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# Amrita Bazar Patrika

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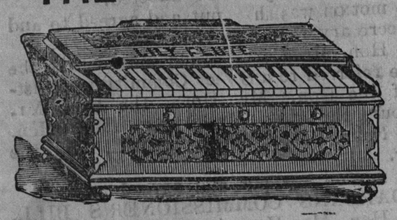


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Ranaghat
21 May 1904.

Yours Sincerely
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(Sd.) Dina Nath Mukherjee,
Dy. Magistrate, Rajshahi,

Rajshahi, the 28th Oct. 1901.

Babu Bepin Behari Dhar, jeweller of Boalia, made several ornaments for me. He also received several orders through me from my friends. In all cases his dealings were honest and straigh for ward. He is a reliable goldsmith and his executions are neat. I can safely recommend him to the public.

(Sd.) ANNADA CH. GUPTA,
Dy. Magte.

BOALIA,
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***The Editor of the Amrita Bazar Patrika writes:—***

"I can confidently recommend the BHARAT VAISAJYANILAYA to the public as the medicines are prepared by expert with great care."

***Rai Bahadur Dwarka Nath Bhattachajya, Retired Sub-Judge writes:—***

"I am glad to be able to say that the medicines prepared by Kabiraj KASHAB LAL ROY, Superintending Physician of the BHARAT VAISAJYANILAYA, are genuine. * *"

***Babu Amar Nath Basu, Zamindar, Bagbazar, writes:—***

"* * I can very strongly certify as to the genuineness of the medicines prepared at the BHARAT VAISAJYANILAYA, and to the extraordinary care with which KABIRAJ KESHAB L... ROY execute his treatment upon me."

***Babu Madhu Sudhan De, Retired Jailor, writes:—***

"I placed some of the members of my family under the treatment of KABIRAJ KESHAB LAL ROY. * * In some of the cases he has shown exceptional skill and discretion in curing them. There is no doubt that the medicines prepared at the BHARAT VAISAJYANILAYA are genuine, otherwise they can not act so miraculously."

***Babu Dina Nath Roy, Assistant Manager of the "Patrika" writes:—***

"My grand daughter had been suffering from chronic dysentry attended with fever and other complications. When some of the eminent physicians failed to cure her, I placed her under the treatment of KABIRAJ KESHAB LAL ROY, who, I am glad to say, cured her within a very short time. The case of my grand daughter has convinced me that Ayurvedic medicines, if properly prepared, are most efficacious for chronic diseases."

MANAGER,
BHARAT VAISAJYANILAYA, CALCUTTA

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## BENGAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

—: (0) :—

eeting of the Council was held at the Chamber ,Writers' Buildings, on Cday. The Hon. Sir Andrew Fraser, Lieut-Governor of Bengal, presided, and there e present the Hon. Mr. L. Hare, the Hon. K. G. Gupta, the Hon. Mr. B. L. Gupta, e Hon. Mr. P. O'Kinealy, Advocate-Geneal of Bengal, the Hon. Mr. E. W. Collin, the Hon. Mr. R. W. Carlyle, the Hon. Mr. D. B. Horn, the Hon. Mr. L. P. Shirres, the Hon. Mr. A. Earle, the Hon. Mr. R. T. Greer, the Hon. Maharaja Sir Raveneswar Proshad Singh Bahadur of Gidhour, the Hon. Babu Kali Pada Ghosh, the Hon. Babu Saligram Singh, the Hon. Mr. C. F. Larmour, the Hon. Babu Ambika Charan Mazumdar, and the Hon. Babu Nalin Behari Sircar.

### LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT ACT.

The Hon. Babu Nalin Behary Sircar, on behalf of the Hon. Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose, who was absent, asked the following questions:—Will the Government be pleased to say how the rules made under clauses (9) (p) and (m), section 138, of the Local Self-Government Act, issued under Notification No. 3334 L. S.-G., dated 10th December, 1901, have worked with reference to the following matters: 1. How many vacancies in the ranks of District Engineers occurred, especially in Class I, Grade I districts, since the enforcement of the new rules, and in how many of such vacancies existing District Engineers approved by Government as fit for those districts have been appointed? II. Is it a fact that vacancies occurred at Saran and Champaran, but none of the persons included in the Chief Engineer's list (vide Rule 12) have been appointed, though some of them applied for the posts? If so, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons which led to the disregarding of the Rules? III. Is it not difficult, under the present rules, to get properly qualified Engineers for temporary vacancies when an officer takes long leave to wit Backergunge, a district of Class I? Will the Government please state what is being done to remedy this state of things? IV. Under Rule 5, District Engineers are required to retire on attaining the age of 55 years and can only be retained with the sanction of the Government. Is it a fact that two European District Engineers have been allowed to remain in service, though one is about 65 years old and the other close on 60—a concession which is not allowed by Government to officers in other branches of the public service? Will the Government be pleased to state the grounds on which the services of these officers have been retained, when there are officers in the Government list fully qualified to hold these appointments but are in receipt of lesser pay owing to there being no vacancies? V. Of the 42 districts where the Local Self-Government Act is in force, 11 have been classed as grade I regarding District Engineer's pay (Rs. 600 rising to Rs. 800). Of these 11 posts, 10 are held by Europeans, although numerically the strength of the Native Engineers to Europeans in the service is as 3 to 2. Will the Government be pleased to remedy this state of things, and make a fairer distribution of these posts, specially as there are districts in this grade where there is no specialized European interest? VI. Is it true that in the opinion of several high Government officials, the recent rules have not worked well, and if so, will the Government be pleased to take steps to recast the rules so that there may be a fair prospect of transfers and promotions in the service through which large sums of public money, both Local and Provincial, are annually spent? VIII. Will the Government be pleased, in recasting the rules or otherwise, to give effect to the pledge given Sir Ashley Eden at the time of establishe Sibpur College that the alumni of ge were to have all Poad Cess ap-

Mr Shirres replied as follows: to answer my hon. friend nature of the appoint- ngineers and the s are made, estions and if the District Boards themselves, or a majority of them, desire that the change should be made, the requisite amendment will be introduced into the Bill which is now before the Council. The following are the answers to the specific questions asked by the Hon. Member:—

"I and II.—The first two questions may be answered together. The new rules were published on 20th December, 1901, and since then two vacancies have occurred in Class I, grade I districts, namely, at Saran and Champaran. The names of 19 District Engineers are contained in the Chief Engineer's list as qualified to hold appointments in Class I districts, but of these 12 are already in charge of districts in class I, grade I. Of the remaining 7, 4 are Europeans and 3 are Natives. The District Boards of Saran and Champaran did not however select any of these District Engineers, but advertised for applicants. Two applicants were selected; and as they possessed the necessary professional qualifications they as a matter course obtained the requisite certificates from the Chief Engineer, and they were appointed. In the 31 districts which are not included in Class I, Grade I, eight vacancies have occurred in the post of District Engineer subsequent to the publication of the new rules. One of these appointments is still vacant, three have been filled temporarily, and for two of the remaining four District Engineers serving in other districts have been selected by the District Boards concerned. There has been no disregard of the rules. III.—Difficulty has sometimes been felt in filling temporary vacancies. No special remedy seems to be called for. IV.—Rule 5 to which the Hon. Member refers reads as follows:—'No District Engineer shall be retained in the service of a District Board after he has attained the age of 55 years, except with the sanction of the Local Government and subject to such conditions as it may think fit." Two District Engineers, of whom one attained the age of 60 in November, 1904, and the other will attain the age of 64 in March, 1905, have been granted each an extension of service for one year. The District Boards preferred retaining those officers with their long experience to appointing new men; the officers themselves were reported to be efficient and to be capable of performing their duties satisfactorily; and special recommendations were submitted to the Government by the Commissioners of the Divisions concerned. The retention of these District Engineers in service did not, as would be the case in a graded service, affect the promotion of junior officers, and the Lieutenant-Governor, after fully considering the cases, accepted the recommendations of the District Boards. V. and VI.—Questions V and VI have already been sufficiently answered. VII.—The pledge given by Sir Ashley Eden to which my hon. friend alludes referred only to appointments which were made by the Lieutenant-Governor and which were such as could be given to graduates of the Sibpur College immediately on the conclusion of their curriculum. Information regarding the guaranteed appointments will be found in the Resolution of the Lieutenant-Governor in the Public Works Department, dated 13th December, 1893, and 4th April, 1901, which were published in the "Calcutta Gazette" of 27th December, 1893, and 10th April, 1901, respectively.

### LANDLORDS' FEE.

The Hon. Babu Ambica Charan Mazumdar asked the following question:—From the statements furnished by Government at a meeting of the Council, held on the 17th December, 1904, it appears that out of a total sum of nearly 12 lakhs of rupees "paid" as "landlords' fee" under the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Act, during the last nineteen years, over 9½ lakhs of rupees are now "held in deposit," and that there is apparently no disposition on the part of the payees to accept these deposits. (a) Under the circumstance, will the Government be pleased to make over these deposits, in the various districts, to their respective District Boards with express direction to utilize them for the special purpose of water-supply and on condition that should any of the payees ever demand payment of the money so deposited on his account, the District Board concerned will have to make good such ment? (b) Will the Government be further o consider the propriety of establish- nds of the District Boards the for water-supply with the s" thus held in grant that the

Mr. Shirres replied as follows:—A proposal has been made to try the experiment of a septic tank in the jail at Faridpur, because the present method of disposal of the night-soil by trenching in the jail garden, which becomes damp and waterlogged, is open to objection. Before the project is finally sanctioned, the question of the disposal of the effluent will be carefully considered in connection with the Report of the Septic Tank Committee which was published in the last issue of the "Calcutta Gazette."

### SMOKE NUISANCES BILL.

The Hon. Mr. Carlyle introduced the Bill to amend the law relating to the abatement of nuisances arising from the smoke of furnaces or fire-places in the town and suburbs of Calcutta and in Howrah, and to provide for the extension thereof to other areas in Bengal, and moved that it be read in Council. He said:—

On a previous occasion I very briefly explained to the Council the main points of difference between the present Bill and Bengal Act II of 1863, "The Calcutta and Howrah Smoke Nuisance Act." I will again briefly repeat the main differences and I will then go on to deal clause by clause with the provisions of the Bill:—(1) The Bill makes the mere emission of smoke from any furnace in greater density, or for a longer time than is permitted by rules to be framed hereafter, punishable. Under the present Act it may be generally said that negligence in some form has to be proved. (2) Under the Bill power has been taken entirely to forbid the exercise within certain areas of industries which are necessarily accompanied by a smoke nuisance. (3) The administration of the Act is to be entrusted to a Commission composed of official and non-official members, the non-officials being selected to represent interests likely to be affected by the Act. Before turning to the details of the Act I would again note that it is to some extent based on the recommendations made by Mr. Frederick Grover, an expert sent out by the Secretary of State for India to examine the question on the spot. He arrived in Calcutta in the beginning of March, 1903, and submitted his Report in July of the same year. Before submitting his Report he visited a number of factories in and around Calcutta and the colliery districts of Ranigunge and Jherria. He examined the various sources of smoke, the qualities and quantities of coal used, the types of furnaces and the methods of their use. In his Report he enumerates the following six sources of smoke in Calcutta:—(a) Domestic fireplaces in native huts; (b) steam launches and ocean-going steamers; (c) lime and brick kilns; (d) the manufacture of coke on the Hooghly banks; (e) furnaces for heating plates and metal ingots; (f) mill and factory boilers used for the purpose of raising steam. In the Bill now before the Council the first source of smoke has been altogether excluded. It would be impossible to deal with the smoke from native huts except by isolating areas responsible for the emission of such smoke. is obviously impracticable. As regards moke from launches and ocean-going ill will not touch the raising m-going steamers not moored in dock. Such smoke in the they pass compara- s Mr. im-

locomotive engines used wholly upon railways, nor to steam vessels unless employed as ferry boats. Clause 4 provides for the constitution of a Commission to supervise and control the working of the Act. The proposal is one which, I think, will meet with the approval of the Council as half the members are to be composed of non-officials selected to represent interests likely to be affected by the Act. It is very important, while the whole question of dealing with smoke nuisances is more or less in an experimental stage, that Government should be assisted by the advice of business men interested in seeing that no undue restrictions are placed on industries affected by the Bill. Clause 5 provides for the appointment of a Chief Inspector and so many Assistant Inspectors of smoke nuisances as the Local Government may think fit. Mr. Grover remarks under this head that the Chief Inspector of smoke nuisances should be "a competent engineer well versed in the use of smoke abatement principles. He should be a man of resource who could be relied upon to exercise his judgment. He should be able to undertake the application of the remedies as suggested in this Report," e. g., Mr. Grover's Report. A Committee assisted by a well-qualified Chief Inspector, such as Mr. Grover suggests, and composed in part of representatives of industries affected is very unlikely to take hasty measures or to do anything likely to hamper trade. Clause 6 empowers the Local Government in certain areas to prohibit the erection or brick and lime kilns or of furnaces for heating metals or the making of coke. This power is taken because the emission of smoke from furnaces used for such purposes cannot be abated by any means yet known. I may note with reference to the penal clauses of this section that a reference has been made to the Government of India for an amendment of Clause 2 as apparently, as the Bill now stands, it might pay to erect a furnace and work it, as after payment of a fine of Rs. 500 no further penalty could be imposed. I need not, however, deal with this question to-day, which is one for the Select Committee to consider after we have received a reply from the Government of India. Clause 7 is the crux of the whole Bill. It provides that for the emission of smoke from a furnace in greater density or for a longer time than is permitted by rules to be made under the Act, the owner of the furnace shall be liable to fine. It will thus no longer be necessary to prove negligence. The issue before the Courts will be a comparatively simple one as to whether smoke was emitted of excessive density or for an excessive time. Mr Grover has in paragraphs 137—141 of his Report described methods of gauging the density of smoke, and it will be possible by using one or more of these methods to produce satisfactory evidence before a Court. This clause gives effect to the principle embodied in section 268 of the Indian Penal Code that "a person is guilty of a public nuisance who does any act * * * * * * which causes any annoyance to the public," and that "a common nuisance is not excused on the ground that it causes some convenience or advantage." This clause does not apply to furnaces referred to in Clause 6 (1) which necessarily emit dense smoke. Such cases may be dealt with, if at all, by total prohibition. Mr. Grover proposed that the maximum time of emission of smoke of a given density should be fixed at ten minutes and that this period should be gradually reduced as the working of the furnaces improves. Government proposes to leave the limit of time to be fixed by rules, as probably ten minutes will be too low a limit at first and it is undesirable to be obliged to have resource to legislation when it becomes reasonable to reduce the maximum limit. Clause 8 empowers the Local Government to appoint a period within which furnaces must be constructed, altered or fitted with appliances so as to prevent smoke being emitted in such a manner as to cause a nuisance. Under Act II of 1863 all persons are bound to construct or to alter furnaces so as to consume or burn their smoke, and the section of the present Bill is less stringent than the law now in force. Clause 9 provides for the case of furnaces or kilns which necessarily emit smoke in such a way as to cause a nuisance. As I have already explained such cases can only be dealt with by prohibiting the working of such furnaces or kilns in specified areas. Clause 10 confers on inspectors powers that should be very useful in enabling the Committee, to be appointed to work the new Act, to deal with the question of regulating the emission of smoke from furnaces. Clause 11 gives power to make rules to carry out the objects of the Bill. As I have already said, it is very desirable that while the question of dealing with smoke nuisances is in a more or less experimental stage, alterations that may be found desirable should not require resource to fresh legislation. Clause 12 provides that cognisance will not be taken of an offence except on the complaint of an inspector, and it lays down a limit of time after which a complaint cannot be lodged. Clause 13 deals with the question of the repe- lations these have, for the most part, been indifferently constructed. The innumerable chimneys that have sprung up are of all sorts, shapes, and sizes, incessantly emitting thick black smoke, containing soot and solid particles of unconsumed coal; they are a constant source of considerable trouble, inconvenience and mischief to the residents in their neighbourhood. In Calcutta, Wards 3 and 4, and possibly also Ward 2, are the worst sufferers in this respect, and I can bear my personal testimony to the great annoyance to which the unfortunate residents of this locality are constantly subjected. It is a matter of surprise that something was not done much earlier during the last 40 years to amend the present law so as to meet the growing exigencies of the situation. The Bill before us, however, now proposes to remedy the defects of the present law on the subject, and I may be permitted to express the thanks of the community to you, Sir, for bringing forward a measure intended to give relief to the suffering public. I earnestly hope and trust that the provisions of the proposed law will be so framed as to effectively remove the evil.

The Hon. Babu Ambika Charan Mazumdar, while approving of the measure, suggested that the non-official members of the Commission should be elected or nominated by the interests likely to be affected.

The motion was then put and agreed to and the Secretary read the title of the Bill.

The Hon. Mr. Carlyle then moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon. Mr. Horn, the Hon. Mr. Larmour, the Hon. Mr. Apcar, the Hon. Babu Nalin Behari Sircar, C.I.E., and the Mover.

The motion was put and agreed to.

### SUNDARBANS COMMISSIONER'S BILL.

The Hon. Mr. Hare introduced the Bill to provide for the abolition of the office of Commissioner in the Sundarbans, and moved that it be read in Council.

The motion was put and agreed to and the Secretary read the title of the Bill.

The Hon. Mr. Hare then moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon. Mr. O'Kinealy, the Hon. Mr. Collin, the Hon. Mr. Earle, the Hon. Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu, and the Mover.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Council then adjourned till Saturday, the 28th instant.

## GAZETTE OF INDIA.—JAN. 7.

—: (0) :—

### HOME DEPARTMENT.

The services of Mr. R. Sheepshanks, of the Indian Civil Service, are placed at the disposal of the Legislative Department.

### DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

The Governor-General in Council is pleased to appoint Mr. W. H. Pickering to be Chief Inspector of Mines in India with effect from the 19th December, 1904.

Mr. J. Grundy Chief Inspector of Mines in India, sub "pro tem," reverted to his substantive appointment as Inspector of Mines, Bengal, with effect from the 19th December 1904.

Mr. E. E. Fernandez Conservator of Forests, 1st grade, Central Provinces, is permitted to retire from the service of Government with effect from the afternoon of the 11th November, 1904. From the same date the following promotions are made:—Mr. A. M. Reuther Conservator, 2nd grade, on return from the Leave granted to him in the Notification of this Department, No. 577 F., dated the 29th May 1903 is appointed to be Conservator, 1st grade and is posted to the charge of the Berar. Forest Circle, Central Provinces. Mr. A. G. Hobart-Hampden, Conservator, 3rd (officiating 2nd), United Provinces, is confirmed in the latter grade. Mr. A. F. Gradon, officiating Conservator, 3rd grade, Central Provinces, is confirmed in that class and grade.

### FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

Mr. W. Rleeck, Consul for Germany at Calcutta, resumed charges of his office on the 12th November, 1904.

The Governor General in Council is pleased to recognise the provisional appointment of Hadji Mirza Shujaut Ali Beg, Khan Bahadur, as Consul for Persia at Calcutta.

### FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

The following promotions and reversions of officers of the Account Department are notified:—With effect from the 29th of November, 1904:—Mr. M. F. Gauntlet to officiate in Class III of Accountants-General. With effect from the 4th of December, 1904. Mr. H. G. Tomkins to officiate in Class III, Mr. R. Waterfield to officiate in Class IV, and Mr. C. F. Cowie to officiate in Class V, of the Enrolled List. With effect from the 11th of December, 1904, in consequence of the grant of privilege leave to Mr. O. T. Barrow, Mr. F. C. Harrison but to officiate in Class I. and Mr. W. H. officiate in Class II, of J. P. Hardiman M. N. Bhatta- H. Messrs N. iciate in iciate in fficiate ffect

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

The
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 12, 1905.

## SIR H. COTTON'S RESOLUTION ON COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION.

The following letter is from a distinguished countryman of ours:—

"Many thanks for yeoman's service that you are doing in exposing the policy of the Government in abolishing the competitive examination and adopting nomination for recruitment of Provincial men, which will open the door to jobbery. A more short-sighted and mischievous policy cannot be conceived. The effect would be to increase the powers of the District Magistrates and Divisional Commissioners abnormally and jobbery would be the inevitable result in many cases. The pets of Magistrates and the children of "Jo-Hukum" Deputies and time-servers will gain the day, and the really meritorious men will have the back ground. It is not true that under the competitive system the best men of the university have not been recruited. The first year's competition introduced Babus S. Agasti, Nilratan Sarkar, Ashutosh Gupta, Gunga Narain Roy, and some of the best men of the University into the Provincial Service. Babus Bhupati Chakravarti and others may also be cited as the result of subsequent years. It is true that all the Prem Chand Roy Chand scholars have not come in, but that is because some of them got an opening into the Financial Department which is considered superior to the Provincial Service, and others did not care to compete on account of the chances attendant upon a Competitive Examination. But what would be their fate under Sir Andrew Fraser's scheme? Will the District Magistrates or Divisional Commissioners choose them? Had Sir Andrew insisted upon the superiority of educational qualification, that would have been different.

"The question appears to me to be as important as the Partition question; and no one is more competent to express an opinion on the subject than Sir Henry Cotton. Will he be pleased to express his views on the abolition of the competitive examination when the address is presented to him on the 10th instant? As a friend of the Bengalees he should be pleased to come to their rescue at a juncture like this."

We perfectly agree with our correspondent that, Sir Henry Cotton is one of the best authorities on the question of the abolition of the Provincial Service Competitive Examination. He succeeded Sir John Edgar as Chief Secretary of the Bengal Government, and one of his first important works was to give effect to the provisions of the remarkable Resolution of Sir Steuart Bayley on the recruitment of the Deputy Magistrates already published in these columns. It will be remembered that the gist of the Bayley Resolution was that of the annual vacancies, half are to be thrown open to competition, one-fourth to be given to successful candidates who have obtained one third marks and the remaining one-fourth to be placed at the entire disposal of the Government to meet the demands of what is called "conflicting interests."

It is after a good deal of search and trouble that we have been able to lay our hands on the first Resolution of the Elliott Government, over the signature of "H.J.S. Cotton, offg. Chief Secy to the Government of Bengal," in which the question of the results of the competitive examination for selecting Dy. Magistrates was discussed. It is published elsewhere. Needless to say that, Sir Andrew Fraser totally ignored this document as he ignored the Resolution of Sir Steuart Bayley, while inditing his own. Indeed, Sir Andrew has wiped out all previous literature on the subject, which people could understand and appreciate, and replaced it by a new one which, according to the "Englishman" is "cumbrous," but which is really meant to serve a very important purpose. Of this, however, hereafter.

It will be seen from the Resolution of Sir Henry Cotton that, not only did he accept the Bayley Resolution in its entirety, no doubt under the direction of the then Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Charles Elliott, but he considerably liberalised it. Referring to its para 3, we find that of the 20 candidates selected at an examination held in March 1892, 10 were appointed from the first 10 candidates on the list in order of merit, and the remaining ten were selected by the Lieutenant-Governor, either from among those who had obtained a minimum of one-third of the total marks, or who were serving as Sub-Deputy Collectors and had distinguished themselves. It will thus be seen that, not only were the provisions laid down by Sir Steuart strictly followed by his successor, but the Government did not select one candidate who had not established his claim, either by passing an examination or by meritorious service as a Sub-Deputy Collector.

Sir Andrew is very anxious to protect the interests of the University. He says in his Resolution that one of the objects of his scheme is to introduce University men into the Provincial Service, and hence he has made sine qua non that none but a graduate of the Calcutta University would be admitted into the service. First of all, the only consideration which should guide the Government in selecting men for the public service is the merit of the candidates employed, and not the interests of any class, community or a public body like the University. Secondly, one can see at once by looking at the Resolution of Sir Henry Cotton, that of the 20 persons appointed in March 1892, there was none who was not a B.A., an M.A., or a B.L. Where did then Sir Andrew get the notion that, the competitive examination, he has just abolished, did not favour the University men, while his own scheme will do it? On the other hand, it is quite plain, his scheme will fill the service, as a rule, with very mediocre graduates without any backbone, while, under the old plan, it was only the meritorious University men who had any chance to secure admission into the service.

Here is an astounding statement in Sir Andrew Fraser's Resolution. His Honour says that, within the last eleven years from 1893 to 1904, the Dy. Magistrates, appointed by the results of the competitive examination, were at the rate of only 3 per annum! Now the Resolution of Sir H. Cotton shows clearly that, in 1892 the first ten in the list of successful candidates were employed as Dy. Magistrates. We are assured on the highest authority that, so long as Sir Henry was Chief Secretary, he did not deviate from the rule laid down in his Resolution, namely, half of the annual vacancies would be given away to competition. And Sir Henry was connected with the Government of Bengal up to 1896. We may thus take it that this vandalism did not occur till Sir Henry became the Chief Commissioner of Assam and left this Province for good.

Though Sir Andrew's Resolution is a pretty long one, you seek in vain to find in it such an important information as the following, namely, how many Dy. Magistrates were appointed from 1893 to 1904; how many were appointed under the respective Governments of Sir Charles Elliott, Sir A. Mackenzie, Sir J. Woodburn, and Mr. Bourdillon who governed Bengal during these eleven years; and how many of them were appointed on the results of the competitive examination by each of these Lieutenant-Governors? This information would have at once revealed the fact as to which Lieutenant-Governor first trampled the provisions of the Bayley Resolution under foot.

What we suspect is that, it was during the rule of Sir John Woodburn, when the Secretaries like Mr. Buckland and Mr. Bourdillon really governed the Province, that the old liberal scheme was officialized, and only two or three, and sometimes even one, appointments were given away to competitive examination. When Mr. Bourdillon became Lieutenant-Governor, he perhaps paved the way for the final abolition of the latter. And, as soon as Sir Andrew succeeded Mr. Bourdillon, he knocked it down completely on the head by an executive order.

Our correspondent justly remarks that this question of competitive examination is almost as important as that of the partition of Bengal; for the results of both are the same, namely, the weakening of the Bengali nation. Then again, the administration of the Province is largely in the hands of the Dy. Magistrates. They have already been demoralized to a large extent by the interference of the District Magistrates with their judicial and executive independence. Their demoralization will, however, be complete if their appointment rests, not upon their own intrinsic merit, but, upon the sweet will of the District Magistrates.

We sincerely trust, the leaders of the country will give the same attention to this question as they have given to the other, and that Sir Henry will kindly see his way to say a few words on the subject. The new scheme will not only shut the door of the service against our best men, but allow very few Bengalees to enter it. So both in the interests of good administration and those of the people, our leaders should take up the question with vigour and earnestness.

## PROBLEM OF PARTITION OF BENGAL.*

### (HOW SIR S. NORTHCOTE SOLVED IT.)

At the Conference to be held to-day at the Town Hall on the question of the partition of Bengal, Sir Henry Cotton is expected to suggest methods by which the alleged overwork of the Lieutenant-Governor may be lightened. Mr. Risley, in his famous letter to the Government of Bengal, on the dismemberment of this Province, refers to the discussion that took place on this subject so long ago as 1867, when Sir Stafford Northcote was the Secretary of State for India. The Orissa famine had just then occurred. At that time there was no communication between Calcutta, Orissa and Assam, either by railway or steam ship, and it was really very difficult for the ruler of Bengal to look after the affairs of these two distant provinces properly. To prevent future famines in that province and Assam Sir Stafford therefore, suggested, among others, "to separate the less advanced districts such as Orissa and Assam, from Bengal proper, and to place them under Commissioners of a non-regulation system."

Sir Cecil Beadon, who had just then resigned his Lieutenant-Governorship, was in England. Sir Stafford consulted him; but Sir Cecil opposed his views. And, in his despatch, dated August 15, 1867, to the then Viceroy, Sir John Lawrence, Sir Stafford wrote: "Sir Cecil Beadon tells me that this is a retrograde policy; but I am not sure that it is necessarily wrong on that account. I do not want to de-Bengalise Bengal itself, but are we not misapplying its peculiar system when we carry it into such districts as those I have mentioned?"

What Sir Stafford felt was that Bengal was too advanced to be amalgamated with backward provinces like Assam and Orissa. Mr. Risley, however, scouts this idea altogether. He admits that Assam is in a very retrograde condition; yet, he thinks, that the highly-advanced districts of Bengal may be, with profit to them, weighted with a starving and non-regulation province like Assam. Sir Stafford would also, on no account, de-Bengalise" Bengal. Which means he would keep the Bengalee-speaking people undivided. What a pity the views of a statesman like Sir Stafford Northcote should be lost upon the later generation of Anglo-Indian rulers!

There was another reason which led Sir Stafford Northcote to propose the taking away of Assam and Orissa from Bengal. If the question of lightening the work of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has just now been agitating the mind of the Government of India, the subject of relieving the Governor-General of a large portion of his duties was similarly before the Council of the Secretary of State in 1867. The idea of Sir Stafford was to make Bengal a separate Government like that of Bombay or Madras, and make it independent of the control of the Government of India to a large extent. His proposal therefore was that, in the place of a Lieutenant-Governor, Bengal should have a Governor, with a Council of his own, and that the system of administration to be introduced there should be of a superior kind, which could not be suited to Assam or Orissa, and hence these provinces should be cut off from Bengal proper. This is what Sir Stafford says in the despatch referred to above:—

"Whether the chief of the Bengal Presidency should be a Governor sent out from England, like the Governors of Madras and Bombay, or a Lieutenant-Governor drawn from the ranks of the Civil Service, is a question upon which I do not feel at all clear. The answer must greatly depend upon the maintenance or the abandonment of the close connection between the Government of India and that of Calcutta. If Calcutta is to be the capital of India, you cannot have a really independent Government of Bengal. Ought, then, Calcutta to be the capital? That depends, I think, upon the question, —On what principles is India to be administered? Is it to be governed on English or Indian principles? Are we to endeavour to impress our own character on the people, or to adapt our institutions to their characters, and, it may be, to their weaknesses? Are we to centralize or to localise?"

Sir Stafford Northcote deprecated the idea of thrusting European civilization upon the unwilling people of India by a central Government having Calcutta for its capital; and, he ended by saying that, "I look, therefore, to the opposite policy: that of localising our administration, as much as possible, and adapting it to the wants and prejudices of each district, introducing our own ideas with great caution and forbearance." What an amount of suffering and misery would have been avoided in this country if the English rulers of India had followed these wise counsels of a sympathetic and far-sighted statesman like Sir Stafford Northcote! Here is Sir Stafford's scheme of "localisation" or "decentralization," described in the same despatch:—

"For this purpose, I should say, decentralise, and specially remove our seat of Government from Bengal. Let Bengal have a thoroughly well-organized Government of its own, and give it a sufficient amount of freedom of action to make up for the loss of the imperial position. I do not quite know where the seat of the Supreme Government should be; but I think, wherever it is, the Governor-General ought, from time to time, to visit different parts of India to see with his own eyes what the local Governments are doing, to learn their wants, and to take counsel with them and to invigorate them with his presence and advice. I cannot think that the presidency Governments ought to be under the entire control and direction of the Supreme Government. I think they should have certain duties and functions assigned to them, for the due discharge of which they should be directly responsible to the Home Government, which would naturally exercise a very moderate amount of self-control. I would let the presidency Governors appoint their own councils, and make themselves directly responsible for all their actions. In like manner I would let the Viceroy appoint the Supreme Council, and make him absolute in all matters which were reserved for the Supreme Government, responsible of course to the Home Government."

The then Governor-General, Sir John Lawrence, opposed the proposal. He said that the central Government must have powers of control over the local Governments. And finally, when the matter of lightening the duties of the Governor-General by making Bengal a separate Government came for discussion before the India Council on December 18, 1867, Sir Stafford's reforming ideas were defeated by a majority. As expected, several narrow-minded newspapers ridiculed the proposal of Sir Stafford Northcote and considered that it was too advanced for the people of India.

Referring to their criticism says Sir Stafford: "The newspapers seem to be writing a great deal of nonsense about the Americanising the institutions of India; but," he adds characteristically, "there is no use in making one's self unhappy about them." He himself had adopted the views of the minority of the Council, "that it was desirable that the Government of Bengal should be erected into a presidency on the footing of Madras or Bombay," and this was part of his confirmed general theory that "the Government of India should be detached from local administration." (Vide his speech on Government of India Bill, April 23, 1868.)

Now it is not the ruler of Bengal but the Governor-General of all-India who really wants relief. This was confessed by Lord Curzon himself in the speech that he delivereed on the Universities Bill on the 18th of December 1903. "We are already ever-burdened with work," observed the Viceroy; "we are anxious to throw it off at every turn; and the idea that we should desire to add to our overwhelming labours by taking higher education out of the hands of people who are competent to deal with it and monopolise it to ourselves is not one that could be entertained by any one who was familiar with the inner workings of the Government." Yes, there is no doubt about the heavy burden of duties that rests on the shoulders of the Viceroy. [illegible] perceived as early as the sixties [illegible] by a far-sighted statesman like Sir Stafford Northcote, and the remedy he suggested [illegible] the best under the circumstances.

The reforms proposed by Sir Stafford Northcote are entitled to the most serious consideration of the rulers. We think, the time has come when they should be introduced with necessary modifications. What he suggested was to convert Bengal into a Presidency like Bombay or Madras, and give the ruler—either a Lieutenant-Governor or a Governor—a Council. Now, we need a Governor, and not a Lieutenant-Governor, and this Governor must come from England, and not from among the Indian Civilians. Then again, now that Calcutta has been connected with Assam and Orissa by land and water, these two provinces must not be separated from but amalgamated with Bengal. As a matter of fact, the real remedy for lightening the works of both the Viceroy and the ruler of Bengal consists, as Sir Stafford very clearly points out, in giving Bengal a thoroughly well-organized Government of its own, and making it independent of the India Government.

The only difficulty in the way of giving effect to the above proposals is that, the capital city should then have to be removed elsewhere from Calcutta. But it will be seen from the extract quoted above that, Sir Stafford perceived this objection and sought to remove it in his own way. Indeed, it would not matter much if the seat of the Supreme Government were removed from Calcutta to another place for three months, on the other hand, a more central station than Calcutta might enable the Viceroy to do his work better. The chief merit of Sir Stafford's proposal consists in this: It will, if adopted, lighten not only the work of the ruler of Bengal but also of the Viceroy. Here is a way out of the difficulty created by the partition scheme of the Government. The whole country will feel deeply grateful to Lord Curzon if he solves the present problem, which has thrown the whole of Bengal into convulsion, by adopting the suggestions of Sir Stafford Northcote.

*This article appeared in the "Patrika" of January 1.

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The Hon'ble Maharajah of Durbhanga put the following question on Friday's Council meeting:—

(1) Will Government be pleased to make any declaration stating whether it has come to any decision on the question of the partition of Bengal? (2) What is the nature of such decision both as regards the districts to be severed and the administration to be given to the new province?"

The Hon'ble Sir Denzil Ibbetson replied:—

"No decision has yet been come to on the subject."

It will thus be seen that the Government confirms the information published in these colums on the subject two weeks ago. What our correspondent from London, who, as we said, has access to the office of the Secretary of State in Council, wrote is as follows:—

"You are under a misapprehension in supposing that the question of partition has been referred home to the Secretary of State in Council. So far nothing has been done, nor have I any reason to suppose that the Government of India have yet come to a final decision on the subject."

The Government of India in reply to the Maharajah says that, "it has come to no decision." And when it has come to no decision, it cannot send any despatch home. So the "Pioneer" dreamt when it said that a despatch on the subject had been sent to the Secretary of State. Another paper, if we remember aright, improved upon the "Pioneer's" information, and went the length of saying that a Bill was going to be introduced into Parliament in this connection!

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The Conference of the European merchants had another meeting on Thursday, and they took up for discussion several matters in which they were directly concerned. It goes without saying that their conclusions cannot be accepted in all cases by the Indian community. It would have been better, we think, if they had passed resolutions only upon such questions in which there is no difference of opinion between them and the Indians; for, though the latter are weak and their voice has very little influence over the administration of their own country, yet a joint representation from both Indian and European communities is bound to be more effective than the one emanating from the Europeans only. We very much wish they had not meddled with the Income Tax. Here is the resolution on the subject which was put before the Conference:—

"That this Conference holding the view that the Income Tax was imposed to help Government in a time of need when exchange was rapidly falling and the country's finances were thereby becoming involved, is of opinion that as the tax is unsuited to this country, and as it can rarely be collected from individuals on reliable data, it should be abolished, as the country's finances now show a large annual surplus and the need for this unpopular impost paid only by a fraction of the community has therefore passed away."

The resolution was duly proposed and seconded, and was going to be passed when a discordant note came from the Hon'ble Mr. Cable who opposed it on the ground that such a resolution "would lower the proceedings of the Conference". He objected specially to the words "fraction of the community". "It was that very fraction, the commercial class", said he, "which was best able to pay the tax; and it was really the only tax they were asked to pay". He suggested that the resolution be amended to read as follows:—

"That this Conference whilst it is not desiring, that the community it represents should escape from their fair share of taxation holds that the Income Tax was imposed to help Government in a time of need when exchange was rapidly falling and the country's finances were thereby becoming involved and is of opinion that as the tax is unsuited to this country and as it can rarely be collected from individuals on reliable data, it should be abolished, as the country's finances now show a large annual surplus and the need for this unpopular impost has therefore passed away."

Be it said to the credit of the Conference that it accepted the amended resolution which, though open to objection, is better than the original one.

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Now every tax [illegible] be regarded [illegible] pay it. And [illegible] necessary [illegible] The next question [illegible] Which is the preferable tax? There can be no two opinions on the point that, that tax which falls mainly upon the rich and the well-to-do and exempts the poorer and illiterate classes is the best. The Income Tax is such a tax. The vast millions in the country who, somehow or other, manage to keep their bodies and souls together, are exempt from its operation; it is only the Indians and Europeans having an income over Rs. 1,000 who have to pay it. We know that the tax is sometimes exacted with relentless rigour, nay, people are sometimes made to pay more than they are legally bound to do; but, surely, the Europeans, who can very well hold their own against oppressive Indian Income Tax Assessors, can have no such complaint. It does great credit to the Hon'ble Mr. Cable for making two admissions which were accepted without a dissentient voice by the Conference. One was that if any class of people were able to pay the Income Tax it was the commercial community; and, secondly, it was the only tax which the European merchants paid. Indeed, abolish the Income Tax, and the wealthiest community in India are exempted from the payment of any tax. The contention of the Conference is very just that, when there is a large surplus in the hands of the Government, it should be followed by the remission or the abolition of some tax; otherwise the surplus of the deficit is all the same to the tax-payers. Now if any tax presses hard upon the tens of millions in this country, and which is one of the causes of famines, it is the land tax. There are good many people who are for further remission of the salt tax; but the people in Bengal, N. W. Provinces, and the Punjab, we believe, have no great complaint against it. The remission of the land tax means a more prosperous peasantry, which means greater produce of the land. The merchants will thus be directly benefited by a remission of the land tax.

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A shooting case leading to fatal results is reported from Moonghyr. Here are the particulars as furnished to us by our Moonghyr correspondent. A shooting party of Europeans went to the Jamalpur hills. They requisitioned the services of a number of Sonthals and other men to surround a particular spot, where game abounds. They then asked the men to beat the bush; and, while the latter were so engaged, outcame the shots of two European shikaris, killing no animal but sending a Sonthal woman to the other world, and wounding two others. A Police enquiry was held, and it resulted in putting down the tragic incident to "a pure accident." The Magistrate, acting upon this report, ordered the case to be "filed" that is to say, shelved. There is no doubt that it was "a pure accident," for, the coolie woman could not have been wantonly killed. At the same time, would the European Shikaris have handled their guns in this careless fashion if there was a chance of any European man or woman being shot? And, if some Indian Shikaris, under similar circumstances, has shot dead a European woman, or even a Sonthal, surely, they would not have been so easily let off. These "pure accidents" are rather the order of the day. And they will go on flourishing if the authorities treat them with a light heart. In the eyes of God the life of a Sonthal is, however, as much sacred as that of a white man. The European Shikaris ought to have been, therefore, put on their trial on the charge of culpable carelessness, resulting in the death of a human being, and punished adequately. This would have considerably checked the evil, which is growing apace. The Shikaris ought to have been at least deprived of their arms for ever, for they have given indisputable proof of their utter incapacity to use these deadly weapons properly. Strangely enough, gun licences are never refused to Europeans, though they frequently shoot people in this careless manner; but they are scarcely given to the children of the soil, though they rarely, if ever, cause these "pure accidents."

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By the way, is it true that there is a proposal before the Government to make the rules relating to the distribution of arms to Indians still more stringent? Gun licenses are now taken out for two purposes—game and personal safety. It is said that, a very limited number of licenses will be allowed for the latter purposes under the proposed regulation. Then, under the new Game Law, not many Indian Shikaris will succeed in securing the arms they require. Is there any nation in the world who have been deprived of the privilege of holding arms in their own country without a license? Nobody need now wonder why the Indians are losing their manliness.

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The discovery of E. W. Maunder, superintendent of the solar department of Greenwich Observatory, who announced the other day before the Royal Astronomical Society that it was his belief that the familiar magnetic disturbances which derange the mariner's compass are directly related to sun spots, has created the deepest interest in astronomical circles. In connection with magnetic storms some kind of solar activity has never been denied. The real point of Mr. Maunder's discovery is the fact that these storms recur at regular fixed intervals. After marking out the times that hundreds of storms were found, some of which corresponded to big sun spots and others which did not, he tried vainly to find a correspondence with the faculæ or flecks of boiling fire on the sun's surface and with the prominences. At last he noticed that there were frequently a series of magnetic storms at intervals of exactly 27 1-3 days. Sometimes there was no storm at the end of this period, but the storm was repeated after exactly two or three such intervals. Now, 27 1-3 days is the exact time for a point on the sun to go once around and appear opposite the earth again.

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The storm arrives generally twenty-[illegible] hours after the sun spot points dir[illegible] towards the earth. It is presume[illegible] that time is taken in rushing up[illegible] to reach the earth, though the [illegible] p[illegible] again and again after the [illegible] storm [illegible] vanished. It is generally [illegible] sun spot [illegible] when the [illegible] just at the [illegible] the sun spot [illegible] Sunspot has gon[illegible] tic commotion is still [illegible] same point. Still mo[illegible] the discovery that there [illegible] favourite points on the sun fo[illegible] nd magnetic streams which con[illegible] the sun spots have vanished. [illegible] centre of such disturbances is a point [illegible] the twenty-second degree of the sun's lo[illegible] tude. It has been pointed out that it [illegible] strange that this repetition of storms at [illegible] ervals of twenty-seven and a third days [illegible] not been noticed before, as Hornstein [illegible] ago announced that he detected a minut[illegible] regular swing of the magnetic needles havin[illegible] the same period.

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A leading gentleman of Khulna writes to us under date the 5th inst:—

"Sir,—In your yesterday's issue there was a para regarding our District Magistrate, Mr. Ahmad, and it appears that your Beerbhum correspondent has got an information to the effect that Mr. Ahmad has been trying to have a transfer there. I am authorised, however, to contradict this statement and to relieve his disturbed mind by the assurance that there is absolutely no foundation for this rumour.

"I am sorry you are gradually going to have rather an unfavourable opinion about Mr. Ahmad. Whatever his faults may be in disposing of the forest cases, I must say that he is always well-intentioned and actuated by the best possible motives. If in one or two cases the accused were prejudiced there are other instances where the accused were acquitted on the spot, and they had not to spend a pice for their defence. Mr. Ahmad, however, is always open to conviction, and as he has now found that the people do not want his procedure, he has long abandoned it—I mean long before the questions were put in the Council.

"If you are willing to expose him for his faults, I think, it is but fair that you should also notice his many good qualities. The people of the district are very much grateful to him for his mode of enquiring into the real grievances of the villagers while out on tour. He tries to remove their grievances as best as he can. He has already successfully settled amicably long-standing misunderstandings between a Zemindar and his ryots. He mixes freely with the people who can speak of their own grievances. In every village he takes particular interest in matters sanitary, educational and medical. In Municipal and District Board affairs he has been taking a great deal of interest without interfering with their work. The leaders of the town are freely exchanging thoughts with him. Every year the people having guns have to renew their licences, and every one knows how much they had to pay in previous years for getting licenses; but this year the Magistrate himself is doing everything and the licensees are gladly and voluntarily contributing towards their respective dispen-

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saries. In short his good nature is being talked of throughout the district.

"If, therefore, the Beerbhum correspondent does not want Mr. Ahmad, the Khulna people will be glad to have him in their midst as long as possible."

Our correspondent is scarcely fair to us. We have had to notice Mr. Ahmad in our columns on several occasions. When he was a Judge of Krishnaghar we had the privilege of speaking of him in high terms, specially for the way he treated the jurors. This will show we have no prejudice against him. Unfortunately, as Judge of Rungpur, he went out of his way and mixed himself so intimately with the affairs of the late Maharajah Gobind Lal Roy that we had to take exception to his conduct. Similarly, we had to offer unfavourable comments upon his conduct as Magistrate of Beerbhum. As regards the forest cases our correspondent himself admits that Mr. Ahmad committed a blunder. We are, however, glad to hear that Mr. Ahmad is proving a blessing to his people.

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THE conviction, a few days ago, of the unfortunate man who unsuccessfully attempted to take his own life in a mutual agreement with his mistress to commit suicide once more illustrates, says Mr. Hyndman's organ "Justice," the monstrous manner in which the oriental law of this "free" country (England) has been twisted and hocussed by the decisions of men whom the law-abiding and freedom-loving Englishman has made his tyrants in criminal jurisprudence. So it is plain we, the governed in India, and they, the governed in England, have much in common. "The policy of the judiciary" says the same authority, "is uniformly, without consulting Parliament, to extend the scope of the existing criminal law to new cases, and to constitute as many acts as possible crimes of the first magnitude." So, you see, they have in England also, though in a less pronounced degree, the same passion for conviction and severe sentences as is so commonly seen here. "Justice" explains the situation thus:—

"Take the law of murder alone. Judicial decisions have not merely obliterated the old distinction of murder in the first and the second degree, according to which homicide without premeditation and committed in the heat of passion was practically reduced to the offence of manslaughter, but they have wrenched within the pale of the capital crime at least two offences such as under no conceivably sane interpretation of the usage of language could be described as "wilful murder." The first of the cases referred to is the decision that if two persons agree to commit suicide together and one of them survives, the latter is to be regarded as guilty of the murder of the one who died. The second is that the committer of any unlawful act that by any unforeseen accident can be casually connected with the death of another person is to be deemed guilty of the "wilful murder" of that other person. Thus, what is in itself a trivial assault punishable with a few shillings fine may easily, owing to circumstances unknown to, and unforseeable by, the perpetrator, land him in the dock on the most heinous criminal charge known to the law. It is difficult to acquit men who formulate decisions of this kind of deliberate wickedness and abuse of trust. Is it possible that any human being in his senses can really believe that a man who, say, gives another a slight push in anger, such as would in no way injure an ordinary person, becomes suddenly transformed into a murderer because, forsooth, the person so assaulted happens to slip on an unnoticed piece of orange rind, and, by a further singular and unforeseeable piece of misfortune, fall on the pavement, fracture his skull and die in consequence, and that juries so complacently fall in with these? The annals of decision-law shows the vagaries which the average British jurisprudence with which the man in ermine and the man in ermine still regard it necessary to sophisticate when he says him, it would [illegible] in the sense of right and [illegible] of the Nietzschean [illegible] with the aforesaid man in ermine [illegible] satisfy on behalf of himself [illegible] cial order to which he belongs."

[illegible] English people, without exercising [illegible] mmon sense, pay undue homage to the [illegible] in ermine," we in India have no trial [illegible] jury. The few districts where it obtains, [illegible] is mere the shadow of trial by jury, and [illegible] ot the real thing. In the half-a-dozen presidency towns the English system has no doubt been introduced; but, there the Indians get a mixed jury, and not a jury of their own countrymen. Here, again, the Judge not only interprets laws but decides questions of facts, and he is oftentimes also the prosecutor,

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THE weather is even more freakish in Australia than in India. Like India it has its drought and deluge with this difference. In Australia a long-continued drought is followed by a deluge, both equally destructive. This is not the case here. In that country, again, a drought sometimes continues for years. Yet whoever has heard of famines in Australia? In India, however, all the blame is thrown upon weather when a famine breaks out. But why does not famine appear in Australia though drought sometimes lasts there for years? The truth is, the rulers of India cannot disclose the real cause of the famines without condemning their own administration; and hence they put forward weather as a scape-goat for their own incapacity. The very fact that it is money-famine, and not grain-famine, that overtakes India, proves conclusively that the cause of the Indian famine is not a whimsical weather but the utterly impoverished condition of the millions. If they had money like the Australians to purchase food, they would have never suffered from the horrors of a famine, and died like fleas of starvation. But all their earnings are drained away, and hence they perish at the outbreak of a famine.

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IF we have rats and locusts to destroy our crops in India, they have rabbits in Australia to commit similar mischief. The Australian Government, therefore, some years ago, offered a big prize to any one who could exterminate the rabbit pest. But the same Government would cheerfully double the offer many times if it could thereby obtain possession of a means by which it could tell what kind of weather Australia was going to experience a week in advance. The United States Government has taken a more practical step in this connection. It has offered a sum of £30,000 to those scientists who first succeed in accurately foretelling the climatic changes of variable weather one month in advance. This large amount of money will be divided into two prizes—£20,000 going to the person who makes the best forecastings as to temperature and discovers the physical basis of meteorology, and £10,000 to the person who is most successful in his rainfall predictions. This substantial offer for a correct solution of the weather problem is the result of a Bill recently introduced into the Senate by Mr. Bard, of California, and passed by the United States Government. It is believed by scientists that even though the result of the competition may not reveal an infallible means of making monthly predictions, it will do much towards determining the true basis of meteorology. Of course our own Government, which throws all the blame upon weather when a famine visits the land has not moved an inch in this direction.

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IT is, we believe, four years ago, that the Viceroy uttered these memorable words at Jeypur:—

"There is no spectacle which finds less favour in my eyes than that of a cluster of Europeans settling down upon a foreign country and sucking from it the moisture which ought to give sustenance to its own people."

And yet that is exactly what hundreds of Europeans, whose places can be very worthily occupied by the children of the soil, are doing in British India! Lord Curzon had, however, the Indian States in view when he gave utterance to the above words. What His Excellency meant to say was that no Europeans, who are absolute aliens, should occupy posts of emoluments in these States and deprive the people of their bread. We shall now offer the following, sent to us by our Hyderabad correspondent, as a present to His Excellency.

"The following list of Europeans employed in the Nizam's Service has been complied from the latest Civil List. And I am sure it will furnish your readers with much food for reflection.

1. G. C. Walker, Finance Minister, Govt. Rs. 3,500 and 625 contribution.
2. A. J. Dunlop, Revenue Secretary, Govt: Rs. 2800.
3. A. C. Hankin, Inspector-General of District Jails, Govt. Rs. 2000 and 100 compensation allowance and 210 contribution.
4. G. J. Perram, Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Branch, Gt: Rs. 1500/-.
5. A. H. Stevens, Secretary, Municipality, H. S. Rs. 1500/-.
6. C. Lawder, Postmaster-General, Govt: Rs. 1200 and 57-8-0 contribution and 59-6-0 Camp allowance.
7. W. Fraser Biscoe, Conservator of Forests, H. S. Rs. 1200/-.
8. F. Gordon, Superintendent, Central Jail, H.S. Rs. 1150 and 150 personal allowance.
9. E. A. Seaton, Principal Nizam's College, H. S. Rs. 1150/-.
10. H. Gough. 1st Asst. Inspector Genl. of Police, H. S. Rs. 1000/-.
11. J. A. Heenan, Asstt: Accountant General, H. S. Rs. 1000/-.
12. T. M. English, Superintendent Stamps and Mint Department, Govt: Rs. 900 and 56-4-0 contribution.
13. P. H. Sturge, Vice Principal Nizam College, H. S. Rs. 800/-.
14. G. M. Warner, Superintendent Municipality, H. S. Rs. 800/-.
15. Capt. J. E. S. MacCarthy, Chief of the Staff, H. S. Rs. 764/-.
16. L.P. DeCloselts, Executive Engineer, H. S. Rs. 750/-.
17. J. H. Devlin, 2nd Assistant Financial Secretary, H. S. Rs. 700/-.
18. W. H. Fallen, Capt: commanding Nizam's own 3rd Infantry, H. S. Rs. 650/-.
19. E. J. Stevenson, Asstt: Inspector General, Detective Branch, Govt. Rs. 600/-.
20. K. Burnett, Professor of English Nizam College, H.S. Rs. 575.
21. G. Cornish, Superintendent Public Gardens, H. S. Rs. 575/-.
22. W. J. Prenderghast, 1st Asstt: House Master, H. S. Rs. 525/-.
23. Lt. Col. G. H. D. Gimlette Director Medical Dept H. S. Rs. 500.
24. Capt: S. Edwards, 1st Infantry Regular Troop, H. S. Rs. 500/-.
25. Miss Evans, Head Mistress Zenana School, H. S. Rs. 360/-.
26. H. J. Strelly, Mechanical Engineer, H. S. Rs. 350/-.
27. Lieut: R. C. L. Carey, Riding Master, 250/-.
28. [illegible] Medical School, H. S.

[illegible] doubt that Lord Curzon [illegible] cated the [illegible] peans like a swarm of locusts. We [illegible] fore quite sure that the above object-less will only pain His Excellency's eyes. But when is His Lordship going to give effect to his noble words? When shall we see the ennobling sight, so agreeable to Lord Curzon, of the children of the soil and not Europeans, sustaining themselves both in British and Native India, by sucking the moisture from their own land? The time, we think, has arrived when His Excellency should show by his acts that it was not mere a few fine phrases that he had uttered.

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The Straits papers show that the two Japanese vessels, described by Reuter as cruisers which arrived at Singapore the other day, were two converted cruisers, the "Nippon Maru" and the "Hongkong Maru," vessels which have been on the Hongkong, American run and have now been turned into scouts. They remained for about an hour and a half only. One of the commanders stated to a press representative that they were followed by a Japanese squadron of two battleships four cruisers and a dozen torpedo boats.

The total number of ships, irrespective of the Indian craft, calling at Colombo in 1904, has been 2,754 as against 2,613 for the year before. This number has been only once exceeded, namely in 1900, when the number of vessels was 2,774. The number has steadily increased since 1894, when it was 1,941. The rise has been very gradual, and absolutely so for the last ten years, but for the sudden rise in 1900. The number for 1901 showed only the normal rise for two years, viz., 2,674, as against 2,502 of 1899. Further particulars are not available just yet.

The "Frankfurter Zeitung" reports under date of 18th December as follows:—"We understand that a cartel of the German firms interested in the jute trade has been finally completed to-day. Hitherto only a general agreement as to prices existed in the industry. Attempts have been made for years past to establish a cartell, but until now these attempts have not been successful. The efforts put forth have, however, been consistently maintained, and to-day the negotiations which have been proceeding at Brunswick have terminated with the desired result. This development is a most important one far as the German jute industry is concerned."

## SCRAPS.

His Excellency the Viceroy has appointed Mr. J. O. Miller, C.S.I., C.S., to be Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces. Mr. Miller will not take up the duties of his post until the completion of his work as President of the Survey Committee. The Hon'ble Sir Frederic Lely, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., will therefore continue to hold the office of Chief Commissioner until the middle of April next.

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THE "Khulnabashi" has the following:—Messer Ali Sekh and four others were prosecuted for having "Soondari" wood from a forest without license. The District Magistrate sentenced them to two months' imprisonment each. On a motion being made to the Judge's Court the Sessions Judge recommended their discharge to the Hon'ble High Court and in consequence the accused have all been discharged.

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THE local paper of Midnapur reports that the Magistrate of the District Mr. J.H. Kerr accompanied by Mr. Goorley went to Balarampur to start an Agricultural Bank there. On his arrival there he asked the people of the place to lay before him their grievances. Made bold by this considerate order the people frankly and freely opened their hearts to their immediate ruler and the Magistrate gave them a patient hearing. Mr. Kerr has done what every District Magistrate should do, and let us hope the noble example thus set by him will not be unique of its kind.

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SOME of the inhabitants of Golapnagar and Bahadurpur villages within the jurisdiction of the Damukdia outpost, in the district of Nadia, have submitted a somewhat lengthy petition to the Inspector-General of Police, Bengal, embodying some serious allegations against the Sub-Inspector of the local police station. The petitioners have cited no less than 8 specific instances showing how they were made to suffer by the action of the police officer. We doubt not the Inspector-General would institute an independent enquiry into the allegations for the interest of the police officer concerned as well as for the fair name of the administration of the department.

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A correspondent writes:—Before the 1st class Magistrate, Kolar Gold Fields, a European miner charged a European mining chief agent with defaming him by calling him, in the presence of other European gentlemen, "a son of a bitch." Two Europeans deposed, and the accused himself admitted, that he used such language. The accused pleaded that he was provoked as the complainant's not turning out good work. One of the European witnesses said that the expression meant nothing more than calling one a fool, and he himself would not be offended if he was called so. The Magistrate found that the expression was a very common one used by Englishmen, so it could injure no one's feelings.

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From the Civil List issued by the Nizam's Government it will be seen that no less than 28 Europeans are at present serving in the Hyderabad State drowing an aggregate salary of nearly Rs. 30,000 per month. Of these 28, 3 gets more than Rs. 2000, 8 above Rs. 1000, 13 more than Rs. 500 and 4 below Rs. 500. Thus it will be seen from the above that nearly all the higher appointments have been monopolised by the members of the ruling class. This state of things obtains not in Hyderabad alone. In almost all the big Native States, nay in almost all big Zemindaries all the higher appointments are occupied by the Europeans. Now, if in this manner the children of the soil are ousted from the service in their own land, where are they to go?

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PATNA correspondent reports a very extraordinary case of rioting which has of late been sent up by the local police. Some time ago, says the correspondent, a certain old man reported the occurrence of a riot to the nearest police station. It so happened that the man, who had been suffering from asthma and heart disease, died some 10 hours after this. In his complaint, he said that some drunkards attacked and severely assaulted him the night before. The police took up the matter vigorously and sent up three respectable Kayastha gentlemen as the accused. The most curious part of the affair is that one of the men sent up as rioters is a paralytic patient who, we [illegible] is unable to move his limbs and [illegible] invalid. All the same he must undergo all the phases of a criminal trial simply because the local police is pressed to send him up as a criminal.

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An application of an extraordinary nature is just now before His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab for disposal. The applicant, who is an Indian gentleman, had the misfortune to appear in the court of a District Judge, who is an Indian, to give evidence. His story is that while he was giving his deposition, the Judge lost his temper and insulted him in open court. The aggrieved party did not like to put up with the rough treatment he has received and intends to go to a criminal court to seek redressal of his grievances. But he can not proceed against a judicial officer unless he has got the sanction of the Government, as required under section 197 Cr. P. C. Hence the application to the Punjab Government. Considering that the heads of many officials sometimes get giddy at the unlimited powers they are invested with, there should be some sure and effective check upon their conduct to prevent people, who have the misfortune to appear before them, from being roughly treated by them.

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The case against Monohar Chatterjee, the late Tax-Daroga of the Tangail Municipality, the particulars of which have already appeared in the "Patrika" is dragging on its slow length. The case is calculated to throw light on the stuff of which some of our Magistrates are made. Monohar, in a moment of weakness, misappropriated twelve hundred rupees from the municipal fund. Seeing that there was no hope of recovering the amount from Monohar, some shrewd Commissioners assured his old father that if the latter recouped the amount misappropriated, they would not criminally proceed against his son. Relying upon their assurance the old man somehow or other managed to raise the amount and paid it. The Commissioners were satisfied and allowed the matter to drop here. At this stage Mr. Thompson came forward and put the Commissioners to an awkward position by withdrawing the promise given by them to the father of Monohar. He would not allow Monohar to escape so easily—he would let go Monohar if he paid double the amount he had misappropriated! The old man failed to meet the wishes of the District Magistrate, and the matter ended in the prosecution of Monohar. As the Municipal Commissioners refused to play into his hands, the Magistrate himself, on behalf of the Government, took up the prosecution under sec. 409 I. P. C. and the case came to be heard in the court of the S. D. O. of Tangail. Here a question of law arose as to whether the case could be proceeded with, as the Commissioners whose servant the Tax-Daroga was did not agree to prosecute him. The matter was referred to the District Judge Mr. Lee, who wanted to refer the matter to the High Court. But before he did so, Mr. Lee was transferred elsewhere. Mr. Webster is now the District Judge of Mymensing. He held that the case might be proceeded with before any legal opinion was required. Accordingly the case came up for hearing on the 14th ultimo, and was then adjourned. One peculiar feature of the case is, that the Municipal Commissioners who were opposed to taking criminal proceedings against Monohar have been cited as witnesses for the prosecution.

## ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

*From our own Correspondent.)*

London, Dec. 23.

### THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK.

"Unless we perform Divine Service in every willing act of life, we never perform it at all. The one divine work, the one ordered sacrifice—is to do justice; and it is the last we are ever inclined to do. Anything rather than that! As much charity as you choose, but no justice."—JOHN RUSKIN.

"It is the duty of everyone who regards a doctrine as true and important to do what he can towards diffusing it, leaving the result to be what it may.

"Only by varied iteration can alien conceptions be forced upon reluctant minds."—HERBERT SPENCER.

### "A NOTABLE CONGRESS."

There is no doubt that within a few days the Imperialist organs of the British press will be scoffing at the deliberations of the approaching session of the Indian National Congress; the "Pall Mall Gazette" will trot out its well-seasoned remarks about "Jabberjee on Tap" and the impossibility of any movement in India, the Congress movement least of all, being fitly designated "National." The "Morning Leader," however, has taken time by the forelock, and this morning publishes an informing article on what it calls "A Notable Congress. Twentieth Session of India's National Assembly." I may here interpolate that I was much surprised a few days ago to find a short paragraph on the "Literary Review" commencing favourably on Sir Henry Cotton's action in presiding over the Congress deliberations at Bombay. I happen to know that the power that presides over that weekly publication is one of the usual types of self-satisfied Anglo-Indians who see little that is worthy of praise in the people they are called upon to rule. This being the case, it is a matter for surprise that the usual flow of investive with regard to Sir Henry's direct sympathy for the people of India does not find publication in the columns in question. However, to return to the "Morning Leader's" most sympathetic article. The writer briefly reviews the history of the Congress movement, and refers to the three Europeans who have presided at its meetings during the past years, Sir Henry Cotton making in this Twentieth Session the fourth British President. The special feature of the coming Congress that is, the delegates who are to come to England in the spring, is explained, and the further programme submitted of the questions that are likely to come before the delegates. They arise, it is declared out of a period of reaction, the zenith of which has been reached under Lord Curzon's rule. And therefore, it follow that, in India, as in England, "the efforts of those who put the welfare of the community before the section alism 'interests' must be directe dfor some time towards reversing mischievous measures." One can only hope that a few of those Englishmen who so loudly acclaimed Lord Curzon's speech at the Guildhall last summer when the progress of India was vaunted, will light on this article which records the retrograde measures that have been passed and that result on unjustifiable curtailment of the liberties the Indian people had shown themselves worthy to enjoy. I do not hesitate to quote the list, knowing that Indian Congressmen will rejoice that the questions they deem of paramount importance are so clearly set forth for the benefit of English readers. The first on the list is the Official Secrets Act, "which is a new menace to the liberty of the press"; the Universities Act, "which cripples the higher education in India and makes it subservient to Government; the partial abolition of examinations for the public service, which has given jobbery and patronage a new lease of life; and with the covert revival of the 'forward' policy which manifests itself not only in vast additions to military expenditure, but also in enterprises like the massacre (misnamed 'mission') in Tibet, the movement towards Persia, and renewed activity in the direction of Afghanistan, which may yet give us a third Afghan war." To undo all this mischief is no small task and behind these questions there remain the permanent problems of India—the growing poverty of the people, the recurrence of plague and famine, the gulf between the rulers and the ruled, and the exclusion of Indians from any effective share in the government of their own country. Such a programme is a formidable one, and India's Parliament may well meditate upon it. The last point mentioned, the question of an effective share by Indians in the government of their own country is the one which will appeal most forcibly to the British mind, and it is to be hoped that when the delegates arrive in England they will place this vital matter in the forefront of every speech they make. Other points are less understood here, though they have a great importance in India. But if the British public is to be won, the problem of India must be presented to them in a clear, concise form, without too much wealth of detail on minor matters, and the dominant note should be, as Mr Romesh Dutt urges in his book "India in the Victorian Age," and as the beloved Correspondent of the "Patrika" whose loss even yet seems impossible, was wont to iterate and reiterate: "Representation." Englishmen can understand that, and to win their understanding and sympathy is surely the aim of the Congress delegates. Let the Congress go forward, not discouraged by the disappointment of the Russian reformers, not discouraged by the disappointments they have themselves so frequently had to bear; every effort in the right direction makes for strength and the goal will be reached one day by those who have courage and perseverance to hold out and fight on.

### INDIA AND THE FISCAL QUESTION.

It is particularly interesting to notice how the "Times" seeks to reconcile its attitude of support to Mr. Chamberlain in his protectionist proposals with its trumpet blasts of approval of the free trade Viceroy's administration of India. It is said that one of the determining reasons for Lord Curzon's return to India was that, as a free trader, he felt very much out of it with the present Government and with certain sections of the press. However that may be, the "Times" endeavours to bridge the gap between its championship of the protectionist and of the free trader by means of its contributor who supplies the weekly article on Indian affairs. Monday's article is number two of the series on India and the Fiscal question, to the first of which reference was made in this contribution last week. Throughout the article it is evident that the sympathy of the writer is on the side of Mr. Chamberlain's proposals, but, naturally, he cannot break out into severe criticism of the anti-Protectionist policy of the Indian Government; so he carefully suggests that their decision on the momentous question was made at a most unauspicious moment and was given after too short a time had been allowed for its consideration. The last six years of Indian administration have, it is asserted, been years of crisis and trial.—It evidently needed the fiscal agitation to bring out this admission. Here are the trials: the Government embarked on a new currency policy which has literally frightened them with its success; plague and famine have had to be met, "and just as the overtaxed officials are beginning to breathe freely, they are invited by telegram to stand and deliver on a question which affects a continent and one-fifth of the human race." Two short months at Simla, "away from commercial and non-official financial advice, at a time when the work of Government reaches its straining point, was an insufficient period in which to form an opinion on a proposal of an extremely general and indefinite character." On only one point does the writer of the article find justification for the Indian Government's decision, and that is the need for India, "a debtor nation," to meet her liabilities by exporting at least sixteen millions more than she imports every year. If retaliation on the part of India's non-British customers inflicted even the smallest loss upon her, her financial stability would be imperilled. Figures are given of the amount of India's exports to the Far East, to France, Germany, the United States, Great Britain, Italy, Belgium, Holland, and Russia, and it is added: "These figures explain the almost nervous apprehension of the Government of India. They see the volume of exports checked by some change in the fiscal system; they picture Continental nations taxing India's raw produce by way of marking their disapproval of fiscal back-slidings, or refraining from imposts out of respect for good, free-trading India." Great Britain has done so much, it is declared, for India; whatever of trade and prosperity there is, is due to the efforts of the British, therefore England has the first claim to India's produce and custom. Then follows a statement as to where and how India can help her considerate guardian. Cotton duties must stand as they are, for Indian cotton mills threaten to become serious rivals of Lancashire. But in exports of wheat, rice, oil-seeds, spices, jute etc., "India might add to her revenues and at the same time send food to the heart and brain of the Empire" by discriminating against foreign rivals by means of export duties on her practical monopolies of production. The gardens of the tropics are being appropriated by nations who will want all their produce, and why should not Great Britain and India form a compact which will bind them together in a mutually advantageous manner? This is the main drift of the argument, designed to overcome the avowed free trade principles of the Government of India. Tea, coffee, and tobacco, it is added, ask for no further boon; they merely ask for justice and common sense. It is a very Conservative and Anglo-Indian point of view; India exists for the benefit of Britain; what Britain asks India ought unhesitatingly to give. The article furnishes with a friendly recognition of the dominating influence which evoked the Indian Government's decision: "The danger-signal will be the diminution in the volume of the export stream, and no Government of India will ever run past that signal." But must there always be this terrible burden of sixten millions of exports upon India? That aspect of the question is not touched upon by the "Times" writer. Let justice be done to India financially, and she would have funds at her disposal to wonderfully develop her commerce without artificial aids. It is a sign to be hailed with joy that at last some of the British newspapers, not numbered among the radical organs, are beginning to realise and to proclaim the fact that the defence of India is an Imperial as well as an Indian question and, therefore, India should not be called upon to pay the whole cost. As mentioned in another paragraph, if India were relieved from her crushing military burdens, she would have funds for commercial development. It must be added here that the East India Association, of London, is intending to give two, perchance three or four of its meetings to the discussion of the proposed fiscal changes as they affect India, the first meeting to be held about the end of January, 1905.

### THE SENSITIVE POINT, INDIA.

The question of the defence of India still occupies a large share of the attention of the British press; the Service papers contain articles written from special or general points of view. The strong feeling, too, regarding the gunless British army and the disgraceful dilatoriness in which reform in this direction has been dealt with turns largely upon India. So persistently is the Russian bogey now held up before the British public that a conflict on the frontiers of India is coming to be regarded as a measure. The efficiency of the navy and the matter of colonial contribution to its cost are also subjects which are made to revolve round the one pivot, India. In contrast with this bellicose attitude a letter which appeared in yesterday's "Pall Mall Gazette" is worthy of attention. The writer is evidently an Englishman in St. Petersburg, but his identity is hidden from public knowledge under the initials "H.S.K." He considers that a few plain truths with regard to the attitude of Russians towards England's political relations will be wholesome information which should be carefully digested, and the advice succeeding the dose is in brief, that it would

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be well if the two great Asiatic Powers assumed a more friendly attitude towards each other. The Russians, declares, the correspondent, consider that at any rate for the last fifty years England has been, and is, the enemy of Russia and her hostility has resulted, indirectly or directly, in serious disaster and disappointments for Russia. The Crimean War, the Berlin Treaty, and the present war are considered prominent records of England's unfriendliness towards Russia. There is only one reason for this hostile attitude, it is averred, and that reason is "the ever-present suspicion of Russia's designs on India, supported by the material evidence of strategic railways and periodical massing of troops on the Afghan frontiers.' Continuing his statement of the case, as learned from intercourse with men of all ranks, with officials and private persons, the correspondent declares that Russia has no real designs upon India. She makes demonstrations against India, but she does this because it is the only sensitive point upon which she can produce an impression of her power of retort and pressure upon England.') Is it unnatural, asks the correspondent, considering the ever recurring occasions of our hostility, that Russia should thus demonstrate? But, he adds, Russia has never gone so far as to inflict injury on England, while the latter has caused Russia to lose millions of money and hundreds of thousands of lives. This is a decidedly Russian point of view. Never inflicted injury on England? Perhaps not, directly. But what about the poor, over-burdened Indian taxpayer, who has to find money for all kinds of costly military schemes which Russia's "demonstrations" bring about. "H. S. K." is not the first man to observe that Russia has the whip hand with which to frighten the Government of India into tremendous outlay, and, having this power Russia is not likely to let it go unless some solid advantage results to her. The "Pall Mall Gazette" correspondent goes on to ask why the two Powers which rule about one-third of the world do not adjust the one point of illusive difference. Russia, having no real intention of attempting to seize India, would, he maintains, readily give effective gurantees, and England's one actuating cause of persistent suspicion would vanish. Other matters, such as the Dardanelles, the Balkan Provinces, an open port, the abrogation of inoperative treaties, would, he thinks, become adjustable quantities. And, as Sir Thomas Holdich stated last week, no treaty based upon mutual advantage has ever in the world's history been torn up. One certain result would be an era of peace, an era when military matters, sudden scares of hostile action would no longer oppress and alarm, but when peaceful development would be enabled to pursue its course unmolested. With such an understanding both nations would certainly come to understand each other better; they would each no doubt discover that the other was not so black as had been painted. India, the sensitive point would stand to gain enormously. She would be free to work out her own industrial regeneration out of her own resources, instead of needing British capital, as Mr. Durant Beighton urged was the case at this week's meeting of the East India Association, in London, when the subject of the Indian tobacco industry was under discussion, to exploit her wealth and carry off to Britain the profits of the undertakings. The employment afforded to Indian workmen does not compensate for the money that is drained out of the country because India's hand must always be in her pocket to satisfy the never satisfied craving of the god of militarism. If ever the day should come when England and Russia, instead of being ready to spring at each other's throats make a mutually satisfactory and amicable agreement, India will, indeed, have cause to rejoice. One of her burdens, at least, will be enormously minimised.

## NOTES ON THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

### JAPANESE WAR BUDGET.

The Budget Committee of the Lower House of Tokio, representing all parties, unanimously voted the war supplies amid enthusiasm, also the Naval and Military Budgets proposed by the Government. The leader of the Opposition declared that the country was thoroughly satisfied with the conduct of the war hitherto. The House of Representatives passed all the budgets and measures providing for increasing the taxation at one sitting on Saturday.

### THE BALTIC FLEET.
### JAPANESE PREPARATIONS.

A Tokio telegram dated December 5th states:—Most extensive preparations are being made to meet the Baltic Fleet, especially in the navy, which is confident of solving the problem before it under fair conditions. The preparations as regards the army include calculations for the possibility of the Russians cutting Japan's communications with Liautung, and by the time the Baltic Fleet arrives the Japanese armies in Manchuria expect to be in a position to carry on the campaign for some months without communication with home. Commercial men anticipate a temporary disorganization of the mail and other maritime services when the Russian fleet arrives.

### MANCHURIA.

Reuter at Mukden on Sunday describes the Russian winter quarters. He says the canvas present a picturesque appearance. The hillsides and fields around the villages are dotted with mud huts and little chimneys of dugouts from which smoke is rising. Even more comfortable than the officers' quarters in the Chinese houses are the huts of the privates, well built and roomy with small grass windows and sheet iron stoves. The men have every comfort possible including great quantities of warm clothing and heat-producing food. General Kuropatkin on Saturday formally invested Generals Gripenberg, Linevitch and Kaulbars with the command of their respective armies, the ceremony taking place at a grand parade of all available troops.

### GENERAL KUROPATKIN.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Paris "Temps" telegraphed on December 14 as follows:—

"I hear reports in official circles that news from the seat of war is unsatisfactory. General Kuropatkin is said to have telegraphed that unless the number of trains running daily on the Trans-Siberian Railway is considerably increased it will be impossible adequately to provision the army, for which he can no longer be responsible. As his request cannot be complied with, his enemies, who are becoming more and more numerous and better informed since the return of Admiral Alexeieff, assert that General Kuropatkin's sole object is to divest himself of responsibility, and that he is desirous of throwing the blame for any disaster which may befall him on the Ministry of War and the Imperial Administration."

## Calcutta and Mofussil.

**College Hostels.**—The special committee which sat to consider the question of housing the students of several colleges in Calcutta have submitted the following recomendations:—(a) Each college should have a separate house for the messing of the students; (b) Government will take lease of the houses for the students' messes and will sublet them to the college authorities.

Weather and Crops in Bengal.—There was no rain during the week. Condition of standing crops generally good, but rain is needed in Puri and Palamau. Harvesting of winter rice is approaching completion and threshing has commenced. Cattle-disease reported from 12 districts. No want of fodder and water. The price of common rice has risen in 12 districts, has fallen in 8, and is stationary in the remainder.

Legislative.—The Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to nominate Asif Kadr Saiyd Wasff Ali Mirza of Murshidabad to be a Membr of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, with effect from the 22nd January 1905. His Honor is also pleased to nominate Raja Ban Behari Kapur, C. S. I., to be a Member of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, with effect from the 28th January 1905.

A Bereaved Father Committed Suicide.—On the morning of Monday last a Hindu aged about eighty years of Baruipore committed suicide under the following most painful circumstances. The deceased had an only son who died of cholera on the morning of the occurrence and while the other members of the family were prostrate with grief and giving themselves up to loud and bitter lamentation the old man silently passed into an adjoining room where he procured a rope and put an end to his life by hanging himself from a beam.

Suits Against The Calcutta Corporation.—Mr. Holmwood, the District and Sessions Judge of Alipore delivered Judgment in four contested appeals brought by Raj Kumar Sircar and another of Chetla against the Corporation of Calcutta. The appellants laid claims to certain side drains along Chetla Bridge Road which the Corporation contended as forming part of the Roadway. The lower court found the contention of the Corporation correct and dismissed the suite of the plaintiffs and the Judge agreeing with the finding of the lower court dismissed the appeals.

A Dishonest Boy Servant.—On Tuesday Inspector B. B. Dutta of the Tallygunge Thanna charged one Mohendro Nath Mythe before Moulvi Serajul Huq, Police Magistrate of Alipore with theft of some valuable clothings and a gold watch and chain. The accused who was a boy servant of a native gentleman of the locality took advantage of his master's absence one-night, dressed himself fully in his master's holiday robes which were left in the parlour and thus equipped like a gentleman made stray for his home at Midnapore; but unfortunately for him the Police who had timely intimation of the matter were on the alert and succeeded in arresting him with the stolen articles on his person. The Magistrate however finding the tender age of the accused let him off with sixteen stripes.

Vital Statistics.—The total number of deaths registered in Calcutta during the week ending 31st December was 655 against 640 and 616 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 154. There were 101 deaths from cholera, against 129 and 108 in the two preceding weeks; the number is higher than the average of the past quinquennium by 76. There were 18 deaths from plague, against 18 and 15 in the two preceding weeks. There was one death from small-pox during the week against one in the previous week. There were 11 deaths from tetanus against 14 in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 177 and 80, respectively, against 169 and 85 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 40.1 per mille per annum, against 39.0 the mean of the last five years.

A Suit against the "Pioneer."—At the High Court, before Mr. Justice Bodily, Mr. Sowton, of Messrs. Sanderson and Co., applied on behalf of the defendants in the defamation suit of Clarence Kirkpatrick vs. Sir William Rattigan and others, proprietors of the "Pioneer" newspaper, that Mr. Pike, the writer of the article complained of, might be examined on commission. The attorney said that in November last an order was made to examine Mr. Pike at Lahore, but as he had since come down to Calcutta, the attorney asked that he might be examined on commission in Calcutta, where his stay would be for a short time, and then leave for the Straits Settlement, and that Mr. Godfrey and Mr. Jacob might be appointed Commissioners. Mr. Given-Wilson for the plaintiff consenting, his Lordship made the order asked for.

A Sad Case of Suicide.—A young married Hindu woman living with his husband at No. 5/2 Madan Gosswamies Lane committed suicide under a very painful circumstance. Her husband was employed as a "pundit" in the Khelat Chander Institution. He lost that situation very recently. The woman was mother of three children and became very anxious as to how she would maintain them. These thoughts were uppermost in her mind and as ill luck would have it, one of her sons became ill. She asked the husband to call in a doctor. The poor pundit owing to his straitained circumstances could not give the child proper medical help as his wife desired. This led to a quarrel between the couple. A few hours after, the door of her rooms was found broken open, and she was found hanging dead The body was lowered and removed to the morgue for post mortem examination. It may be mentioned here, that the son, who was ill, has in the meantime recovered

Suit against the "Civil and Military Gazette."—At the High Court, before Mr. Justice Bodilly, Mr. Sowton applied on behalf of the defendants in the defamation suit of Dr. Gangadeen vs. the "Civil and Military Gazette" that the returnable date of the commission might be extended for a month. The attorney said that in August last a commission was issued to Mr. Conkling, a barrister at Illnois in the United States of America, to examine on commission the Secretary of the Board of Health of that State and the commission was made returnable on the 8th of this month, but as Mr. Conkling was unable to procure the attendance of the witness in time, Mr. Sowton asked, under the circumsances, that the returnable date might be extended for one month. His Lordship after hearing Mr. T H. Wilson, who appeared for the plaintiff, granted the extension asked for.

A Dangerous Son-in-law.—On Tuesday Inspector Rash Behari Ghose of the Bhownipore Thanna charged one Pram Chud Das before Moulvi Serajul Huq., Police Magistrate of Alipore with causing hurt with a deadly weapon. The accused went to fetch his wife from his father-in-law's house but was vehemently opposed by his mother-in-law and in the altercation which followed, the man got enraged, took up a shovel which was lying by and struck her on the head, causing a serious wound. The accused pleaded not guilty but the court found him guilty and sentenced him to four months' rigorous imprisonment.

Medical Department.—Lieutenant-Colonel R. Macrae, I.M.S., Civil Surgeon of Hazaribagh, is attached for a period of two months to the office of the Principal Medical Officer Presidency District. Lieutenant-Colonel J. H.T. Walsh, I.M.S., Superintendent of the Campbell Medical School and Hospital, Sealdah, is allowed special leave for six months. Military Assistant Surgeon A.A.E. Baptist, on general duty at the Presidency General Hospital, is allowed furlough for three months Babu Sureswar Sarkar, a passed student of the Medical College Calcutta, is admitted into the service of Government as an Assistant Surgeon, with effect from the 17th October 1904.

Piracy in the River Hughly.—On the night of the Friday last a daring dacoity was committed in a country boat on the River Hughly near Kherdah Police Station. It appears that the boat after discharing its cargo at the Calcutta Port was lying in anchor on its return voyage when at dead of night a boat mounted by pirates came upon it. The pirates suddenly fell upon the sleeping crew and after a brutal assault robbed them of their hard earned purse. After a vigorous Police enquiry Babu Nundo Kumar Bose, the Divisional Inspector of Barrackpore, succeeded in tracing the culprits and in arresting five members of the gang with the stolen properties.

A Village Tragedy.—Writes a Dacca Correspondent:—A most dreadful tragedy has been enacted at an obscure village of Vikrampur, about two miles off from the police station of Sri Nagar. One Kala Chand Chakravarty, a resident of Mandaripur Sub-Division forsook the world and became a mendicant. A short time ago he happened to arrive at the aforesaid village in company with two of his disciples and took his quarters in the house of one Lal Mohan Mazumdar, a village medical practitioner of moderate fortune. In the course of a few days he was made a convert and he surrendered himself literally to the will of his Guru. The Guru as well as all his disciples were inveterate Ganja smokers. One day when the night was not far advanced one of the disciples, who was wrongly supposed to be Death incarnate was brutally murdered, it is said, by one Sudharriya Mandal alias Prosonno, another disciple of the same Guru by a knife at the bidding of the Guru, who said that he was able to bring back to life the dead and was prepared to save every body from the clutches of Death. In order to test his powers he ordered the said Lal Mohan to prepare himself for sacrifice in his house. The docile follower at once gathered all the combustible things available in his house in the centre of a room and ignited them. He then forcibly threw his nearest and dearest relations including his wife and child, one after another, into the fire with the fond expectation that they would be brought back to life shortly by his Guru. The poor fellows escaped half-bunt and are now lying in the Mitford Hospital at Dacca, in a convalescent state. The whole village, it is said, was then in a state of commotion when the information spread far and wide. When night was far advanced Lal Mohan and Prosonno were arrested by some bold villagers and information was sent to the Police station. The case is now pending before the Sub-Divisional court of Munshigunge. Lal Mohan and Prosonno have confessed their guilt and they still believe that through the intercession of their Guru not a hair of their head will be touched. The Guru himself pleads ignorance. The principal witness, the wife of Lal Mohan, in her dying declaration said before the officer in charge, that she was taken, by force, by her husband to the sacrificial fire, but she lost consciousness on entering the house and she did not know what happened afterwards.

### AN ADDRESS OF WELCOME TO SIR WILLIAM WEDDERBURN.

Madras, Jan. 7.

Sir William Wedderburn was presented with an address of welcome at a public meeting held in the Victoria Hall yesterday evening. In reply he pleaded for special economic enquiries in typical villages with a view to ascertain the causes of indebtedness and poverty among the ryots. He considered the excessive indebtedness of the ryots to be the main cause of great mortality during famines. When crops failed in former times man had some little ornaments remaining to him, had credit with the money lender and grain dealer, but now, owing to his excessive indebtedness, if the harvest failed he had no money to buy food, no credit to borrow money, and unless he was fed by the State at the expense of the taxpayer he must die of starvation. Famines of the present day were not famines of food, but famines of poverty. For in the worst times of famine and in the worst localities there was always food to be got if people had only money to buy it. He dealt with the efforts made at different periods to deal with that terrible evil of rural indebtedness. He referred to a scheme formulated in 1882 by the Bombay Government, and approved by the Marquis of Ripon (then Viceroy), whereby the settlement of old debts by ryots was to be made upon equitable bases, with the consent of their creditors, the State undertaking to advance the amount of those debts and to establish an experimental agricultural bank in the taluq of Purandar in the Poona Collectorate, to which that scheme referred, in order that ryots might receive abundant advances at a moderate rate of interest, but the Secretary of State vetoed that scheme without giving any proper reasons, though now, after the elapse of a quarter of a century, the Government discovered that agricultural banks would be a good thing for the ryot. Sir William also referred to a petition recently submitted to the Secretary of State by the Indian Famine Union, containing a prayer for a periodical inquiry which was also refused. The Indian public of Madras entertained Sir William at the Cosmopolitan this evening, and later on he left Madras for Madura by train.

## TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

### THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Jan. 6.

General Sakharoff reports that Russian patrols have damaged the railway embankment and rooted up the telegraphs for six miles north of Haicheng. A Japanese engine was derailed.

The battleships in Port Arthur have not yet been officially inspected, but it is believed that their hasty blowing up before capitulation only damaged the upper parts, which, it is hoped, can be repaired.

Reuter's correspondent before Port Arthur wires to-day that all the Russian Regulars have marched out and are proceeding to Dalny. Japanese contingents have entered the city to preserve order. Japanese sailors are removing the mines and Japanese hulks at the entrance to the harbour. All the forts have now been transferred.

London, Jan. 7.

The Korean Government has informed the diplomatic body that the Japanese have landed at and are fortifying Quelpart.

London, Jan. 7.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says the blockade of Liaotung has been raised but only Japanese Government vessels are allowed to enter Port Arthur at present.

The Emperor has issued a rescript, thanking General Nogi and the Third Army and Togo and his fleet for the capture of Port Arthur.

During the conference between Nogi and Stoessel the latter praised the accuracy of the Japanese Artillery and offered Nogi his charger which Nogi accepted on behalf of the Army, who, he said, would always treat it with the greatest kindness out of respect to a brave general.

London, Jan. 7.

Owing to the brutality used in suppressing the recent demonstration at Moscow, the Municipality there has suspended payment to the Gendarmerie until those responsible are punished.

The editors of a large number of Russian newspapers have forwarded to the organs of the revolutionary movement, published on the Continent, a signed account of the brutal excesses committed at St. Petersburg by the police in suppressing the students' demonstrations. The signatories declare that these events are calculated to destroy completely the illusions as to the possibility of obtaining, under the existing regime the the most elementary guarantees of personal safety.

[Later.]

M. Pobiedonostzeff, General Procurator of the Holy Synod, in an address to the Tsar protesting against the insensate machinations of certain nobles to induce him to weaken his authority, says that the Tsar possesses every right, except the right to break his oath, to preserve intact the autocracy of the orthodox faith.

London, Jan. 7.

Reuter wires from St. Petersburg that the Council at the Palace yesterday discussed the question of the recall of Admiral Rozhdestvensky, but no decision was reached.

London, Jan. 8.

Coal contracts are being signed on the Continent to supply the third Baltic Squadron.

London, Jan. 8.

A monster banquet is being arranged at St. Petersburg to protest against the bureaucracy.

London, Jan. 8.

The transfer of prisoners at Port Arthur has been completed; fifty per cent of the Russian officers have given their parole, the remainder, including Generals Fock and Smyrnoff, prefer to be imprisoned in Japan.

London, Jan. 8.

Admiral Bostrovosky's Squadron has left Suda Bay, its destination being Port Said.

London, Jan. 9.

Reuter's correspndent wires from Tokio that the Japanese intend to establish a [illegible] station at Port Arthur, and that Admiral Shibayama will probably [illegible] charge, the military [illegible] tain only a small [illegible]

Twelve [illegible] inspect [illegible] of the Russian fleet.

London, Jan. 9.

The wave of popular emotion first caused at St. Petersburg by the surrender of Port Arthur has already subsided. Christmas has created a diversion and the public are joyously celebrating it at theatres, music halls, restaurants and taverns. On the other hand the solemn funeral service to those fallen at Port Arthur at the Isaac and Kosan Cathedrals was poorly attended.

London, Jan. 9.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says the Navy Department regrets the misunderstanding between H. M. S. "Andromeda" and the Commander at Port Arthur, who acted upon general instructions. The "Andromeda" returned to Wei-hai-wei before the grateful acceptance of aid had arrived from Tokio.

London, Jan. 9.

Reuter's correspondent at Port Arthur says:—Captain Tsunoda, who took General Stoessel the Mikado's message desiring that the garrison should be well treated had a long conversation with General Stoessel, who enquired where Kuropatkin was. Tsunoda replied he was at the Shaho. Stoessel was incredulous, and said he had not heard of Kuropatkin since October 6th, Stoessel was amazed on hearing that the Baltic Fleet had only reached Cape Good Hope.

London, Jan. 9.

The North Sea Enquiry Commission met to-day, and plenarily decided to admit press representatives. Admiral Fournier was re-elected President, Admiral Spaun withdrawing in Fournier's favour.

London, Jan. 9.

Reuter's correspondent at St. Petersburg wires that the following ships leave Libau between 28th January and 2nd February to join Admiral Rezdvestensky's fleet. Battleship 'Imperator Nicholai,' coast defence ironclads Admiral Aproxin. Admiral Sinyavin Admiral Ushakoff, and the cruiser "Vladimir Manomach."

London, Jan. 9.

Reuter wires from Bangkok that the evacuation of Chantabun was completed yesterday.

Madras, Jan. 9.

Mr. Michie Smith, Government Astronomer, telegraphs from the Kodaikanal Observatory that Mr. Perrine, of the Lick Observatory, has discovered a sixth satellite to Jupiter. Its brightness is that of a star of the fourteenth magnitude and its distance from Jupiter is 45 minutes.

## TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

### GENERAL.

London, Jan. 6.

The intimation of the United States to Venezuela on the 25th ultimo was followed on the 20th (?) by a sixty-days ultimatum notifying that if the United States' and European claims were not fulfilled Admiral Dewey with a strong squadron will seize La Guayra, Puerto Caballo, ond Maracaibo, and send a force to Caracas.

London, Jan. 6.

The Italian Minister, Signor Tittoni, is suffering from severe influenza.

London, Jan. 6.

Reuter's Cairo correspondent says the statement made by the "Daily Telegraph" that the Suez Canal Company were going to reduce their charges is unfounded.

London, Jan. 7.

British imports for the year ending the 31st ultimo show an increase of £8,761,83 and exports an increase of £10,017,787.

London, Jan. 7.

The joint Commission of the American Senate and House of Representatives on the American Mercantile Marine has concluded its report, and recommends annual subsidies of £60,000 for monthly, and £120,000 for fortnightly sixteen-knot services from the Pacific Coast to Japan, China and the Philippines; and £42,000 and £84,000, respectively, for a thirteen-knot service.

London, Jan. 7.

Advices from Morocco state that a fight has occurred thirty kilometres from Ujda between the troops of the Pretender and the Moorish forces. The Pretender was beaten; but retired and selected a spot where re-inforcements awaited him. The Imperials, who were pursuing him, fell into an ambuscade, where they were completely routed, losing four hundred killed and wounded.

London, Jan. 9.

Admiral Bienaime of the Opposition has been elected to replace M. Syveton in the French Chamber, defeating the Ministerialist candidate by 1,272 votes.

London, Jan. 9.

The increase in British exports in the year ending 31st ultimo is due to the increase of ten millions in Lancashire goods and two millions in woollens.

London, Jan. 9.

A number of prominent members of the cotton industry have addressed Mr. Chamberlain a request to explain at Preston on Wednesday how his scheme will benefit the British manufacturers in India, China and other neutral markets, also, if we impose duties on manufactured imports, can we deny India the same right.

## INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

### THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

### VLADIVOSTOK BLOCKADE.

### STEAMER CAPTURED.

### STRENGTH OF KUROPATKIN'S ARMY.

### RUSSIA'S NAVAL PROGRAMME.

### NEW FLEET TO COST £40,000,000.

Colombo, Jan. 5.

The Japanese cruisers have captured Fusan, the steamer Nigretia, bound Shanghai to Vladivostok with a [illegible] contraband.

It is believed that the Captain of Russian destroyer Grosovoi and other officers, interned at Shanghai, are on board. The vessel was also conveying to Vladivostok a number of [illegible] charts and documents.

It is reported that several steamers with a full [illegible] of coal have arrived recently at Vladivostok, and that port is now amply provisioned for a long and determined siege.

A Russian Commission is about to visit the Italian ship-building yards with the object of ascertaining the best type of warships compatible with the speediest construction.

It is asserted that Russia is about to build, at a cost of 40,000,000 sterling, 30 battleships and cruisers and 200 torpedo craft.

German shipbuilders will be entrusted with the building of a new Baltic Fleet, and Italian shipbuilders with the construction of a Mediterranean Fleet.

A month ago Admiral Alexeieff, the St. Petersburg correspondent of the "Journal de Paris" that General Kuropatkin had a command of 400,000 troops in Manchuria and since then about 20,000 more soldiers have been sent from Europe to the Far East.

Prince Khilkoff, Director of the Siberian Railways has requestioned 1,000 additional railway carriages from the south of Russia in order to expedite the transport arrangements. The Prince says he hopes soon to be in a position to dispatch to Mukden 40,000 soldiers monthly.

On the other hand, there are grave complaints that the army at the front is suffering terribly from a shortage of warm clothing, and the food supplies are becoming scarce.

The Act to amend the Madras Village Panchayats Regulation, 1816, and the Madras Village Courts Act, 1888, has received the assent of the Governor-General in Council.

The Madras Government have ordered the acquisition of nearly 32 acres of land in Manamadura village in the Sivagunga Taluq of the Madura District, which is required for an agricultural experimental farm under the District Board of Madura.

Apropos of mineral exploitations in the Punjab we learn that a European Syndicate have secured a thirty years mining lease for stibnite and galena in the Kangra district of the Province, one of the most promising mineral tracts in the Punjab.

Prince Leopold of Belgium will probably cross over from Colombo to Tuticorin and tour through Southern India before coming to Calcutta. His father, the present King of the Belgians, as the Duc de Brabant, visited India about forty years ago.

Four hundred acres of steep slooping country, with coppice growth of oaks, chestnuts, and other species of trees in the Mogok township of the Ruby Mines district, Burma, which were declared to be reserved forest in 1897, ceased to be so from the 1st January. They are required for two new villages displaced by the extension of mining operations in the Mogok valley.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

## RECEPTION TO SIR HENRY COTTON K. C. S. I.

### ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

A monster meeting was held at the Town Hal on Tuesday evening to present an address of welcome to Sir Henry Stedman Cotton, K. C.S.I. on the occasion of his first visit to Calcutta after his retirement from the Indian Civil Servie. There were delegates and representatives from nearly all the districts of Bengal, Behar and Orissa. Nor did Assam lack in showing its love and respect to their late beloved Administrator. Not only all the Assamese residents of Calcutta mustered strong but representatives from there came down all the way from Assam to see the presentation of the address. The hall was literally packed, the gathering being almost entirely Indian with a sprinkling of Europeans Among those present were: His Highness the Moharaja of Gidhore, the Hon'ble the Moharaja of Durbhanga the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhall; Sir Guru Das Banerjee Raja Peary Mohon Mukerjee; Nawab Bahadur Sayed Ameer Hossain; the Hon'ble Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose, the Hon'ble Saligram Sing; the Hon'ble Siraj-ul Islam Khan Bahadur; the Hon'ble Babu Ambica Charan Mazumdar; Dr. Rash Behary Ghose; Babus Surendra Nath Banerjee; Moti Lal Ghose; Bepin Chundra Paul; and Radha Charan Paul; Mr. N. N Ghose; Mr. S. P. Sinha; Mr. A. Chowdhery; Mr. H. E. A. Cotton; Mr. J. Ghosal; Mr. J.N. Borooah; Roy Bahadur Sita Nath Roy; Khan Bahadur Shujat Ali Beg; and Babus Dwarka Nath Chackervertty and Jogendra Nath Ghose.

Just at 5 p.m. Sir Henry Cotton accompanied by the Hon'ble the Maharaja of Durbhanga and Raja Peary Mohon Mukerjee arrived and he was received with loud and prolonged cheers.

Raja Peary Mohon Mukerjee proposed that the Hon'ble the Moharaja of Durbhanga do take the chair.

Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee seconded the motion. In conclusion he announced that the Rajas of Tahirpur, and Nashipur were unavoidably absent.

Sir Gurudas Banerjee said that if the proposition entrusted to him were in need of any eloquent advocacy in its support he should have preferred to see it placed in able hands than his. But the resolution he was sure would be carried by acclamation as soon as it was proposed and the mover's speech would be a mere matter of nominal term in the some proportion as its adoption by them was sure to be a matter of real feeling. It was, therefore that he readily responded to the call from the chair to have the honour to take part in the proceeding of that important meeting. He need hardly add that it gave him very great pleasure to do so; for not only did he in common with them love and respect the man they were seeking to honour, but he was proud also to say that there existed a personal relitionship of the most cordial character between him (Sir Henry Cotton) and his humble self since many years. Call of duty was therefore, there in combination with private personal feeling, though somewhat in a smaller measure, in the same manner, in which they combined in the person of their distinguished chairman. The resolution which he was called upon to move ran thus:—

That an address of welcome be presented to Sir Henry Cotton, K.C.S.I., on this the occasion of his first visit to Calcutta after his retirement from the Indian Civil Service, and that the following address be adopted.

Nawab Bahadur Syed Ameer Hossein, C.I. E., seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr. Jagar Nath Barwah.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

### MAHARAJA OF DURBHANGA.

His Highness the Maharajah of Durbhanga, presenting the address said: Sir Henry [illegible] do not find myself for the first time, I do, in the proud and happy position of [illegible] in the public platform to the warm [illegible] ments of admiration and affection with [illegible] I regard you. For more than thirty [illegible] I have looked upon you as a son looks [illegible] his father, and upon [illegible] without [illegible] ber I have enjoyed the adv[illegible] of your [illegible] kindly counsel and the privile[illegible] kindly encouragement. And I have [illegible] teemed it to be a solemn duty no less [illegible] valued honour to be permitted to proclaim [illegible] public the feelings with which you inspire [illegible] heart. To-day I enjoy the satisfaction of [illegible] ding to the expression of my own gratitude, [illegible] unanimous tribute of this large and en[illegible] us astic gathering, representing every class [illegible] creed in the province, and voicing the [illegible] art-felt wishes and thanks of the entire [illegible] ople of Bengal. You have been a kind, [illegible] se, sincere, and steadfast friend to us all: [illegible] and we one and all, from the highest to the lowest thank you for what you have done for us, and pray that you may long be spared in health and happiness to render us from England the sympathy and the assistance upon which we could always count when you were in authority amongst us. Your bust in marble adorns this Town Hall as an outward and visible demonstration of our love and our veneration. But you need neither marble nor bronze to keep alive among us the recollection of yourself and your life of consistent effort on our behalf. This meeting has been called to-day to manifest to you the pleasure with which we welcome you in Calcutta once more: and in this address which I have now the honour to hand you, we have endeavoured to employ the feeble resources of language to put our sentiments into words. It is sometimes said by the thoughtless that we Indians have no sense of gratitude except for favours to come. This mighty assembly to-day more than answers the insinuation. You are no longer among our rulers, but nothing will ever depose you from the dominion you enjoy over our hearts.

### ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

The following is the address of welcome:—

To

Sir Henry John Stedman Cotton K.C.S.I.

Sir, we the undersigned on behalf of the Indian public of Calcutta and of the entire Province desire to approach you with this address of welcome on this the first occasion of your visit to our city after your retirement from the Indian Civil Service.

Two years and a half ago in this very Town Hall when we bade you a cordial farewell on the eve of your retirement we ventured to express the hope that the interests of India would find a place in your heart and that you would continue to feel a deep and abiding concern in the prosperity of the land where your life-work had won for you the gratitude and the homage of the people. We rejoice to find that these anticipations have been abundantly fulfilled; and we are here once again to convey to you the assurance that our sentiments of affection and gratitude have been deepened and intensified by your untiring and devoted efforts for the good of your country. To the ordinary public servant his period of retirement is a period of rest, free from exacting and strenuous work. To you, Sir, your retirement has furnished an opportunity for serving the land of your adoption with a zeal and devotion which younger men might envy. It is no exaggeration to say that you have already made your mark in English public life, and the esteem in which you are held by many prominent public men in England was testified to in a striking manner by the unique demonstration that was held in your honour at Westminister Palace Hotel on the eve of your departure for India. Your thorough and comprehensive grasp of Indian topics, the earnestness of your pleadings, your fervent love of justice and your deep sympathy with the aspirations of India must command the respectful attention of British audiences, as they won for you the unstinted love and homage of our countrymen. Your Indian career has now indeed closed, but we look forward to a higher and a nobler career for you in that assembly which has justly been called the mother of Parliaments, which has already conferred upon us a modicum of representation and from which in the fulness of time we except the mandate which will still further liberalize our institutions. We are grateful to the Liberal electors of East Nottingham for nominating you as their candidate at the next General Election. We beg you will, on our behalf, convey this message to your future constituents and assure them of our fervent wishes for your success. We feel that if returned to Parliament you will not only represent your constituency, but that you will also be the faithful exponent and the accredited guardian of our interests—the member for East Nottingham wil truly be the member for all India.

And now, Sir, in bidding you farewell (though we hope to see you again in our midst) we desire to assure you that you carry with you the love, the gratitude and the admiration of the people of this Province. It is our earnest hope and prayer that you may long be spared to serve the people of India whom you have loved so well, but who have nothing higher to offer to you than the tribute of their heart-felt homage and affection.

The address which was printed on silk, and was enclosed in a beautiful silver casket was then presented to Sir Henry Cotton.

Sir Henry then rose amidst loud and prolonged cheers.

### SIR HENRY COTTON'S SPEECH.

Sir Henry said:—Maharajah, Rajahs and gentlemen: This meeting is nonpolitical. I observe in your address no reference to that wonderful gathering, known as the Indian National Congress lately held at Bombay or even to the invasion of Tibet. I am glad that should be so, for it enables us all to meet on a common platform from which contentious matters may be effectually banished. You are met together in your great kindness and in vast numbers representing the metropolis of India and more than that for you are echoing the voice of the educated community of the whole of this country to do me honor as a private individual because you are good enough to remember that during my long service among you in an official capacity I displayed sympathy with popular needs, aspirations and sorrows, afforded a patient hearing to those who sought my aid and devoted myself to furthering Indian interests and the relief of the sufferings of the weak and oppressed. You are met together in acknowledgment of the fact that since I have retired from the public service I have not slackened in my exertions on behalf of your countrymen and am now returned among you for a brief visit too short alas! owing to the exigencies of political life in England to renew old friendships and rekindle that warmth of affection which can never grow cold between myself and those with whom I have for so many years been associated. It is a proud moment for me to behold this gathering to have listened to these all too-flattering speeches from the leaders of your community and to receive this address presented to me on your behalf by my old and valued and intimate friend the Maharajah of Durbhanga.

[illegible] after all, what have I done to deserve [illegible] or as is implied in the gathering [illegible] ably? You are according [illegible] I cannot recall in [illegible] Hall. But I have done [illegible] precedented recog[illegible]tion. [illegible] every India, I am under obligations to the people of the country I can never repay, and it is only because I have striven to do my duty according to my lights, independently and undismayed and have not bowed the knee to Baal; it is because I have never forgotten and shall never forget that an official under the Govt. of India is a servant of the people of India, a protector of the poor not only in name but in deed, that I have come to be so honored by you. There is nothing so special in my public service as to call for so exceptional a reward. I have often noticed that the people of India are overwhelming in their gratitude to those English officials who have shewn them kindness and sympathy. The memory of those officers lives for ever in the hearts of the people. The names of Bentinck and Canning and Ripon, of Elphinstone and Malcolm and Munro are the most venerated names in the hierarchy of your rulers. It is not given to every one to earn the fame that they have won. But those who, like myself, have served in the lower grades of the service, even if they have not, as I did, risen to the higher, are equally in a position, each in his own sphere, to with the people's gratitude and love, and in their retirement to linger and even to reign in their grateful hearts. I would venture to say that it is easy to do this. I know no other country in the world where it is so easy for those placed in authority to acquire, if they wish to do so, the confidence and affection and gratitude of those whom they are appointed to govern. And surely the guerdon is a noble one, the prize the highest for which a man can strive. Duty is not always an easy task-master but it is not difficult to fellow the distates of duty when there follows so readily in their train the reward of dutiful service. I hope my voice may be allowed to travel beyond these walls. For one word I wish to leave behind me with my brethern and successors in that splendid service to which I was so proud to belong and to which before it is modified and passes away, as it must do, under the stress of changing times and circumstances, is yet reserved the privilege of guiding and controlling the destinies and welfare of our Indian fellow-subjects. I plead with them for the exercise of an enlarged and wider sympathy with Indian aspirations and for the establishment of closer and more affectionate relations between the rulers and the ruled. It is for them to break down the barriers between east and west, to encourage the nascent hopes of a growing community of educated men, and to prepare and train the rising generation to fulfill those higher functions of administration which they now discharge. That is their duty; it is with you to give them their reward.

Gentlemen! I hope I have not trespassed too far from the non-political attitude you laid down for me in your address I am carried away by the evidence you pave shown me this afternoon of your affection and good will and by the magnificient example you have displayed of your recognition of humble services rendered in the direction I indicate. This demonstration is indeed an enthusiastic and representative object lesson to my fellow civilians; it is the crowning triumph to myself of the elementary principles to which I have endeavoured to give effect during my Indian career both in doctrine and in practice. I have had my reward. No words of mine can express the feelings which well in my heart as I gaze upon this sea of heads and try to thank you for your kindness. I shall leave you with the most lively memories of my revisit to India fraught, as it has been, with the deepest and most momentous interest, and not least of my reception in Calcutta where I have lived the best years of my life and am at the present moment surrounded by troops of friends—old friends and new whom I can never forget. Rely upon this that in the old country I shall continue to serve your cause, as I have done in the past, to the best of my power and with the increasing influence I possess, and that I shall never fail in my devotion to India, the country of my birth where my forefathers served before me generation after generation, where my sons are still following in my steps, where I lived so many happy years, and to which I am irrevocably bound by duty as well as love.

With a hearty vote of thanks to the chair proposed by Roy Bahadur Sita Nath Roy and seconded by Khan Bahadur Sujat Ali Beg the meeting separated.

At the close of the meeting Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee announced that a conference of the delegates about the partition of Bengal, would be held at the Town Hall, down stairs, this evening at 5 p.m. under the presidency of Sir Henry Cotton. Admission would be **free and no tickets would be required.**

## CALCUTTA GAZETTE—Jan. 11.

### GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

The services of Mr. R. Sheepshanks, I.C.S., are placed at the disposal of the Government of India in the Home Department.

Maulvi Syed Ahmad Ali Khan, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to Saran.

Babu Nani Lal Mukherjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to Singhbhum.

Mr. William Henry Nelson, who has recently been appointed to be a member of the Indian Civil Service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Burdwan Division, and is posted to Midnapore.

Mr. J. F. Graham, substantive pro tempore Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Howrah, is appointed to have charge of the Sadar subdivision of that district.

Mr. F. C. Swaine, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Backergunge, is transferred to Ranchi.

Babu Beni Madhav Das, Assistant Head Master, Chittagong Training School is appointed to act as a Professor in the Ravenshaw College, Cuttack.

Babu Harish Chandra Datta, Professor, Ravenshaw College, Cuttack, is appointed to act as Head Master of the Chittagong Training School.

### SUBORDINATE CIVIL SERVICE.

Mr. A. B. Petter, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Bhagalpur Division, is posted to the head-quarters station of the district of Monghyr.

Babu Tej Chandra Mitter, Additional Munsif in the district of Burdwan, is allowed leave for one month, with effect from the 3rd January 1905.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Delawar Hossain Ahmed Bar Jogesh Chunder Mitter Bahadur, and Ra. Chunder Narain Singh Bahadur are appointed, under section 18 of the Criminal Procedure, to be Presidency Magistrate for the town of Calcutta, and authorized to sit singly for the trial of cases.

Babu Kumud Bandhu Das Gupta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Gaibanda, Rangpur, is appointed to have charge of the Pirojpur sub-division of the Backergunge district.

Babu Suresh Chunder Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Saran, is appointed to have charge of the Gaibanda sub-division of the Rangpur district.

Babu Krishna Dyal Pramanik, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purulya, is appointed to have charge of the Narail sub-division of the Jessore district.

Maulvi Syed Muhammad Syed, Rural Sub-Registrar of Kharagpur, in Monghyr, is appointed to be Special Sub-Registrar of that district.

Babu Rajmohan Gangopadhyay, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to be Special Excise Deputy Collector, Midnapur, on relief of his present appointment as Superintendent of Distillery, Russa, 24-Pargans.

Babu Ramani Mohan Mitra, Special Excise Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is appointed to be Special Excise Deputy Collector, Patna.

Babu Manmatha Nath Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhbhum, is appointed to be Special Excise Deputy Collector, Dacca.

Babu Mathura Lall Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purnea, is allowed leave, from the afternoon of the 6th July 1904 to the afternoon of the December 1904.

### JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Lalit Mohun Pal, Sub-Deputy Collector in charge of the Gaya Distillery, is appointed to be Superintendent of Distillery, Russa, 24-pargans.

Babu Ramapati Chatterji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Cuttagong district, on being relieved of his present appointment as Special Excise Deputy Collector, Patna.

### APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS.

Maulvi Mohammad Quasem, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Muzaffarpur, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Birbhum district.

Babu Fakir Chunder Chatterjea, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Narail, Jessore, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Dinajpur district.

Babu Kumud Bandhu Das Gupta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Gaibanda, Rangpur, is appointed to have charge of the Pirojpur sub-division of the Backergunge district.

Babu Suresh Chunder Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Saran, is appointed to have charge of the Gaibanda sub-division of the Rangpur district.

Babu Krishna Dyal Pramanik, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purulya, is appointed to have charge of the Narail sub-division of the Jessore district.

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Khan Bahadur Maulvi Delawar Hossain Ahmed Bar Jogesh Chunder Mitter Bahadur, and Ra. Chunder Narain Singh Bahadur are appointed, under section 18 of the Criminal Procedure, to be Presidency Magistrate for the town of Calcutta, and authorized to sit singly for the trial of cases.

Babu Tej Chandra Mitter, Additional Munsif in the district of Burdwan, is allowed leave for one month, with effect from the 3rd January 1905.

## THE TANJORE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

### THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S INSTRUCTIONS.

A correspondent from Tanjore writes in the "Madras Mail" under date the 4th:—Mr. C. Benson, Deputy Director of Agriculture, recently made a tour through the District of Tanjore, for the purpose of assisting the Tanjore Agricultural Association with advice and guidance in the conduct of experimental cultivation that some of the members proposed to undertake, and as a result of his inspection, he has forwarded to the Association a Memorandum of suggestions recommended to be followed.

**CO-OPERATIVE FIELD EXPERIMENTS.**

He noticed a general aversion on the part of a great many of the members who offered lands on which to conduct agricultural operations, according to instructions given by the Agricultural Department, to undertaking experimental cultivation which might be found to be beyond their means. It was suggested that the operations should be rather of the nature of demonstrations; but for that to be feasible there should have preceded a long series of experimental investigations to establish facts which it was possible to demonstrate. Mr. Benson pointed out that more work was first required in the way of field experiments before field demonstrations could be usefully instituted. What he would, therefore, suggest was that the members who were willing should carry out a number of comparatively simple co-operative field experiments which, while not aiming at the accuracy and the detail of field experiments, might serve a very useful purpose towards the accumulation of facts which would ultimately allow of field demonstration.

**CATTLE MANURE.**

Mr. Benson considers that the great want in Tanjore, as elsewhere in the Presidency, is more manure. The general practice does not conserve the urine of cattle. Trials are recommended to be made to preserve the urine; and at the same time, by utilising leaves and other rubblish which at present goes to waste, to make a large quantity of manure. The main idea suggested towards this end is that, in each case, an adaptation of the "box system" should be tried for any convenient number of cattle, and the manure from them should be collected; whilst, alongside, from an equal number of similar cattle, the manure should be collected according to "mamool." The resulting collection should, at a convenient season, be applied to equal areas in the field, care being taken to, as far as possible, choose plots of land that are of equal natural fertility. It was suggested that some member of the Association might visit Sivaganga and see the method in operation under the lesses of that estate.

**LEAF MANURE.**

This also, Mr. Benson thought, was not so fully utilised as it might be. The growth of the last manure in fields, on banks and other waste spaces should be extended. The "punngam" tree might be grown in many places for the purpose; and it is possible that a much larger supply of manure might be made available for such crops as hemp, horse gram, etc., after the paddy is harvested. As to the former, the practice of Kistna was suggested for experiment, plots being chosen as for the experiment with cattle manure. On the one this crop might be grown, being sown just before the paddy is harvested; and to the others nothing be done. The result as to the succeeding crops should then be noted. The value of hemp as fodder and the benefits that its growth has conferred on the cattle were also set forth. It was also pointed out that in some cases it might be possible to plough up the paddy fields slightly after harvest, and sow them with horse gram. This, if done, whether the crop be ploughed in or fed off, whether the crop be ploughed in or fed off should benefit the land. Plots should be arranged alongside each other to note the result.

**DEEP TILLAGE.**

Evidence derived from chance events was forthcoming in the several places that the Deputy Director visited, as regards the benefit to be derived from deeper tillage than was common; and it was suggested that the matter should be given a trial. For that purpose a better plough than that in local use should be obtained, and it was possible that the experience of the late Mr. Krisnaswamy Moodeliar of Shiyali might be repeated if that were done, and a great saving of cattle labour might be effected.

**FALLOW TILLAGE.**

Connected with this question the propriety and advantage of giving the paddy fields fallow tillage during the dry weather was suggested. This practice was recommended for trial, conducted on the system of the comparative field experiments described above, if the difficulty of finding the requisite labour at the proper time could be got over.

**PADDY CULTIVATION.**

In connection with the cultivation of paddy, there were one or two points recommended to be practised.

**SEED SELECTION.**

Mr. Benson finds that this is not, as a rule, practised at all; whereas, if care be taken to pick out specially fine seeds from each year's crops and to preserve the seed for future use improvement should follow. Another point, recommended to be tried was a change of seed at frequent intervals. This latter point seemed to the Deputy Director to need early attention. Interchange between parts of the District would probably suffice.

**SUBSIDIARY CROPS.**

Suggestions have been made that all the field bunds should be utilised, as in Godavery, for growing pulses. Experiments of the nature indicated above could be made at all the places visited by the Deputy Director namely, Satyamangalam, Ukadai, Manargudy, Tirtharapundy; and whether the owners of the lands seen at these places were able to start all or only some of the proposed trials, they could do good, whilst the same scheme might be extended to other estates.

**TRIALS ON DRY LANDS.**

At all the places visited by the Deputy Director, except Tirutharapundy, the members also offered dry land for trials: and the first thing that it was suggested might be taken up was the introduction of the drill and other implements of the Ceded Districts —a work, however, which has already been started in the District. On the dry land, the value of what were called "Improved Ploughs" for saving time and for efficiency in tillage, might be easily tested by working adjoining plots with them and with the customary plough.

**FOREIGN COTTON.**

Mr. Benson thinks that at all the places visited by him it should be worth while to try whether some of the higher class foreign cottons would not flourish and prove profitable, even though irrigation had to be resorted to to some extent. At Mannargudy, until the land seen had been brought into better form, it was doubtful whether much could be done. But there, as well as elsewhere, an experiment in the utilisation of silt-heaps, which were so often a nuisance in the paddy fields where they occupied useful and valuable space, as mannure to the dry land, should be tried. The carting could generally be done at the slack time of the year, when men and cattle had not much to occupy them usefully.

**SUGAR-CANE.**

At Mannargudy, on a piece of wet land inspected by Mr. Benson and at Ukadai on some dry land on the edge of the wet land, a trial of sugarcane might prove useful.

**GROUND NUT AND INDIGO.**

At all the places visited ground nuts and indigo were recommended and might be tried if the Agricultural Department could furnish the Association with seed of sorts to compare with those already grown. For the latter, the land seen at Satyamangalam was specially promising.

The above is, in brief, a memorandum of the experiments which Mr. Benson has suggested that the members of the Association might carry out. He has added that the Government Agricultural Inspector, Mr. G. Rajagopala Naidu, who was upon special duty to assist the Association, was well acquainted with the details and was able to guide any member who might undertake to carry out any of these suggestions, which might probably be amplified in the future. In the meanwhile Mr. Benson hopes that his present suggestions might serve as a useful basis for working on.

**SUGGESTIONS ADOPTED.**

I am informed that most of the suggestions have already begun to be tried by some of the more wealthy members of the Association whose lands are comprised of varied soils and conditions suited to the varied cultivation recommended. Mr. V. A. Vadayar near Satiyamangalam, Mr. Annasawmy Thevar in Ukadai Mr. Srinivasa Mudaliyar at Thiruthurapundy, Mr. S. P. Srinivasa Pillai at Mayavaram, and Mr. M. Naham Iyer, B.A., at Shiyali, have all started experimental cultivation of some kind or other.

**THE INSPECTOR'S INSTRUCTIONS.**

Mr. G. Rajagopala Naidu, Agricultural Inspector, has visited many estates in the District upon invitations from the proprietors thereof. In one place he instructed the gentleman who had called him in, in the principles and details of the loose box system of collecting manure and in the methods of conserving the urine of cattle. On a teak plantation where he saw the leaves of tender plants stripped, under a mistaken notion that this would stimulate growth, he pointed out the importance of retaining the leaves for the growth of the plant, and he instructed the owner to remove only the auxilliary birds, so that he might obtain tall timber without branches. At another place he advised that seed beds should be only one yard broad, so that weeds might be removed and the soil stirred whenever necessary, from the bottom. On a bamboo plantation where he saw the bamboo tangled in many bushes he taught the owner to grow the bush with bamboos coming out independently. He also pointed out the necessity of keeping the ground loose and to earth up the bush only side ways and not heap earth in the centre, since shoots always start outside. The central shoots were recommended to be cut down as they spoil the rest. At another place he pointed out suitable spots for growing fodder and manure trees in the village sites and field bunds, and manuring the trees and shrubs which could be grown for the purpose. In short, he did some useful work of instruction whilst he stayed in the District; but just in the midst of it he received orders to proceed to Penukonda to attend to the disease on grape vines cultivated in that place. The Agricultural Association of Tanjore proposes to apply to the Board of Revenue for the services of Mr. Rajagopala Naidu again.

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M. Beau, Governor-General of Indo-China, will shortly visit India. He will leave Saigon per s.s. "Dumbea" about the 13th January, and after changing at Colombo will arrive in Calcutta per s.s. "Dupleix." At Pondicherry he will be met by M. Lemaire, the Governor.

Quelport, which the Japanese are fortifying, is an island 52 miles south from the southernmost point of Korea, to which it belongs. Its length is 44 miles from west to east, and its breadth across the centre 21 miles. On the north coast is the town of Tsyetsu, close to a bay affording good anchorage. Possibly this bay is being transformed into a naval base to meet the new situation created by the fall of Port Arthur and the near approach of the Baltic Fleet.

The "Manila Cable News" reports that four lionesses belonging to Harmston's Circus have died. The animals were transferred from the s.s. "Tean" to a lighter in their cages, and were then apparently in perfect condition. A few minutes after having started for the Custom House wharf a circus employe noticed that one of the four lionesses seemed to be in distress. Almost immediately afterwards the remaining three were seized with the same symptoms and lay writhing and struggling on the floor of the cage. Ten minutes later the whole four lay dead. Immediately a rush was made for the cage containing the tiger, and he was found to be in a very similar condition. The trainer intuitively divining that the cause must be want of air, opened the cage, and the tiger speedily recovered.

The High Court at Bombay has granted probate to the executors of the late Mr. Jamshedji N. Tata's estate. The schedules annexed to the petition for probate stated the movable and immovable property in British India at nearly one and-a-half crores of rupees. Outside British India, in the Gaikwari town of Navsari, and in the French Settlement of Mahe, India, the deceased's state has been valued at about Rs. 1,00,000. The property has been declared at a nett value of close upon one crore and one lakh of rupees. The probate fee on this has been paid at the rate of two per cent., and amounted to Rs. 2,02,000. In the one crore and one lakh rupees, the thirty lakhs of rupees offered by the deceased gentleman to the Government of India for the founding of an Institute for Indian Research have been included; and the probate duty paid thereon amounts to Rs. 60,000. When the thirty lakhs are paid over to Government, application for the refund of the amount will probably be made, on the ground of its being a public benefaction.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

## SUBORDINATE EXECUTIVE SERVICE.

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### SIR C. ELLIOTT'S RESOLUTION.

RESOLUTION No. 2666A.

APPOINTMENT DEPARTMENT.

Dated Darjeeling, the 25th May 1892.

Read—

The Resolution of 20th July 1891, reporting on the result of the examination held in March in that year, and appointing certain candidates to be probationers of the Executive Branch of the Provincial Service.

The Notification of 14th September 1891, regarding the admission of Natives of India to the Opium Department.

The Notification of 10th October 1891, publishing rules for the Subordinate Executive Service Examination of 1892.

The Reports of the Examiners at the examination held on the 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st of March 1892.

1. As the result of the examination for the Subordinate Executive Service, held in 1891, sixteen gentlemen were selected to be Probationary Deputy Collectors, three were appointed to be Temporary Sub-Deputy Collectors, and eight were appointed to be Probationary Sub-Deputy Collectors. The sixteen Probationary Deputy Collectors have in due course been appointed to be Officiating Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and similarly the eight Probationary Sub-Deputy Collectors have been absorbed as substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collectors in the fourth grade. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to say that the report furnished by their official superiors of the working of these probationary officers has been uniformly satisfactory.

2. In September 1891 it was decided that a competitive examination of Native candidates for the Opium Department would be held in 1892 at the same time and in the same subjects as the examination prescribed for candidates for the Executive Branch of the Provincial Service; and it was declared that the candidate who obtained the highest aggregate of marks would be admitted to the Opium Department and be appointed between the second and third of the three successful European and Eurasian candidates at their examination. The candidate so appointed would be considered a probationer for the first two years of his service.

3. In October it was notified that, at an examination to be held in March 1892, 20 candidates would be selected for Probationary Deputy Collectorships on a salary of Rs. 50 a month, and 10 for Probationary Sub-Deputy Collectorships on a salary of Rs. 30 a month respectively. It was announced that 10 of the probationers for Deputy Collectorships would be appointed from the first 10 candidates on the list in order of merit, that 10 would be selected by the Lieutenant-Governor either from those who are now Sub-Deputy Collectors, or from among those who have obtained a minimum of one-third of the total marks, and that from the remainder of those qualified by obtaining one-third of the total marks the Lieutenant-Governor would select 10 more candidates as probationers for Sub Deputy Collectorships.

4. The examination so notified was held on the 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st of March 1892. No fewer than 195 competitors (of whom all except five were graduates of the Calcutta University) entered their names for the examination, and of these 190 actually appeared and sent in papers. Of these 190 candidates, 176 took up Bengali as their vernacular, 8 took up Hindustani, and 5 took up Uriya. One gentleman, Mr. J.E. Friend-Pereira, took up no vernacular. No less than 179 of the candidates have obtained the minimum of one-third marks necessary for appointment into the Subordinate Executive Service by nomination.

5. The following ten gentlemen, who stood first in order of merit, are entitled to appointments as Probationary Deputy Collectors

| | No. of marks |
|---|---|
| Babu Sriram Chunder Bose, B.L. | 588 |
| " Ambica Prasad Sen, M.A., B.L. | 580 |
| " Banku Behary Dutt, B.L. | 570 |
| " Raj Kishore Das, B.L. | 562 |
| " Rasik Lall Sen, B.A. | 541 |
| " Hamendra Lal Khastgir, M.A. | 537 |
| " Bhabani Prosad Neogi, B.A. | 522 |
| " Grish Chunder Nag, B.A. | 517 |
| " Kunja Bihari Goswami, B.L. | 516 |
| " Nogendro Chunder Sen, B.L. | 513 |

6. Babu Nogendro Chunder Sen was a candidate for the Opium Department as well as for the Subordinate Executive Service. He has, however, intimated that he would prefer to accept an appointment in the Subordinate Executive Service. The candidate for the Opium Department who obtained the next highest aggregate number of marks is Babu Monmia Nath Bhattacharjya, B.A., who is thirteenth in the general list and obtained 500 marks. He has been offered and accepted an appointment in the Opium Department, on the conditions stated in the notification of the 14th September last.

7. Of the ten selected candidates for Probationary Deputy Collectorships, one, Babu Rasik Lal Sen, is already a third grade Sub-Deputy Collector employed under the Administration of Assam, and draws a salary of Rs. 150 a month; another, Babu Kunja Bihari Goswami, is a substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector in Bengal in the fourth grade, drawing a salary of Rs. 100 a month. In consideration of their position in the service, they will at once be appointed to be Officiating Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors on a salary of Rs. 200 a month. There will therefore be two vacancies among probationers selected by merit and the two next candidates in the list who occupy a position of equality in the eleventh place will be considered as entitled to appointment as Probationary Deputy Collectors. Their names are—

Babu Nogendro Nath Mukerjea, B.L. 50.
" Brajendra Nath Roy, B.A. 50

Of these two officers, again, the latter, Babu Brajendra Nath Roy, is already a substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector in Bengal in the fourth grade, drawing a salary of Rs. 100 a month. He will therefore be at once appointed to be an Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector on a salary of Rs. 200 a month. The thirteenth candidate having selected the Opium Department, the appointment of Probationary Deputy Magistrate will devolve on the fourteenth in the list, Babu Ashutosh Bagchi, M.A., who obtained 490 marks.

8. The number of candidates to be selected by the Lieutenant-Governor among those who have obtained one-third marks is fixed at ten. The choice has been carefully made with reference to the number of marks obtained, the claims upon Government of members of the candidate's family, and the interests of different classes of the community. The following are the candidates selected for appointment as Probationary Deputy Collectors:—

Babu Ramani Mohon Das, M.A.
" Rampati Chatterjea, B.L.
" Harendra Kumar Ghose, B.A. (I).
" Nikhil Nath Roy, B.L.
" Basanta Kumar Raha, B.L.
" Nogendra Nath Mitter, B.A.
Moulvie Syed Abdul Malek, B.A.
" Mohiuddin Ahmed, B.A.
" Abdul Kadir, B.A.
Mr. J. E. Friend-Pereira, B.A.

9. Of these, Babu Harendra Kumar Ghose is already a substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade drawing a salary of Rs. 100 a month. He will therefore be at once appointed to be an Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector on Rs. 200 a month. To fill the vacancy created by this appointment, Babu Uma Prasanna Guha, M.A., is selected as a Probationary Deputy Collector. Mr. Friend-Pereira, although he took up no vernacular language, obtained the highest marks in English Essay of any candidate. He is now a member of the Subordinate Executive Service, fourth grade, under the Administration of Burma, on a salary of Rs. 150 a month, and will therefore also be appointed to be an Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector on Rs. 200 a month. To fill the vacancy thus caused, Babu Jagadis Chunder Sen, M.A., is selected as a Probationary Deputy Collector.

10. All these probationary officers will receive a salary of Rs. 50 per mensem, and if the report from the districts where they are stationed is favourable they will, after such period of probation as may seem advisable, be appointed to be Officiating Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors as vacancies occur. They will not ordinarily be vested with magisterial powers until they are so appointed. Separate orders will now at once be passed posting all the gentlemen abovenamed to districts.

11. There are at the present moment 41 Officiating Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, or eight in excess of the vacancies in the several grades. But against this excess there is a deficiency in the number of officers sanctioned for Covenanted appointments, which, under the orders of the Government of India, may be supplied by appointments in the Subordinate Executive Service. The deficiency in the Convenanted Service consists of 23 officers, and deducting from this number the eight Officiating Deputy Magistrates in excess, the number of officers still short is fifteen. Leaving a margin of ten to provide for officers returning from leave or deputation, five appointments are available in the grade of Officiating Deputy Magistrates, which can now be filled up by the promotion of Sub-Deputy Collectors.

12. The Lieutenant-Governor has decided in this connection that the claims of Special Deputy Collectors who are appointed for specific temporary work should receive the first consideration. These officers are now always carefully chosen from among the **grades of Sub-Deputy Collectors,** and although the work done by them is in theory of a temporary nature, experience has shown that there is enough of it to furnish continuous employment for a considerable number of officers. It is only fair to them that they should receive a preferential claim among **Sub-Deputy Collectors for promotion to be** Officiating Deputy Collectors in the regular line. Such officers, when included in the regular cadre of the Subordinate Executive Service, will not be indefinitely detained on special duty, but will be transferred to **general employment as soon as possible:** until, however, they can be so transferred they will be seconded. Under these orders the following Special Deputy Collectors are now appointed to be Officiating Deputy Collectors but so long as they remain employed on their special work they will be seconded in the regular line of the service:—

Babu Behari Lall Mukerjea, B.A., employed on land acquisition work in North Behar.

Babu Jadu Nath Sircar, employed on revaluation work in Manbhum.

Babu Prosunno Kumar Bose, employed on income-tax work in Calcutta.

Babu Surjyo Kumar Das, employed on batwara work in Mymensingh.

Babu Satya Taran Mukerjea, employed on revaluation work in Burdwan.

13. These officers will now be severally seconded in the regular line by the appointment of Babus Rasik Lall Sen, Kunja Bihari Goswami, Brajendra Nath Roy, Harendra Kumar Ghose, and Mr. J.E. Friend-Pereira, who, under orders contained in this Resolution, have been appointed to officiate as Deputy Magistrates. They all of them revert to general duty when they have finished the special work on which they are engaged, or arrangements have been made for relieving them of it.

14. The following are the ten candidates selected by the Lieutenant-Governor from among those who have obtained one-third marks to be Probationary Sub-Deputy Collectors:—

Babu Charu Chunder Chatterjea, B.A.
" Makhan Lall Chatterjea, M.A.
" Hem Chunder Chatterjea, M.A., B.L.
Mr. Rowland Nagendro Lall Chandra, M.A.
Babu Narendro Kumar Ghose, M.A.
" Abhay Prosad Das, B.A.
" Jadu Nath Chatterjea, M.A.
Moulvie Syed Ahmed Ali Khan, B.A.
" Afsaruddin Mahomed, B.A.
" Gholam Ghous, M.A.

15. These probationary officers will receive a salary of Rs. 30 per mensem at present, and will, if they are satisfactorily reported on, be gradually absorbed into the fourth grade of Sub-Deputy Collectors as vacancies occur. Separate orders will at once be passed posting them to districts.

Order.—Ordered that the above Resolution be published in the "Calcutta Gazette."

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

H. J. S. COTTON.

Offg. chief Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

A gentleman, who was until a year ago managing a mine in the Braidwood district of New South Wales, and who early this year went to South Africa, where he is similarly employed in the Transvaal, writes as follows to Mr. Austin Chapman, M. H. R.; "So far John Chinaman is not a success as a reefer. There are 1,900 of them on one mine here, and they cannot keep 100 head of stampers going, but we must not expect too much for one shilling a day with a bonus of one halfpenny per inch for all holes over two feet, I think they are going to give a lot of trouble in the Transvaal

## JIU-JI-TSU.

### THE ART OF SELF-DEFENCE.
### THE JAPANESE SOLDIER.

When, at the beginning of the war in the Far East, the Japanese Navy, showed such marked superiority over the Russian Navy, the wiseacres of Europe begged us to wait until the land fighting began. Then we should see how the Russian soldiers would drive their diminutive foes back into the sea. Events have again signally failed to justify the confident predictions of the wiseacres. All the world knows how the Japanese soldiers have followed up on land the brilliant successes of their naval comrades, and all the world is to-day agreed that the Japanese Army need fear comparison with no other Army—white, brown or black. It is very far from my intention, writes a representative of the "Morning Post," to attempt an analysis of the causes that have contributed to make the Japanese Army what it is: nor do I even propose to enter on a gentral discussion of the qualities that go to make the Japanese soldier what he is. But no one who has followed the accounts of the campaign in Manchuria can fail to have been struck by the frequent references that have been made to the extraordinary agility, powers of endurance, and capacity for effecting rapid movements of which the Japanese soldiers have given proofs.

WIDESPREAD POPULARITY.

Chance or a happy combination of circumstances, continues our representative, brought me into contact with a Japanese gentleman, Mr. H. O. Tanosuke, who aroused my curiosity by declaring that no small part of the individual "fitness" of the Japanese soldier was due to his training in the national art of self-defence. I had heard, as most people have, of jiu-ji-tsu; but had imagined that it was an art practised by a comparatively small proportion of the Mikado's subjects. Mr. Tanosuke, however, assured me that this was an entire misconception.

"Then," I asked, "is jiu-ji-tsu part of the regular training in the Japanese Army?"

"It begins much sooner than that" was the reply. "Almost every boy in Japan is taught jiu-ji-tsu, as indeed are many of the girls. Boys begin to be taught seriously when they are about thirteen, and continue the lessons until they leave school. Three years is required for a full course of instruction; but, of course, we continue practising and improving long after we have left school. In the Army and in the Navy the men practise constantly. Many of the officers are excellent exponents of the art, and they encourage the men in every way. Then in every regiment and on every ship there are sure to be some half-dozen men who have acquired unusual proficiency, and these men act as instructors of the less expert."

STRENGTH VERSUS SKILL.

"Is this universal practice of jiu-ji-tsu," I asked, "of long standing?"

"No," was the reply, "it is not. Jiu-ji-tsu itself is of very ancient origin, but its practically universal adoption dates from quite recent times—indeed, during the reign of the present Mikado. Formerly we had a school of wrestlers—men of unusual size and great strength, and there was a great division of opinion as to the merits of the two schools—the wrestlers depending mainly on strength, the jiu-ji-tsu men on skill. The Mikado determined to put the matter to the test, and ordered the wrestlers to select their strongest champion, and the jiu-ji-tsu men their most expert exponent. Thousands of people witnessed the contest. The wrestler overtopped his opponent by more than a foot; but in less than a quarter of a minute the jiu-ji-tsu man had his gigantic opponent entirely at his mercy. That settled the question; jiu-ji-tsu was adopted as the national exercise, and has remained so ever since, though of course, swordsmanship still plays a large part in our system of physical training.

NECESSITY FOR CAUTION.

"And what is jiu-ji-tsu?" I asked.

"It means, in effect, the art of self-defence, and it is based on a knowledge of anatomy and of the weak points in the human body. An expert exponent of jiu-ji-tsu can kill an opponent in half a dozen ways in a few minutes, even seconds. For that reason there is a law in Japan, which is very strictly enforced that jiu-ji-tsu cannot be employed, except in self-defence. Then there are very strict rules governing its practice. It is an admirable training in the government of the temper, for the man who loses his temper while playing jiu-ji-tsu is instantly excluded from the class. We are taught how to defend ourselves by, if need be, disabling, stunning or even killing an opponent; but of course we stop short of these things in practice, and as we practise it there is practically no danger of serious injury, for one of the first things taught is how to fall so as not to hurt yourself.

"But," I said, 'though the conditions of modern warfare are all against close fighting there have been hand-to-hand fights in this war. I suppose this acknowledge would then be used?"

"Undoubtedly," was the reply, "if ever our men get their hands on the Russians it is all over with the big men. The training our men get in practising jiu-ji-tsu makes them as active as cats, so that it is, at the same time that it teaches them many useful accomplishments, a magnificent system of physical training. It keeps our soldiers fit, and trains them to be quick and alert in all their movements. Mere physical strength plays a minor part in jiu-ji-tsu—it is skill and quickness that tell."

SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION.

"I suppose," I said, "that you have some sort of contests and system of classification?"

"Oh, yes, every year a great tournament is held—about May or June—when thousands of men—as many as thirty thousand some years—take part in the contests. There is no distinction made as to weight—big men and little men all compete under the same conditions. We have nine recognised classes—the junior and six senior classes,—and to get into any of these classes a man must be very good. The vast majority remain unclassed. Of the six senior classes the first is the lowest—the sixth the highest, and in this highest class there are only two men. In the first of the senior classes there are three hundred—in the fourth there are twelve, in the fifth there are four."

"Do you think," I asked, "that jiu-ji-tsu could usefully be introduced into this country?"

"As a matter of fact," was the reply, "there are a few Englishmen who are learning it now, and very shortly a school of jiu-ji-tsu will be properly established in London. At present the pupils are mostly doctors with an occasional Army officer and City man. One of the best jiu-ji-tsu instructors in Japan has just come to London to act as principal instructor in the school I speak of. He is one of the four members of the fifth class—much the ablest exponent of the art that has ever been seen in the country. Will you come and see a practical illustration of the art?"

PRACTICAL ILLUSTRATION OF THE ART.

Needless to say, continues our representative, I accepted the invitation and was rewarded by a demonstration of extraordinary interest.

There were four Japanese practitioners of the art, including Professor T. Miyaki, the member of the fifth senior class. Their costume consisted of short drawers, which left the legs bare, and an armless jersey open in the front and held in position by a belt. Their feet were bare and the various feats shown were performed on Japanese matting about two inches in thickness. The first feats shown were a number of "throws" performed with almost lightning speed, and subsequently repeated slowly so as to enable the onlookers to see how they were done. Then followed demonstrations of a variety of leg and arm clinches of methods of attack and defence and illustrations of the system of practice employed by advanced exponents of the art. The performers claimed that mere strength plays, but a secondary part in their work, which is based on an intimate knowledge of the weak portions of the human frame. The necessary skill to apply this knowledge can only be acquired as the result of persistent practice; but it is claimed that, as the result of this practice; the student does not merely acquire the skill which enables him to repel an attack delivered by a much more powerful opponent, but strengthens and develops all the muscles and organs of his body to such an extent that his general condition as a healthy human animal is immensely improved, and his powers of endurance are greatly increased.

VALUE IN WARFARE.

It was the powers of endurance displayed by the Japanese contingent in the international force which marched on Pekin to the relief of the foreign Legations that so tremendously impressed the officers of the other Armies which took part in the advance. I do not, continues our representative, pretend to say their training in jiu-ji-tsu is the only factor in the undoubted superority shewn by the Japanese soldier over all the soldiers of other nationalities on that occasion; but the Japanese themselves attribute no small share of the magnificent physical condition of their Army to the constant practice of the art by officers and men and a sufficient case has at any rate been made out for investigation by everyone in this country, who is in any way responsible for the physical training of the rising generation. Japan has learnt much from Europe, but there are many things that Europe may learn from Japan, and it is at least worth our while to inquire whether the system of physical training practised for so many centuries by the great warrior clan of the Samurai and now universally adopted by our allies, may not be one of those matters in which we can take a lesson from Dai Nippon.

Mr. Wynne, Indian Member of the Board, will assume office as instant.

ABOUT COLDS.—In all countries and among all nations of the globe, cough medicines are used probably more extensively than any other one class of medicines. Every human being is subject to throat and lung troubles, which may terminate his existence. People everywhere realize the dangerous consequences of a neglected cold, for the majority of fatalities have their origin in and are characterized first by a simple cold. The more careful and prudent persons do not permit a cold to run its course, but treat it promptly. For many years Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has been in use throughout the United States and many other countries and time has proven it to be the best adapted of any remedy yet made for all throat and lung diseases, and especially coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough. It always cures and cures quickly. For sale by

Smith Stanistreet and Co.
Wholesale Agents B. K. Paul and Co., Abdool Rahaman and Abdool Kareem, Calcutta.

## TOWN HALL CONFERENCE.

### ELECTION OF DELEGATES.

Sakrail (Mymensing,) Jan. 8.

At a well-attended public meeting held at Alishakandi in connection with the Talukdar Association to elect delegates for the conference meeting to be held at the Town Hall, Calcutta, for the partition of Bengal, the following delegates were elected:—Mr. A. H. Gauznava, Mr. R. K. Dass, Bar-at-law, Babus Krishna Kumar Mittra B.A., Umesh Chandra Ghosh M.A.B.L., vakil, High Court, Prosanna Kumar Bose, Krishnadayal Roy B.A., Satish Chandra Banerjee, Jadunath Roy, Jogendra Prosad Bose, Kanailall Roy B.A., Madhab Gobinda Roy, Banimadhab Roy, Surendra Kumar Roy, Jnanendra Mohan Saha, Jogesh Chandra Kabiraj, Dina Bandhu Bhattacharjee, Gourbandhu Banerjee, Kunendra Prosad Saraswati and Sukumar Mitra.

The doubling of the line between Lahore and Amritsar is estimated to cost Rs. 16,36,000.

We understand that sanction to the creation of the post of Deputy Chief Engineer will shortly be accorded.

The Governor-General of the French Dependencies in Indo-China will probably visit Calcutta early in February.

The Gwalior-Subalgarh Section, comprising Sikroda, Kailaras, and Subalgarh stations, has been opened for through booking of goods and coaching traffic.

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce has addressed a letter to the Government of India on the proposed amalgamation of the Postal and Telegraph Departments.

Reports from Kabul state that all continues well with the British Mission there. The weather had cleared, though the winter is a severe one in those latitudes.

It is pribable that the Prime Minister of Nepal may visit Calcutta towards the end of the current month.

The Ludhiana extension of the Southern Punjab Railway is making fair progress, although the work has been somewhat retarded by plague, and the demand for agricultural labour. All the bridge-work, rails, sleepers, etc., and most of the points and crossings are in India whilst portions of the signalling machinery are ready for shipment from Home. The total expenditure to date upon the extension is £269,997.

## NOTES BY THE MAIL.

### A RIVAL TO THE SUEZ CANAL.

A rival to the Suez Canal is being seriously considered by shipowners and financiers. Sir Thomas Angier, head of Angier Brothers, the firm of shipowners, says the projected route of the new canal starts at Alexandria and runs parallel to the present canal, emerging a little east of Suez. By this plan use will be made of the lake waters in certain parts. It will cost from a quarter to a fifth of the capital expended on the present canal. The methods of construction have been so enormously improved that probably the new canal would not cost more than £5,000,000 or £6,000,000. The manner in which British cargo vessels, says Sir T. Angier, are treated by the Suez canal authorities, is grossly unfair. The dues paid at present amount to 11s-3d per cent.

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### POSSIBILITIES OF THE INDAN TOBACCO INDUSTRY.

At a meeting of the East India Association on Tuesday, Lord Reay presiding, Mr. Durant Beighton read a paper on the possibilities of the Indian tobacco industry. He said the industry was on a downward grade mainly owing to the want of capital and European supervision. There was no reason why European capital employed under European supervision should not do for India what it had done for Sumatra. The import duty in England pressed hardly on Indian cigars as owing to the thickness of the leaf they were 25 per cent. heavier than others. He proposed that a proportionate rebate be allowed and that the Indian import duty on manufactured tobacco be raised to twenty per cent. advalorem.

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### A WOLF AT LARGE.

A wolf that has been troubling farmers for some time in the wider district of South-West Northumberland is still at large, in spite of many well-organised attempts to capture it. The tale of its victims is already large, and will probably be increased before the marauder is checked. The animal began his work of destruction in the Allendale district, and moved westward through a wild moorland district, where many sheep are kept, leaving the carcases of sheep to mark his progress. Hunts have been carried out almost daily by sportsmen and farmers but to no purpose. A momentary glimpse of the wolf has been got at intervals, but he has always been too far away shot to reach him. Meanwhile, flockmasters are kept in a state of continual suspense, and mothers are guarding their children closely. The wolf kills in the night time, and during the day hides in quarries or plantations, far from human habitation. Here diligent search has been made for him, but it has been found impossible to circumvent him. An Indian hunter staying in the district has examined the animals spoor, and has good hope of being able to follow up the tracks.

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### THE DALAI LAMA AND MONGOLIA.

The Russian "Torgovo-Promyshlennaia Gazeta" (Gazette of Trade and Industry) states that Mongolia is making preparations for a great event, which will be without precedent. The great and sublime Dalai Lama has left Thibet. After receiving the news of his departure, the Grand Priest of Urga immediately informed the whole of Mongolia of that important event, made it known in Pekin, and sent to the Dalai Lama a large deputation, composed of honorary lamas, and also a deputation of Mongol and Chinese officials in the service of the courts of Mongolia and Manchuria. Finally, the Grand Priest himself set out, accompanied by a numerous escort, and in great pomp, taking with him all the paraphernalia necessary to render more solemn the reception. The "cortege" of the sublime Dalai Lama. The Grand Priest's escort left Dalai Lama and comprised, in accordance with ceremonial requirements, more than [illegible] with ceremonial movable yellow [illegible],000 persons and a [illegible] with all its furniture. It [illegible] that the second Lama of [illegible] left for Urga. All the leading [illegible] Mongolian Buddhists will shortly assembled together at Urga. The [illegible] speak also of a congress or all the [illegible] which it is proposed to convoke to decide a very important matter concerning Thibet and Mongolia.

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### THE WAR AND JAPANESE SHIPPING.

The present war between Japan and Russia is certain to have very important results on trade and industry. It will, indeed, open a new chapter in the history of the Far East, if not of the world. "Meantime, we ("Engineering") simply note the effects on Japanese shipping. Two hundred and seventy-five thousand tons is the actual reduction of mercantile carrying capacity resulting from the war. The total tonnage of the Mercantile Marine being 976,000, it appears that it has been reduced by 30 per cent. approximately. On the other hand, it is to be noted that this diminution is only temporary; the permanent diminution arising from ships sunk at Port Arthur, of those sunk by the Russians, and those lost at sea, amounts to 67,730 tons. Against this figure has to be set 140,011 tons of newly-purchased vessels and 4,247 tons of newly-built vessels, so that when the war is over—assuming the present figures for basis—there will be a net increase of 76,528 tons. To this, moreover, falls to be added the ships taken from the Russians, of which, however, no exact records are to be found; but it is certain that the total tonnage far exceeds that of the ships sunk by the enemy and that of the ships lost at sea. Unless something unforeseen happens, the Japanese will have a good margin with which to resume ordinary operations after the war; but we may be sure that there will be great developments, and, therefore, that there will be a considerable demand for ships from this and other countries.

An old Tamil woman, over 65 years of age, died at the General Hospital, Colombo, on Sunday, the first victim in Ceylon of an automobile accident, and an inquest was held over the body by Mr. F. L. Daniel, the City Coroner. The woman was knocked down by a motor car at 7 o'clock in the evening on the 7th of November, and was somewhat badly injured. The car was going fairly slow when the woman halted in the middle of the road, got out of the way and then somehow losing her presence of mind started re-crossing the road. The car was well lit up and perfectly under control, and the accident was unavoidable. The motorists had the woman picked up and taken to hospital, where she was recovering very satisfactorily, when quite another trouble set in and she died. The Coroner's verdict was "death due to natural causes" and Mr. Daniel completely exonerated the motorists from any blame whatever. The death was a sequel but not the result of the car accident.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

## High Court.—Jan. 10.

### CRIMINAL BENCH.

(Before Justices Henderson and Geidt.)

### A MURDER CASE FROM BIRBHOOM.

On the 11th September, one Bonwari Mandal, who resided in the village of Sandi, went for a walk to the house of a man named Ful Chand Sircar of the same village. As Bonwari did not return so late as about 9 or 10 p.m., his brothers Nobin and Pulin became anxious. Pulin went to the house of Ful Chand to enquire about Bonwari. Ful Chand informed him that Bonwari had left the place long ogo with two men Murari and Dina Mondal. Pulin then enquired of Murari and Dina about his brother and was informed that Bonwari had gone home. Pulin returned home but could not find his brother. Thereafter Pulin and Nobin enquired of Bonwari again but could not find him anywhere during the night. At dawn next morning, Nobin went out of his house with the intention of asking the village chowkider to give information at the thanah about the disappearance of his brother. As he was passing a manure pit, he saw some women and children looking at something in the pit. Nobin went close to the pit and saw two feet, belonging to a man, being sliding out of it, the remember of the body being immersed in the manure with which the pit was filled. Nobin immediately returned home and brought Pulin there. Nobin got down into the manure and lifted up the body. They recognised it to be the dead body of Bonwari. There was a cut on the right side of its head and a gash in its throat. There were also scratches on its back and some barks of a plantain tree tied round the neck of the body. Information to this effect was immediatedly lodged at the thanah and an enquiry was held. It appeared that Bonwari had made himself unpopular with the villagers since he saw the face of the son of the Zaminder, a Brahmin, at the time of his sacred thread ceremony and thereby, according to Hindu ideas contracted a relationship, being looked upon as a sort of god father, to his son. Since then, Bonwari had sided with the Zamindars against the villagers and used to extort vegetables and fish from tenants and send them to the Zaminder.

The result was that Mahtab Hari a Sadananda Paul, Murari Hari, Babu Ballor Paul and Bhuballav Koyal as well as other villagers used to threaten Bonwari. About a month before the death of Bonwari, a meeting was held in the house of a villager at which it was decided to teach Bonwari a lesson. Besides these Mahatab, Sadananda, Murori, Bahuballov and Bhuballov seemed to have nourished some grudge against him. It also appeared that these five persons were seen loitering about the scene of the murder just at the time it must have been committed. These five persons were thereafter placed on their trial before the Sub-Divisional officer of Rampur Hat, who committed the case to the court of Sessions. One of them Bhuballov Koyal died while the case was sub-judice. Mohatab Hari and Sadananda Paul were placed on their trial before Mr. A. Goodere, Sessions Judge of Birbhum. The trial was held with the aid of Assessors. The Sessions Judge agreeing with the Assessors found Mahatab Hari and Sadananda Paul guilty of murder under sec. 302 I. P. Code and sentenced each of them to death. Agreeing with the Assessors the Sessions Judge found Murari Hari and Bahubullov not guilty and acquitted them. A reference was made to this court by the Sessions Judge for the confirmation of the death sentence; an appeal was also preferred on behalf of the two accused persons against the order of the Sessions Judge. Both the cases came and the appeal came to be heard together.

Mr. [illegible] White, Deputy Legal Remembrancer, appeared for the crown. Babu Douglas [illegible] for the crown. Babu [illegible] brancer, appeared for the crown. Babu Shamatul Chundra [illegible] Dutt appeared for the defence.

The case is proceeding.

### A RULE ISSUED.

Mr. Jackson with Babu Atulya [illegible] Basu moved on behalf of one Tapsi Ra[illegible] others for a rule calling upon the District Magistrate of Shahabad to shew cause why the conviction and sentence passed by the Sub-divisional officer of Sassaram on the 19th November 1904 and affirmed in appeal by the Sessions Judge of Shahabad should not be set aside. The facts of the case are as follows. On the 20th October 1902 one Gonesh Singh on behalf of Rupnarain Sing proprietor of village Chapra lodged a compaint before the Joint Magistrate of Sassaram that the petitioners and others were erecting a bund in Pyne leading off from the Kao river into the village, that he went up to them to remonstrate, whereupon Balmakund Paundey ordered the petitioners to seize him and he was accordingly seized and beaten with lathies in presence of the Police who were present but did nothing. On receipt of the complaint, the Sub-divisional Officer held a local enquiry and proceedings under section 147 of the Code of Criminal Procedure were drawn up against one Tapsi Singh servant of Bhagapat Pandey and Bal Mukund Pandey as 1st party and Rupnarain Singh, Gonesh Singh, Hitnarain Singh as 2nd party Both parties were called upon to appear before the Sub-divisional officer. and to file written statements of their respective claims as to the right of free usage of the water though the Pyne which flows from the Kad nadi. Rup Narain and others prayed that the said bund might be removed The Sub-Divisional Magistrate after hearing the evidence adduced by the parties passed his order that until either party had established his right to take any other action with the water, it should be allowed to flow naturally in the channel. No order was passed by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate for the removal of the bund erected by the petitioners On the 11th Sept the petitioners were doing needful repairs to the said bund when a body of men consisting of about 85 headed by Rup Narain Singh, Jagadish, Singh and Dhupan Singh attacked the petitioners, some of whom were more or less severely wounded. The petitioner lodged information of the occurrence in the Dehari Thana, which was recorded but no steps were taken to bring the offenders to book. One Lall Behari Singh lodged a counter information that the petitioners were setting up a bundh that they went and protested whereupon they were attacked and severely beaten. On the 17th September 1904 the Sub-Divisional officer held a local enquiry in the petitioners absence The Police investigated the case and sent up the petitioners for trial before Mr. Milue the present Sub-divisional officer of Sassaram on the 25th September 1904. The Sub-divisional officer being on tour, the case was put up before the Sub-Deputy Magistrate who released the petitioners on bail of Rs. 50 each. On returning from his tour on the 1st. of October the Sub-divisional officer cancelled the bail and remanded the petitioners to hajat without taking any evidence on behalf of the prosecution. On the 4th October 1904 the petitioners applied to the Sub-divisional officer to have the notes of any local enquiry made a part of the record. On receipt of the application, the Sub-Divisional officer passed the following order: no note of local enquiry need be made no local enquiry was held. The ground only was seen." On the 7th October the petitioners applied to the District Magistrate of Shahabad for transfer of the case from the file of Mr. Milne to that of any other officer but the application was refused. Thereupon the petitioners were put on their trial on charges under section 147 and 430 of the Indian Penal Code and were eventually convicted of the former charge and the petitioner Tapsi Ray was sentenced to 6 months rigorous imprisonment, the petitioners Jata Kundu., Ram Lall Koiri, Degu Koeri, Manger Koeri, Shahabad Koeri, Padrath Koeri and Tulsi Ahir to three months rigorous imprisonment each and the petitioners Babu Ram Koeri, Chaman Koeri, Sukan Ahir and Jafar Ahir and Jafar Jolha to two months rigorous imprisonment each under section 147 I.P.C. on the 19th November 1904. From the conviction and sentence the petitioners appealed to the Sessions Judge of Sahabad who by his judgment dated the 15th December 1904 dismissed the petitioner's appeal.

Their Lordships after hearing Mr. Jackson issued a rule.

### A POLICE SUB-INSPECTOR CONVICTED.

Malda, Jan. 6.

On Monday the 7th March last the Junior Sub-Inspector of Kaliachak Thana, with a large number of men surrounded the kutchery of Raja Ranjit Singh Bahadoor of Nashipur, at Chainpara, on the allegation that the Raja's men had assaulted several constables in the discharge of their duty. The Raja's officers and men as well as some of his principal tenants were made accused. The kutchery and the officers' quarters were kept surrounded till Wednesday, the 9th idem. For nearly 3 days the unfortunate creatures within were kept in close confinement. Till the evening of Tuesday the 8th of March they could not know why they were thus imprisoned. On Tuesday evening the Sub-Inspector sent a slip to the Superintendent of the Raja, intimating that he as well as all his subordinate officers and men have been made accused under secs. 148, 326, 353 I. P. C. and asked him to give up several of the so-called principal offenders viz, Bishnudas Bannerjee, the Gomasta of the Raja, Anukul Chandra Sirkar, his Mohurer, Shibu Hazari, his Dihidar and Jeyram Gour, a sepoy. The Superintendent of the Raja, to save himself from further trouble, called in the Sub-Inspector and handed over the above named 4 persons to his custody. Bail was refused on the ground that the offence under sec. 326 is a non-bailable one. These unfortunate beings, two of whom sons of gentlemen, were then dragged to the Bathan of Mohesh Das, where they were kept bound during the whole night and till 11 a.m. of the day following, when they were released on bail by order of the Divisional Inspector, who was sent by the District Magistrate to take charge of the case at the request of the Supdt. of the Raja, who managed to inform the Magistrate of the dangerous position in which he had been placed. The Inspector, sent up the Raja's men under secs. 147, 325, 353 I.P.C. Being a veteran Police officer he saw the danger of charging under a non-bailable section where the charge can never be sustained and at his instance the charge under sec. 326 I.P.C. was dropped. The case was tried by the Dist. Magistrate of Burdwan where it was transferred. The prosecution was conducted by Babu Banwari Lal Hati, Public Prosecutor, and the defence by Babu T. P. Bannerjee instructed by Babu [illegible]in Behari Ghose, B.L., pleader of our bar. [illegible] accused were acquitted and the [illegible]ade severe comments on the conduct [illegible] Inspector concerned.

The [illegible] however took little notice [illegible] the Magistrate [illegible]nsure. The Sub-Inspector was degraded for [illegible]ths only from a Sub-Inspector to a Head Constable. Shibu Hazari, on being released on bail, brought a case against the Sub-Inspector and several others on his behalf for (1) wrongfully surrounding his master's kutchery, (2) maliciously refusing bail under sec. 326 I.P.C., and (3) keeping them under wrongful confinement and ill-treating them at the Bathan of Mohesh Das. The hearing of this case was postponed till the disposal of the Burdwan case. After the acquittal of the Raja's men this case was made over to Moulvi Majibar Rahman, Senior Dy. Magistrate, for disposal. The prosecution was conducted by Babu T. D. Bose B.L. and the defence by Babu H. N. Palit, Government pleader, with Babu P. Mazumdar B.L., pleader. Judgment was delivered on 3rd instant and the Sub-Inspector was found guilty under secs. 166 and 342 I.P.C. Not only that, the learned Magistrate has also found that the accused Sub-Inspector or some one on his behalf had tampered with a public record by changing "sec. 326" into "sec. 325" in a First Information Report. However the learned Dy. Magistrate has passed a very lenient sentence, the Sub-Inspector has been fined Rs. 50 (subsequently changed to Rs. 51 at the request of the pleaders for the defence who prayed for an appealable sentence) under sec. 166 I.P.C. No separate sentence has been passed under sec. 342 I. P. C.


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