopted Great Britain would break up and disappear. This year he is obliged to be more cautious. The foretold destruction shows little sign of materialising, so Mr. Chamberlain announces his revised version: "I have come to the definite conclusion that if we continue to drift much longer we may still be a very wealthy nation—we may grow more wealthy than we are—but we shall find it impossible to secure employment for our increasing population." This is far less harrowing, as a prophecy, than that of a year ago. Perhaps, as time goes on, Mr. Chamberlain will find even this picture too dark—perhaps he will find that protection is not so necessary as he once supposed it to be. It may be noticed that he did not have his usual luck last night. Usually he can manage to come full into the glare of the newspaper lime-light on the morning following one of his deliverances. To-day he was not so fortunate. Whilst he was speaking at the Albert Hall last night, Mr. Arnold Foster was explaining the new Army scheme in the House of Commons, and the death of Mr. Kruger monopolised a large share of the papers. Consequently, this morning he was not the sole topic of conversation. As a matter of fact, his meeting was "subordinate news." The man in the street was talking of the army and recalling memories of the Boer war. For a time, Chamberlainism was forgotten.

NOTES IN BRIEF.

The sitting of the Bengal Provincial Conference at Burdwan to protest against the partition of Bengal and the abolition of competitive tests has received some attention in the English press this week. Several papers quote passages from the message of the Calcutta Correspondent of "India," and one or two comment slightly upon it. This interest is, naturally, displayed more widely in Liberal than in Conservative journals, but, strange to say, one of the newspapers which devote some space to the matter is the "Morning Advertiser." This is greatly, and unexpectedly, to its credit. The "New Age," describes the doings of the Conference, and declares that it rejoices to hear of any rational movement towards the development of a political consciousness in India. Lord Curzon's "Imperial" instinct which has sought to check such movements has failed to accomplish a signal success. Such protests as that from Burdwan are good, and ought to be persistently made. "The day is not far distant," it concludes, "when the cry of India will be more heeded than now."

* * * *

In referring to Mr. J. B. Pennington's paper on the Salt Tax, the "Liverpool Journal of Commerce" mentions that English salt imported into India costs from Rs. 8½ to Rs. 10 per ton, free on board at Liverpool; it can be delivered in Calcutta and sold at Rs. 12. But upon this price an import duty of Rs. 82½ is imposed, thus bringing the wholesale price of at least Rs. 94½ per ton. The effect of the inland salt tax and of the import duty on the demand for salt in India has been so unfavourable to a free natural growth that the revenue from salt has increased but slightly within the past ten years. Economic facts which are well known, says the journal in question, warrant the belief that the consumption of free salt would soon be at least four times as great as it is now.

* * * *

The National Indian Association has been taking steps of late to arrange expeditions to various places of interest in and near the Metropolis. Windsor has been visited, as well as Eton. The Tower of London also; and last Saturday, on a perfect summer's day, a party of about twelve Indian students in England, accompanied by Miss Manning and one or two English friends, paid a visit to Hampton Court Palace and grounds. A very enjoyable time was spent in investigating this interesting Royal residence and the art treasures it contains. Tea was served and much appreciated. Most of the party lingered among the charming gardens of the Palace, and amused themselves in the intricacies of the Maze until twilight began to fall, and so home, by means of the electric cars.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

INDIAN PLAGUE MORTALITY.
AN INCREASE.

The plague mortality throughout India continues slowly to increase owing to the growing mortality in Western India. Last week the Bombay Presidency reported 1,648 deaths, Bombay city 58, Mysore State 629, Hyderabad State 203, Madras Presidency 325, Bengal 129, Calcutta 6, United Provinces 101, Punjab 58, Central Provinces and Berar 28, and Central India seven.

PUBLIC WORKS POSTING.

Simla, Aug. 4.

Mr. K. Venkataraman Iyer is posted as an Assistant Examiner in the office of the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, Punjab.

Mr. Yates, is confirmed as Locomotive Superintendent, North-Western Railway.

An exchange of posts is ordered between Mr. Hindmarsh, Officiating Deputy Locomotive Superintendent, North-Western Railway, and Mr. Biernacki, Officiating Locomotive Superintendent, Eastern Bengal State Railway.

INDIAN RAILWAY MANAGEMENT.

Simla, Aug. 4.

No official news of any kind has yet reached Simla regarding the formation of a small Board to control the railways in India. Some conclusion is, however, likely to be come to at an early date as Mr. Brereton, Secretary to the Government, Public Works Department, will in the ordinary course of events, retire on the 17th instant at the age of 55. The usual conference of railway managers will open in Simla on the 4th of October under the presidentship of Mr. Finney, of the North-Western Railway. A meeting of railway traffic and locomotive officers will sit here about the middle of September under Mr. Willcocks, Deputy Consulting Engineer, Calcutta, and their proposals on various traffic questions will be submitted to the Conference for consideration.

THE TILAK CASE.
APPEAL TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Poona, Aug. 4.

Mr. Bal Gangadhar Tilak has, through Government, sent a petition to Mr. Brodrick, Secretary of State for India, in which he asks for compensation for the expense he was put to in his recent trial. The petition recapitulates the main facts of the case, and it points out that, while Government spent between sixty and seventy thousand rupees on the prosecution, the petitioner had to incur an expense of about thirty thousand. Ordinarily, it says Government has nothing to do with criminal prosecutions in this country, the police, with the assistance of the Government Pleader, conducting such prosecutions before the Magistrate or Sessions Judge as the case might be. In this case, it claims, the law was not allowed to take its ordinary course, but the local Government took the matter in its hands and appointed a special magistrate to try the case and a barrister to conduct the prosecution. The High Court having given judgment in favour of the innocence of the petitioner, the local Government, he says, cannot reasonably claim exemption from liability to pay damages on the ground that it was not Government that initiated the proceedings. He, therefore prays, that his Lordship in Council will be pleased to direct that full reparation be made to him.

GAZETTE OF INDIA.

Simla, Aug. 5.

HOME DEPARTMENT

Mr. Justice Amir Ali is permitted to resign his Judgship in Calcutta High Court with effect from the 1st May last.

Mr. A. P. Tucker is gazetted to officiate as Judicial Commissioner Coorg, during Sir J. A. Bourdillon's absence

A GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION.

A resolution is published revising the examinations in the Persian language with a view to securing a greater familiarity with modern and colloquial Persian. In future the degree of honour test will comprise the whole range of the language and will knowledge of modern as well as of classical Persian. Specimens of Persian correspondence are being published for use in this connection.

Mr. Justice Henderson and Mr. Justice Sale of the Calcutta High Court have been granted one month's leave each from the 2nd instant.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. J. C. E. Branson is appointed Accountant-General, Bengal. Captain A. C. McCormick, R. E., is re-posted to military employ.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

The Secretary of State has sanctioned an estimate amounting to sixteen lakhs of rupees for the construction of a famine feeder railway from the hospital to Kottur.

CROPS.

Simla, Aug. 5.

The season and crop reports to-day published by the Revenue and Agricultural Department show that while rain in Eastern India has continued abundant, Bengal and the United Provinces having generally more than they want, in Western-and North-Western India there is a considerable deficiency. The deficiency is especially marked in the Punjab, the North-West Frontier Province, Rajputana, Upper Sind Frontier, Gujarat, Deccan, Berar and parts of the Central Provinces. Elsewhere conditions are upon the whole generally favourable. In the case of Burma Agricultural operations are generally progressing satisfactorily but more rain is needed in Magwe, Meiktila, Minbu and North-Eastern Yamethin, while in parts of Myingyan the early sesamum and cotton plants are withering.

THE CASE AGAINST MR. LEE.

Mymensingh, Aug. 4.

The case under section 133 against Mr. Lee commenced on Tuesday. As usual the Joint Magistrate's "ejlas" was crowded to suffocation. The Government pleader appeared for Mr. Lee. His main contention was that the case does not lie against Mr. Lee who was acting on behalf of Government and that public rights, if any, have ceased since acquisition. There was a great laughter in the Court when in conclusion of his argument the Government pleader requested the Joint Magistrate to pass an early order since Judge Mr. Lee was passing very uneasy times owing to this scandal hanging over his head, and cannot properly look to the defence of others while he himself is an accused in this case. Babu Anath Bandha Guha, the leading pleader, assisted by many others appeared in support of public rights.

CURIOSITIES OF THE POST OFFICE.—I

(Special for the Patrika.)

The history of postal improvements may with propriety, be considered a history of international progress. It marks the march of civilization in a nation, and by affording a good gauge of its prosperity and mental activity, testifies to the success of the general administration of a country.

General History, attentive to record the briliant transactions of kingdoms and estates, rather than the steps by which communities effect their advancement and improve their convenience, furnishes little beyond incidental notices of the modes by which the circulation of correspondence is conducted.

The conveyance of public despatches by the Government led to the origin of the British Post Office. The rise and mechanism of the British Post Office and the successive steps have gradually made it the best of its kind in the world.

In the begining the conveyances were slow and few by running footmen, some of whom had to run 60 miles in one day. They carried a long pole to enable them to leap over ditches over ditches and brooks, and in a knob at the head was a portion of wine and egg with which to refresh themselves.

Of the other mode of transmitting news it needs be mentioned that the chief newsman was the ballad hawker who perambulated the country, narrating in a sort of recitation, some glorious victory, as that over the Dutch fleet in 1665, copies of which are still extant.

In 1635, the first office for letters was established by Charles 1. but that was only on the principal roads, and the post masters were obliged to furnish horses at two pence half-penny a mile. These Post Masters were generally inn-keepers, who supplied post-horses to those travelling in post-chaises or their own carriages.

The next improvement was in 1649, when means were taken to send letters weekly to all parts of the kingdom. The functions of the Post Office was further extended by Parliament, under Cromwell in 1656, and in 1657, Post Offices were established and continued by the Parliament of Charles II in 1710, more like those existing now; but in 1784, these posts for the letters etc, which were then sent on horse-back, were so inferior in speed to the coaches, that whilst a journey from London to Bath was made by the diligence in seventeen hours, the post took forty. This led the Government agreeing with coach proprietors to carry letters. Postage was then charged according to the distance the letters had to be conveyed. Various charges according to distance prevailed until 1839, in which year, an act was passed which enabled people to send what they pleased, under half an ounce, for a penny. This was therefore named Penny Postage. Government reserved to itself the right of altering this plan at any time, if it was not found to answer.

In 1838, a plan not only calculated to increase the utility of the Post Office in the promotion of all the objects of civilization, but to change the whole management of the institute, was brought forward by Mr. Rowland Hill, a gentleman wholly unconnected with the Department. The main features of Mr. Hill's plan, which putting aside the merits of the suggestion of a uniform rate, as discussed with singular moderation, acuteness, caution and sound reasoning, proposed to effect (1) a great diminution in the rates of postage (2) increased speed in the delivery of letters and (3) more frequent opportunities for their despatch. He proposed that the rate of postage should be uniform, to be charged according to weight, and that the payment should be made in advance. The means of doing so by stamps were not suggested by him at first, and Mr. Hill states that this idea did not originate in him. A uniform rate of penny was to be charged for every letter not exceeding half an ounce in weight, with an additional penny for each additional ounce.

Mr. Hill discovered the justice and propriety of a uniform rate in the fact that the cost attendant on the transmission of letters was not measured by the distance they were carried. It shewed on indisputable data that the actual cost of conveying letters from London to Edinburgh, when divided among the letters actually carried, did not exceed one penny for 36 letters. Independently of its fairness, the obvious advantages of simplicity and economical management were strongly in favour of a uniform rate. The publication of this plan immediately excited a strong public sympathy in its favour and especially with the commercial classes of the city of London.

A committee to inquire into and report upon Mr. Hill's plans, recommended the measure, and the late Post Master General, the Duke of Richmond, advised the Government to adopt it, and it was passed into law on the 17th August 1839. In the following month Mr. R. Hill was made to superintend ehe working out of his own measure. His pamphlet of 1839 took for its strong point the fact, that whereas the postal revenue showed for the past 20 years a positive, though slight, diminution, it ought to have shewed an increase of £507, 700 a year, in order to have kept pace with the growth of the [illegible]tion; and an increase of nearly [illegible] that amount in order to have kept pace with the growth of the analogous, though far less exorbitant duties imposed on stage-coaches. The population in 1815 was 19,552,000. In 1835 it had increased to 25,605,000. The stage-coach duties had produced in 1815, £217,671. In 1835 they produced £498,497. The net revenue arising from the Post office in 1815 was £1,557,291. In 1835 it had decreased to £1,540,300.

During the latter part of the year, a uniform four penny rate was charged, by way of accustoming people to the cheap system, and saving official feelings from the rude shock of a sudden descent from the respectable rate of a shilling to the vulgar rate of a penny. On the 10th January 1840, through the efforts therefore, of Mr. Rowland Hill, the uniform penny rate came into operation throughout the United Kingdom and became the law of the land. The scale of weight advancing from 1d. for each of the first two half ounces by gradation of 2d. for each additional ounce, a fraction of an ounce, up to 16 ounces. The postage was to be prepaid or charged at double rates. In 1846, a public testimonial of £13,000 was presented to Mr. Hill, in acknowledgement of his distinguished services to the country; and he was afterwards made a knight of the Bath.

In 1829—London General Post Office was built.

In 1838—Uniform postage was first proposed by Rowland Hill.

In 1839—Two-penny rate was tried.

In 1840—Penny Postage was introduced. In May that year, Postage stamps were introduced. In November that year, money orders were introduced.

In 1848—Book Post was first introduced.

In 1861—Savings Banks and Annuities were introduced.

In 1870—half-penny stamps and rates were introduced as also post cards.

In 1873—New offices and central telegraph-station in St. Martil's-le-ground were established.

Krishnaghur. A. C. SEN.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

Bank of Bengal.—The Directors of the Bank of Bengal at their meeting on Thursday made no change in the rate of interest or discount.

High Court Judges.—Mr. Justice Sale and Mr. Justice Henderson of the Calcutta High Court have gone to England on leave, and will not return until after the long vacation.

Complaint by a Deaf and Dumb Husband.—Before the Cantonment Magistrate of Dum Dum, Babu Probodh Chandra Rai, pleader, appeared on behalf of one Guru Charan Sonar, a deaf and dumb man, to prosecute his mother-in-law who kidnapped the unfortunate man's young wife and has married her to another person in Titaghur. The trial is proceeding.

Allegations Against an Editor.—On Monday before Mr. D. Weston, the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Babu Monoranjan Banerji, Editor, "Novo Prativa," was re-arraigned, on a charge of outraging the modesty of a woman named Miss O'Sullivan, in Bentinck Street. The accused was convicted under section 354 I.P.C. and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 75 in default one month's imprisonment. The fine was paid then and there.

High Court Benches.—The constitution of the Benches of the Calcutta High Court and the distribution of the business amongst them will be as follows until further orders:—Presidency Group—Mr. Justice Rampini and Mr. Justice Pargiter; Rajshahye Group—Mr. Justice Brett and Mr. Justice Mookerjee; Patna Group—The Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Mittra; Burdwan Group—Mr. Justice Ghose and Mr. Justice Geidt; Criminal Business—Mr. Justice Pratt and Mr. Justice Bodily; Privy Council Department—The Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Mittra; Original Side—Mr. Justice Harington, Mr. Justice Stephen and Mr. Justice Woodroffe sit singly; Mr. Justice Harington takes commercial cases from date.

A girl—a Bone of Contention.—Some-time ago Mr. W. A. Bonnaud the Second Presidency Magistrate, on the complaint of one Joy Phan against a woman of the town for having wrongfully restrained his minor daughter Lahia for immoral purposes ordered an enquiry. On Thursday Babu Jotindra Mohun Ghose, vakil, appeared on behalf of the complainant and Mr. E. P. Ghose, barrister-at-law instructed by Babu Suresh Chander Mitter, appeared on behalf of the woman. At the outset Babu Jotindra Mohun objected counsel appearing on behalf of the other side, as it was an exparte enquiry under section 552 Cr. P. Code. The counsel contended that the woman was ordered by the Court to produce the girl. Babu Jotindra Mohun replied that the woman's connection with the proceedings ceased as soon as the girl was produced in court. The court agreed with the view taken by the learned vakil and asked him to produce his witnesses and intimated that the proceedings were an exparte one. The vakil then called Joy Phan, the father of the girl, and the girl was also brought before his Worship. The complainant was then examined and the matter was adjourned to the 11th instant.

A DUMB MAN'S COMPLAINT.
APPLICATION RENEWED.

On Friday morning, before Mr. Donald Weston, the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Babu Kessub Chander Gupta appeared on behalf of a young dumb man named Kali Churn Paramanick and renewed his application to substantiate the charge of kidnapping his minor wife named Sarojini, against his mother-in-law Kumad Bewa and another woman. In support of his allegations, the pleader produced three witnesses. The first witness was the mother of the dumb applicant, who was examined by the Court.

Court.—Your son-in-law is dumb?

Ans.—Yes.

Court.—What's the age of the wife?

Ans.—Twelve years.

Court.—How long ago, she is married?

Ans.—Five years.

Court.—What is her name?

Ans.—Sarojini.

Court.—What do you know of this case.

She deposed:—On a Sunday, I was sleeping. I woke up at 6 a.m. and went out to work and returned home an hour after. I found my)'bou ma" missing. I searched for her but could not find her. Under the orders of this Court, I went with the police to the house of the mother of the girl and asked her where was the girl—she denied all knowledge about her whereabouts. Two other witnesses were examined. When the last witness was being examined, a pleader rose and said: "Your Honor, that witness is an accused in my case."

Court.—What's your case?

Pleader.—My case is this, sir, that Kumad Bewa had been wrongfully confined and assaulted by this man and others.

Kumad's application was heard and the Court examined one witness in support of the allegations made by her. The pleader wanted to examine more witnesses. The Court remarked "one is quite enough" and rejected it.

The dumb man's application was granted and the Court ordered Kumad Bewa to furnish bail in the sum of Rs. 50 to appear to answer the charge and also issued a warrant against the other woman.

In the sections of economic work at the Royal Botanic Garden at Sibpur, we learn that the Director of the Botanical Survey of India is continuing his enquiries into fibrous and food plants and the sources of Indian timbers.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Aug. 3.

The Russians had yesterday evacuated Haicheng.

Reuter from Tokio says that the Russians left 1,500 dead after the fight at Tomucheng on Saturday and Sunday, and lost six guns. The Japanese casualties were 400. General Kuroki's total losses in the recent battles are 972.

General Alexeieff has gone to Harbin and thence goes to Vladivostock.

A despatch from General Kuropatkin, dated 1st instant, hopes that the troops, having retreated to the main position after heavy losses, will be able to maintain it against the enemy who are numerically superior.

London, Aug. 4.

Reuter wires from Chifu that refugees who left Port Arthur on the 2nd report that the figting which abated on the night of the 28th has not subsided completely. The Japanese were repulsed, but by no means beaten. The losses were of the heaviest on both sides. The Russians declare that the fortress will never fall, but they expect that scarcely a building will be left in the city.

The Russian fleet from its anchorage

Advices from Washington state that the United States Government is corresponding with the Russian and other Governments relative to Russian seizures of shipping, and under no circumstances will America recede from the doctrine that foodstuffs not directly intended for a belligerent Army or Navy cannot be regarded as contraband.

Kuropatkin has ordered all useless Civil elements to be removed from Harbin in order to prepare winter quarters for the Army.

Reuter wires from Petersburg that it is reported in military circles hat Kuropatkin has decided to evacuate Liaoyang shortly, though not wihout fighting.

General Kuropatkin's situation is intently watched, and the extrication of his army with its masses of stores accumulated at Liaoyang, while the Japanese are closing round on all sides is regarded as doubtful even at St. Petersburg.

The Secretary of the Peninsular and Oriental Company writes to the "Times" denying the Russian official declaration that the "Malacca" was seized because the Captain refused to show his papers. Not only were the manifests given up, but a number of the ship's papers sent aboard the "Petersburg," whose officers offered inducements to give information justifying the seizure.

Reuter at Tokio says that the fall of Port Arthur is eagerly expected. Operations are gradual and careful, as it is believed the Emperor does not want the heavy sacrifice rushing tactics would entail.

Reuter at St. Petersburg says the Vladivostock Squadron has returned to Vladivostock. Admiral Jissen says they were not followed. The Japanese ships took refuge at Hakodate as they did not purpose engaging the forts.

General Sakharoff reports that twenty-nine officers and over one thousand men were killed and wounded, and six Russian guns abandoned in the fighting on 30th and 31st.

London, Aug. 5.

Russian despatches while admitting considerable losses including six guns, declare that the operations on 31st were indecisive. The battle began under most favourable auspices for the Russians, but eventually the Japanese succeeded in outflanking and outfilading the Russians who had a battery competely shattered.

London, Aug. 3.

In the House of Commons last night during the debate on the Estimates, Mr. Balfour, speaking with reference to the Defence Committee dwelt upon the complicated nature of the problem, the Committee had to deal with in respect to India. He agreed that the Indian problem was largely a question of transport, but it must be remembered, he said, that though it was a very difficult military problem for Russia our only possible enemy there, who, he trusted, would never be our enemy, Great Britain could not allow the countries between us and Russia to be eaten up. There was a time when the invasion of India was a scare of the most scandalous description, but the Russia of whom they were then afraid was very different from the Russia of to-day. Russia had already one railway leading directly to the frontier of Afghanistan and she is about to have a second railway to the same frontier. The House, Mr. Balfour said, would recognise that he was discussing an abstract military problem and the last thing he anticipated was a collision with Russia, our neighbour; but every nation which was conterminous to another Power has to assume that it may some time be at war with its neighbour. In conclusion Mr. Balfour said the problem which confronted us in the North-West Frontier of India was purely a question of defence, but that did not mean that the defence will be conducted necessarily behind that frontier.

Kent has beaten Essex by 220 runs.

Gloster has beaten Sussex by 160 runs.

Notts has beaten Surrey by two wickets.

The matches between Yorkshire and Lancashire; Worcester and Warwickshire; and Leicester and the South Africans were all drawn.

In submitting the final report of the Committee on naval boilers, Admiral Domville, the Chairman, admits that recent experience with Bellevilles in the Mediterranean Fleet were most favourable. The earlier Bellevilles were badly constructed and used. The report, however, still finds Bellevilles undesirable, and recommends the water-tubes of Babcock and Wilcox and the Yarrow large tube as satisfactory for battleships and cruisers without cylindricals.

Tomucheng, where the fighting took place on Saturday and Sunday, is identical with Simucheng.

General Kuropatkin reports that he withdrew from Haicheng unmolested by the Anshauchang road, which is west of the railway and nearly half way to Liaoyang. Though carts were provided to carry coats and kit, the troops suffered terribly from the heat, and a considerable number of sunstrokes took place.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

GENERAL.

London, Aug. 4.

Consols to-day have fallen 9-16 in consequence of the announcement that it will be necessary to issue six million Exchequer Bonds during the current financial year.

Mr. Chamberlain to-day addressed twelve thousand agriculturists at Welbeck, vigorously advocating protection of agriculture equally with industry.

London, Aug. 5.

During the Naval debate in the Commons last night Mr. Robertson referred to the reduction in the French Naval expenditure and declared that we were exceeding our two power standard and urged a reduction in expenditure. Mr. Pretyman repeated that we had adhered to the two power standard. The battleships Lord Nelson and Agamemnon would, he said, be laid down this year and also four cruisers. He incidentally mentioned that the rate of ship building in Germany had latterly exceeded our own.

There was an agary scene in the Commons on the Welsh Education Debate. The opposition outwalked the protest of closure and Mr. Lloyd George and several members were suspended.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.
THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

Bombay, Aug 4.

The attacking army at Tomoucheng reports that the attack commenced on the 30th ultimo on the enemy occupying strongly the entrenched heights around Tomoucheng, fifteen miles southeast of Haicheng. Fierce fighting occupied the whole day on the 31st July. While our left having expelled the enemy before them, we threatened the rear and the main body of the enemy who thereupon were compelled to retreat during night towards Haicheng. The enemy under General Aliexieff consisted of two divisions of infantry, and seven batteries of artillery. We captured six fieldguns and some prisoners. Our casualties were nearly 400. The enemy left 150 corpses.

Bombay, Aug. 5.

General Oku reports: The enemy is retreating continually northward since the 2nd instant. Our army occupied on the 3rd instant Haicheng and Newchwang (thirty miles north-east of open port of the same name).

CHOLERA IN BOMBAY.

PARS FROM "PIONEER."

Allahabad, August 5.

The "Pioneer's" London correspondent wires under date August 4:—The "Times" Berlin correspondent says that the German critics are greatly impressed with the Japanese odvance, especially with General Kuroki's rapid change of dispositions.

Lord Kitchener will probably leave Simla on the 19th instant on a trip to China.

The Agra-Delhi chord railway has been linked through and the line is being made ready for traffic.

The Tibet Expedition.

FORDING THE RIVER.
INTERVIEWS WITH PEACE DELEGATES.

Chaksam Ferry, July 29.

The difficulties of crossing the river have been to a large extent surmounted. The engineers managed to fix a cable across which to tow a rope for boats swung on to a pulley. The Mounted Infantry working 20 miles up the stream have secured a dozen skin boats at a point where the river narrows into a gorge. The existence of the gorge seems at least at this season of the year to preclude a possibility of boat traffic between Shigatse and Chaksam. Skin boats have proved most useful in assisting mules across the river. The greater part of the force is now over. The march to Lhassa will shortly be resumed. We are camped among pleasant groves, and peas, barley and vegetables of all kinds are growing in profusion on this side of the river, but the cultivation is restricted to the valleys which are on all sides surmounted by high gagged hills. Our scouts have not discovered any signs of an armed force and the villagers seem inclined to be friendly. Colonel Younghusband had two interviews with the peace delegates. At the first durbar the Grand Chamberlain was present. This man was treated with great deference by the others, who state that he has no executive administrative authority, but is in personal attendance on the Dalai Lama and has his confidence. He brought a letter from the Dalai Lama, the purport of which was to ask us to go no further. The delegates have altogether abandoned their arrogant attitude and are now marking personal appeals to Colonel Younghusband not to proceed. The Grand Chamberlain even said that if we entered the holy city, the Dalai Lama might die from the shock to his religious feelings. Colonel Younghusband replied that the treaty must be signed at Lhassa, but promised not to enter the monasteries, provided we were not fired on from them, and also promised that we would leave Lhassa immediately after the treaty was signed and that the length of our stay depended on the Tibetans themselves.

GENERAL MACDONALD'S REPORT.

Simla, Aug. 5.

The following has been received from General Macdonald, dated Gyantse, 4th August:—

Chaksam Ferry, 10 p. m., July 29th:—I have continued passing troops and animals across the river during the past three days without any accident. The weather continues fine and the river has fallen about 98 (sic) inches. The passage should be completed by noon on the 31st. I am leaving a post here on the south side of the river of one company of the 4th Pathans 20 Mounted Infantry, a small detachment of Sappers, and the Attock Boatmen and some Medical and Supply details.

The Madras Government have framed rules under the provisions of the Madras Planters' Labor Act (I of 1903) which is to be extended for the present to the Nilgiris and the Wynaad taluk of the Malabar district.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

MR. F. H. NICHOLS IN TIBET.

(By Ram Lal Sarkar.)

The current number of the "Prabasi" of Allahabad contains an interesting article on the travels in Tibet of Mr. F. H. Nichols of the New York Geographical Society. Mr. Nichols has been travelling in disguise as a Tibetan with a Tibetan servant. The "Prabasi" has published photographs of Mr. Nichols (dressed as a Tibetan) and his servant, taken by its contributor, a Bengali gentleman employed as a Medical officer in a Chinese city. We give below a translation of the article: The paragraph on the mineral wealth of Tibet will be of special interest at present as perhaps furnishing a clue to the real cause of the armed "mission" to that luckless land:—

Mr. F. H. Nichols has been sent to Asia by the American Geographical Society. For the purposes of Geographical exploration and discovery he has been for more than a year travelling through many inaccessible parts of China and Tibet, and recording the results of his observations. His real object is to discover the real condition of the inaccessible places of Tibet. He is always dressed in Tibetan costume and has adopted Tibetan ways of living to a great extent. No one is allowed to enter Tibet without the adoption of the Tibetan costume. Recently Mr. Nichols came to Tangyueh and after staying here for a few days, has again gone north. On paying him a visit and asking him many questions he began to give me an account of his travels with great alacrity. From my eagerness for information he thought I must be a newspaper correspondent. Hence he described briefly the past incidents in his travels, but said nothing regarding his future destination or intentions. He is teaming Tibetans and talks with his Tibetan servant in that tongue, but is entirely ignorant of Chinese. He showed me a book in Tibetan and English. Some Tibetan words resemble Sanskrit.

WHAT MR. NICHOLS SAID.

China and Tibet. I left America in March and reached Pekin in April. Proceeding thence to Webu I obtained a passport from the Chinese foreign office there to travel in

"In March, 1903, I was sent by the Geographical Society of New York to explore China and Tibet. From Webu I went to Shanghai, From Shanghai I reached Ichang in twelve days by steamer. From Ichang I went to Chungkin in twenty-seven days in a native junk. Chungkin is a treaty-port. From Chungkin I reached Dasienlu in twenty-four days. I performed this journey of twenty-four days partly on foot and partly on horseback. Dasienlu is situated on the borders of Tibet, and China is 7,000 feet high from sea-level. It is to China as Darjeeling is to India. Lhassa is 65 days' journey from Dasienlu. From Dasienlu I proceeded westward to Batang, a distance of 400 miles. A Tibetan chief or prince resides here. The mountain range between Dasienlu and Batang is 17,000 feet high. There are some volcanos in it. The Tibetans call this range Ramato. I suffered great hardship in crossing this range. The cold here is so great that one has to traverse snow lying 3 or 4 feet deep on the ground. Sometimes even the moisture in the nostrils would freeze.

ADMINISTRATION.

"Just as I have said there is a chief or prince at Batang, so there are some other chiefs in other parts of Tibet. These chiefs or princes are subject on the one hand to the Dalai Lama of Tibet and to the Chinese Government on the other. Though these chiefs are practically independent, they have to send some tribute to the Chinese Government every year and to the Lama too they have to send annually some presents as tribute. These chiefs wear Tibetan dress, but when they have to visit some high Chinese official, then they wear Chinese costume. It is said that the Chinese exercise great tyranny over the Tibetans. These chiefs have some soldiers under them. Their chief arms are Tibetan muskets and a knife like the "bhojali" of the Nepalese Gurkhas. I found pieces of rope tied to their muskets. When they engage in fight, they keep this rope burning. As often as they want to discharge their guns, they load them and apply this rope-fire to the priming powder. The Tibetan chiefs are subject more to the Lama than to the Chinese Government. At the slightest hint from the Lama they would not hesitate to take up arms against China. The whole of Tibet came under Chinese ascendancy about 200 years ago. There are no Tibetan coins. The Indian coins of the British Government circulate largely in Tibet. When necessary, they clip the Indian rupee into 3 or 4 bits.

CUSTOMS AND MORALS.

"The Tibetans cannot form accurate quantitative idea of wealth. They do not seek more wealth than is necessary for their wants. Servants do not take regular pay. They take money, when they want it. They think it mean and beggarly to accept money when they are not in actual need of it.

"Widow marriage prevails here, but not child marriage. The marriage customs of Tibetan women are queer. [They have beaten even Darupadi in the number of their husbands.] Many of them have 7 or 8 husbands; but it is not the rule to live with all of them simultaneously. The reason is, the Tibetans keep and deal in large flocks of goats, sheep, &c. They go long distances with their sheep and goats. Some return after the lapse of one year, some of them two or three years. Some again never return. When a woman has five or six husbands, only one remains at home, the others go on business to different places. If any of the latter come back home, the one already there must leave home. They have to maintain and bring up one another's children.

"In some places the people have no houses of their own. They live together in one common house. It may so happen that on one family leaving a room, another would come and occupy it. This communial house is not the property of any individual.

"The Tibetans do not cheat in trade. The character of their women is degraded.

FOOD AND DRINK.

"The Tibetans prepare a liquor like the English beer. One has a choking sensation in drinking it, but one need not have any fear of the consequences. The Tibetans drink copiously of it.

"Milk can be had in Tibet in plenty and the people use milk in various ways. They are better than the Burmese and Chinese in this respect; for milk is not used in Burma and China. The Tibetans are great tea-drinkers. Tea grows in Tibet to a considerable extent. The Tibetans cannot keep their tempers even unless they drink tea.

"Among articles of diet, rice, meat and vegetables can be had in plenty. The Tibetans think it a sin to kill any animal. Some live entirely on vegetables. The Tibetans prepare a kind of cake which is very delicious. They use this cake as their staple food on their journeys.

RELIGION.

"Nearly one-third of the population of Tibet consists of Lamas. The population is gradually decreasing. For the Lamas do not marry, which stands in the way of increase of population. It is enjoined that one man in every family must become a Lama. People generally worship the Lamas. Besides this in some places people worship trees and stones. Many worship their thumbs. They can discern some signs in the thumb, and divine the future luck of infants according to this sign. Many are obliged to make their children Lamas according to this sign. The Tibetans were struck with the marks in my thumb and said that they did not know before that foreigners could have such auspicious marks. These auspicious thumb marks they consider as a god-given stamp or seal.

"The Tibetans dispose of their dead bodies by cremation, which they consider the best method of doing it. But many bury their dead under Chinese influence. But when a Lama dies, they cut his body into pieces and place these pieces on some fixed spot in the mountains. A bird like the eagle consumes these pieces of flesh. The Tibetans believe that this holy bird carries the parts of the Lama's body to Heaven. As far as I have seen, the number of temples is small. The Tibetans do not consider Lamas, human beings, but gods.

MINERALS.

"Almost all the metals can be had in Tibet. There are many precious stones also. It is gold that is found in Tibet in large quantities. There are many gold mines at Batang and other places. On looking a little attentively at the sands in rivers and streamlets or stone heaps, grains of sand can be seen, but the Tibetans are not permitted to appropriate and use this gold. All this is the Lama's property. The Lama has very cunningly enjoined that if anybody takes this gold, he would be guilty of a heinous sin. Consequently the Tibetans do not touch gold when they see it. The Chinese now and then carry it off; but that too is not done openly. In many temples and Lamaseries the plates, cups, tumblers, spoons, etc., are made of gold, and I have seen the roofs of many temples covered with thick gold leaves."

I do not know whether there is any agreement between the experiences of Mr. Nichols with those of the men who have gone with the present Tibetan expedition, or with those of Rai Sarat Chandra Das Bahadur. It is only to be expected that there would not be an agreement on all points. For Mr. Nichols has travelled in the eastern parts of Tibet. He has not travelled in the direction of Lhassa or has not obtained permission to do so. The Chinese call the western and northern parts of Tibet (where Lhassa is situated) and the neighbouring parts Sijan, and the eastern parts Koojang. Mr. Nichols has travelled in Koojang, and has, I suppose, now gone to other parts.

Mr. Nichols has taken many photographs with a Kodak, but has not been able to develop the plates. He requested me to develop and prepare photographs from them. But owing to scanty leisure I did not show much willingness. I am sorry I have not been able to present these wonderful scenes to the inhabitants of Bengal.

On my presenting to him two copies of the photographs of himself and his Tibetan servants that I had taken, he expressed great satisfaction and said, "I will send a copy of each to New York." Mr. Napier, the Commissioner of this place, has sent copies to Pekin and England.

The Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces and Lady Digges La Touche arrived at Simla on Wednesday afternoon.

Nothing further has been heard of the raiding party which attacked a levy post in the Zhob Valley, and it is believed they have got safely across the Afghan border with the stolen rifles and ammunition.

Mr. H. P. Hodgson killed a fine tiger on Saturday last at Anikatti, the property recently purchased from the Madras Mule Breeding Company. Mr. Hodgson with Messrs. Clementson and Brown were inspecting the property and stock when news was brought in of a kill. A beat was organised the next morning, and the tiger accounted for, a satisfactory result not only as regards sport, but for the safety of the stock on the Farm.

The fruit trade of England seems to be developing in an extraordinary manner. The imports of the first six months of the year were between £4,000,000 and £5,000,000 worth of fresh fruit. Apples from Canada and Australasia, bananas from Jamaica, cherries, strawberries and the common fruits of all kinds from the Continent. Tomatoes alone amount to half a million cwts. for the first half of 1904.

The list of business at the meeting of the Viceroy's Legislative Council at Simla on the 12th instant has not yet been finally settled, but it will probably consist of two small amending Bills. The first of these is a Bill to amend the Indian Emigration Act of 1883 for the purpose of removing a technical objection to the emigration from Karachi of persons falling within the purview of Chapter 14, which was added by the Act of 1902. The other Bill is intended to make certain formal amendments in the Indian Articles of War to provide for confirmation of Courts-martial convened under the Army Act in places where Native Indian troops are stationed outside India, such as Hong Kong.

A useful branch of work undertaken at the Saharanpur Government garden is the growth and manufacture of rugs for supply to the Indian Medical Department. During the past official year extract of Hyosciamus was supplied to the extent of 150 lbs., and dried leaves of the same to the extent of 452 lbs.

SPORT IN EAST AFRICA.

THE NILE ROUTE.

I regret that I cannot venture to name the locality where the best shooting is to be had, for although I was told of some places which were better than others, the information which I was able to pick up on a rapid tour was so incomplete that it might be misleading to put it on record. I will confine myself to saying that if I were a younger man I should certainly lose no time in making a sporting tour in East Africa. The country has not been overshot yet, but every year will tend to make the game more shy. And I will add that I should be tempted to push on through Uganda to the Albert Lake and thence down the Nile to Egypt thus avoiding the long sea journey round by the Red Sea. The road from Entebbe, at which place the traveller is landed by the steamer of the Victoria Lake to the Albert Lake is a very good one, and the journey takes about eight days. At the Lake a boat is procurable which takes passengers through the Lake down the earlier reaches of the Nile. Then a week's journey by land is made imperative by rapids which render the river unnavigable. After this march the traveller can proceed in a steamer direct to Cairo. One of my travelling companions, who was not an ardent sportsman, though taking rifle with him, was going to Europe by the route I have sketched in quite a matter of course way and expected to be in England a week or two after me. I began to regret that I had my return ticket by steamer in my pocket and that I had left my fishing rods and tackle at Mombassa. For one of the temptations, at least it would be so to me, on this route is the fishing on Lake Albert and in some of the reaches of the Nile.

A fish which appears to behave very like the mahseer is very plentiful, and one was taken last year weighing 90 lbs. But the fish which gives the best sport is, so I was told by an official who had caught mahseer in the Himalayas, the "tiger fish" which, though smaller in size, running only to 10lbs., is much more active than the mahseer, requires more skill and care to land. The sportsman will find another advantage on this route. He may take out a second license for shooting in the Uganda Protectorate under the same restrictions as in the East Africa Protectorate, thus doubling the number of animals which he may kill, and as he has a better chance than elsewhere of meeting with male elephants with exceptionally good tusks, he may, if he is fortunate, obtain ivory of which the value will be materially more than the license fee of £50. And he will have obtained perhaps some fairly good tusks in the East Africa Protectorate of which the price will, if he chooses to sell the ivory, make up the whole of the £100, leaving the only charges to be met the cost of shikaries, coolies, and food. As far as I could ascertain the charges for these are not excessive, provided that the tent carried is light.

AN ELEPHANT HUNTER.

As I have referred to the elephant it will not be out of place to mention that on board the Lake steamer I met an interesting character who had devoted the last ten years of his life to elephant hunting. He was then returning from the Congo forests, which lie beyond the Uganda Protectorate, and in which he said the finest ivory and the greatest abundance of elephants were to be found. The open season in the Congo State is six months, of which he had only had time for the last two, but in that period he had shot 19 males. Naturally the tusks were exceptionally good and he had sold the ivory at Entebbe at the rate of Rs. 6 a lb., for a sum, which after paying to the Congo authorities the percentage of 20 per cent. which they require, left him with a net profit materially over £1,000 sterling. In answer to my enquiries whether he did not find it a dangerous occupation he replied that there was very little danger from the elephant provided that the hunter takes care, which he should always be able to do to keep to the leeward of the animal. But the slightest breath of air on the windward side will carry the scent to the elephant who will at once be alarmed and may possibly turn and charge. He was only once charged himself, but stopped the beast with a bullet in the forehead. He had an 8-bore rifle, but seldom used it perferring much a 40-bore with which on this occasion he had killed his 19 tuskers. The worst danger which had to be encountered was, he said, from the rhinoceros, which, lurking in the thick grass would charge him as he was stalking the elephant, and from them he had had one or two narrow escapes. "But," he added, "I love the life, and nothing would induce me now to take to any other trade." He mentioned by the way that the best elephants in East Africa were to be found in the neighbourhood of Lake Rudolf, of which one shore forms part of the eastern boundary of the Uganda Protectorate, the Lake itself lying in East Africa. It is, however, necessary to add that there may be a possibility of trouble in that quarter from the native tribes, who have not yet been brought under complete subjection. Nevertheless one of my companions on the homeward voyage, who was an officer of a British cavalry regiment, and who with two American associates of the East Africa Syndicate had just been through the Lake Rudolf country on an exploring expedition said that only on one occasion had they met with any opposition, which was quickly put an end to. The chances are that in a short time the district will be quite safe for travellers, especially as in most localities the natives welcome the hunter of the elephant, of which the flesh is their favourite food.

ABOUT LIONS.

But I shall be expected to say something about lions. The main thing to be said about them is the uncertainty of finding them. I will give an instance. On the railway journey between Port Florence and Nairobi an Austrian Count, who with a married companion and his wife, had been shooting in the neighbourhood, joined the train bringing his trophies with him. He had killed, I was told, nine lions within a month, whereas last year in six weeks he had not been able to find a single one. The fair Austrian, I may mention, was got up like the short-skirted Tyrolese peasant girl of the opera, and presented a very picturesque and sporting appearance. She, too, had killed her lions, that is, some of the nine. More, then, I cannot say about the King of the Forests except that the authorities want their lions killed, and that the sportsman must, when he arrives in the country make inquiries about the localities where lions have most recently been seen, or are most likely to be found. Thus on the day that we returned to the coast we were told at a small station named "Simba," which being interpreted means "lion," that five lions had just been seen in the vicinity, and that if there was any sportsman in the train who was anxious to kill a lion he had better stop and go after them at once. It is, by the way, in the same neighbourhood, not much more than 200 miles from Mombassa, that rhinos can often be seen from the train. This place has, however, the disadvantage of being visited more often than others by Mombassa sportsmen, including naval officers from any of the men-of-war anchored in the harbour, in view of its being within easy compass of a week-end trip. And the game, especially, of course, antelopes and gazelles, is correspondingly shy. On the other hand, in many places, the animals are too easily approached, and except for the zest which accompanies a desire to obtain record horns, most of the antelope shooting is somewhat tame sport, as may be inferred from the name "Head-hunting" which is given to it locally.—Sir Edward Buck in "Englishman."

THE GUBERNATORIAL TOUR.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Bankipur, Aug. 4.

THE ARRIVAL.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and suite arrived here from Simla on the 2nd August by the Punjab Mail, which reaches here at 6-39 p. m. In the absence of the Divisional Commissioner, who was very ill and is still unable to go out. His Honour was received at the station platform by the District Magistrate and some of the leading gentry who were specially summoned to attend. From the station, His Honour and the party drove to the Commissioner's bungalow which, on account of Mr. Lyon's illness, had been vacated by him for the temporary residence of His Honour and Lady Fraser.

On Wednesday at 7 p. m., His Honour drove to the Patna city and visited various places of interest such as the City Court, Sikh Temple, Opium Factory &c. On the afternoon from 5-30 p. m., there was a garden party at the house of the Commissioner. It would not perhaps be out of place to mention here that a few days ago Mr. Lyon had a very sharp attack of appendicitis and he was so very ill that at one time His Honour had expressed his intention to postpone his present visit to some future occasion. But fortunately Mr. Lyon's disease showed signs of abatement and His Honour had to wired not to postpone his projected visit. To suit the convenience of both the host and guest, Mr. Lyon was removed to the bungalow of the District Magistrate. Within the short time that Mr. Lyon had been in our midst he has made himself very popular among all classes, so that his illness marked to a considerable extent the gaities of the occasion. In the garden party held at the Commissioner's house besides the officials, European and Indian, there were present the Maharaja Bahadoor of Durbhanga, the minor Maharajas of Hathwa and Tickari and some of the leading Babuans of the Patna Division.

THE GATHERING IN THE PATNA COLLEGE HALL.

Thursday (the 4th August), His Honour visited the local courts and jail in the morning and, in the afternoon, addresses were presented to him by various local bodies in the Patna College Hall. Although the authorities were pleased to invite us on the occasion, we purposely kept away from the meeting. For what could we do there, save and except, swell the number of idle spectators. Somebody seems to have the idea that a newspaper correspondent is a luxury without which no gathering can be properly called a success, or it is on some such belief we are invited year after year without any fecility being given to us to report the proceedings. On all previous occasions, we had drawn attention of those who are in charge of the arrangement of seats to our disabilities, and, when we heard that the very same difficulty would face us even this time, we very naturally adopted the best course open to us. In the regime of King Habuchandra it is Councillor Gobachandra who shines best, so that it is no wonder that we, who have so often the unpleasant task of criticising the actions of the local authorities, would be shown scant courtesy. We know there are people who to get a peep at the Durbar Hall would spend any amount of sum and we beg to suggest that, on future occasions, the cards wasted on press correspondents may be best utilised by giving them to these place-hunters.

DURBAR AT BANKIPUR.

The spacious hall of Patna College was tastefully decorated with flags and bunting. Shortly after 3 p.m., the guests began to drop in, and by 4, the hall was filled to its utmost capacity. All that is eminent and illustrious in Behar was gathered there. The landed aristocracy, the official world, law, medicine, education, every interest was adequately represented. Foremost among the "grandees" was the Maharajah of Durbhanga, the premier noble of Behar, conspicuous by his lighter turban, red "tilak," and benign countenance. On his right sat the Maharajah of Huthwa, the second landed magnate of the Province, a smiling intelligent boy, dressed in the orthodox Hindu style. Khan Bahadurs and Roy Bahadurs mustered strong. The leaders of the bar and of the non-official public were not wanting to add to the solemnity of the occasion.

A FALSE ALARM.

Shortly after 4-10, when we were on the tiptoe of expectation, the Collector's "Nazir" shouted from the porch "Get up, Sirs!" The "durbaris" sprang to their feet. Minutes passed, without His Honour appearing, and the false alarm ended in a peal of laughter. The same scene was repeated, when the Judge entered the Hall.

ARRIVAL.

At 4-28, His Honour arrived and received smilingly the salute of the assembly. Then came the presentation of addresses by the Behar Land-holder's Association, (read by Babu Givind Ch. Mitra) the Patna District Board, the Municipality and the Mahomedan Association.

AN INTERESTING CEREMONY.

Next followed the interesting ceremony of His Honour presenting with many words of warm thanks, a gold watch and chain to Babu Dakshina Ranjan Bose, the Asst. Jailor of Buxar, for the pluck and judgment shown by him on the occasion of the late fire in the Noakhali Jail.

THE CAPTURE OF THE MALACCA.

PASSENGERS ARRIVE BY THE MARMORA.

INTERESTING NARRATIVES.

The arrival of the P. and O. steamer Marmora in Colombo harbour on the 30th July excited more than ordinary interest from the fact that she had on board the passengers of the Malacca captured by the Russians on July 13th last. The vessel anchored shortly before 2 p.m., and, going on board at once, a reporter of the "Times" of Ceylon had the privilege of a talk with the Malacca passengers, who were keen for news about the war and the exploits of the Russian Volunteer Fleet. Looking into files of telegrams which they were quickly in possession of the passengers did not think they could add much to what had already been wired to Ceylon. They generally regard the incident with mixed feelings.

ORDERED TO STOP.

"It was about 10-30 on the 13th that, following the detention of a steamer in front of us," said one of the passengers, "the Petersburg signalled to us to stop. The captain at first protested and we were drifting when a shot was fired across our bows. We then stopped, and a boat came alongside with two or three officers. The officers came on board and were met by the captain of whom they demanded the ship's papers. The papers were handed over, and, accompanied by the chief officer of the Malacca, the Russian officers returned to the Petersburg."

"What was the feeling on board at the time?"

"Oh! We were curious enough and somewhat annoyed. That was all."

A COMMISSION ON THE PETERSBURG.

One of the passengers, taking up the thread of the story, said that they had on the Petersburg a commission of three or four Intelligence officers sent from Russia. The Malacca's papers were laid before them, and the manifests having been examined they decided about 2 o'clock that the ship would have to be seized.

"Did they give any reason?"

"No, they were only dissatisfied with the information which the manifests contained. The captain's assurance that the cargo consisted of Government stores for Hong-Kong was not accepted, and at about 6 o'clock an armed crew of about 20 men came over and took possession. The officers were very polite and explained to the captain that they had no alternative than to do as they did. Their first step was to haul down the British flag and hoist the Russian flag. We were then taken back, the Russian officers navigating the ship."

"Were you aware of the intentions of your captors?"

"No, we were told nothing."

"The next day," continued one of the passengers, "the Smolensk turned up, with which the Petersburg had been in communication by wireless telegraphy, and another council of war was held. They kept us waiting all day and eventually the prize crew on board was augmented by about five officers and 50 men. We then left the Petersburg and went on to Port Said."

"How were you treated on board?"

"Oh! civilly enough, only that we were not allowed to communicate with any passing ships or give any signals. There were sentries on the gang-way and everyone on board was watched." "You were still not aware of what was going to be done with you?"

"Yes, after the Smolensk came up, we were told that we were going to be put out at Suez. This was not done, however, and we were not allowed to have any communication with the shore."

"How was that?"

"Well, the Russian Consul came on board at Suez, and he probably altered the plans. We entered the canal as soon as we possibly could after leaving Suez. Port Said was reached on the 20th, at daylight, and we were put on board the Marmora a few hours later. What happened to the Malacca after this we did not know."

"How did the captain of the Malacca treat the incident?"

"He was very much annoyed, but had to accept the position like the rest of us. It was a case of force majeure pure and simple, but we were all sick enough. Fancy Britishers going through the canal prisoners of any nation!"

"Did you hear that there was anything to justify the seizure of the vessel?"

"Nothing at all" said one of the passengers. "It was the view of all of us that it was a very high-handed proceeding. Nothing was looked at in the ship, and they did not attempt to prove that any of the cargo was contraband."

INFORMATION FROM ANTWERP.

"How came then the Petersburg to suspect that you had contraband?"

"They appeared to have had some information from Antwerp?"

"The cargo of course could not have been inspected at once?"

"No, we had about 6,000 tons on board, of this 1,400 were Government stores for Hong-Kong, and this is what probably roused suspicions.

BRIBING FOR INFORMATION.

One of the passengers informed our representative that after the prize crew came on board six of the Malacca crew were taken on the Petersburg and an attempt made to bribe them to get papers from the officers' cabin. This, however, proved unsuccessful. At Port Said the British Consul was said to have been refused leave to go on board the Malacca.

Speaking of the incident generally, one of the passengers said that they were amused by it, but they did not relish the delay. It was some times very annoying, and they were probably never forced to a freer use of bad language than during the time they were in the Russians' hands. The passenger pointed to the telegram referring to the claim for damages, and facetiously hoped that they would have an opportunity of sharing in it.

The names of the Malacca passengers are as follow:—J. H. Mackenzie, who is a surveyor proceeding to Singapore; Major Josling, who is going to Hong-Kong; A. J. Clark also bound for the same port; Lieut. Clegg of the Royal Navy; Mr. Tebbit and Miss Tebbit, who are going to Shanghai; Misses Hall, Willis and Clements, bound for the same place; and Mr. R. C. Jewitt a passenger for Penang.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

N.W.P. HIGH COURT.

The Judges of the N.W.P. High Court have delivered two judgments laying down certain principles for the guidance of the lower courts in matters relating to the sanctioning of prosecution by judicial officers.

In the first case the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Burkitt said: "This matter comes before the court on an application by one Mallu Khan for revision of an order which was passed by the District Magistrate, directing the prosecution of the applicant for perjury under Section 193 of the Indian Penal Code. It appears that on the 24th of November, 1902 the petitioner lodged a complaint against certain parties of an offence under Section 297 of the Indian Penal Code before a Magistrate of the First Class. The statement of the complainant was taken down and the case was transferred to the Joint Magistrate, for trial. He heard the complaint, dismissed it and directed the prosecution of the complainant for an offence under Section 211, that is, of having made a false charge. Mallu Khan was tried upon this charge and was convicted by another Magistrate, but upon appeal he was acquitted of the charge by the learned Sessions Judge. We should have expected that this would have terminated the proceedings so far as this matter was concerned; but not so. The learned District Magistrate who, as Joint Magistrate had directed the prosecution of Mallu under Section 211, now thinks fit to direct his prosecution for perjury in the matter of the investigation in respect of which he was tried and acquitted. Now whether or not the learned District Magistrate had power to pass this order for prosecution, it appears to us to be most inexpedient and ill advised, and such an order as this ought not to have been passed under the circumstances. In fact, it might suggest to an outsider that it was due to vindictive feelings against Mallu. Such a proceeding is calculated to bring the administration of justice into contempt. This being our mind, we cannot allow the prosecution to proceed. We, therefore, quash the order for prosecution and direct that no further proceedings be taken."

In the other case Mr. Justice Knox said:—"Two persons, Binda and Dwarka, made certain statements before the Joint Magistrate. The Joint Magistrate came to the conclusion that those statements or part of them were false. He accordingly ordered the prosecution under Section 193 of the Indian Penal Code of Binda, on the ground that he, on the 26th June, 1903, at Bhogaicha had stated on oath before him as follows:—The Sub Inspector did not take my statement; etc. etc., which statement he knew to be false; of Dwarka in that on the 26th June, 1903, at Bhogachia, he stated on oath before him 'that the Sub-Inspector did not take his statement, etc etc.,' which statement he knew to be false. He forwarded this order of his to the District Magistrate with the request that he would appoint some Court for the trial of the above case. This order went before the learned Sessions Judge who came to the conclusion that the order which he calls a sanction did not come within the purview of Section 195 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, as no application for sanction was made to the Magistrate by any one. He held that the sanction was illegal and had no hesitation in revoking it. This was on the 22nd August, 1903. On the 23rd February, 1904, the District Magistrate took up the case again. He held that he had power either to sanction the prosecution of Binda and Dwarka or to complain against them for the offence. After calling upon them to show cause he passed this order, 'I hereby sanction their prosecution for an offence under Section 193 a," whatever that may mean. I take it to mean that he sanctions their prosecution for intentionally giving false evidence in a stage of a judicial proceeding, and if this is correct, there can be no doubt, and it is admitted before me by the learned Assistant Government Advocate, that the false evidence with which Binda and Dwarka are charged, is the false evidence, for the giving of which the Joint Magistrate, on the 3rd August, 1903, made an order, which order was revoked by the Sessions Judge. This action by the learned District Magistrate is, in my opinion, quite irregular. If he considered the order of the learned Sessions Judge passed on the 22nd August 1903, an illegal order, he should have moved this Court to have it set aside. I am not concerned at the present moment with the question whether that order of the learned Sessions Judge was a proper order. On the part of the Crown I was strongly urged to consider whether the whole of these proceedings, which took place, commencing with those of the 3rd August, 1903, should not be swept aside, and the case sent back to the joint Magistrate to be dealt with according to law. The way in which the learned Magistrate has dealt with the case seems to me so irregular that I have no option but to set his order aside. I notice that in the course of his order he alludes to certain explanations which he has received from the Sessions Judge. I do not know how those explanations came to be furnished. I know of nothing in the Code of Criminal Procedure which either authorises a District Magistrate to call upon a Sessions Judge for explanations or which justifies a Sessions Judge in furnishing them. The order of the District Magistrate and the proceedings instituted by him on the 23rd February, 1904 are set aside.

Mr. Baxter, Police Inspector, whose prosecution was ordered by the Dewan for an alleged offence of misappropriating public money, the details of which were published in these columns, is now being tried before Mr. N. Rajaram Row, B A., 1st Class Magistrate, Quilon.

CHANCE OF WATER often brings on diarrhœa. For this reason many experienced travelers carry a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy with them to be used in case of an emergency. This preparation has no equal as a cure for bowel complaints. It can not be obtained while on board the cars or steamship, and that is where it is most likely to be needed. Buy a bottle before leaving home. Sold by Smith Stanstreet and Co. Wholesale Agents, B.K. Paul and Co., Abdool Rahaman Abdool Karim, Calcutta.

LYING UNDER POLICE PRESSURE.

ILLEGAL WITHDRAWAL OF A PARDON.

On the 24th January, 1904, a dacoiti was committed at Shikarpur and the Sub-Inspector brought in to Muzaffarnagar a man called Shadi in order that his statement might be recorded under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The following order was made by a Subordinate Magistrate who recorded the man's statement:—"I have recorded the statement of Shadi under Section 164, Criminal Procedure Code, which amounts to a confession of his being one of the dacoits in the Shikarpur dacoity committed on the 24th January 1904. It appears to me that it is necessary to obtain his evidence, and under Section 337 I tender pardon to him on condition of making a full and true disclosure of the whole of the circumstances within his knowledge relative to the offence of dacoiti. As it is necessary he should show the property which came to his share and assist the Police in apprehension of his accomplices, he will remain in custody of police for a week." After this certain men were arrested, and the accused (Shadi) gave evidence in their presence on three different occasions, in accordance with his former statement. This evidence was believed, and certain persons were committed for trial. The case was tried by the Assistant Sessions Judge of Saharanpur before whom the accused repeated his former statement, subject to a few discrepancies. The Assistant Sessions Judge, holding that the story as to the connexion of these men with the dacoiti was obviously untrue, acquitted them. Thereafter the District Magistrate, in consultation with the Distrirt Superintendent of Police, Muzaffarnagor, withdrew the pardon granted to Shadi, by the Deputy Magistrate and directed his prosecution under Sections 395 and 412 of the Penal Code, because, in the opinion of the learned District Magistrate, Shadi had given false evidence. The case has just been tried at the Muzuffarnagar Sessions and resulted in the acquittal of the accused. The case was brought before the Court in the language of the Sessions Judge, under most unusual circumstances. The accused had been pardoned, and that pardon was not legally cancelled and yet the man was prosecuted for making the statement he was drilled to repeat. The following extract from the judgment of the learned Judge (Mr. L.G. Evans, C.S.) shows how the withdrawal of the pardon was not legal:—

"I may remark in the first place that the District Magistrate was acting ultra vires in passing this order. It has been ruled in the case of Manick Chander Sarkar, I.L.R., 24 Calcutta 492 that the withdrawal of a conditional pardon should be made under Section 339, Criminal Procedure Code by the authority that granted it, that is in this case by Babu Tulshi Ram Deputy Magistrate. This, however, is a minor point. It has also been ruled in the case of Mirian 24, Punjab Record Cr. T. No. 6 of 1889, followed in Habibulla 30 Ibid, No. 15 of 1895, that 'a mere order by the court before which an accomplice give evidence that he be prosecuted for not complying with the condition of his tender, does not preclude the trying court inquiring into the question of fact involved in his plea of not guilty. The opinion of the court directing the prosecution that the person has not complied with the condition of the tender even if relevant cannot be conclusive especially when the order is made, as in practice may occur, without the accused having any opportunity of showing cause against the order.'

"In this case, no such opportunity was given to the accused and this court has jurisdiction to decide as to the legality of the order of the District Magistrate, dated the 24th May 1904.

This order, as I have already pointed out was ultra vires and the pardon granted to the accused on the 30th January, 1904, still stands good. But there is more than this Under Section 339, Criminal Procedure Code a pardon can only be withdrawn if the person to whom the pardon was tendered has "not complied with the condition on which the tender was made." Now, what was the condition on which the tender was made? Obviously that the accused should adhere to the statement made on the 30th January, 1904. which the Deputy Magistrate accepted as true. This agreement, as the accused now says, he has adhered to even up to the Court of the Assistant Judge. It is true that his statements made on different occasions have slightly varied in minor details, as noted by the learned Assistant Sessions Judge, but main story was adhered to throughout and the accused has told throughout the story which the Magistdate and Police accepted abinitis as correct. In what has he not fulfilled his contract?

"The District Magistrate says because the Assistant Sessions Judge found he had given false evidence. No doubt he did give false evidence, but of what character. He told a pack of lies which he was induced to tell under instigation of the Police backed up by Magisterial sanction, and now the authorities turn round on him and say 'you are a liar; but as you are not such an expert liar as to induce the Assistant Judge to believe the lies you have told, you are to be prosecuted even though these lies were told under our sanction and promise of pardon.' That such sanction is an abuse of the powers granted to the Maginstrate in Section 339, Criminal Procedure Code, can admit of no manner of doubt. I can only suppose that the District Superintendent of Police and the learned District Magistrate did not, at the time, fully realise the extraordinary position they took up. In this connection, I may quote some very pertinent remarks made by the Punjab Chief Court in the case Habibulla, 30, Pun. Rec. Cr. T. No. 15 of 1885.

"It is a matter of great importance which cannot be too emphatically insisted upon that the strictest faith should be kept with a person to whom an offer of pardon has been made and by whom it has been accepted under the Code, even though the statement made by him, under the pardon tendered, may reveal himself to be one of the vilest of criminals. The mere failure of this evidence to procure conviction of his alleged associates in crime is plainly insufficient to justify a summary order for the withdrawal of the pardon and trial of the deponent. When the same story is consistently adhered to in both the Courts and only fails to procure a conviction for want of corroboration, the mere suspicion that the approver has given false evidence is plainly insufficient to justify the enforcement of the provisions of this section, and some definite evidence as to show wilful concealment or the giving of false evidence should be required before the commitment of the approver for trial is considered justifiable.

"In this case faith has been broken with this unfortunate man in the most open way. He has told the same story consistently as directed up to the last court and because he has not lied with sufficient skill as required, he is to be tried for committing an offence for which he received an express pardon on the condition that he should adhere to the statement accepted as true on the 30th January 1904. To my mind, the order withdrawing the pardon is not only illegal, but is based on grounds which I can not understand or appreciate. If this unfortunate man (the victim of police oppression) had retreacted his statement before the Assistant Sessions Judge or altered entirely the names of his alleged associates, there might have been (under certain circumstances) some justification for the withdrawal of the pardon. In the case I can find absolute none, except the failure of the Crown to establish a false charge against a number of innocent men.

"I hold, for the above reasons, that the pardon as originally tendered, stands good and was not withdrawn by any legal order such as is contemplated by Section 339 Penal Code."

The learned Sessions Judge then proceeded to consider the case on the facts, having thus disposed of the question of law involved in it. He disbelieved utterly the alleged recognition of the accused on the night of the dacoiti; and regarded the confessions made by the accused on various dates before the Magistrate and the Assistant Judge as having been made under the influence of police oppression. Mr. Evans thus concluded his judgment:—"The facts of the case point to this conclusion beyond the slightest doubt, and this is exactly what the accused says. He says the Sub-Inspector told him he had got his name recorded in the report and would get him fourteen years if he did not confess. Naturally he accused, under such circumstances, had no option but to yield, and he had to learn by heart the statement which was taught him. An ignorant uneducated man like this is bound to come to grief when repeating a pack of lies he has learnt by heart: and this is exactly what happened in this case. The assessors took exactly the same view as the Court, and said at once that it was obvious that the accused had been forced to confess by the police, and that the charge against him was wholly false. The whole affair is, in the highest degree discreditable to the Sub-Inspector, who has been guilty of gross oppression and subornation of perjury. I trust that measures will be taken to remove him from the police force without delay.

Food will surely create Poison, if Digestion is Faulty.

Well-digested food is the source of strength. Every act, every thought, every movement of muscle or mind uses up some of the substance of our bodies. Food repairs this loss, but only when it is digested.

Undigested food ferments in the stomach, poisons the blood, starves the body and lowers vitality.

To be strong and healthy, assist your stomach, liver and kidneys to do their work perfectly by taking Mother Seigel's Syrup, which contains food-digesting ferments and gentle tonics for the stomach, and has cured more dyspeptics than any other medicine in the world.

MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP

"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." X. Norodien, Malay Location, Johannesburg, March 27th, 1904.

Makes Food nourish you.

It aids Digestion, and Food well digested means Strength, Vitality, Health.

MORTALITY IN BOMBAY.

Bombay, Aug. 3.

The mortality in Bombay from all causes for the week ended 2nd August, was 581, and deaths recorded from plague 55, a decrease of 2 in the latter and an increase of 19 in the total. The total in the corresponding week in the preceding year was 570, and that of cases of plague recorded 100.

NEW FIVE-RUPEE CURRENCY NOTES.

Simla, Aug. 3.

The following Press communique has been issued by the Finance Department in accordance with the provisions of Act 6 of 1903:—Five-rupee Currency Notes, issued from any town outside Burma, are now a legal tender throughout British India, except in Burma; and they are encashable at any office of issue situated in British India outside Burma. The new forms for the universal note have been received from England and are now being issued. The notes are larger than the five-rupee notes at present in circulation. They are made of heavier paper and the value of the note is indicated in the principal vernacular languages of India. In other respects, the form of the present notes is adhered to. The new notes do not supersede the notes at present in circulation, and the new and old forms of note will continue to circulate side by side for the present on precisely the same footing.

A SURAT DEFAMATION CASE.

In the Gulzare Shahabi Defamation Case wherein Sayad Sasrudin Sayad Sedoo charged Ahmed Mohamed with publishing and distributing a Hindustani pamphlet, and Shahabudin Toongerker, Manager of the Gulzare Shahabi Press, with printing the same, the City Magistrate delivered judgment convicting Ahmed and fined him Rs. 200 or 3 months' simple imprisonment. The second accused was acquitted.

"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.

Price per box ... Re. 1.
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Kaviraj N. N. SEN,
Govt. Medical Diploma-Holder,
18/1, Lower Chitput Road, Calcutta.

The total rainfall of Simla to date is 37.51 inches against 29.87 inches, the normal fall.

His Highness the Maharaja of Rutlam with his followers has left Bombay by the Ahmedabad mail train for Rutlam.

Sir James and Lady LaTouche arrived at Simla on Thursday evening and will stay at the Viceregal Lodge. Sir James and party will leave on the 10th instant, arriving at Naini Tal on the 11th idem.

SUDHA CHURNA.

THE ONLY INFALLIBLE MEDICINE FOR ACIDITY, DYSPEPSIA AND COLIC THAT HAS PROVED A MOST SUCCESSFUL REMEDY BY ACTUAL EXPERIMENTS.

SUDHA CHURNA is an invaluable medicine for indigestion, dyspepsia flatulence, rumbling in the abdomen, pinching or griping pains in the bowels, costiveness alone or alternating with diarrhoea, impaired power of digestion with distaste for food and loss of appetite &c.

SUDHA CHURNA produces a magical effect in acidity attended with all its symptoms and complications such as acid eructations, burning sensation in the heart or stomach, pain in the bowels, nausea and vomiting after meals &c. SUDHA CHURNA works like a marvel in colic even of obstinate type where every other remedy has failed. SUDHA CHURNA gives immediate relief when the stomach is overloaded after too heavy or rich a dinner.

NO HOUSE SHOULD BE WITHOUT A PHIAL.

The following are some of the testimonials certifying, to the efficacy of SUDHA CHURNA:—

"I was suffering from acidity and colic and Rao Bahadur B. G. Sathe recommended me your SUDHA CHURNA ..... I am glad to say that I have got rid of my complaint... Sd.) K. G. Kelker, B. A., Principal, Poona Training College.

"Your SUDHA CHURNA has done me immense good. It is as its name indicates... nectar in its effcacy."...(Sd.) Srikrishna Mahouti, Cuttack.

"...The medicine has proved much efficacious to me." ...(Sd.) Ambadas Woman, Clerk, Audit Office, B. N. Ry.

"My friend whom I gave a phial of SUDHA CHURNA speaks very highly of its efficacy... (Sd.) Raghoba Vithal Joshi of Napur.

"I have tried a phial of your SUDHA CHURNA and am glad to say that it was found a good remedy for acidity."...(Sd.) Avinas Chandra Mittra, Head Clerk, B. C. Section, Audit Office, B. N. R.

ALL LETTERS CONTAINING FULL PARTICULARS OF DISEASE AND SEEKING PROFESSIONAL HELP RECEIVE OUR MOST CAREFUL ATTENTION.

Price.—A large phial Rs 1-8, and a small phial Ans. 14. Postage, packing and V. P. charges extra

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And you will know in 24 hours what a marvellous remedy

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HEALING BALM

is

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

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

HEALING BALM

Gonococci are of the specific cause this disease. These microscopic germs poison the mucus membrane and thus propagate the disease. Unless these germs are eradicated there is no radical cure. Healing Balm totally destroys these germs and so the cure effected by it is permanent and radical. In a day the sting of the disease will be over.

In a week the patient will be radically cured.

Indisputable evidence of itsefficacy:—

1. The leading Indian Medical Journal, the "Indian Lancet" says:—... put the Compound to a series of tests and now have much pleasure in saying that every experiment was followed by a successful result. We have no hesitation in now saying that R. Laugin & Co's Healing Balm is a safe and reliable ther an putic agent and one on which medical man and the general publicmay without any doubt depend (15th December, 1902. No., 24 Page 862)

3. R. NEWGENT, L. R. C. P. R. S. (Edin), says:)—"R, Laugin's Healing Balm, for obstinate Gonorrhœa, has been proved to be only medicine that will effectively cure the patients and fulfil which is claimed for it.

2. DR. K. P. GUPTA, Col., I. M. S., M. A., M. D, F. R. C. S. (Edin.) D. Sc. (Cambridge,) P. H. D. (Cantab.), 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."

4. DR. B. K. BOSE, Surgeon-Major, M. D., I. M. S., etc., says:—"I have tried Healing Balm in cases of acute Gonorrhœa with success."

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

6. DR. G. C. BEZ BAKUA, L. R. C. P. (Edin.), F. L. P. (Glasgow) and L. M., etc., late Civil Surgeon, British Guiana, says:—"... Healing Balm is a splendid remedy for the diseases of Genito-Urinary tract and it acts like charm."

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

8. 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."

9. DR. R. MONIER, M. B. C. M. (Edin.), Resident Surgeon, Park Street, Government Charitable Dispensary, says—"... Healing Balm was used by me in several cases of Gonorrhœa and was found successful.

10. DR. R. A. FERMIE L. R. C. P. & S. etc, says:—"... I used Healing Balm for Gonorrhœa in a number of my patients and found it very efficacious."

Many other certificates from doctors of equal eminence will be published hereafter and may be had on application.

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HOW RUSSIA WOULD INVADE INDIA.

STATE SECRET DISCLOSED.

General Kuropatkin, with 115,000 Men and making out an Afghan Russian Outpost Affair as a Casus Belli, wishes to Seize Herat, Conquer or Pacify the Ameer, Conciliate Persia and Descend upon our Indian Empire.

("Daily Express")

To-day the "Express" is in a position to publish an exact transcript of Russia's plan for the invasion of our Indian Empire. It has been drawn up by General Kuropatkin, the famous military expert who is now in command of the Czar's troops in Manchuria, and has been officially adopted by the Russian headquarters staff in St. Petersburg.

The war with Japan will delay for many years the possibility of Russia carrying her plans into operation; apart from this it is reassuring to know that the British War Office is in possession of General Kuropatkin's scheme, and is providing against the possibility of its being brought to a successful issue.

It will be noticed that, flushed with their apparent success in Manchuria the Russians imagined that a similar scheme would prove successful in India. In Manchuria they first placed their aboriginal agents following them up by local banks (Russo-Chinese), Russian-born "commercial" agents, and finally by a railway (Trans-Siberian).

The proposed Russian advance on India is of a similar nature. Russian native agents have been appointed in Persia and Afghanistan. Russian banks have been founded and railways built in Northern Persia, while Russian Consuls are everywhere to be found.

So sure is General Kuropatkin of success that in referring to the need of propitiating the mullahs of Meshed, he says:—"It is true that in the long run we shall be bound to win, but—" It is just this "but" which is proving so fatal to General Kuropatkin in Manchuria at the present day.

The following is the full text of his remarkable document:—

THE GREAT COUP.

By General Kuropatkin.

1. The primary base would be the line of Herat Maimana Balkh, and Badakhshan and the secondary base Kashmir Kandahar and Kabul

2. Having in view that the probability of a war with England in Central Asia exists without any doubt, I have drawn up a definite plan of our advance through Afghanistan, which I divide into two campaigns.

The first, which shall end after the taking of Herat, Maimana, Balkh, and Badakhshan, and

The second, which should begin some two or three years later, so as to give the army time to rest, and for us to properly administer the country; and this campaign would close with the capture of Kashmir and Kashgar, on the one hand and of Kandahar and Kabul on the other.

3. There is no occasion for me to speak of a third campaign towards India, because after our first advance the English would find themselves in a pitiable state in India, and 50 per cent. of their influence would have gone; and after our second advance the English would find themselves in the same state as they were in 1857, with this difference—the natives would have our support.

KEY OF CENTRAL ASIA.

4. I should certainly begin on the right flank, which would be the most important point in the campaign. The right flank will be Khorassan. Here the holy plain of Meshed will play a great role in our advance, for Meshed is the key of our affairs in Central Asia, and of our moral success among Mussulmans.

For this reason it is absolutely necessary for us to gain the good will of the mullahs of Meshed, who in turn will give the people confidence in our movements. It is true that we need not fear them, because they are not in a position to oppose us, but they can cause us embarrassments without end in questions of commissariat, which in war are of the greatest importance. Such a holy spot as Meshed must give us cause for serious thought as to how we are to take effective measures to paralyse its powers of attack and defence, and how we should unite its resources to the power of the Emperor, and avoid all misunderstanding which might occur to our army advancing on Afghanistan before the annexation of Khorassan by Russia.

If we take Khorassan before we take Herat we shall have enemies in our rear, who will fight in the name of their religion against us, and thus we may find ourselves in a bad position, similar to that of General Gordon at Khartoum, should we make any mistakes in our dealings with Meshed. For in that case we might find a religious war declared against us.

For the sake of Iman Riza, the cowardly Persians and the fanatical Afghans, Turkomans, and natives of Bokhara would rise against us, and perhaps invoke the aid of the natives of Azarbaijan, whereby we should find ourselves engaged in two places at once. It is true that in the long run we should be bound to win, but attention must be paid to all these places to unite them to Russia by peaceful means, for otherwise we should rebuff the sympathy of their inhabitants, which it has been a matter of years to gain.

5. To assure the advance of our troops via Meshed on the one hand, and to bring about afterwards the union of Azarbaijan, Ghilan, Mazanderan, and Khorassan, the following must be done—namely, represent to the Shah that as many pilgrims—who do not know Persia—come from Russia to visit

Such a mission would act as a check it would be to their advantage were a sheikh appointed from Russia, who would look after their interests, and have power to judge petty cases, which remain without satisfaction when brought before the Persian authorities.

the tomb of Iman Riza,

which are spread by dervishes in the employ upon the reports antagonistic to Russia of the English. If we take timely measures, the dervishes will not have any great success, as we can commence a counter-propaganda, but our diplomatists care more for their ease than for the well-being of Russia.

6. Such a sheikh as I propose must be intelligent and faithful to us, and

for this mission I think that the Sheikh-ul-Islam at Tiflis would be a suitable man.

He would be able to make all arrangements with the mullahs for our advance, because many villages are the property of the Shrine of Iman Riza, and they would give us a constant supply of provisions.

From Jhinaran to Meshed, and thence to Turbat-i-Sheikh Jam, the villages either belong to or are dependent on the Shrine of Imam Riza, and it is sufficient for the mullahs to say that the enemies of Islam are coming, for all the villagers to leave their homes and take refuge in Meshed, taking with them all their provisions, which it would be easy for them to do, as they are accustomed to make rapid exoduses, owing to the Turkoman raids.

NEGOTIATIONS AT ONCE.

Such an order could be bought by the English from the Meshed mullahs, as occurred when war between Russia and England was impending, and the English obtained an order from the Governor-General of Khorassan to forbid the export or sale of provisions. But a similar order from the Governor-General could be of no avail were the Mullahs to be won over to our side.

All depends on their good will during military movements and in my opinion it is necessary to begin diplomatic negotiations with this object, which will be useful in the future.

Once we have taken all measures in this direction we can occupy ourselves with our military dispositions in case of war with England.

7. First army corps of Turkestan. This corps could occupy the line of Usgent, Andijan, Marghilan, Khokand, Khojend, Urra-tube, Samarkand, with patrols of cavalry along the frontier. During the passage of troops to Badakhshan and Balkh it is necessary to prepare magazines along the road from Samarkand to Balkh in the villages of Shar (Shar-i-Sabz?), Kharzar (Khurzar?), Dawan, Shiravat, and if possible on the frontier at Jhuska Guzar, and small magazines at Bashkissar, Dichinur, and on the Amu Daria at Komdar Guzar. Between the last point and Ghuska Guzar we must have communications by small steamers, which should be sent from the Aral Sea by the Amu Daria.

8. In case of the obstructions by snow on the mountains of Kolig Koh (Kailigau?), a division will move by detachments via Samarkhand, abandoning all other routes.

"ATTRACTING" OUR ARMY.

9. The corps when in the district of Ferghana (viz., Markhilan, Khokand, Khojend, Urra-tube) will remain stationary, ready to enter Kashgar after the operations in Afghanistan, or in case of necessity they will direct their movement by the mountains of Alai to the Pamir,

in order to subdue the natives and attract part of the British Army.

10. The Turkestan army would concentrate its operations on Badakhshan as far as the Hindu Khush, Kunduz, and Balkh, awaiting the issue of operations on the right flank.

11. The Second Army Corps of the Trans-Caspiran district will first send forward its native militia to Andkhui and Maimana, along the Murghab on the one side, and to Zulfikar by the Hari-Rud on the other.

The main body will advance as far as the glacis of the Paropanisus to try to force the Ardowan Pass, and the Khuska or Tusret Baba Pass, and at the same time cross by the Khomban Pass, by which Alexander the Great passed. At the same time, Cossacks and Turkomans should be sent in small detachments along the Hari-Rud to make demonstrations at Tirpul and Kusan, and if these places are undefended they will advance to Ghorian.

IMPORTANT POINTS.

The most important points to keep in view will be in Khorassan and the districts inhabited by Taimures between Khaf and Sabzawar. Simultaneously with the advance of the main body in detachments, a force of cavalry with mountain guns should be sent to Zulfikan and Sarakhs; and from those two points across the frontier, directing themselves on Turbet-i-Sheikh Jam, where they will meet. The Zulfikan force will go straight for Turbet, and the Sarakhs force will advance through the Meshed plain.

From Turbet these two divisions will advance as far as Kehriz. From this point one-third will go and demonstrate at Kushan with the Cossacks and Turkomans above mentioned, and the remaining two-thirds will march on Khaf.

12. When the convention with Persia is signed, British steamers will be allowed to come to Bushire, but the port of Bunder Abbas will be closed to them, and our patrols therefore will have only to guard two roads—

1. Birjend-Jwain,
2. Neh-Jowain—

in order to close the Farrah-Sabzawar road to provisions from the south. The commander of these patrols will have the right to patrol as far as the Herat-Kandahar road if he finds it useful and possible. At the same time we should invite the chief people in Seistan to take part in our operations towards Kandahar, so as to draw off some portion of the Anglo-Afghan army.

13. It will be necessary to make a feint on the strongest pass of the Paropamians, and at the same time the whole corps should advance by any of the other routes to the mountains.

14. If Herat is closed to us,

I should prefer to besiege it rather than attempt to take it by storm;

and during the siege the following positions should be taken up:—

On the hills to the south, long-range guns.

The infantry should encamp on the south-east, and occupy the heights on the east.

The most necessary thing is to besiege at any cost and close the camel route from the Hari-Rud; and therefore the troops must take fascines with them. This operation would be better carried out at night. The siege cannot last more than a month, seeing that our artillery and army are now in good condition.

During the siege it is necessary to make demonstrations on the Kabul and Kandahar roads. When Herat is taken a Russian administration must be established, and according to circumstances treat for peace.

But should the Afghans come over to our side we should immediately send the First Army Corps to Kandahar,

employing the Turkoman militia as an advance guard.

15. Reserves should be disposed along the railway line of Samarkand, Bokhara, Merv, Askabad, and along this line should come the reinforcements from Baku, Astrakhan, Orenburg, etc. The Ural Cossacks should be collected at Orenburg, and those of the Terek and Kuban at Petrovsk, and from Astrakhan and Baku the infantry should be sent.

16. There then should be two army corps—the one directed on Balkh, the other on Herat. One column on Maimana, one column going by a circuitous route and marching on the Pamir, and one column of observations on the Kandahar-Herat route.

SUPPLIES ARRANGED FOR.

17. A commission should be appointed who could draw up a programme of commissariat in order to find places for stores and arrange for the timely supply of provisions, etc.

N.B.—This has already been done.

As the Trans-Caspian Railway will not have enough rolling stock for the proper supply of the army the Astrabad-Kuchan-Meshed road should be kept in view, for by this road supplies could be sent by mule carriage for the store-houses, and also for the Meshed column. Supplies for the main army could also be sent by this route, as from Meshed they could be forwarded by the tramway, which it is now proposed to make.

The commissariat must keep in view that there is enough wheat in Khorassan and Merv for the supply of the main army, but the central depot at Askabad must be kept up.

18. The chief depot for the army of the Murghat is Merv.

For the Sarakhs Column, Sarakhs.
For the Khorassan Column, Meshed.

The smaller depots are as follow:—

For the Murghat army, Penjdeh.
For the Sarakhs Column, Dushak.
For the Khorassan Column, Firman, Turbet, and Khaf.

19. The store-houses of Turbet and Khaf should have a trifling supply of wheat, as after the fall of Herat that will become chief depots.

20. The communications between the different divisions should be maintained by Turkoman postmen.

ARMY TO BE EMPLOYED.

21. Approximate number of forces to be engaged:—

1. TURKESTAN ARMY CORPS:—

10,000 Infantry and Cavalry.
1 Brigade Foot Artillery.
1 Brigade Horse Artillery.
2 Batteries Mountain Guns.
Rocket Corps.

FERGHANA DIVISION:—

5,000 Infantry and Cavalry.
2 Batteries Horse Artillery.
1 Battery Mountain Artillery.

TOTAL TURKESTAN ARMY CORPS:—

15,000 Infantry and Cavalry.
1 Brigade Foot Artillery.
1 Brigade and 2 Batteries Horse Artillery.
3 Mountain Batteries.
Rocket Corps.

2. TRANS-CASPIAN ARMY CORPS.
(Central Division).

12,000 Infantry and Cavalry.
1 Brigade Foot Artillery.
1 Brigade Horse Artillery.
Half Brigade Mountain Artillery.
Rocket Corps.

Left Wing (i.e., Murghab, Maimana, Penjdeh Column).

3,000 Infantry and Cavalry.
2 Batteries Foot Artillery.
2 Batteries Horse Artillery.
1 Battery Mountain Artillery.

Right Wing (Khorassan Division).

8,000 Turkoman Cavalry.
4 Batteries Horse Artillery.
2 Batteries Mountain Artillery.

Five thousand cavalry of above and two batteries of artillery will go to Sabzawar by Khaf; 1,000 cavalry will act as patrols from Khaf to Neh, and 2,000 cavalry and two batteries of artillery will go to Kuhsan to cover the march of the corps going to Khaf. Reserves should be held in readiness at Tashkend, Samarkand, and Bokhara, for the Turkestan Army Corps, and at Sarakhs and Merv for the Trans-Caspian Army Corps.

TOTAL WITHOUT RESERVES.

30,000 Cavalry and Infantry.
8,000 Turkoman Cavalry.
(?) Brigades and 3 Batteries Foot Artillery.
3 Batteries Horse Artillery.
10 Batteries Mountain Artillery.
Rocket, Telegraph, and Hospt Corps, etc.

RESERVES.

30,000 cavalry and infantry and 7,000 Turkoman cavalry.

22. I should prefer to begin the campaign in November, as the weather is healthier for the men, and all Russian ports will be frozen.

A casus belli can at any time when required be found through a collision between the Afghan and Russian outposts.

(Signed) KUROPATKIN, General.

Locusts which lately were found more plentiful in the eastern division of the Poona district have now shifted to the western talukas where they are stated to be doing much damage to the young crops. They are now incubating at Khed, where eggs have been found in large quantities. Masses of these eggs of the shape of groundnuts have been discovered on the soil, each mass containing roughly from 75 to 100 eggs. Steps for their destruction are being taken. The last flight of locusts in the Poona district was recorded in 1884, when they were greatly in evidence in Purandhar and some other eastern talukas of the district, though nothing in comparison with what are they at present, and the damage done was also considerably less.

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THE TIBET EXPEDITION.

GYANTSE TO NANGARTSE.

Camp Nangartse, July 20.

Mr. Henry Newman writes to the "Englishman":—

Possibly by the time this reaches you we will have arrived at Lhassa itself. That far-off Forbidden City is barely 80 miles from here, and the only difficulty in our path is the Brahmaputra. There are varying reports as to the size and swiftness of the river, but we depend on the engineers to take us across whatever its breadth and rapidity. There is, of course, also the possibility of further Tibetan resistance, but we do not contemplate the enemy seriously delaying our advance. Having come so far we well can go a little further.

In the letter regarding Colonel Brander's sortie to the Karo-la, I gave a description of the road up to the Pass. To that there is little to add except that the march up with a larger column has proved infinitely arduous, chiefly because of the inclemency of the weather. It rained in torrents the day we left Gyantse. We have been wreathed in damp, right here in "the dry rainless region of Tibet," as much as if we were still in the notorious Teesta Valley. The worst of it is that the rain has a habit of coming down just when fires are being lighted for cooking dinners. The weather devils in Tibet are said to be very powerful and certainly these months they have given us no rest, tormenting us with cold and snow, heat and dust storms and rain.

We made the Karo-la in four marches. On the fourth day, we fought the second fight on the Pass and camped about two miles beyond Zara, a large and flourishing town, consisting of one deserted hut with the roof off. Yesterday we came on here.

Regarding the fight on the Karo-la I have little to add to my telegram. A desperate action was expected, as the position had been strongly fortified, and a reconnaissance the night before had shown the enemy in thousands. But when we went out to battle next morning practically the only resistance came from about six hundred men from Kham, posted on a steep ridge to the right. A few of the enemy faced the Gurkhas, climbing up towards them very bravely. They killed one sepoy and wounded two others firing out of caves and clefts in the rock. A certain number of Tibetans could not be reached by the Gurkhas owing to a steep glacier intervening. These were turned out of their position by a company of Pathans who worked their way up from the valley below. It ought to be noted that the mountains which had to be climbed tower many thousand feet above the summit of the Pass, which itself is over 16,000 feet high. Some of the troops were fighting at an elevation of about 19,000 feet. That in itself is a remarkable incident.

But some mention ought to be made of the very bold way in which the Fusiliers went up to the main wall across the road. The enemy opened fire from it at a long range and there was every reason to suppose that a torrent of lead would be poured on our troops when they came within a hundred yards or so. It was a ticklish proceeding that walking up to the wall and we watched the advance of the Fusiliers with some anxiety. But the wall was empty when our troops reached it.

Zara lies a few hundred yards below the wall. In the plain were signs of a hastily abandoned camp. Food and clothing and cooking pots were strewn about everywhere. A few disreputable tents had also been left standing. The whole place was in a very filthy state. Dirty rivulets ran everywhere and ponds abounded. It was decided to camp on a bit of rising ground about two miles further on.

The march to Nangartse was fairly pleasant, the rain not coming down till dusk. At this season of the year, the valleys of Tibet are a carpet of flowers. All the English spring blossoms—and others also—abound. The hills are many coloured. The summits dazzle in snow and ice, beneath which is slate with wide welts of Indian red. Then the hill-sides melt into rich brown, finally merging into green. Then in the wide valley below come the flowers. One would, perhaps, admire the flowers more, were not one's eye caught again by the blue of the deadly aconite. From the admiration of nature, one turns to more prosaic thoughts regarding the safety of one's pony.

Nangartse plain is very much like Gyantse plain, except that there is less cultivation. The so-called town would be better styled a fishing village. Turning the corner of a ridge, one sees the Jong located at the base of a hill and fast falling into disrepair. Beyond it are the shining waters of Lake Palti.

Below the Jong, waiting in a tent were the peace delegates the Ta Lama, the Yatok Lama, and the Lama Grand Secretary. They made a fine show, clad in rich yellow and orange robes, Captain O'Connor interviewed them first, and later on, when our camp was pitched, they visited Colonel Younghusband in great state. Their attitude, however, was of people who demand rather than sue for peace.

To-morrow we resume our march towards Lhassa.

The following are the audited figures of the Simla Census:—Municipal area, 32,277; Jutogh, 1,807; and outside area, 8,090.

Referring to the agricultural and industrial exhibitions instituted by the late Dewan of Travancore, the "Travancore Times" says:—A well-ordered exhibition is the finest object lesson that a villager can have; for at an exhibition—within a compass no bigger than his own village—he is given a concept of well nigh every industry in the land.' Preaching and writing on the industrial development of the country may have their own use. But the most persistent efforts in these directions will not have much effect in convincing the masses that the present industrial position among them spells ruin to the country. The most efficient means of creating this wholesome conviction in the public mind, is the holding of well-organized exhibitions in all the chief centres of the State. The idea of exhibitions being fortunately not quite new to the people of the State, their actual revival, after a long interval, with renewed vigour, will be specially appreciated by the public and will be productive of immense practical benefit to the country.

The Government of India have not yet decided whether they will proceed with the Civil Procedure Code Bill during the Calcutta Session. The Hon'ble Mr. Richards is now looking over the draft Bill.

A Police Training School for training candidates for the grades of Inspector, Jemadars and Station House Officers will be opened at Bangalore on the 1st of August. The subjects to be taught include surveying, drawing, and photography. The course will extend over a period of eight months.

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