Amrita Bazar Patrika

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Calcutta Disturbances.

A Gruesome Tale.

CONDUCT OF THE MILITARY.

INNOCENT MEN KILLED

A GIRL WOUNDED

Latest Enquiries into the Tragedy

STATEMENT OF MR. B. CHAKRAVARTI

We approached Mr B Chakravarti with a request to furnish us with a statement "apropos" of the incidents of Friday and Saurday last. His statement is set out below:—

FRIDAY, THE 11TH APRIL.

At about 12 noon on Friday last the 11th April while I was in the High Court I heard for the first time that most of the shops in Barabazar and oher northern parts of the town had been closed and that others were closing up at the news of Mr Gandhi's arrest and that the Stock Exchange had also been closed. With a view to satisfy myself that everything was proceeding peacefully I sent out my friend Mr S N Haldar a fellow member of the Bar who accompanied by Mr Provat Sen and Surendra Nath Sen went in a ticca gharry round the Northern part of the Town. They came back and reported that all was quiet and peaceful, the shops had been closed and that they received no complaints of any kind from any quarter. About 2 o'clock some friends from outside saw me in the Bar Library with a view to hold a public meeting the same afternoon at the Beadon Square at which the message of Mr. Gandhi would be explained and the people would be exhorted to conduct themselves absolutely in accordance with the terms of that message. A meeting was accordingly arranged to be held at 5.45 p. m. It was also suggested that I should go round the different parts and see for myself how things were going on. Shortly after 2 o'clock I started from the High Court in a Taxi Cab with my friend Mr. Moudad Rahman a fellow member of the Bar and some other friends. We went along Chitpore Road from Lal Bazar. At the Nakhoda Mosque in Chitpore road we were requested to get down and attended a meeting which we were told was being held within the mosque Both Mr. Moudad Rahman and myself attended the meeting accompanied by the friends who went with us. At the meeting I was asked to speak and I spoke and exhorted the audience to keep their promise not to disturb peace and order and rather submit to abuse violence and insult and suffering and never to use anything of that nature themselves. From the Nakhoda Mosque we went all round Barrabazar and found everything quiet and the police in no way interfering with the people who were out. We came back to the Bar Library by about 4.30 p. m. At about quarter to six I started with a few friends from Clive Street and went straight to the Beadon Square where the public meeting was to be held. At the Beadon Square we found a very large gathering. We had to arrange an overflow meeting. Throughout the meeting I found the people in every good temper and humour and no one present at the meeting had the slightest apprehension about any disorder or disturbance. Every body was highly pleased with the conduct of the police. The nice police arrangements were really the talk of the town. All the speakers at the meeting—the Hindus and the Mahomedans—exhorted the people to be peaceful, lawabiding and self controlled. After the meeting, I returned home with a few friends Via, Beadon Street, Cornwallis Street, College Street, Wellington Street, Wellesley Street and Camac Street. Through out the streets I noticed the orderly conduct of he public and excellent relations between them and the member of the Police Force. At one or two places we were respectfully requested to get down from my car leaving it to me and my friends whether I should do so or not. Those who approached us were requested not to use any force in this connection. They were all Bengali Bhadroloks.

SATURDAY, THE 12TH APRIL.

In the morning and up to about 11 a. m. I had several reports to say that everything was going on well. Then about 11-40 a. m. a gentleman called on me with a letter from Mr. Clarke, the Commissioner of Police, in which I was requested to see His Excellency the Governor at Government House. As I was getting ready to start for the Government House, I received two telephonic communications from the northern part of the town informing me that European Sergeants armed with firearms with posse of constables had arrived in several parts of Harrison Road and friction between the Police and the people was very likely. I at once phoned to some friends in the Northern part of the town to be on the spot immediately and do everything in their power to prevent any collision. I also phoned to my friend Mr. H D Bose at the Bar Library to the same effect and he with one or two friends arrived at Harrison Road, as he informed me, by 1 O'clock. Mr. S N Haldar and Mr. B K Lahiri accompanied me to Harrison Road in my motor car and we arrived there shortly after 1 p. m. At the junction of Chitpore and Harrison Roads I saw one or two Europeans armed with revolvers in the middle of the crossing and a number of policemen in khaki bearing rifles. We got down from the car near the crossing and we met our friends who had already arrived there as also Mr. J C Galstaun. I addressed the people to be orderly and peaceful. They complained of the treatment received by them since the arrival of the armed police and they stated that a crowd was fired upon at the junction of the Strand and Harrison Roads, that one constable had been seriously wounded by a shot from a Sergeant. They also complained that several people had been arrested by the Police and taken away for no fault of their own. Then we walked up to the junction of Strand Road and Harrison Road when we saw the wounded constable mentioned above being carried to the Hospital by the Marwari volunteers. We noticed the crowd was somewhat excited there on account of the injury caused to the constable. It was stated that the constable was shot by one of the Sergeants, thereupon the crowd got excited and beyond control for the time being, attacked one of the Sergeants, and set fire to one of the taxi cabs. Throughout our walk over Harrison Road from Chitpore Road corner to Strand Road corner we never saw any pelting or showering of missiles. It is not a fact that bricks, stones or bottles were being showered from any house at the corner of Strand Road and Harrison Road so long as we were there. Then we turned back and motored again to Chitpore Road corner asking the crowd to restrain itself and get away from the neighbourhood of the disturbance.

I then motored to the Government House and interviewed His Excellency about 2 p. m. His Excellency told me that he had kept back the Police but on the complaints made by some Indian gentlemen about the inconvenience caused to the members of the public travelling in tram cars and gharries His Excellency was obliged to resort to force. His Excellency also informed that two police men had been injured earlier in the day and consequently His Excellency had directed that measures should be taken and force used where necessary. Thereupon I narrated to His Excellency my experience of that day and the day previous. I pointed out the peaceful celebration on the previous Sunday and the absence of all friction the day before and drew His Excellency's attention to the fact that the satisfactory result was principally due to the policy of police non-interference directed by His Excellency. I further submitted that if the European armed Police were removed, the maintenance of order would not be difficult specially when the "Hartal" was being brought to an end at a meeting to be held that after noon in Beadon Square consequent upon the release of Mr. Gandhi. I offered to undertake the maintenance of order if the European armed police were either with drawn or kept at a place not within the view of the public but available at a moment's notice. His Excellency thereupon pointed out the humours of the crowd and did not see his way to accede to my request. I further begged His Excellency either to accompany me or to go by himself in order to get a correct appreciation of the situation. But His Excellency did not approve of it. The interview ended with a request from His Excellency that I should do the best I could to keep peace and order and I promised I would do so.

In the meantime as I learnt later the military had been called out and the crowd had been fired upon resulting in several regrettable casualties. I received intimation of this shortly after 4 p. m. and at once started for Harrison Road with a view to prevent further bloodshed and loss of life if possible. I was accompanied by Messrs H. D. Bose, Hirendra Nath Datta, S. P. Rai, S N Haldar B K Lahiri Nalini Nath Sett. After we had proceeded for some distance along Chitpore Road we found that the Road was lined across by a number of English soldiers rifle in hand so as to prevent through passage and a number of other soldiers were standing in groups near the line all rifle in hand. The car had to be stopped and it was immediately surrounded by a group of people—some of whom were rather in an excited mood and they pointed out to the dead body of a Bengalee lying on the east foot path and shot through. Some one in the crowd handed up to Mr. B K Lahiri, who was in the car, a letter which was found in the pocket of the particular gentleman showing that the gentleman shot down was a mere passer-by. While this was going on, some people brought up on a bamboo stretcher improvised for the occasion the body of a Marwari gentleman with his head hanging down and the body besmeared with blood. The man appeared to have received several wounds and was on the point of death. He was being carried to the Hospital. Some of the people who had assembled round us complained to me that although no provocation had been given by the crowd, yet about 8 people had been shot down and the military instead of shooting them in the leg, had lodged their bullets on the upper part of the body: they also complained that whereas most of themselves did not carry even walking sticks, the soldiers fully armed should have shot them down. I and my friends asked the people to be patient and to remember Mr Gandhi's instruction which was to submit cheerfully and not to retaliate. We then got down from the car and approached the cordon of soldiers. We found that about 200 yards in front of that cordon a crowd had assembled consisting of about 2000 people who were not in any way disorderly but they were shouting out from time to time "Mahatma Gandhi ki Jai" 'Hindu Musalman Ki Jai' I and my friends then approached the officer in charge of the soldiers who told me that we should not attempt to go through the crowd as we might be assaulted I said that the crowd consisted of my own country men and it was not likely that they would misbehave and that any event we would take the risk. Being asked why the soldiers had fired, the reply was that some brickbats had been thrown at the soldiers by the crowd and thereupon they had fired. I said that no one among the soldiers appeared to have been hurt in any way and there seemed to have been no justification for firing. We then went ahead through the cordon. While we had advanced about 30 yards we were told to get back or be shot as there would be firing in two minutes or so. We protested against this and pointed out that the crowd was well behaved and we should be able to take them with us to the Beadon Square if we were given the opportunity to explain the position to the crowd which the soldiers were not able to do on account of their ignorance of the vernacular and their inability to make themselves understand by the people. We were thereupon allowed by the officer in charge to approach the people in front of them. The crowd was not at all troublesome and not even in an angry mood. They only said that if soldiers were to fire at them without provocation what was their remedy. We reminded them of Mahatma Gandhi's exhortation that they should suffer and not retaliate and asked them to come with us to the meeting which was to be held in the Beadon Square The crowd followed us in a quiet and orderly fashion, shouting as before "Mahatma Gandhi Ki Ji" Hindu Musalman Ki Jai" and so on. At the Beadon Square a large number of people had already assembled (about 25000 people). The meeting was a very orderly one and the speakers throughout exhorted the people to proceed peacefully The "hartal" was put an end to and the people were requested to return to their usual avocations.

SATURDAY'S DEMONSTRATION

From early in the morning of Saturday the public of Calcutta showed the unmistakable sign that they would observe the day as a mark of sorrow and protest against Mahatma Gandhi's arrest. No shops were opened and consequently there was no business done in the busy quarters of Harrison Road, Colootala, Chitpore or Mechua Bazar. From early morning Marwari volunteers were posted at various places of Barabazar, Sinduria Patty, Mechuabazar, and Chitpore to maintain peace and tranquility of the town. Passengers who were going by tram cars along Harrison Road and Chitpore Road were most politely requested to alight from the cars and forego the luxury of a drive and with them joined the street urchins who boarded the foot boards of the tram cars and asked the passengers with vociferous shouts of "Bande Mataram" and "Mahatma Gandhi ji Ki Jai" to get down from the cars. This amused the passengers and they smilingly got down from the car. By 7.30 or 8 o'clock in the morning all cars stopped plying along Harrison Road and Chitpore Road. There was absolutely no trouble in any part of the town and our representative walked along the Harrison Road without encountering any disturbance any where. But there was a visible sign of grief and sorrow in every face and people every now and then crying "Hai Hai" and the boys shouting "Mahatma Gandhi ji Ki Jai."

PROCESSIONS.

A procession composed of Hindus, Mussalmans, Marwaris etc started from Harrison Road at about 7 a.m. and proceeded along Harrison Road to the Ganges via Canning Street singing national songs. The processions swelled as they proceeded to the Ganges. They arrived at the ghat at about 9 a.m. the people taking their bath in the holy waters. On their way back they came singing national songs amidst shouts of "Bande Mataram" and "Hindu Mussalman Ki Jai" along Clive Street, Harrison Road Cross Street and Cotton Street and ultimately dispersed at the Indian Home Rule League office at about 11 a.m. At this time about 60 volunteers were despatched to the various quarters of the town at Bow Bazar, Harrison Road, Strand Road and Chitpore Road to see that the crowd did not get anywhere out of hand. But as a matter of fact there was no cause of apprehension on that score. The crowd began to disperse at their request. It should be stated here that volunteers worked strenuously from dFriday night. A party of them patrolled the streets all through night from 12 to 5 a. m. and maintained peace and order in the city

BOW BAZAR.

When the procession was dispersing a man ran to the place post haste and told the people that 4 men had been arrested at Bow Bazar and one killed by the police. None knew who the man was, but the feeling ran high at that time and a huge crowd consisting of 2000 men proceeded to Bow Bazar to see what the matter was. They proceeded along the Chitpore Road calmly and when they arrived at Lal Bazar the police opposed them and arrested 10 or 12 from the crowd. One of them was a Mussalman, two were Marwaris and five Bhatias. So far as is known there was no disturbance and absolutely no justification for their arrest. Their only fault was, as far as it has been ascertained, they cried 'Bande Mataram' and 'Mahatma Gandhiji Ki Jai." As this news of arrest reached Harrison Road, Babu Padam Raj Jain telephoned the matter to Mr B Chakravarty.

POLICE AT HARRISON ROAD.

About this time two motor cars with armed police arrived at the Junction of Harrison Road and Chitpore Road. There were 4 Police with 'Lal Pagri' and Khaki uniform and two Sergeants in every car. The Sergeants were armed with revolvers and the police with regulation lathis. Every one was surprised at their sudden appearance after two days' demonstrations were over and especially when there was no earthly cause for it. Some excitement was marked in the crowd. The motor cars began to patrol along the area and after a parade of some time one car went to the Howrah Bridge and another in the direction of Upper Chitpore Road. As the car was proceeding the volunteers cleared the way for its safe passage, but suddenly it changed its course and knocked down a boy who was standing near by. The boy fell unconscious on the ground. People ran to him apprehending that he was dead. The volunteers ran to the spot, took charge of the body and pacified the crowd by saying that the boy had only fainted away. The boy, however soon regained his consciousness.

MORE POLICE ON THE SPOT.

Shortly after another posse of Police numbering about fifteen with rifles headed by a Sergeant came to the spot at the Junction of Harrison Road and Chitpore Road. The crowd again became excited at the sight of the police. Babu Padam Raj Jain and other volunteers began to pacify the mob. Ther came two other cars with 12 European soldiers. There was an Indian officer with them. The motor cars were stopped at the crossing of the Harrison Road and Chitpore. This time the huge crowd who assembled there became very much excited. Each time the police arrived on the spot they were greeted with vociferous cheers of "Mohatma Gandhiji Ki Jai" and Bande Mataram. Babu Madho Prasad Sukul went to an Indian officer of the police and told him that the sight of the armed police were causing excitement. He said further that there was no trouble on Friday and Saturday as there was no interference of the police in their peaceful demonstration. He asked the officer to kindly take away the police from the spot otherwise it would be difficult to keep this crowd under control. But the officer said that they heard there would be a trouble in the town, so they would not take away the police force. The motor car then proceeded towards north along the Chitpore Road. The crowd made way as the car proceeded without creating any trouble

STRAND ROAD.

At about 1 or 1-30 p. m. a large crowd assembled at the Strand Road at the foot of the Howrah Bridge. As motor cars were passing along the Strand, they were stopped and the passengers were requested to get down and walk on foot. One motor car with two Europeans came from the direction of the Howrat Station. The crowd shouted out to stop the car. The driver did not mind them. Thereupon the car was forcibly stopped The Europeans came out of the car, took stones and pelted at the mob. The mob retaliated with like missiles. One of the Europeans escaped to the Howrah Station and the other took refuge under the Building of Messrs Joseph and Co. At this a sergeant who was posted there asked a constable to disperse the mob. The constable tried to persuade the mob to go away but did not succeed. He went to he sergeant and told him that he (the constable) was unable to disperse the crowd, but he would not beat them back; at this the sergeant drew his revolver and fired at the constable. The man was wounded at the back and fell unconscious on the ground. Some among the crowd fell upon the sergeant and began to belabour him. But the sergeant managed to make goo his escape. The infuriated crowd turned the petrol tank over the car and then burnt it to ashes. The people then placed the unconscious constable on a bench and carried him in a procession amidst shouts of "Desha Bhaktaki Jai" "Mahatma Gandhi Ji ki Jai," along the Harrison Road. The people surrounded the wounded constable in order to have a peep at him. Some were seen crying "Hai Hai". When the mob carried him to the Junction of Chitpore Road they found Mr. B Chacrabarty who had already come there. They showed him the wounded man and narrated how the poor man was shot by the sergeant. Mr. Chakrabarty took the 'chapras' of the constable and said that he would report the matter to the Governor. It was found that the number of the constable was 14. The mob then took him to the Marawari Hospital. The wound was found to be four and half inches deep. After he was kept there for two hours he was taken to the Medical College Hospital.

At the sight of the wounded constable and when the sad story of his wound got abroad the mob became quite excited. Babu Iswari Prasad was asked by an officer of the army to disperse the mob whereupon the former took some volunteers with him and began to disperse the crowd towards the Howrah Bridge. The crowd obeyed them and for some time the mob left the main road and stood on the footpath. When Babu Iswari Prasad came near the Howrah Bridge he found the mob very much excited. They exclaimed that one of them had been brutally wounded. They must avenge his blood. Either they would kill the sergeant or they would be killed Pandit Iswari Prasad and the volunteers tried their utmost to pacify the mob. Pundit Madho Prasad Garudia gave a short lecture and told the crowd that any act of violence on their part would pain Mahatma Gandhi for whom they were making this demonstration He explained to them the Satyagraha principle of Mahatma Gandhi and exhorted them to maintain absolute self restraint. The mob seemed to be pacified to some extent.

A SERGEANT'S CONDUCT.

At this time a fresh party of about fifteen Indian force with three sergeants and Mr. Wilson the Deputy Commissioner of Police were seen coming to the spot from the direction of the High Court The party stopped near the burnt motor car. By this time the crowd began to disperse. The officer in charge of the party called Babu Saraju Prasad Singh, member of the Executive Committee of the India Home Rule League and addressed him thus:—"I give you two minutes' time to disperse the crowd if you fail, I will open fire. Babu Saraju and some other volunteers formed a cordon by joining hands and began to press back the crowd steadily. The sergeant was not satisfied. He came before the crowd and began to push them back Babu Saraju Prasad intervened and said to the Sergeant "please do not get the crowd more excited by pushing them in such a way. I am dispersing them peacefully." At this the Sergeant flew into a rage and addressed him again: "disperse the mob in two minutes or I will fire upon them." Babu Saraju Prasad said, "you are again and again threatening us by saying that you will fire upon the crowd, but this is only exciting them all the more. Again, if you open fire, 200 or 300 people may be killed but this will not restore peace. There will be more excitement. You will create that very mischief which you are trying to prevent." Thereupon the officer went away. At this time Mr. B Chakrabarty came to that place. Babu Suroj Prasad told him about the matter and said that it would be absolutely impossible for him to maintain peace if the police did not leave the place: Mr. Chakrabarty heard every thing and then came back to the Junction of Chitpore Road. He told the people that he was going to see the Governor about the matter and left the place. This happened at about 3 p. m.

BAPTISM IN FIRE.

At about 3-30 p. m. a force of some 20 European soldiers came to the Junction of the Harrison Road and Chitpore, a motor car closely following them. Then arrived a Company of 20 or 25 European infantry. As the number of police and Soldiers began to increase, the mob became most excited. They surrounded the machine gun and shouted 'Mahatma Gandhi ji the Jai." The volunteers were unable to disperse the mob. At last the captain asked the volunteers to leave the place. But still there was absolute peace among the crowd. Suddenly the Soldiers levelled their rifles at the mob in the direction of Lower Chitpore. The volunteers came between the crowd and the soldiers and formed a cordon by joining their hands together. They pressed the crowd back and took them to Chorabagan. The crowd was asked to maintain peace and to go to Beadon Square and attend the meeting which was going to be held there.

Suddenly the machine gun was removed from the Junction along the Harrison Road and placed near the house of Rai Badri Das Bahadur facing the Howrah Bridge. The mob was pressed back towards the Howrah Bridge; but from the Howrah Bridge again they were pressed back towards Harrison Road The Soldiers picketted a portion of the Junction of Chitpore Road and Harrison Road and no one was allowed to pass by that way. The people who were crowded between the Howrah Bridge and the Chitpore Road Junction could not find any way out. Suddenly a volley was discharged at the upper storey of the house of Protap Narayan De. Another fusillade followed and a girl in the upper story was wounded. It is impossible to find out any reason for this wanton outrage. Some one suggested that stones were pelted at the Soldiers from the crowd and the Soldiers thought that the showers came from the building. Then followed a horrible scene. Murderous fires were opened and volleys after volleys discharged. When the smoke disappeared it was found that 7 men lay weltering in a pool of blood. They were stone dead. 13 men were wounded and some of them were lying unconscious. It is not possible to estimate the number of the wounded. Because some people had taken shelter in their house with bayonet wounds and dared not come out of ill-treatment. Thus a helpless and unarmed crowd were dispersed by volleys of machine gun fire, who might have been scared away by police batons or better to be cantrolled by their leaders.

Our representative at about 5 a. m. was coming from the High Court along the strand He saw a cavalry of European soldiers marching to the Howrah Bridge. At the foot of the Howrah Bridge a machine gun was placed facing towards the Harrison Road. A strong horse of European and Indian Soldiers were guarding the place. Motor cars with armed soldiers were patrolling the Harrison Road, and at places there were posted armed soldiers. Another machine gun was posted at the Junction of Harrison Road and Chitpore Road. The whole locality was perfectly quiet. The tram cars were plying as usual and the soldiers were regailing themselves with soda water and lemonade after the day's work.

Again at 9-30 p. m. our representative went to the Howrah Bridge by tram car. The police and the military were in evidence everywhere. He asked a fellow passenger who happened to be an officer of the Calcutta Police, about the number of dead. He said that 6 people were killed all told. He was asked whether the statement that a sergeant shot a constable was true. The officer said he could not tell him every thing and smiled and went about his way.

SUNDAY'S ACCOUNT.

In the morning our representative took a stroll in the Harrison Road, Strand, Nimtolla Beadon Street, Chitpore Road, Bow Bazar Sealdah but found every thing calm and quiet. But soldiers were posted in important crossings. All business in the Harrison Road was stopped.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

MARWARI HINDU HOSPITAL.

Babu Sourendra Mohon Mukherjee of Kalighat died of his wound. The poor man came to Barabazar from his office at 4, Clive Street to buy some fruits. He bought the fruits and was returning home. He some how got mixed with the crowd. While the machine gun was taking its toll of human lives he was hit by a ball on his face. He was taken to the Marwari Hospital. The poor man succumbed to his wounds this afternoon at about 1 p. m. His father in law is a translator in the High Court. His belongings with the fruits in hand when the son-in-law had bought last evening by the death bed drew tears from all.

It was with difficulty that permission was obtained to take the dead body of Sourendra mohan in a procession to the burning ghat. The news spread like wild fire. People began to assembled in front of the hospital with flowers in hand to give their last offerings to the dead. But to the utter surprise of all the dead body was taken by the back door and afterwards it was stated that the dead body must be taken to the morgue for the coroner's inquest, and then it might be taken in a procession to the burning ghat. As this was a Sunday there could not be any inquest and the people had to come back disappointed.

Altogether 9 cases came in the Marwari Hospital. Two of the persons were already dead. A boy named Haridhan Mutraj was a servant of Surendra Nath Chattapadhaya. The poor boy was going to Babu Dhirendra Nath Mukherjee of Messrs James Finley and Co with a letter of invitation from his master. He was hit by a bullet and died on the spot. The other dead who came to the Hospital was a Bengali boy. He got a bullet wound in the abdomen. 2 men were discharged with their wounds bandaged. There are still two cases in the Hospital. One of them is a Mussalman. A pellet has been extracted from his wound.

NIMTOLA GHAT.

Two dead bodies were burned down on Saturday night in the burning ghat and on Sunday 4 bodies were burnt.

MAYO HOSPITAL.

The under mentioned patients were given first aid at the Bishudhananda Saraswaty Hospital, Cotton Street and then had been sent to the Mayo Hospital for treatment.

(1) Puranmall aged 30—Male Marwari—Hostmall Lachmichand of 47 Khagaripatti liver perforated and Right arm perforated and smashed.

(2) Brijlal, aged 30, of 125 Cotton Street Rt abdomen perforated. The man died.

(3) Dukhra Ahir aged 25 of Jogannath Ghat Bhojoo Gola—Rt. thigh perforated.

(4) Purasottom aged 28 of Jagannath Ghat Thakur Prosad House, Left Buttock perforated.

(5) Shekaran Bryes, aged 22 of 37, Armanian Street Rt. arm smashed Biceps.

(6) Malliram Brahmin aged 30, of Dacca patti 1 Goemka lane.

7. Kunja Behari aged 30, Kahar, by caste of 4 Haspokheria. He was not sent to Hospital. He has got bayonet wound in the Buttock.

LORD RONALDSHAY'S SPEECH TO THE MARWARI COMMUNITY.

At the invitation of His Excellency about twenty representatives of the Marwari and Bhatia Communities waited upon him at Government House on Sunday evening.

His Excellency addressed them as follows:—

Gentlemen,—I have asked you to come here this evening, because I wish to place before you certain considerations arising out of the present situation. The present situation is one of considerable gravity. Under these circumstances you will agree with me, I am sure, that the time for exchanging complimentary phrases is passed and that the time for perfectly plain speaking has arrived. Let me remind you for a moment of the position which the Marwari community occupy in Calcutta. The Marwari community though they do not belong to Bengal have lived in Bengal and traded in Bengal for many years. They have taken full advantage of the benefits which they have derived from well ordered Government. They have traded in peace and generally speaking, I think, we may say that they have been law abiding citizens and successful merchants. That being so, it is with profound regret that I have learnt that the action of a considerable section of the Marwari community during the past few days has been such as to cast little credit upon themselves or their community. Indeed it is not too much to say that the action of a certain section of the Marwari community has been largely responsible for the unfortunate disorders which have disgraced Calcutta during the past two days. Now I understand that many members of your community are advocates of a policy which has been propounded by Mr. Gandhi and which is euphemistically described as a policy of "passive resistance". What passive resistance becomes in practice we unfortunately already know only too well. We have had lamentable examples of the results of the preaching of this doctrine not only in Calcutta but in other parts of India. Let me say at once that neither I nor my Government have the smallest desire to interfere with the liberty of speech of any section of His Majesty's subjects, so long only as the liberty of speech is not so abused as to conduce to breaches of the peace. In proof of which let me remind you of the attitude which Government have adopted towards those who have wished to give expressions to their feelings in Calcutta during the past few days. No difficulty of any kind was placed in the way of holding the meeting on Sunday last. I was determined that the Government should take no action which could be regarded as in any way provocative and I have been told on all sides that the attitude of the police towards these demonstrations has been all that possibly could have been desired. Neither on Sunday last nor on subsequent days did the Police take action until at last yesterday unfortunately they were absolutely compelled to do so. I want to make that perfectly clear that no body can charge the Bengal Government during these past few days with having done anything to provoke the unfortunate disturbances which have taken place. Now I want to ask you this question I am not addressing you individually—I am addressing through you the Marwari community as a whole and the Bhatia community and the other communities which you may represent. Suppose you continue to promulgate the doctrine of passive resistance. Have you ever paused to ask yourselves where that doctrine is going to lead you? What is meant by the doctrine? What is meant by it? this— that if an individual or a number of individuals take exception to a certain statute or statutes upon the statute book he or they are not thereby justified in violating any other of the laws of the land which they may select arbitrarily for that purpose. That is the policy which is propounded by Mr. Gandhi. Have you ever paused to consider what that is going to result in when it is adopted by the fanatical and the uneducated masses of the people? It can result in one thing, and in one thing only—it can result in anarchy, pure and simple, in the paralysis of all business, in the negation of law and order, in the cessation of all progress and indeed, in the collapse of civil society itself. Well, now I would ask you seriously if you agree with me in that—is it wise, not from the point of view of Government itself, but from the point of view of the community—is it wise to create that spirit amongst the masses of the people? It is very easy for an educated man to say—I will resist the law passively, I will merely refuse to obey it, but that is not the attitude which the uneducated and the fanatical masses are going to adopt if once you instill into their minds the belief that they are right and justified in violating the laws of the land. You are going to raise a spirit of anarchy which will spread far beyond any body's control; and let me remind you of this—when that spirit has thoroughly permeated the masses of the people—who are the first who are going to suffer from it? The very first people who will suffer from it are the educated—the people who have amassed wealth; they are the people who are going to be first to suffer if once you inculcate this spirit of lawlessness in the people. I do not wish to pursue that aspect of the question further. I do not know whether you are impressed with the danger of the present situation to the extent that I am. All I can tell you is that after a very careful consideration of the events not in Calcutta only, but events of a far graver character in other parts of India, I have had the grave nature of the present situation brought home to me, and I am determined that so far as lies in my power and in the power of my Government, I am going to protect the vast body of law abiding citizens from disorders of this kind. And let me utter this solemn warning—if I find that there are individuals amongst the Marwari community or amongst any other community who are bent upon instigating others to disturbances of this kind, I shall bring to my assistance in dealing with them all the powers which the laws of the land provide. It must be perfectly plain to any thinking man that if there be such persons in any community, it is in the best interests of that community itself and of the great mass of the people themselves, that they should be removed from this city whose peace and whose progress they desire to destroy. Now having placed before you the danger of the present situation as I see it, and having explained to you my view of what the duty of Government is under these circumstances, I am going to extend to you—to every one of you—a most cordial invitation to operate with Government and to array yourselves on the side of law and order and I am going to invite you as cordially as I can to use all the influence which you individually possess with the other members of your respective communities to bring home to them the great danger which they are running of playing with fire in this manner, and to use your persuasive powers to make them see that in their own interests and in the interests of the peace, progress and the prosperity of this country, they should take no action which has a tendency further to inflame public feeling especially amongst the uneducated masses—feeling already in a sufficiently excited state. If you agree with me, as I feel certain upon reflection that you will, that now is the time when all those who have the best interests of their country at heart must come forward and show that they are on the side of law and order, then I feel convinced that these unfortunate disturbances—this spirit of grave unrest based largely—if not entirely—upon misrepresentations and upon the preaching of false doctrines will die down; and we may then look forward once more—to Indian and European, Hindu and Muhammadan, Marwari and Bhatia—advancing together, not in a spirit of continual antagonism one with the other, but in a spirit of co operation in the best interests of all classes of the community.

Bengal Provincial Conference 1919.

MYMENSING.

Conference meets on 19th at 1 p. m.

Spacious and comfortable houses have been secured in healthy quarters near the pandal for accommodation of delegates. Health of the town excellent.

There are three routes from Calcutta to Mymensingh, shortest and cheapest being via Serajganj.Jaganathganj.

Train starts from Sealdah at 21-30 p.m. Reaches Serajganj at 5.6 a.m. (next day).

Then by steamer to Jagannathganj and by rail to Mymensingh at 12.45.

Fare 1st class 27.1.6. 2nd class 13.9.0. Inter class 6-13. 3rd class. 4.8.9.

(2) Via Teestamukhghat:

Darjeeling mail starts from Sealdah at 16.42 p. m. reaches Santahar at 21.46, then by rail to Teestaghat at 3.49. Then by steamer to Bahadurabad at 5.57 and thence by rail to Mymensingh at 10.20 a.m.

Fare 1st class 30.5. 2nd class 15.2.9. Inter class 7.9.9 3rd class 5.1.3.

(3) Via Narainganj Goalunda:

Dacca mail starts from Sealdah at 21.30 p. m. reaches Goalunda at 4.58. Then by steamer to Narainganj at 13.5 a.m. by train to Mymensingh at 18.51.

Fare 1st class 30.14.6. 2nd class 17.2.6. Inter class 8.9. 3rd class 5.3.6.

Delegates from Maldah, Rangpore, Dinajpore Rajshahee, Bogra will have to avail of 2nd route via Teestamukhghat.

N. B. Delegates are requested to provide themselves with beddings and mosquito curtains, latter indispensibly necessary.

Manomohon Neogi
Secretary Reception Committee
Satyendra Mohon Choudhury
Joint Secretary.

PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE AT MYMENSING.
ELECTION OF DELEGATES.

Malda, April 12.

The Malda Association elects Babus Bipin Behari Ghosh, Krishna Charan Sircar Krisnasasi Goswami, Kaliranjan Lahiri, Jnanadaprasanna Lahiri, Kali Prasanna Saha Gangaram Kundu Ram Ranjan Lahiri and Moulvi M Ishahaq Choudhury as delegates to the Provincial Conference at Mymensingh.

Calcutta Disturbances

MEETING AT BEADON SQUARE.
INDIGNATION AT POLICE HIGH HANDEDNESS.
HARTAL AT AN END.

An overflowing crowded mass meeting was held on Saturday afternoon in Beadon Square which was largely attended by up-country Mussalmans and Hindus including Marwaris, Jains and Sikhs. There were over twenty.five thousand people present.

Mr. B. Chakravarti who was voted to the chair said that they met there to consider what action they were to follow in view of the present situation. That was an evil day for all of them. Every one of them was aware that several innocent persons were killed and wounded by the military. In these circumstances it was their duty to point out the course they were to follow. It was impossible to consider these questions at a large meeting like this. A Conference of leading Musalmans, Marwaris and Bengalees would be held shortly where these matters would be considered. They had all heard that Mr. Gandhi had been released. So the object for which this Hartal had been declared was gained and now there was no longer any necessity to continue Hartal. He asked the audience to resume their usual business from to.morrow—to open their shops and places of business. They all knew from the beginning that there would be trouble. And now that trouble had come. They should remember the noble message of Mahatma Gandhi. There should never be a feeling of resentment or retaliation. They should suffer manfully and in the end victory would be this.

Mr S P Roy said that he had seen the military firing at innocent and inoffensive people. But remembering the noble message of Mahatma Gandhi they ought not to meddle with the authorities but to bear manfully all trouble and suffer ungrudging ly. The authorities said that if there was any unlawful act they would call out armed police and the military. So far he was aware no unlawful acts had been done by the Satyagrahis yet the military had been called with the result that some innocent persons had been killed and wounded. These Tommies did not understand the language or feeling of the people. When they heard people shouting Gandhi Maharaj Ki jai they thought it was a signal for attack and they fired at the people who were quite innocent. Remember what Mr. Gandhi had said. Let them attack the people with bayonets and revolvers but the people would attack the authorities with a better weapon, namely the grief of their heart and thereby hurt their soul. The suffering of the soul was incurable. He referred to Hindu-Mahomedan unity and said it was a great asset in the national regeneration.

Babu Hirendra Nath Dutt said that Mahatma Gandhi had been released and this was the first result of the Satyagraha vow. They apprehended that Mr. Gandhi would be imprisoned and that was why they had closed their shops. Their object had now been gained and there was no longer and need for closing shops. If such a necessity would arise again they would follow the same course. But they must act in a way in conformity with the advice of Mahatma Gandhi. Beware of the evil men who would advice them to attack the police. There should not be any feeling of retaliation among them. God would certainly punish those who oppressed the innocent. He asked them to bear all sufferings calmly and God's anger would be visible which would destroy all terrorists and oppressors. The Rowlatt Act would be repealed and their country would again come back to them.

Babu Amritalal Bose said he had no intention to address the meeting but he had come there to show his sympathy with the movement which had roused his countrymen in all parts of India.

Maulvi Najimuddin Kashmiri in eloquent Urdu addressed the meeting. Referring to the unity between Hindus and Mahomedans he said this unity was not for Mahatma Gandhi but it was God's will. This unity was the result of unity of heart. He asked the people not to save what the authorities would advise them in order to create disunion between the two great nations inhabiting this country. In future they would not resort to British courts of law and thus avoid trouble harassment and unnecessary expense. They would settle their disputes by arbitration. As he had said before this unity among them was the will of God and it was their duty, nay sacred duty, to keep it firm and intact and thereby obey the command of the Almighty. He reminded the audience this country belonged to them, the Hindus and the Mahomedans, and another nation had come from a foreign country to rule over them. It was thus the interest of the rulers to keep the people disunited. But if, inspite of the wishes of the rulers, they remained united they need not be afraid of any Government. He next said that it was a great pity that in a city like Calcutta so many innocent people had been wantonly killed and wounded. But, he asked was there no remedy to this? Something must be soon done for the protection of the innocent people. He asked the audience to keep their shops closed for another day in order that they might be able to attend in large number the burial or cremation of the myrters.

A HEART RENDING SCENE.

Here followed a heart-rending scene which moved the vast audience visibly. A young up-country Hindu youth rushed towards the chairman beating his breast and crying "hai, hai". With the permission of the chairman he rose to address the meeting but he was not able to do so. The intensity of his grief choked his voice. Failing in his speech his tears gave vent to his grief and he began only to beat his breast. Everyone was anxious to hear what this respectably dressed young man had to say. At last after a few minutes he said that he and his younger brother were coming along Harrison Road to attend the meeting. While crossing the road his innocent brother was killed wantonly by the murderous shot of an inhuman Tommy. Thus saying his voice failed and he sank down almost unconscious. Overpowered with grief and agony the man sat down for a while and had to be taken home by friends and relatives.

Babu Padamraj Jain and others then addressed the meeting. It was announced that up till then they had received information that seven men had been killed and thirteen wounded.

The meeting then dispersed and according to the advice of the chairman the people went home by lanes and bylanes.

SCENES IN AMRITSAR

EUROPEAN BEATEN TO DEATH.

Lahore, April 11—The following is the account given by to-day's 'Civil and Military Gazette'' regarding the disturbances at Amritsar. So far as we can ascertain excitement was occasioned by the arrest of Dr. Din Kutchlu and Mr. Satya Pal, two agitators against whom notice was recently served under the Defence of India Act. A large mob collected in the city and made for the civil station. The mob proceeded towards railway station where hey attacked a European guard named Robinson, an ex-soldier who was working as leading inspector at the goods yard. Robinson was beaten to death with lathi blows. The station-master and rest of the staff who attempted to check the rioters had to retire. The mob set fire to part of the outward goods shed. Just at that time a troop train happened to the come into station with a Gurkha regiment on board. The Gurkhas were quickly detrained and effectively protected the station buildings against the rioters. The latter proceeded to cut the telegraph wires and made attempts to cut the railway on both the Jullundur and Pathankot lines by burning sleepers and the mail train was delayed for some hours in the civil station. Even more serious damage was done by the mob. The Town Hall Telegraph Office and National Bank buildings were wrecked and in the case of the last named two European officials of the Bank Mr. Stewart the Agent and Mr. Scott, Accountant, were murdered. The Chartered and Alliance Bank buildings were also wrecked and Mr. G N Thomson the Agent of the Alliance Bank was murdered. The mob were eventually driven out of the civil station back into the city by troops from the Fort and police communication betwenty Amritsar and Lahore remained cut from twelve to four and again for a short time from about 6 p. m. The small station of Bagtanwala on the Amritsar Patti line was wrecked by mob. Mr. Kitchin Commissioner and Mr. Donald Deputy Inspector General of Police left Lahore for Amritsar by motor as soon as first news of trouble was received. Additional troops were also sent from Jullundur and Lahore and late in evening news was received that order has been restored.

A message has been received by the Calcutta office of the Chartered Bank front the Delhi manager of the banks stating that the manager of the Amritsar branch and his family and the accountant are safe. The office was wrecked but the safe and cash are intact, as the destruction was not the result of fire. The building is standing. Amritsar is now under military control.

Lahore, April 11

Up to a late hour this evening there was no further outbreak of disorder here. All exists from the city were strictly guarded and unusual quietness reigned in the civil station. No assemblies of any sort were allowed to take place to-day outside the city. So far as could be ascertained one man was killed and about twelve were wounded by the firing during yesterday's disturbance, the wounded being mainly youths of the shopkeeping class, some coolies and two students. Two of the wounded died to-day.

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS BURNT AT AHMEDABAD.

LOSS OF LIFE IN RIOT.

Bombay, April 12—There was a rumour current in Bombay yesterday that some serious disturbance had taekn place in Ahmedabad and that owing to interruption of the line telegraph communication with the town was not possible. A Government Press communique issued late last night states that official information has been received from Ahmedabad that two Government buildings have been burnt in Ahmedabad city. There was a conflict with the police on Friday morning which resulted with slight loss of life. The city is now piquetted and patrolled by police forces and all is quiet.

TWO KILLED AND TWO WOUNDED.

(Associated Press of India.)

Lahore, April 12

Troops marching through the city this morning had fracas with a crowd at Taksali Gate and fired killing two and wounding two. It is reported a Hindu Brahmin pleader addressed the crowd of Hindus and Mahomedans in a mosque, both communities praying together. The latest news says all is now reported quiet at Lahore.

MR. GANDHI'S MESSAGE

HIS EXHORTATIONS TO THE PEOPLE.
DEMAND NO RELEASE FOR THEM WHO HAVE BEEN ARRESTED

Bombay, April 13.

Mr. Gandhi interviewed yesterday said considering all circumstances Satyagraha movement might have to be given a different and still more restricted shape. He once again exhorted public to conduct struggle against Rowlatt Act in true Satyagraha spirit refrain ing from all form and manner of violence or outburst of feeling. He emphatically said those who have been arrested for creating disturbauce deserved no sympathy from public and must be punished for their misdeed as for Satyargahis it was their duty to go to jail. The public can sympathise with them but must not demand release.

DELHI QUIET
SHOPS RE-OPENED

Delhi, April 12.

On receipt of the news from Bombay that Mr. Gandhi is safe and at liberty all shops opened this morning.

BUSINESS RESUMED IN BOMBAY.

Bombay, April 12.

All business has been resumed in the city since this morning, excepting business in the Stock Exchange. Quiet and tranquility prevail everywhere and there is no sign of any disturbance.

Some minor disturbances took place in Surat on Friday, where the mob tried to force the shopkeepers and schools to close.

The "Civil and Military Gazette's" Dalhousie correspondent says that two fine leopards have been killed about a mile from Dunera. Last week a dog was carried off from its owner's vernadah at night in the heart of Balfin Cantonment.

MR GANDHI DISAPPROVES DISTURBANCES

HIS EXPLAINS SATYAGRAHA.

Bombay, April 11.—Mr. Gandhi's return to Bombay became generally known only by 4 p.m. News of his arrival and of a meeting at the Chowpatty Sands at 5 p.m. to be attended by Mr. Gandhi (this cancelling the two mass meetings fixed at 6-30 p.m. at French Brigade and Shantaram Chawl, spread rapidly and by 5 p.m. a huge crowd gathered at the Sands. Four platforms were raised.

Mr. Jamnadas Dwarkadas, in a preliminary address before Mr Gandhi's arrival, pointed out how people in Bombay by their actions that day such as throwing stones at tram-cars and hindering their traffic and coercing other people in petty ways to observe mourning for Mr Gandhi's arrest had caused immense and deep grief to Mr. Gandhi. All such demonstrations were against the principle of Satyagraha. The arrest of Mr. Gandhi was a matter for rejoicing and not one for mourning. Half the battle was won by Mr. Gandhi's arrest. Mr. Jamnadas strongly exhorted all Satyagrahis and all their sympathisers to observe the letter and spirit of Mr Gandhi's instructions and to act with resolute will not to break out into outward demonstrations.

The crowd conducted itself in an orderly manner and patiently awaited Mr. Gandhi's arrival. A manifesto issued by the Satyagraha Sabha Committee was distributed hailing the announcement of Mr. Gandhi's arrest, saying "We accept his brave and lofty message as our mandate and inspiration in carrying on the battle for liberty and justice." It further said: "One by one our comrades will be taken from us but we shall welcome every loss from our ranks as an added symbol of deliverance, and march forward to our destined goal without resentment, without violence, with out fear."

As soon as Mr. Gandhi arrived at the meeting at seven o'clock a message from him was read from different platforms. In his message Mr. Gandhi acknowledged the kindness of his treatment by official during his two days' detention, saying that he had more comforts then than when he was free. Referring to the recent disturbances he said:—"I have not been able to understand so much excitement and disturbance that followed my detention. It is not Satyagraha It is worse than Duragraha. Those who joined Satyagraha demonstrations were bound one and all to refrain at all hazard from violence, not to throw stones or in any way whatsoever to injure anybody; but in Bombay, we have been throwing stones and we have obstructed tram.cars by putting obstacles in the way. This is not Satyagraha. We have demanded the release of about fifty men who have been arrested for deeds of violence. It is a breach of religion or duty to endea our to secure the release of those who have committed deeds or violence. We are not therefore justifid on any grounds whatsoever for demanding the release of those who have been arrested. I have been asked whether a Satyagrahi is responsible for the results that follow that movement. I have replied that they are. I therefore suggest that if we cannot conduct this movement without the slightest violence from our side the movement might have to be abandoned or it may be necessary to give it a different and still more restricted shape. It may be necessary to go even further. The time may come for me to offer Satyagraha against ourselves. I would not deem it a disgrace that we die. I shall be pained to hear of the death of a Satyagrahi but I shall consider it to be a proper sacrifice given for the sake of the struggle but if those who are not Satyagrahis, who shall not have joined the movement, who are even against the movement receive any injury at all every Satyagrahi will be responsible for that sinful injury. My responsibility will be a million times heavier. I have embarked upon the struggle with a due sense of responsibility. I have just heard that some English gentlemen have been injured. Some may ever have died from such injuries. If so it would be a great blot on Satyagraha for me. English men too are our brethren. We can have nothing against them and for me sins such as I have described are simply unbearable. But I know how to offer Satyagraha against ourselves. As against ourselves what kind of Satyagraha can I offer? I do not see what penance I can offer excepting that it is for me to fast and if need be by so doing to give up this body and thus prove the truth of Satyagraha. I appeal to you to peacefuly disperse and to refrain from acts that may in any way bring disgrace upon the people of Bombay."

Mr Gandhi, after expressing thanks to the Governor and police for all absence of the use of rifle fire or gun fire, exhorted the people to remember that they should learn to keep perfect peace and to undergo intelligent suffering and that without those attributes here was no Satyagraha.

After Mr. Gandhi's message had been read from different platforms in Gujrati the meeting dispersed in an orderly manner.

PUBLIC MEETING AT PATNA.

MR. HASAN IMAM PRESIDED.
LEADERS SIGNED SATYAGRAHA VOW.

(From a correspondent.)

Patna, April 12.

Mahatma Gandhi's arrest produced great excitement. A Conference of the leaders was held at Mr. Hasan Imam's house and it was decided upon calling a public meeting. A meeting was held on Friday evening at Qillah, Patna City Seven thousand people attended despite short notice. Mr. Hasan Imam presided and signed the "Satyagrah" pledged before all. In his speech he said that they could not remain outside while Mahatma Ghandi was under arrest. They must do their duty, joining the "Satyagraha" movement. The "Satyagrah" in Behar is spreading. Messrs. Mazharul Haque, Braja Kishore Prasad, Parmeshwar Lal Rajendra Asad among the leaders have already signed the pledge.

LEPROSY TREATMENT

PUNDIT RAM PRAN SHARMA, Specialists at Leprosy and Skin diseases, ably treats Batrakta, Leprosy, red black and white patches, insensibility, had ulcers, leucoderma, syphilitic poison, mercurial diseases, etc. Treatment of Leprosy and its condition. Book free at HOWRAH KUSTHA KUTIR Khurhat Road Howrah.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika.
Thursday April 17 1919

CALCUTTA DISTURBANCES.

We expressed our gratitude to Lord Ronaldshay for having given an assurance to the public that he would not allow the police to interfere with the Satyagrana demonstration of Sunday, the 6th April on the Maidan. The two fair-minded Anglo-Indian papers, the "Indian Daily News" and the "Capital" also expressed the same sentiments. "Ditcher" in the "Capital" wrote:—

"Quite the most creditable work of Lord Ronaldshay in the season now over, illumined the tag-end. He refused to interfere with the public demonstration on the Maidan on Sunday last in protest against the passing of the Rowlatt Bill. He was supremely justified of his confidence in the people. The meeting found the Ochterlony Monument was the greatest I have seen in Calcutta, and there was less disorder than at an ordinary football match. It seemed to be a point of honour with every one in that vast crowd to refrain from every extravagance that would discredit the solemnity of the ceremony."

The "Daily News" remarks:

"Lord Ronaldshay has done a very wise thing. He has held his Policemen back. His Excellency will be going away to Darjeeling to-day. But we should like to suggest that he might postpone his departure for a few days. His presence in Calcutta will act as a great check on all concerned. And in the present state of popular temper, the guiding hand of a tactful ruler is highly essential or a little spark may cause a serious explosion. Let His Excellency think over the matter."

What led His Excellency to deviate from his wise policy and to let loose the military armed with machine guns and rifles upon an excited mob? Both on Sunday the 6th April on the Maidan and on Friday the 11th April in Beadon Square nuge numbers of people demonstrated. Everything passed off without any hitch whatsoever. This proved conclusively that the Satyagrahis could be safely left to themselves to manage the crowds with which they had to deal. Why did not His Excellency then observe the same policy of non-meddlesomeness on Saturday last? What untoward thing happened on that day to justify the firing of machine guns and rifles on the unarmed mob and the murdering and wounding of quite a number of innocent men?

It is true that a number of shops had been closed and tram-car passengers were asked to alight. Many people were also made to leave their carriages and to walk on foot. We freely admit that this put the general public to great inconvenience, and it ought not to have been done but, first of all, no pressure was put on them, and secondly, many of them submitted willingly to a request that was quietly made as a mark of honour to Mr. Gandhi. At all events this was done also on the previous day, and no serious exception was taken to it. No armed police or military were employed to put a stop to this popular exuberance and no disorder took place. Why was then a different course adopted on Saturday? If the "Statesman" is a sworn enemy of every thing that would promote the welfare of the country, the "Bengalee" is a pronounced denouncer of the Satyagraha movement. Their reports cannot, therefore be accused of containing any thing favourable to the popular side. The writers of these reports have no doubt done their best to throw the whole blame on the mob; all the same, the most serious charge they have brought against them is, that they threw bricktats and other missiles on the police and the military and provoked the latter to use the guns. Suppose this charge is true, was this a sufficient justification for mowing down innocent passers-by with deadly bullets? It is quite possible that some mischief-makers threw some stones here and there, but it is pure invention that empty soda water bottles and brickbats were rained down on the police. The statement is absurd on the face of it, for, the crowd could not take these missiles in their pockets nor were these previously kept stored in the street with a view to punish the police and the military whose onrush was sudden and not expected. As for the assertion that they were hurled down from a three-storied house, this is also absurd for the house evidently belonged to a respectable and rich man who could not possibly allow his house to be used for the purpose aforesaid knowing full well that he would be held responsible for permitting an attack on the all-powerful police. Then is it to be supposed that the mob took forcible possession of the house? There is no allegation to this effect even by the police or their German cousin, the "Statesman" reporter. As a matter of fact, the story, as later reports go to show, is a pure concoction intended to serve the usual purpose.

Then it is stated in the report of the "Statesman" that Messrs. B. Chuckerbutty, B. K. Lahiri and others "came up in a motor car and tried to induce the crowd to go back upon Harrison Road but without success." As the reader will see from the report published in these columns, this statement is not only incorrect but mischievously misleading. Mr. Chuckerbutty and his friends were received with the utmost respect by the crowd and were shown the gruesome sight of dead bodies lying on the footpaths and the streets bearing the marks of wanton brutality. A card was handed over to Mr. Lahiri giving the name and description of a Bengali gentleman who was going to the Howrah railway station, but who unfortunately fell a victim to the indiscriminate firing of the military—and was lying dead on the street. The body of another Marwari gentleman besmeared with blood was also brought up, as it was being carried to the hospital. When Mr. Chuckerbutty and his friends arrived they saw that even these horrible sights had left the crowd in a perfectly peaceful mood. The latter only bitterly complained to Mr. Chuckerbutty that while no provocation was given to them and they did not carry even walking stick with them, they were fired upon by the military. Another instance of complete lack of the sense of responsibility on the part of the military is supplied by the fact that the bullets were lodged mostly on the upper part of the body of the wounded contrary to the usual humane practice.

Mr. Chuckerbutty was told by the officer in charge of the military that brickbats had been thrown at them and therefore the crowd had been fired upon. Mr. Chuckerbutty thereupon remarked that none among the soldiers appeared to have been hurt in any way. As a matter of fact the soldiers, far from being hurt, were having a merry time of it as the following extract from the report of the representative of the "Bengalee" who was an eye-witness would go to show:—

"SOLDIERS ENJOYING THEMSELVES.

A look at the soldiers on duty discovered the fact that they were making themselves comfortable. Bottles of lemonade and soda were going round and the waters were fizzling down the dry throats every now and then. In this respect no distinction was made between the European and the Indian soldiers. At about 6.15 p.m. a stray cow came upon the scene with the tail high up in the air. This gave some diversion to the military men. Some of them slapped their hands at the animal laughing loudly and the vaccine visitor to this spectacle where excitement was rampant in the presence of the military, ran towards the west, finally entering the yard of a house."

As we have seen in the police and Associated Press reports of similar occurrences in Delhi and other places, it is at the psychological moment that they are vague or silent. What was the immediate cause which necessitated the military to open fire? Thus begins the reporter of the "Statesman" who is said to have been present at the time:—

"The crowd from the Sealdah side had become "so menacing" that the soldiers, 20 or 25 in number, were given the order to fire" etc.

"Menacing," "threatening", "dangerous"—these are the words which, we find, are serving their purpose awfully well. How menacing? The soldiers were supported by the paraphernalia of war, they had machine guns, rifles etc. But how were the people armed? Nothing is said about it here. Perhaps the Brobdingnagian missiles "th broken soda water bottles, bricks and logs of teakwood"—described to have been hurled by the crowd at the Harrison Road and Strand Junction from a three-storeyed house came by some esoteric process, in the hands of the crowd at the Chitpur Road and Harrison Road Junction.

We are told further by the "Statesman" reporter that—at first blank cartridges were fired by the military at the mob. But brave as the latter was and equally formidably armed as they were, they did not care but came on "apparently with the intention of rushing the piquet," when a second volley was fired. But let us quote this thrilling incident taken from the Arabian Night and given a place of honour in the "Statesman":—

"The crowd from the Sealdah side had become so menacing that the soldiers, twenty or twenty-five in number, were given the order to fire, and blank cartridges were fired at this mob. The first volley having had no effect and as the crowd was coming on, apparently with the intention of rushing the piquet, a second valley was fired, and this momentarily stopped the mob, but when they found that no one had been hurt, they started jeering and shouting to the people at the other side of the soldiers' position: "There is nothing in the guns; the Government is trying to scare us by firing blank shots. Why don't you come on?" The Howrah Bridge mob "came on," and were not deterred by a volley of blanks fired at them, so they were fired at again, this time with a machine-gun and several were killed and injured. This scared the great majority of the crowd, which then began to disperse."

The cock and bull story of an unarmed Indian crowd charging a military force equipped with machine guns and rifles will find no credence with anybody who has lived in this country for any length of time and known the character of its people. Reuter told us the other day that an immense crowd of American and Colonial soldiers and sailors beat a precipitate retreat before the charge of the batons of a comparatively small number of English policemen. A Dutch crowd of soldiers was reported to have behaved in a similar way before police batons. But a crowd composed of Indians—the nation of sheep as they are derisively called—is stated to have charged with bare arms the best equipped soldiery! The story is absurd on the face of it and as a matter of fact, as the report published in these columns will show, it has no foundation in fact.

We see that so many incidents, some of them quite unconnected with the real matter in issue have been brought up by the "Statesman" reporter that they cannot be accepted without corroboraion, particularly as some of them are absurd on their very face. The object however is clear and that is, to throw the whole blame on the people and exonerate the military.

The real cause of the trouble—so far we have been able to ascertain it and what the representative of the "Bengalee" also indicated, is published in these columns. It would appear that an upcountry constable was hit by a bullet by a European Sergeant for having failed to carry out the latter's wishes. Some among the crowd thereupon became excited and belabour-ed the Sergeant. This seems to have been responsible for the calling out of the military. The scene had in the meanwhile shifted to Chitpur and Harrison Road junction where, it is reported, the crowd did not disperse inspite of the order to do so. It is quite possible that some brickbats might have been thrown, though it seems that none of them hurt the soldiers.

Assuming however that the crowd refused to disperse and threw some brickbats at the military, was that any justification to open fire on them? No concealment is made of the fact that not only rifles but machine guns were employed for the purpose. Should not have the authorities tried to disperse the crowd in a more humane manner? Constables with huge regulation lathies were seen patrolling about the city on the day. There is very little reason to doubt that a charge by a few dozen constables with lathis would have been sufficient to disperse any mob. In Bombay the police there succeeded in dispersing huge mobs by the use of batons and lathis in connection with similar demonstrations. But why in Calcutta, the same means were not tried before the cowardly one of using machine-guns against unarmed crowd was resorted to? If police batons have proved formidable enough to disperse a crowd of soldiers and sailors in European countries where the mob is of a far tougher material than what we have got here, it indicates nothing short of a wanton disregard of human life—to use fire arms against the crowd here. But we forget human life is very cheap in this country.

CHOTA AND BARRA SAHEB EK DIL.

When the Chota Saheb does an injustice, the Burra Saheb is expected to correct it. But if the Chota and the Burra Saheb be *ekdil*—of one mind,—where is the injured party to go for remedy? It cannot be denied that there is an upheaval of popular feeling all over India. It is also admitted that the root of the mischief is the Rowlatt Act. The whole country along with the entire body of non-official Indian members in the Supreme Legislative Council some of whom were *Mamooli Khair Khans* of Government, denounced it with one voice. Moderate leaders like the Hon'ble Messrs. Banerjea and Sastri said that if the measure were passed into law, an agitation would be started, the like of which was not seen in this country. This universal protest was not heard and moreover trampled under foot. The Governor-General in Council was appealed to for not giving his assent to the measure when it was carried in the teeth of such universal opposition. It was ignored. Finally the people placed the whole case before the Secretary of State with a prayer that he should advise His Majesty to disallow it. He has refused to do it! So the Burra Saheb has confirmed what the Chota Saheb (the Government of India) did, and the Rowlatt Act becomes a law of the land!

And what necessitated the passing of this new Crimes Act? The answer to this question of Mr. Swan M. P. in the House of Commons on April 7 by Mr. Fisher is only a parrot-like repetition of what the Viceroy and the Home Member stated here. He "emphasised that this action had been taken after careful consideration of the advice of an influential representative Commission." Representative forsooth! It was composed of men not one of whom represented the views of the Indians. The Commission held its sittings in secret. No witnesses were invited. The detenus and the state prisoners were not examined. The two Indian members of the Commission were ordinary men, one of them being, official and both were the nominees of the Government. Lastly, the untested exparte statements of the interested executive were accepted as gospel truths. And on the recommendation of this precious Commission was forged a thunderbolt which has naturally unsettled the minds of the people. Remove it and clam will be at once restored. But as both the Burra Sahib and Chota Saheb are of opinion that it should stay, the unrest created by it will necessarily remain also.

The Government of India's Resolution on the present situation, published elsewhere, breathes fire and brimstone. It also shows that the Chota Saheb and the Burra Saheb are acting together, the Chota Saheb in the present case being the local Governments. The Punjab and the Delhi Governments took some drastic action against Mr. Gandhi apparently without rhyme or reason. The result was an outburst of popular resentment everywhere. If the Local Governments had left the people alone, they would have settled down in two or three days. They committed no violence. They did not assault the police. They did not rob or murder any body. At the most what they did was to obstruct the traffic or put a certain number of people into inconvenience for a day or two. Of course they should not have done it: but some times, even in the most well-organised countries in Europe and America, far more serious disorders take place when the bulk of the people are excited. Unlike the Western people the Indians nowhere showed any brute force. They were all unarmed and only shouted the name of "Mahatma Gandhi" and induced many passers-by to walk on foot and not to avail themselves of tram cars and carriages. And fires were opened upon them, and many innocent persons killed!

Now this was an unnecessary outrage for which the people were not prepared. They were under British rule and thought such un-British acts would never be tolerated by the Burra Saheb, who would come to their rescue and reprimand the Chota Sahebs for their unjustifiable acts. They have been sadly disappointed. The Burra Saheb in his Resolution not only justifies the operations of the Chota Sahebs but gives them a *carte blanche* to do whatever they like. Nay he threatens to bring into requisition all the terrible powers with which the Government has been armed to put down the so-called disorder. The following paragraph from the Government of India's Resolution will carry terror and dismay in every Indian heart:—

"It remains for the Governor-General in Council to assert in the clearest manner the intention of Government to prevent by all means, however, drastic, any recurrence of these excesses. He will not hesitate to employ the ample military resources at his disposal to suppress organized outrage, rioting or concerted opposition to the maintenance of law and order. and has alrea sanctioned the application of the State offenders' Regulation, 1804, in a modified form to certain districts of the Punjab. He will further use all preventive measures provided by the statutes, to check disorder at its source and in Regulation 3 of 1818 and the corresponding regulations applicable to Bombay and Madras and in the rules under the Defence of India Act he has powers which will enable him to deal effectively with those who promote disorder. He has sanctioned the extension of the provisions of the Seditious Meetings Act to the Districts of Lahore and Amritsar in the Punjab and will authorize a similar extension to other areas in which Local Governments see reason to require it. The Police Act of 1861 enables a Local Government to quarter additional police on any locality which is guilty of organized offences against the public peace at the charge of the inhabitants and to levy from the latter compensation for those who have suffered from injury to their property. The Governor-General in Council will advise Local Governments to make a free use of these provisions where necessary."

So we are really in the position of the indigo ryot who deposed before the indigo Commission of 1860 that if the Chota Saheb fined him Rs. 10, the Burra Saheb doubled the amount when he approached him for redress. The Government of India have unconsciously made a revelation which they would feign keep concealed from the public gaze. It is the number of fetters that have been forged to keep peace and order in India. Does not this go to show that the authorities have no faith in the loyalty of the people? Does not this also indicate that the freedom of the British Indian subject is a myth when so many Damocles' swords are kept hanging over their heads?

All the same it is a stubborn fact that a more gentle and law-abiding people like the Indians are not to be found anywhere in the world. They do not deserve this drastic treatment. It only drives them to despair. To win their hearts you have only to show them some amount of sympathy. They are simple and satisfied with small mercies. Treat them well, and they will be your slaves. They are not blood-thirsty savages but as civilised as the Westerners and more spiritual than they. To subject them to machine gun rule is gratuitous cruelty. What a pity the authorities have not yet been able to know them. If they want to establish British rule on their hearts they must give up this policy of repression and appeal to their higher perceptions.

The Reform Question.

It has oozed out that the Government of India's despatch on the reform Proposals is so disappointing that even the Moderates have got alarmed. The Committee of the Indian Association, we understand, held a meeting on Saturday to discuss this question. They have, we are told, decided to issue a manifesto in which they will hold out the threat again that if the Montagu-Chelmsford scheme is whittled down they will start a fierce agitation. We are glad to hear of it, but will they do it? We very much doubt. We think they, at least the majority of them, will accept anything with gratitude which the Government may graciously grant them in the name of constitutional reform. We hear that Mrs. Besant was not only present at this meeting but agreed to sign the proposed Moderate manifesto. Alas, alas, where is she drifting to?

The Ali Brothers.

It will be seen from a telegram already published that the Government has refused to release Messrs Mahomed Ali and Shaukat Ali. This was expected and the news need cause no surprise. The two brothers may rest assured that their sufferings are the sufferings of the whole of India, and there are very few educated Indians, Hindu or Musalman Parsi or Christian, who do not deeply resent the atrocious wrong done to them. But if their bodies have been taken possesion of, their souls are free. Besides, they have firm faith in the goodness of God. Why should they then worry, especially when it is a matter of only three score years and ten with all of us, from the prince to the peasant? If we, particularly those who are in ruling position, were always to keep this stern fact before our mind's eye that a time must come when an unbailable warrant would drag us out of this little planet, three-fourths of human misery would disappear. Be it also remembered that those who torment us here, because they can do it with impunity, will have their rewards hereafter. For no one can go unpunished who does a moral wrong.

Resignation Of More Members.

From the letter of Mr. Sukul published elsewhere, it will be seen that he too has resigned the membership in the Supreme Council. We congratulate him. No one having any self-respect can stick to a position which brings only contempt and humiliation on him. When are other nationalist members going to do their part of the duty? The Moderates are ofcourse expected to give up what is really a *Dedi-ka-Laddoo* but which to them is sweeter than *Sandesh* or *Rasagolla*. Mr. Sukul has throughout his legislative career acted with an independence and a sense of duty to his country which cannot be too highly commended.

Lord Ronaldshay and the Marwari Community.

Elsewhere is published His Excellency's address to the Marwari community asking them not to do anything with the Satyagraha movement of Mr. Gandhi. He is quite within his rights to view this question according to his light, but surely he is liberal enough to allow the people also to look at it from their stand point. The main principle of Satyagraha is self-restraint and not to oppose the authorities even when their action is oppressive. We think no one can take exception to such a noble sentiment. As a matter of fact every enlightened Government should welcome such a doctrine. For, if the masses are permeated with such sentiments they, instead of committing lawlessness, will learn to hate it as a great sin. As regards the tragical incidents in Calcutta we deeply regret that His Excellency should regard them in the way that he has done. The plain fact is, there would have been no lamentable loss of human life if armed military forces were not allowed to interfere with the demonstration. We are sorry that His Excellency does not see or admit it. We are still more sorry that His Excellency has not one word of regret for the slaughter of innocent persons who were markiessly mowed down by machine guns and rifles. May we inquire again with due respect, why was not the mob dispersed by police lathies or batons if they were really unruly as was done in Bombay, and deadly weapons like machine guns were used with a light heart? We are afraid. His Excellency's speech will not soothe the outraged public feeling but irritate it further.

Hunger-Strike in Hazaribag Jail

Humanity would be shocked to learn that the hunger-strike which began in Hazaribag Jail among the state prisoners still continues. The following, letter fom Babu Manmatha Nath Banerjee, Sonarpur (24 P.) we doubt not will be read with pathetic interest by our readers:—

"My son Satcari Banerji is now confined in the Central Jail at Hazaribagh as a State Prisoner.

"I understand that the State Prisoners confined there are given insufficient and unwholesome food and that they are not provided with sufficient clothing so that they are now almost on the border of nudity.

"The strike commenced on 18.3.19 and from the reply I had from the Superintendent of Jail, Hazaribagh, on 12th April 1919 to the effect that my son Satcari Banerji was being carefully fed by Medical Officers shows that the strike still continues and that these helpless youngmen are in a moribund state.

"It seems most strange that the Government that has taken away the liberty of these men without any trial whatever, does not consider it necessary to enquire into the causes that have compelled these unfortunate youngmen to adopt this serious and disastrous course.

"Under regulation III of 1818, on the strength of which these men have been confined in the Jail, the Government is bound to give them all home comforts and on many a occasion the Home member gave the public to understand that these State Prisoners were very kindly treated and given all facilities in accordance with the provisions laid down in the Regulation. But the facts brought to light disclose a different state of things. Not only are these men not given sufficient and wholesome food but they are not provided with sufficient clothing even, so that they are now wearing rags and almost on the border of nudity, and they belong to the gentleman class."

When the Hon Rai Purnendu Narayan Sinha enquired of the Local Government about this strike, it disposed of the question by saying that they had recourse to it because "their clothing was not up to sample."

Common sense finds it hard to believe that, for this inconvenience the prisoners have made up their minds to put on end to their lives. So the Rai Bahadur suggested the Government to appoint a commission to inquire into the matter, but it did not consider it necessary to accept it. It is in this beautiful way that they want to put a stop to public grievances.

While on the subject, the following extract from the letter of the Hazaribag correspondent of the "Search Light" will be read with interest:

"The public are aware that some state prisoners in the local Jail have lately gone on hunger strike. The Inspector-General of Prisons, Behar and Orissa, had been to this place to institute an inquiry into the matter. We are not in possession or any intelligence as to the decisions he has arrived at. It appears, however, that the strike still continues. You may wonder how these unfortunate creatures have been keeping body and soul together all these days. But an explanation is afforded by a rumour that every day some milk is pumped through their nostrils, for, it is said they don't allow my passage through the mouth—the natural organ for carrying food to the stomach. We have heard of medicinal drinks being run down the throats of unwilling dumb beasts when they become invalid. But have you, Mr. Editor, ever heard of milk or any other article of food being forced through the nostrils of men in a normal state of health? I confess, I have not. We hope there is nothing in the rumour—in which case it should be speedily contradicted. If, on the other hand, it contains any portion of that naked virtue called truth, we have good grounds to expect that the Behar Government will see to it that not only is this inhumane practice stopped for good but that the real cause of the prisoners' grievances which, doubtless, lie somewhere in the treatment meted out to them by the Jail authorities, is discovered and uprooted without delay so that we may hear no more of any such phenomenon as abstention from food on the part of persons already shut out from all pleasures of the world except the one that results from a filled belly.

Babu D. C. Ghosh's Letter

Elsewhere is published a letter from the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Debendra Chandra Ghose on the Satyagraha movement in Calcutta and its share of responsibility in the unfortunate "fracas" between the people and the police last Saturday evening. There is nothing very significant in what the correspondent says but it is regrettable that an otherwise sensible person should be of the opinion expressed in the letter under notice. People of his school of "political thought" as he puts it, are of course prepared to accept any horse's egg, good, bad or indifferent, in the shape of so-called constitutional reforms in connection with which we beg to remind him that one of the two august signatories to the report has gone back upon it already, and is our friend not aware of the fact that what the government is going to give us is a veritable "horse's egg?" So much for the constitutional reforms. With regard to the mowing down of innocent people, all that we need observe here, is that no endeavour however sincere, on the part of our worthy correspondent could white-wash the culpability of it. There it stands a disgrace and an indelible blot on British rule upon which posterity and not we, shall pass its final judgment. Our worthy correspondent conveniently forgets that these wanton courses would never be tolerated in the country which is the arbiter of our destinies. Even General Allenbey has been removed. The last sentence in the letter of our correspondent calls for no remark from us, but surely we cannot be held responsible for any motive attributed to him by his readers. They are men of independent judgment and logical reasoning.

The letter which appeared over the signature of another Hon'ble Rai Bahadur (Radha Charan Pal) in the Anglo Indian Press yesterday and of which we got a copy but which we do not publish for it has achieved its object in gaining currency through other quarters is not a bad second. Year by year Rai Bahadurs grow like black berries in this country, but not precious political thoughts.

By a clever camouflage the whole blame for the tragic incidents in now sought to be placed on the Satyagraha movement. And it is unfortunate that some among our public men have failed to see things in their true perspective and have joined the ranks of those whose interest it is to discredit the movement as being responsible for the recent events. But truth to tell, the Satyagraha is above all camouflage, no matter from whatever quarter it proceeds.

It is not difficult to see why a crusade has been set on foot against the Satyagraha movement. In it the bureaucracy has discerned a powerful, though peaceful weapon in the hands of the people which in their turn, so long in despair and under sense of utter helplessness against a mighty bureaucracy have at last recognised to their joy and have moreovtr centred in

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

all their future hopes. They have therefore cordially accepted it and will adhere to it in defiance and persecution notwithstanding.

The Bengal Provincial Conference.

As notified the Bengal Provincial Conference meets on Saturday next at Mymensingh. We have been credibly informed that there will be a record gathering of men of all shades of political opinion. Every district in Bengal has elected its representatives. Moderates and Nationalists, they will all vie with one another in devoted service to the country. This is as it should be. Patriotism calls for unity in this hour of our trial. We appeal once more now that the Conference is about to sit, to leaders of all schools of political thought to sink their differences and assemble on a common platform like true sons of a neglected mother—our motherland. The organisers of the conference have done and are doing their utmost to make the conference a success. It now rests with our countrymen to do their duty. The Rowlatt Act and the situation created by the passing of it need careful consideration and our wisest heads must take counsel together. We are sure there will never be any want of patriotism in Bengal to respond to the peremptory call of duty from our motherland.

The Moslem League.

The Bengal Presidency Moslem League will hold its annual session at Mymensingh on the 19th and 20th April, that is on the same days that the Provincial Conference will meet. Moulvie Saiyad Mahammad Masud Bar-at-law, will preside and a strong Reception Committee has been formed with Maulvie Wazed Ali Khan Panee, Zemindar, as President and Moulvie A. K. Gaznavi and other influential members of the community as members thereof. Many important questions relating to the Khalifat and the custodiauship of the holy places of Islam as well as the Rowlatt Act will be considered at the meeting of the League. We have no doubt the Conference will be largely attended and in conjunction with the Provincial Conference will put its hand and seal on the Hindu-Mahomedan unity which has received added strength from the recent events in which both the communities have equally suffered and to which their sufferings have contributed so largely.

Mr. Banerjea at last Moves.

Babu Surendra Nath Banerjea published the following piece of news in his Sundays paper:—

"HON. BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEA.
ENGAGEMENT WITH HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

"Babu Surendranath Banerjea was telephoned at about 11 o'clock last night (Saturday) by several leading inhabitants of Calcutta who asked his advice in regard to the situation in Calcutta. Mr. Banerjea at once communicated with His Excellency the Governor who was good enough to make an engagement with Mr. Banerjee at 9-30 a. m. to-day to discuss the Calcutta affairs."

Some important items of information are not given. Where did this happen—in Calcutta or at Mamirampur where Mr. Banerjea, as a rule, passes his nights? Who are the leading inhabitants of Calcutta, who roused him at about midnight and robbed him of a portion of his precious sleep? Of all people why did they seek his advice in a matter from which he has kept himself religiously aloof and that at dead of night when Calcutta was calm and quiet? Apparently Mr. Banerjea had no advice to give. What he did was, however, to seek an interview with the Governor who was pleased to grant it and the interview was to have taken place Monday morning. As Mr. Banerjea is now a *persona grata* with the Government we hope he was able to convince His Excellency that firing upon an unarmed crowd and slaughtering innocent men was not the best way of making British rule popular in this country. We hope the result of this interview will be published in to-morrow's "Bengalee"

RUNGPUR OUTRAGE CASE.

APPEAL BY ACCUSED.

JUDGMENT DELIVERED.

ACCUSED HONOURABLY ACQUITTED.

(From a Correspondent.)

Rungpur, April 14

Judgment has been delivered of the appeal preferred by Ramesh Chandra Ray who was convicted by Babu Subodh Chandra Mitra for outraging the modesty of Labnya Prabha Devi. Mr. C R Das with Mr. N C. Sen, defended the accused in both the courts The case created a great deal of sensation not only in Rangpur but throughout the muffasil owing to an incorrect report of Mr. Das: arguments being sent to the press. The Sessions Judge, Mr. J Johnston, has honourably acquitted the accused and has totally disbelieved the case for the prosecution. He has also held that the case was engineered by designing persons and that the complainant was more to be pitied than blamed. The plea of alibi set up by the accused has been held to be conclusively proved by records of the Judge's Court and by the evidence of a missionery gentleman and two advocates of Calcutta. The Judge had pointed out in strong language the impropriety of orders passed by the trial court refusing processes upon defence witnesses. He has also remarked that the accused who belongs to a high socal position and occupies a responsible post under the Government, ought not to have been summoned without a preliminary enquiry. Lastly it has also been held that the Magistrate was wrong in disallowing questions put by the Defence Council on the ground of their being offensive and irrelevant.

The I B Police has arrested one Promada Charan Pal, a student of the Edwards Institution of Mymensing by the Defence of India Act

The Hon. C. M. Webbs is confirmed in his appointment as Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma from 8th April when Hon. Mr. Rice was placed on special duty.

Sir Henry Richards vacated his seat on the Allahabad High Court bench on the 15th instant. Sir George Knox acts as Chief Justice until a permanent successor appointed.

Mahatma Gandhi's Arrest.

SCENES ON THE TRAIN AND STATION

By An Eye-Witness

We give below a detailed narrative of the manner and circumstances in which Mahatma Gandhi's arrest was effected. The account is by an Eye-witness, an acquaintance of Mahatma Gandhi's, who travelled in the same compartment with him.

April 10, 1919.

Last night I was on my way to Delhi from Agra. I was travelling by the G I P. Mail. At Muttra Junction I noticed an immense crowd of people waiting for the B B and C I, Mail with Mahatma Gandhi's name on almost every lip. Instantly I removed my kit from the train and joined the crowd. As Mahatmaji's train steamed in there were tremendous cries of 'Mahatma Gandhi ki jai' which it seemed would never end. It was after a long time that I obtained the 'darshan' and that was when pious entreaties of those in the near and the gentle persuasion of Mahatmaji standing at the door of his compartment induced those in the front to sit down. In a few moments that vast crowd was transformed into an orderly meeting and from his carriage the Mahatmaji kept it spell-bound with the message of Satyagraha. As he brought his message to a close there was a shower of rose petals that did not cease till the train began to move and once more there were loud acclamations of 'jai jai.'

PUNJAB ORDER SERVED.

I managed to get standing room in the nearest carriage in which I remained till the train stopped again at Kosi Junction, when I made at once for Mahatmaji's carriage. I had hardly had time to make my obeisance when a European Police officer got in.

"Mr. Gandhi?"—"Yes!"

"I am a Police officer," he said, "I have to serve on you an order of the Punjab Government under the Defence of India Act, prohibiting you from entering the Punjab, I have two copies here, will you please sign this and keep the other with you?" Mahatmaji showed not the slightest surprise. He quietly took the paper and scanned it, and putting his signature gave it back to the officer who then took a seat in front of him and explained that in order to obey the order just served Mahatmaji would have to get down there, the station being in the Punjab. Mahatmaji sat quietly smiling as the officer in solemn terms impressed on him the great inconvenience that he would have to undergo if he proceeded further and got arrested at the next station: "It is a small way side station," he said; "there is no town near about and there is not even a waiting room where you can spend the night." He spoke pathetically of the inconvenience that he himself too would be put to, without a shelter for the night. When he finished Mahatmaji gave him the inevitable reply firmly, without the slightest hesitation. He told the officer that he was sorry for the inconvenience which he would have to suffer in the discharge of his duty; but that so far as he was concerned he had no alternative. He would get down at Kosi if he could be arrested there; but as that was not possible he must proceed. He told him that it would not be necessary for him to worry much as he was not in the least likely to make his escape during the night after inviting the arrest In a few words he gave him an exposition of his creed and the officer with great politeness withdrew

BETWEEN KOSI AND PALWAL.

The next stop was at Palwal. The half hour that it took to reach Palwal, I shall never forget. Mahadev Desai, Mahatmaji's devoted disciple sat as if stunned. It was not surprise, he said he had had forebodings. But he was in a few minutes to part from the master at whose feet he has sat for these many years. And here I must reproduce what Mahatmaji said of him to me. "He is my heir, my "waris", he will carry on my work, now after my arrest, and always. I want him also to suffer, to pass through troubles that I know he will face." Then he charged him with messages for friends and fellowworkers to do their duty, swerving not by a hair's breadth from truth. The substance of those messages is there, in the great message, which he has issued to his countrymen. In that message there is laid down a complete programme which he explained to us orally also.

TWO MORE ORDERS.

There was little time left for talking after the message was complete. The few things he wanted for the night were packed up. We anxiously turned round to see if he had any thing to eat and asked if he might send something from Delhi. But there was his little basket of fruit, the offering, I imagine, of some devoted soul and he said it would be enough to entertain the officers who would take him in charge. A moment after, the train stopped and the same officer stepped in, announced himself again as a police officer, laid his hand on Mahatmaji's arm and made the arrest. That was hardly done, when another officer with some Indian constables appeared on the scene and two more orders were served in succession. "You may not enter Delhi Province, and you are restricted to Bombay by the Government of India". Both the officers were extremely polite. They invited us to get down too and attend to Mahatmaji's comfort if we desired. But Mahatmaji allowed only his doctor to remain with him.

"UNDER ARREST"

The officers said that they were to take Mr. Gandhi to Muttra for the night and from there to Bombay, the next morning. It looked quite like a pleasure trip the way it was put and I was not surprised when Mahatmaji thought for a moment and then asked if he was being arrested or simply taken back to Bombay. He said that he would decline to leave the train unless he was arrested. The assurance was given that Mahatmaji was even then under arrest.

A TOUCHING SCENE.

The leave taking was a touching scene. Mahadev Desai prostrated himself on the floor and clung to the feet of his master. The Mahatma, I thought, was moved, averted his eyes and giving his blessings asked him to go.

We travelled from Palwal to Delhi in solemn silence reading the Mahatma's message.

OBSTRUCTING TRAMCARS.

BOYS WARNED AND DISCHARGED.

At Jorabagan Court, on Monday Mr. Keays had before him the case in which seven young lads named, Naram Kurmi, Promatha Chandra, Sitaram Kahar, Srinandan, Bhutnath Roy, Mani Beria, Sambhu, were sent up by the Jorasanko Police on a charge of disorderly conduct, creating disturbance and pelting stones at passing tram-cars in Corn wallis Street on the 11th instant last.

Mr. Keays: (Addressing Babu Nripendra Nam Bose, pleader, who happened to be present in court)—What have you got to say, Nripen Babu, if I ordered them to be whipped?

Babu N N Bose: Sir, I should rather be whipped than these young urchins. They laid themselves down on the tram lines and implored passengers to get down from the cars when Mr. Gandhi was under arrest. They did what thousand others did in the name of passive resistance. While hundreds of others have escaped these poor urchins have been hauled up here. I think the ends of justice would be satisfied if they are warned and discharged by Your Honour. I may mention that when the King-Emperor came to Calcutta some fifty or sixty young boys found the door to the Ochterlony Monument open and entered it and were sent up before Your Honour and you were pleased to warn and discharge the boys.

Mr. Keays: Boys are boys. If I were there, I would have also done so.

Babu N N Bose: The foundations of the British Government would remain unshaken if Your Honour merely warned and discharged these boys (Laughter). These boys indulged in a pastime which gave an outlet to the exuberence of their feeling which was roused on the occasion.

Mr. Keays: Well, many persons had to walk three or four miles to go to their office under the scorching sun.

Babu N N Bose: But very few complained The passengers, most of them voluntarily got down when implored by these young lads.

Mr. Keays: Nripen Babu, did you walk on that day? (Laughter).

Babu N N Bose: Yes, Sir, I walked all the way from Sham Bazar to this Court with my friend Saurindra Babu, but I never complained. (Laughter).

Mr Keays: What have you got to say if I order them to be whipped?

Babu N N Bose: They would be brutalised by whipping.

Mr. Keays: Why do you say they would be brutalised?

Babu N N Bose: Whipping is retributive and not reformative. Even Lord Morley was pleased to observe that whipping brutalises a man and I should err in his company to believe that a person is brutalised by whipping.

Mr. Keaks warned and discharged the boys and asked Nripen Babu to explain to them to be very careful in future.

MR. VERNEDE, AND MR. HAFEEZ IMAM.

The following incident happened in the court of Mr Vernede District Magistrate of Muzaffarpur. The letter of Mr Hafeez Imam B.A. (Oxon) Bar at Law to the Secretary to the Bar Association Muzaffarpur, will speak for itself:—

Bar Library
Muzafferpore April 11.

"To
The Secretary Bar Association
Muzafferpore

Dear Sir,—I desire to bring to your notice an incident that took place in the court of the District Magistrate, Mr Vernede to-day. It is to the interest of all members of the Bar that some notice should be taken of it and I propose that you should call a general meeting of the members of the Bar to consider it and take what steps should appear to be necessary.

What happened was as follows. I appeared in a Criminal Appeal Nathoo Thakur Vrs . . . . I was for the appellant. Before I had opened my case with a few bare facts in the most simple language of which I was capable, the Magistrate interfered with the remark "are you going to deliver a long speech. I dont want to have a speech from you." This was said in a most offensive way. To this I answered "I am doing my duty" and then the following exchange of remarks took place.

Magistrate: Then do it shortly.

I: I will do it in my own way.

Magistrate: You will not do it in your way. You will do it in my way. If you do it in your way, you will not appear before me.

I: I will do it in my way.

M: Don't be impertinent.

I: I am not impertinent and I will not have impertinence from any one. Dont loose your temper.

M: Dont be impertinent.

I: I am not impertinent.

Mag: What is your name? (on my telling it the Magistrate noted it down).

I proceeded with my address and wanted the Magistrate to refer to the judgment of the Lower Court.

I: Has your honour got the judgment?

M: Did you file the judgment?

I: I don't know. I did not file it; some Mokhtiar might have filed it.

M: Dont be impertinent when I say did you file it, I mean, was it filed?

I: "I respectfully say" said I emphatically "I have not been impertinent to you."

M: If you are impertinent I shall have you out of my court.

I: I shall like to see you do it.

The Magistrate then kept silent and allowed me to finish my argument.

When the other side had replied I handed to the Magistrate my card with the intention that he should be in full possession of my name, the Magistrate thereupon said "Do you think you should have behaved as you did, you are very young." I replied "I am young but I knew my duty."

Mag: I am the presiding officer of this Court and you must obey my ruling, other wise I will make it difficult for you to appear in my Court.

I: I will obey your ruling, if it be a ruling. I dont care where I appear and where I dont but I will not have incivility from any one.

I came out of the Court and thus ended an unpleasant incident of which I was an unwilling party.

I leave this matter in the hands of the members of the library to do what seems best to them.

What I have written is true to the best of my knowledge as others who were present will testify."

I remain Sir, your truly,
Hafeez Imam."

CORRESPONDENCE.

HOW THE DISTURBANCE BEGAN
AN EYE-WITNESS'S ACCOUNT.

To The Editor.

Sir,—Will you be good enough to give a corner of your esteemed journal for this letter for public information.

The veracity of "The Statesman" has now become proverbial. In Sunday's issue of that journal it not only gave an absolute denial of the fact that a sergeant had shot an Indian Constable at the junction of the Harrison Road and Strand Road, but went on abusing the Marwaries that by circulating a false rumour that an Indian constable was shot by his sergeant roused the mob to commence rioting on Saturday last. It is not far from the truth that this shooting incident really started the riot, and that the shooting was unfortunately a fact and not a false rumour. It was a most cowardly act on the part of the sergeant to shoot his unsuspected and helpless subordinate from behind firing two shots one after the other, when the unfortunate Paharwallah had not the least idea that his sergeant was going to murder him from behind. I was an eye-witness and heard and saw what took place, and I was one of the party who carried the Paharwallah to the Bhagwan Das Hospital, and it is significant why the constable was removed from that Hospital to the Medical College Hospital by the Police.

The Paharwallah was ordered by the sergeant to arrest somebody or to do something which he (sergeant) did not dare doing himself, and the poor Paharwallah was shot as if he was a dog.

The reason why the demonstration on Sunday, the 6th instant passed so peacefully was the strict order of His Excellency the Governor of Bengal on the police not to interfere with the demonstrators on any account whatsoever, and there was therefore, no rioting or even any disturbance anywhere.

The throwing of brickbats and stones at the Bristol Hotel was brought about by some soldiers throwing the broken neck of a Sodawater bottle at the crowd; some of whom picked up the missile and showing it to the sergeant stationed at the crossing of Dhurrumtolla Street and Chowringhee Road complained to him that this was thrown at the crowd who had been quite innocently moving on. Three or four members of that crowd told the sergeant that they could identify the thrower provided the sergeant could come with them inside the Hotel where the culprit was still to be found. The sergeant; however, would not take any risk by taking the complainants inside the Hotel. This naturally annoyed the crowd, although the complainants moved on and some brick-bats and stones were thrown by the crowd smashing glass panes and the electric lamp affixed on the outer wall of the Hotel facing Chowringhee Road.

His Excellency's admonition given to the Marwari community yesterday was, no doubt with the best of intentions but had His Excellency known the fact who started the riot and how His Excellency surely would have formed a different opinion and the Marwaries alone would not have been admonished but notwithstanding orders a mounted police men did try to pick up row by attempting to ride in the crowd in the maidan.

Until the unfortunate shooting incident mentioned took place, there was no rioting or throwing of brickbats or setting fire to Motor Car No A. 119. Passengers from tram cars and gharries were induced to leave the tram cars and other conveyances and made to walk by persuation only; but I quite agree that the people who were made to leave their conveyances and walk even by persuation, did not like it and were a bit annoyed certainly. Some of the leaders namely Messrs B Chackerburty, B. K Lahiri, C C Ghose and others had gone to the spot to dissuade people not to further interfere with tram cars and gharries, and they would have succeeded in dissuading the people from further interfering with tram cars and conveyances had not the temper of the mob been roused by the shooting incident referred to above. The mob had then gone out of control.

It is hoped that after taking the dying declaration of the poor Paharwallah who identified the sergeant at the Calcutta Medical College, the Government will be pleased to take action in the matter so that the public will appreciate and see that the Government is always on the side of justice and does not excuse law breakers even when the culprit is a police officer, who has no compunction to take an innocent human life simply because the poor man murdered is a native of this country.

I can dare say that in case of a trial most of the eye witnesses who were present on the spot will readily come forward to give their evidence whenever called upon. I have to add that most of the riots in this country are started by the officious and sometimes stupid interference by the police.

"An eye-witness."

RAI D. C. GHOSE ON THE SATYAGRAHA.

To The Editor.

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me the hospitality of your columns to say a few words on the Satyagraha movement in the town of Calcutta as it has been in evidence for a week. The Acts for the suppression of anarchism have been passed in spite of the opposition of the Indian members of the Council, and the people resent this action of the Government because the weapon manufactured is not only likely to destroy anarchism, but to punish the innocent as well, and it makes the police oppressively powerful. But it does not follow that the right way of shewing disapprobation of legislative measures is to interfere with traffic in public streets and get shops and stalls for the sale of the necessaries of life closed. Nor is it a mark of good citizenship for people to collect together as a rabble and stone policemen who were trying to preserve order. If the firing of blank cartridges had not the effect of checking stone throwing on the police then the disorderly mob by their senseless conduct invited the military force to use bullets in their fire-arms. It is difficult to blame the Government for the deplorable consequences which have ensued on Saturday afternoon in the streets of Calcutta. Seven persons have been killed and fourteen wounded. That is the account in the Sunday papers. Probably these men were all innocent. But it is inevitable that innocent people should suffer an affair of this kind. The man who started the idea of Satyagraha and the men who organised the demonstrations in

(Continued on next column.)

THE OFFICIAL REPORT

MOB NUMBERING OVER 10,000

The following press "communique" has been issued by the Punjab Government regarding the recent disturbances in Amritsar and Lahore and has been published in Sunday editorials of the "C and M Gazette":—

As various exaggerated and misleading reports appear to be in circulation regarding the disturbances which have lately taken place in Amritsar and Lahore the following authoritative account is published. Early on the morning of 10th April notices under the Defence of India (Consolidation) Rules were served on Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlu and Satyapal, two local agitators whose speeches and activities during the previous few weeks had combined to bring about a state of general unrest in Amritsar and they were removed by motor and train. Shortly before 11 a. m. news of these arrests rapidly spread throughout the city. A very large crowd, numbering possibly, ten or twenty thousand, thereupon collected and endeavoured to rush the Civil Lines. In anticipation of possible trouble picquets had been posted at the railway overbridge and level crossing connecting the city with the lines. Arriving at the overbridge the crowd refused to obey orders given them to disperse or return and stones were thrown at men of the picquet until the District Magistrate gave the order to fire. The mob thus defeated in its immediate object turned back towards the city and divided itself into two portions. The first of these, arming themselves with wooden rails and similar weapons, attacked the railway station. Here a part of the goods shed was burnt and a railway subordinate named Robinson who attempted to check the advance of the crowd was murdered. Troops and police on the spot succeeded, however, in preventing any damage being done to the station itself. While these events were in progress another part of the mob set fire to and burnt the Town Hall, Banks, and other buildings inside the city. Both officers of the National Bank, Messrs Stewart and Scott, and one of the Alliance Bank of Simla, Mr. Thomson, were fowlly murdered. Other Europeans in the city succeeded in evading the rioters with exception of Sergeant Rawlings, Cantonment Elecrician, who was intercepted and overpowered while endeavouring to reach the fort. Other smaller bodies of rioters broke away and endeavoured to destroy the permanent way at various points and wrecked the small stations of Chhirta, on the main line, and Baghtanwala on the Pati Kasur line. Trains were delayed for some hours on 10th April but normal traffic on the main line was fully restored by the following day. As has been stated above, local troops and police reinforced by a company of Gurkha soldiers who were passing through Amritsar by train at the time succeeded in preventing any successful attack on the Civil Lines and in restoring order at the railway station and other important points. Military reinforcements arrived in Amritsar during the course of the evening and by nightfall the mob was confined to the limits of the city, which was practically surrounded. On the following evening detachments of troops entered the city itself and encountered no resistance. The total number of killed among crowd is believed to be between twenty and thirty. Relatives of dead persons were permitted to dispose of their bodies outside the city under conditions laid down by the Commissioner, who arrived on evening of 10th April

Disturbances of a similar character, though with less unfortunate result, occurred in Lahore when the news of the Amritsar riot was received on the evening of the 10th. The shops in the city and its vicinity were quickly closed and a noisy crowd endeavoured to force its way towards the Civil Lines. This crowd was met by a small police detachment near the High Court and on its refusal to abandon its progress was dispersed under the orders of the District Magistrate by musket fire. At a later hour in the evening the police were again compelled to fire on a disorderly crowd which attacked them with missiles in the vicinity of the Lahore Gate. Two persons were killed in the day's firing and about four others wounded. Military precautions had early been taken to render any recurrence of such events impossible and on the 11th no collision occurred between the police or troops and the mob either at Amritsar or at Lahore, though shops remained closed. On the morning of 12th troops passed through Lahore city itself and occupied certain commanding points. At one point only the crowd obstructed the passage of the troops and brickbats were thrown. The police accompanying the march under the orders of the District Magistrate dispersed the crowd with a few musket shots two being killed and many more wounded. At Amritsar day passed off quietly. Troops marched round and into the city and found the streets almost deserted.

To-day is Sunday and the "hartal" still continues. All shops are still closed and business suspended.

A dozen men wounded at Hira Mandi yesterday one died yesterday afternoon and another died to-day. Large number of people followed the funeral procession. The city is guarded by military and armed police.

(Continued from previous column.)

Calcutta in the passing week are responsible for the melancholy result. And the remote cause of these deplorable incidents is that Punjab ruler, Sir Michael O'Dwyer, who at a moment like this most unwisely deported certain citizens of Amritsar and prevented Mr. Gandhi from going to Delhi. Some Indian gentlemen of Calcutta who might have known better instead of giving any warning to the multitude they addressed on previous days by their presence indirectly encouraged the people in their interference with the established order of things up to Friday last. They were, powerless to restrain the rowdy mob on Saturday, the 12th April, assuming they made any such attempt and one was not to be found in Calcutta that day.

If the Reform scheme is affected for the worse by these unpleasant incidents, Mr. Gandhi and those who have sailed in the same boat with him must be responsible for that and it did not require a far-seeing intelligence to apprehend long before what Mr. Gandhi's folly would lead to.

If I happen to belong to a school of political thought in Bengal different from what you are pleased to support, I hope I will not come in for an ascription of unworthy motives in asking for publication of this letter in your issue of to-morrow.

Debender Chunder Ghose.
Bhowanipore, April 13.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS

RIOT AT CAIRO

MILITARY FIRED AT THE MOB.

NINE MEN KILLED.

Cairo, April 4

A communique states that during yesterday s disturbances troops were several times obliged to fire on the mob. Nine were killed and 56 wounded. All is quiet in Cairo to-day

CROP OF RUMOURS IN PARIS.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S DISSATISFACTION.

London, April 9

President Wilson's request that the departure of the "George Washington" should be hastened, has occasioned an extraordinary crop of rumours in Paris. It is interpretted by the American correspondents of the French press as an indication of the President's dissatisfaction with the course of discussions, and a hint that he is prepared to quit the Conference unless it gets back to Fourteen Points, and the Armistice terms which he feels have been recently ignored. On the other hand, Reuter's Paris correspondent learns that the situation in America imperatively requires the presence of the President who is receiving constant appeals from his political supporters to return. It is point ed out that President Wilson's signature to the Peace Treaty is not necessary, and that Messrs Lansing and House are fully empower ed to represent him at the Conference.

ROWLATT ACT IN PARLIAMENT.

SECRETARY OF STATE WON'T ADVISE HIS MAJESTY TO DISALLOW THE ACT.

London, April 7.

In the Commons replying to Mr Swan, Mr Fisher stated that the Secretary of State regretted that the existence of anarchi cal revolutninary movement in India neces sitated the passing of a new Crimes Act. He emphasised that this action had been taken after careful consideration on avoid ed advice of an influential representative Commission, and the Government of India was satisfied that it was essential to the peace and security that the Government should be armed with these exceptional powers to be applied only in areas where anarchical and revolutionary crime was proved to exist. The Secretary of State was not prepared to disregard the finding of this Commission and views of the Gov ernment of India by advising His Majesty to disallow the Act. Mr Fisher emphasised that this legation did not reflect on and its necessity was not affected by the spendid loyalty of the Indians generally and it would affect only a small portion of population to which it applied.

DOMINIONS FUTURE

TRANSFORMED RELATIONS WITH MOTHERLAND.

LORD MILNER'S COMMENT.

London, April 11.

Speaking to-day at a luncheon given in the Manchester branch of the Colonial Institute Lord Milner said that the transformation of relations between the Dominions and the Motherland was almost complete. The Do minions were entitled to look forward to a future in which they would be Great Powers, yet all desired to remain within the Empire and if this desire were fulfilled the world would see what it had never seen before—a number of Great Powers under a single head. It would be—was in fact already—a League of Nations but possessing a moral unity which the greater League had still to acquire

This was the position in fact but the realities of the case were somewhat obscured by antiquated forms. The department which normally dealt with the Dominions was the Colonial Office, but the Dominions were in no sense under the Colonial Office which was simply a channel though which the real parties who were the Governments of the Dominions and the Government of the United Kingdom transacted their business. That arrangement worked very well under ordinary circumstances but it was certainly anomalous that the department which really governed Nigeria and Hongkong should concern itself with the Dominions which we did not pretend to govern at all When the time came as it must come very soon for the relations of our Government Departments to be handed over and their work re-arranged on a sane logical principle this and many other anachro nisms would disappear. In the meantime one great and far reaching change in the unwrit ten constitution of the Empire had occurred, namely, the presence of the Dominions' Prime Ministers in the Imperial War Cabi net. He hoped that the practice of Domi nions Ministers discussing side by side with British ministers on matters of common concern would never. The present arrangements had been an unqualified success. Dominion Ministers had taken a real share in the conduct of war policy. No amount of af fection and goodwill between the several States would enable the Empire to exercise proper influence in the world unless we maintained the means of planning and acting together as one Power.

No machinery of administration could avail unless we preserved the moral unity of the Empire. He attached much importance in this connection to the principle of Imperial Preference This had been treated too much as it were an affair of tariffs but the root of the matter was that we were a family of nations and in all our policy and dealings that family's interests should come first. We should not go in for washy internationalism and pretend to care for Paraguay and Bolivia equally with Canada Australi, South Africa and New Zealand.

MARCHING INTO CRIMEA.

London, April 10.

The French General Desperey, it is stated has expressed the opinion that Odessa was tenable but that he decided to evacuate it owing to the absence of food supplies for civilians. The Bolsheviks are now trying to penetrate the Crimea and have already es tablished contact with French and Greek troops who according to Bolshevik reports were driven back. The Bolsheviks have cap tured Perekop, a hundred miles north of Sebastopol.

PEACE PROSPECTS

PLENARY SESSIONS TO BE HELD SOON.

Paris, April 10

A high British authority repeats that all outstanding questions are practically settled The plenary session on the afternoon of April 11th may be continued on April 12th.

It is probable that the peace terms will be handed to the Germans and discussed pri vately There will be no public meeting till the terms have been practically agreed upon. The number of German delegates at Versailles is expected to be so great that the hotels will be inadequate. The Mayor of Versailles is negotiating with the owners of villas and chateaux in the vicinity to accommodate them.

The Havas Agency states:—The progress made by the Council of Four under pressure of public opinion continues and a virtual agreement has been reached on the question of responsibility. Probably no action will be taken to bring to judgment the authors of the war, but the crimes committed during the war will be made the subject of judicial proceedings before an international tribunal. It is most probable that the Dutch Government will be asked to arrange the extradition of the Kaiser.

News has reached Paris that the German Government at Weimar has sent a delegation to Vienna to discuss the union of German Austria with Germany.

"Le Temps," commenting on the general situation, states that in view of the uncertainty caused by the situation in Eastern Europe and the internal crisis in Germany, certain of the Allied Governments are inclin ed to recommend that the Entente including the United States should associate themselves for such time as necessary to guarantee their common interests and the general interests of civilisation.

Paris, April 12

Havas Agency states, "In the French Chamber yesterday about 300 deputies sign ed a manifesto desiring to affirm close union between the Senate and Chamber with a view to strengthening the hands of French representatives at the Peace Conference in their just demands."

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

GENEVA CHOSEN AS THE SEAT.

Paris, April 12

French has been proposed as the official language for the League of Nations. The League Commission decided that it was not competent to decide this question which must be settled by the Peace Conference. By twelve votes to six the League of Nations chose Geneva as the seat of the League. Brussels was proposed by Hymans, Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and this option was supported by France, China, Portugal and Czecho-Slovokia.

MAGYAR BOLSHEVISM.

ELECTION RETURNS IN BUDAPEST

Budapest, April 10

A telegram states that all Soviet candidates have been successful in the Budapest elections, the majority being factory hands.

A telegram dated the 9th April says: Fighting between the Reds and the Czechs has occurred at Ungvar in Hungary. Thirty Reds and 180 Czechs were killed.

Paris, April 10

"L' Echo de Paris" referring to General Smuts' mission says: The fact cannot be disguised that the understanding with Magyar Bolhevism would have induced the Entente to treat with Russian Bolshevism but the weakness of the governing authority and the uncomprising character of Nagyar Bolshevism made it clear after a few hours that it was impossible to arrive at any agreement.

DEPORTED LEADERS RELEASED.

Cairo, April 7.

A proclamation issued by General Allenby orders the release of the four deported Nationalist leaders, who will now be permit ted to leave Egypt.

SPARTACISM

DISORDERS IN MANY DISTRICTS.

Berlin, April 9.

Workers in Brunswick have begun a general strike, Banks, newspapers, railways and trams are suspended. The Landtag has adjourned indefinitely. The newly elected Workers' Council is meeting to proclaim itself the sole soverign power in Brunswick.

Copenhagen, April 10

A message from Essen dated April 9th states that the conference of miners and mineowners decided that a six-hour day for miners was at present impossible, but decided to grant a seven-hour day. Government troop arrested the strike commitee, dispersed the civilians who attacked the troops, and also arrested the publisher of the newspaper "Spartaus."

Bremerhaven, April 10.

Socialists demenstrated to-day demanding that vigorous measures be taken to relieve the food scarcity in the lower Weser regon, these measures to include an alliance with the Russian Soviet. Otherwise they threatened to strike on April 13th. There was some fighting at Magdeburg before Government troops obtained contrl, Numerous arrests were made. The strike at Nuremburg has ended.

The Communists at Vogtland (Saxony) have demanded the proclamation of a Soviet republic. The ironworkers and miners at Zwickau have struck, demanding the removal of Government. A telegram from Leipzig says that diplomatic relations have been established between the Vavarian Soviet Republic and Russia.

ALL INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE.

AN URGENT MEETING.

TO BE HELD ON THE 20th APRIL.

An urgent meeting of the All-India Congress Committee will be held at the Bombay presidency Association on Sunday, the 20th April at 11 a. m. to consider the present political situation.

PEACE TREATY

GERMANY'S CONDITION FOR SIGNING.

NO ESSENTIAL CHANGE.

London, April 11

A Berlin message from Weimar states that speaking in the National Assembly Herr Scheidemann said that loyalty to the treaties would be the distinguishing mark of New Germany, but vital German interests would be unswervingly protected while the spirit of unreserved conciliation would be observed towards all peoples. They wanted equal rapproachement of all peoples not fresh division of the world into alliances and groups. Germany would not allow Russia to dictate to her in her home affairs, but if Russia stopped forcible Bolshevik propaganda, Germany would gladly extend her hand to the Russian people. As regards France, Germany's desire for conciliation was very clear. If Germany pressed for a plebiscite in Alsace-Lorraine it was in order to remove the "'Revanche" idea for all time. Scheidemann emphasised the dangers of unrest in Germany, pointing out that strikes resulted including hundreds of thousands whose labour could alone provide payment for the food supplies. Revolution in Munich endangered peace. The Government desired to open the road to economic democracy and would so inaugurate socialistation that it would form a source of prosperity not a bacillus of decomposition, but they must forcibly repel all attempts to take them by surprise.

Herr Brockdorff Rantzau declared that the Government was unable to sign a peace essentially deviating from the basis of peace to which Germany agreed in the beginning. (Loud Applause.) Germany required release industrially and agriculturally of the important West which was cut off from the rest of Germany. She also needed the speedy raising of the blockade and the importation of foodstuffs on conditions making their purchase possible for Germany. She also expected raw materials from her western enemies and needed credit to purchase these.

LORD MILNER'S Speech.

London, April 11

Lord Milner speaking at a public meeting in Manchester, said we were in for a most anxious time but that did not necessarily mean stagnation of trade or widespread unemployment. One idea was that most rigid and penurious economy was our only hope of salvation, but if economy meant the turning down of all fresh expenditure including productive expenditure it would lead straight to disaster. He was appalled, however, at the possibility of restriction of credit. The civilised world was very short of most urgent necessities and human energy must be kept mobilised for the purposes of peace. Those great countries whose industrial equipment was unimpaired by war should adopt a bold and generous policy and assist those whose industrial activity was crippled or paralysed. Anarchical Russia could not be assisted but other Allied and enemy countries were not past helping.

Lord Milner referring to the mandatory system said that we were entitled to be proud of the fact that there was practically nothing in the conditions attached to the mandate which we had not already observed in territories under our sway. He hoped that we, France, and some of the other European nations with whom we had been in contact in Asia and Africa would co-operate in friendly rivalry in the advancement of civilisation.

GENEVA CHOSEN AS SEAT OF THE LEAGUE.

Paris, April 11.

The League of Nations' Commission last evening chose Geneva as the seat of the League and adopted new provisions ensuring that the Monroe Doctrine will not be affected by the provisions of the Covenant.

Berlin, April 11

A telegram from Munich states that the Council elected by revolutionary workers and soldiers has declared itself the sole authority and has demanded immediate abdication of the central council. At a mass meeting of Communists it was announced that the White Guard under Schneppenhorst was already at Ingolstadt and was about to enter Munich to overthrow the Soviet Government.

Berlin, April 11.

Inspite of the concession of seven hour day the coal strike in Ruhr region continues Excitement at Essen is growing Government soldiers venturing in the streets singly are assaulted by strikers. The "Vorwaerts" states that a Soviet Republic was to have been proclaimed in Ruhr district yesterday but was frustrated by Government occupation of Essen.

Berlin, April 11

Seventeen members of the workers' council at Muelheimruhr who voted for immediate proclamation of a Soviet Republic were arrested for high treason.

Berlin, April 8.

Herr Eilenberger, the leader of the Bavarian peasants, opposes the Soviet Government and threatens to cut off Munich food supplies. Spartacist disturbances have occurred at Nuremberg. Strong forces are now patrolling the town. The Soviet at Wuerzburg voted against the Soviet Republic, while at Munich the three Socialist parties are opposing one another. Confusion reigns. A Bourgeois strike being threatened the German Government has refused the release of Ledebour, which the Congress of Soviets demand.

COTTON IMPORTS.

London, April 8.

The Board of Trade has directed that with regard to prohibitions of imports no ration will be granted for cotton hosiers except in piece for which a ration fifty per cent of 1916 imports will be allowed. No restrictions will be retained on cotton yarn grey and bleached cloth, except cotton duck, after April 30th and dyed coloured and printed cotton goods will be admitted freely from all sources.

BOLSHEVIKS DROWNED.

STEAMER STRIKES MINE.

Madrid, April 10.

A steamer deporting 400 Russian Bolshevists to Odessa struck a mine in the Dardanelles. There were 100 casualties.

SOVIET GOVERNMENT

200 M. P.'S REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE.

London, April 10.

In the House of Commons, Mr Clem Edwards drew attention to Lenin's alleged peace offer upon which a lively discussion ensued, a number of speakers objecting to any negotiations with Bolshevists. Mr Shortt replying on behalf of the Government said there was no desire to avoid a discussion with Russia, but we could not have truck with a mere gang of bloodthirsty ruffians who were terrorising the population of Russia. We were entitled to tell the Russian people that we would have no dealings with a Government which endangered civilisation. He opined that the whole story of Lenin being ready to negotiate was German manufactured for the purpose of making believe that the Bolshevists were really peaceable, civilised persons. The Germans were spreading Bolshevism wherever possible as their only hope because where it went weakness supervened.

London, April 10.

A British North Russia communique states The Liverpools and Yorkshires, assisted by a company of Russian army, defended Shredmechenga on April 5th, while the Russian national army, fighting for the first time, defended Bolsheczerki on April 1st. Russian howitzers in one instance were withdrawn from gun pits and reversed at 400 yards range against the enemy on skis. Canadians, South Africans and Russians were among the Air Force pilots and observers rendering great assistance.

THE DELHI RIOT.

VICEROY'S MESSAGE TO MR. MONTAGU "TIMES" COMMENT.

London, April 8.

Replying in the House of Commons to Sir John Rees Mr. Fisher read a telegram from the Viceroy dated March 31st detailing the rioting in Delhi on March 30th. Mr. Fisher added that the Viceroy reported a few days later that there had been no trouble elsewhere.

London, April 9.

The "Times" commenting on the Delhi riots says that Indian Extremists are not creating an atmosphere favourable to the passage of the Reform Bill but the paper believes that the Government will not be deterred from passing it by the excesses that are now beginning, just as they will not be driven into framing further concessions which would be beyond India's present capacity to utilise with advantage to herself.

THE HOME BUDGET

London, April 10.

The Budget will be introduced on April 30th.

IMPORTANT ARRESTS IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

IN CONNECTION WITH ARMENIA MASSACRES.

Constantinople, April 4.

The police and Allied gendarmes have made important arrests in connection with the Armenian massacres, including Halip Pasha, uncle of Enver Pasha.

MR. CHAKRAVARTI'S STATEMENT.

("I D. News")

Up till yesterday, the Sergeant and the constable incident was made much of—in fact, those who were not in the crowd were led to believe that it was the initial spark that caused the explosion. But the Government communique that appears elsewhere says that medical examination has shown that the constable had sustained a stabbing wound. Probably, truth in this mater will be lying for ever in the proverbial well and may not be fished up at all. But Mr. Chakravarti, in a statement, published in the "Amrita Bazar Patrika," yesterday, throws a flood of light on the situation. We publish Mr. Chakrovarti's statement elsewhere. It leads one into both Government House and the very heart of the troubled area—two places so closely associated with Saturday's tragedy. In his interview with Lord Ronaldshay, Mr. Chakravarti contrasted the two demonstrations. "I pointed out,"writes Mr. Chakravarti, "the peaceful celebraion on the previous Sunday and the absence of all friction the day before and drew His Excellency's attention to the fact that the satisfactory result was principally due to the policy of police non-interference directed by His Excellency. I further submitted that if the European armed Police were removed, the maintenance of order would not be difficult specially when the 'Hartal' was being brought to an end at a meeting to be held that afternoon in Beadon Square consequent upon the release of Mr. Gandhi. I offered to undertake the maintenance of order if the European armed police were either withdrawn or kept at a place not within the view of the public but available at a moment's notice. His Excellency thereupon pointed out the humours of the crowd and did not see his way to accede to my request. I further begged His Excellency either to accompany me or to go by himself in order to get a correct appreciation of the situation. But His Excellency did not approve of it. The interview ended with a request from His Excellency that I should do the best I could to keep peace and order and I promised I would do so."

Next, Mr. Chakravarti takes the reader to the scene of the riot when the bullets had already done their deadly work. Mr Chakravarti made inquiries. "Being asked why the soldiers had fired," he says, "the reply was that some brickbats had been thrown at the soldiers by the crowd and thereupon they had fired. I said that no one among the soldiers appeared to have been hurt in any way and there seemed to have been no justification for firing. We then went ahead through the cordon. While we had advanced about 30 yards we were told to get back or be shot as there would be firing in two minutes or so. We protested against this and pointed out that the crowd was well be-

(Continued on next Column)

CALCUTTA GAZETTE

Calcutta, April 16.

Maulvi Dalilur Rahman, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, on leave, is posted temporarily to Bankura Sadar.

Mr A J Chotzner Addl Dist and Sessions Judge 24 Parganas and Hooghly, is appointed temporarily to act, in addition to his own duties, as Dist and Sessions Judge 24 Parganas.

Mr W A Seaton Addl Dist and Sessions Judge, Bakarganj is appointed to act until further orders as Dist and Sessions Judge Chittagong. Mr B N Rau Offig Second Addl Dist and Sessions Judge, Bakarganj is appointed to act for him.

Mr Sharat Ch Ghosh Sub Judge and Asst Sessions Judge Bakarganj is appointed temporarily to act as Second Addl Dist and Sessions Judge of that district.

The services of Mr E N Blandy are placed at the disposal of the Govt of India in the Finance Dept.

Mr F S Groser, Dy Supdt, Presidency Jail is appointed to act, in addition to his own duties, as Supdt of that Jail until further orders.

The following acting appointments are sanctioned in the grades of Magtes and Collrs:—

In the first grade: Mr J A L Swan from the 24th Feb until further orders. Mr J N Roy from the 11th to the 18th March 1919 inclusive. Mr F A Sachse with Mr W D R Prentice on privilege leave, from the 1st to the 10th March 1919, inclusive.

In the second grade: Khan Bahadur Muhammad Abdul Mumin, from the 20th Feb 1919, until further orders. Mr E M Mannooch, from the 24th Feb to the 18th March 1919, inclusive. Mr F D Ascoli from the 1st to the 10th March 1919, inclusive.

Mr H B Lethbridge Joint Magte and Dy Collr, Burdwan is allowed leave for six months.

Mr Harold Graham Offig Joint Magte and Dy Collr 24 Parganas, is allowed combined leave for six months.

In modification of previous orders Mr C H Moseley Dist and Sessions Judge, Rajshahi and Malda is allowed leave for six weeks, from the 22nd April 1919.

Babu Manindra Bhusan Datta, Dy Magte and Dy Collr Madaripore, is allowed leave for three months from the 20th March 1919.

SUBORDINATE CIVIL SERVICE.

Babu Ashutosh Deb, Sub Dy Collr is allowed an extension of leave on medical certificate for six months.

Babu Satya Charan Haldar, Sub Dy Collr on leave, is posted to the Burdwan Division.

In modification of previous orders Babu Suresh Ch Nandi, Sub Dy Collr is allowed privilege leave for three months from the 2nd Jan 1919 and addl privilege leave for one month.

Babu Gyan Ranjan Mukharji, Sub Collr and Chaukidari Circle Officer, Rangpur is allowed leave for fifteen days from the 22nd April 1919.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Captain D J McLaren is appointed to hold medical charge of the Civil Station of Barrackpore, from the forenoon of the 2nd March 1919.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

The powers of a Magte of the third class in the district of Mymensingh is conferred upon Babu Bepin Chandra Goswami and is directed that he shall in addition to sitting singly sit as a member of the Kishoreganj Bench.

The powers of a Magte of the third class in the district of Mymensingh is conferred upon Babu Kamini Kishore Dhar and it is directed that he shall, in addition to sitting singly, sit as a member of the Bajitpur Bench.

The powers of a Magte of the third class, in the dist of Dacca is conferred upon Maulvi Saiyid Abul Fateh Sharifuddin and it is directed that he shall, in addition to sitting singly sit as a member of the Sadar Bench in the said district.

The powers of a Magte of the third class in the district of Howrah is conferred upon Babu Ekkari Singh Ray and it is directed that he shall sit as a member of the Uluberia Bench.

The powers of a Magte of the first class, in the district of the 24 Parganas is conferred upon Babu Kedar Nath Basu and it is directed that he shall, in addition to sitting singly, sit as a member of the Sealdah Bench.

The powers of a Magte of the third class in the district of the 24 Parganas is conferred upon Babu Arabinda Krishna Deb and it is directed that he shall sit as a member of the Sealdah Bench.

The powers of a Magte of the third class in the district of the 24 Parganas is conferred upon Babu Gadadhar Mandal and it is directed that he shall sit as a member of the Barrackpore Bench.

ALL-INDIA MUSLIM LEAGUE.

TO BE HELD AT ALIGHAR

FOR MEMBERS ONLY.

A meeting of the All India Muslim League at Aligarh during the Easter Week will be confined to the members only. The members wishing to attend will please wire to the Joint Secretary at Aligarh mentioning the [illegible]

(Continued from previous column.)

lieved and we should be able to take them with us to the Beadon Square if we were given the opportunity to explain the position to the crowd which the soldiers were not able to do on account of their ignorance of the vernacular and their inabality to make themselves understand by the people. We were thereupon allowed by the officer-in-charge to approach the people in front of them. The crowd was not at all troublesome and not even in an angry mood. They only said that if soldiers were to fire at them without provocation what was their remedy." The sequel may be read in Mr. Chakravarti's statement. Here are two influential views pitted against one another—official and non-official and the task of drawing the correct inference necessarily becomes very difficult. We know public feeling in Calcutta is very strong in respect of firing on the mob. Who will exactly explain why the first volley was fired and under what circumstances? The theory that every brick-bat thrown deserves to be followed by the inevitable bullet will hardly be generally accepted. An inquiry is called for. The September riots have been inquired into by the Jana Sava who have just concluded their labours. Let an influential committee inquire into Saturday's affairs and bring the true to light. That is what the public wants.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

INDIAN GOVT. ON THE PRESENT SITUATION

MEASURES THAT MAY BE ENFORCED

SUPPORT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

Simla, April 14.—The Viceroy's Executive Council has held a prolonged sitting.

Simla, April 14.—A "Gazette of India" Extraordinary publishes the following resolution in the Home Department dated 14th April 1919:—

The present situation arising out of the agitation against the Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act (commonly called the Rowlatt Act) renders it imperative on the Governor General in Council to define the attitude of Government on the subject of that agitation and the serious disorders which have resulted therefrom and to indicate the nature of the concerted action which it is now necessary to take for the preservation of law and order. When the Bill was under discussion its opponents publicly stated that if it passed into law a campaign of agitation against it on a scale hitherto unattempted would be organized throughout India and a section of them indicated that they would support that campaign by resort to what is known as Passive resistance. No one cognizant of the conditions of India could have been ignorant at the time of the dangers of initiating a widespread movement of this nature. They were clearly pointed out by many public men of moderate views and the representatives of Government did not fail during the debates on the bill to emphasise the serious consequences to the public peace which would follow from an agitation such as was then threatened. These warnings were unheeded and to the agitation which has succeeded the passing of the Act must be directly attributed the open breaches of the public peace, the defiance of authority, and the criminal attacks on life and property which have lately been witnessed in certain parts of India. The agitation has followed a double line of action, namely, direct criticism of the Act by means of public speeches and publication and the initiation of the threatened movement of passive resistance. The latter movement was ushered in by a demonstration consisting of the observance of a day of fasting and the closing of shops and places of business. Such a demonstration was not in itself illegal but there is ample evidence to prove that in more than one place those locally responsible for the organization over stepped the limits of lawful persuasion and resorted to direct interference with the business of many who were not interested in the movement and to forcible obstruction of the traffic in the public streets. But the indirect consequences of this aspect of the agitation have been far more mischievous in that it promoted a sense of unrest and of excitement which was bound to react and has reacted on the more ignorant and inflammable sections of the population. The campaign of criticism has involved in many quarters the use of most flagrant misrepresentations regarding the character of the Act. It is clear that large numbers of ignorant people have been deliberately led to believe that the new law gives the police unfettered authority to interfere with public meetings not only of a political but of a religious and social nature, and to arrest summarily persons engaged in political work and that it empowers the executive authorities to imprison without trial any person criticising the action of Government.

The Governor General in Council thinks it necessary to reiterate here the following salient facts concerning this Act. It is specifically directed against revolutionary and anarchical crime and can only be brought into force in any locality when it has been proved to the satisfaction of the Governor General in Council that such crime or movements tending to such crime exist. It has not so far been brought into operation in any part of India. Its first part merely provides for the speedy trial of certain grave offences. In the second and third parts provision is made for preventive action (similar to but much more restricted in scope than that now provided by rules under the Defence of India Act) against persons suspected of revolutionary or anarchical crime. Action cannot however be taken against any individual without the previous order of the local government. There is nothing therefore which can justify the widespread rumours for which the promoters of the agitation must be held responsible that unusual or even extended powers have been given to the police. Nor is there anything which need cause fear or apprehension to any person other than the revolutionary or the anarchist. Not only do the terms of the Act definitely exclude its use in any case not falling within the definition of anarchical or revolutionary conspiracy but Government has given the most categorical pledge (which the Governor General in Council takes this opportunity to reiterate) that the tenor and intention of the Act will be scrupulously safeguarded should occasion arise to put into operation.

The Governor General in Council considers it unnecessary to detail here the deplorable occurrences resulting from the agitation against this Act. The offences which have occurred at Delhi Calcutta, Bombay and Lahore have one common feature the unprovoked attempt of violent and unruly mobs to hamper or obstruct those charged with the duty of maintaining order in public places. At Amritsar and Ahmedabad they have taken a far graver form—a murderous attack on defenceless individuals and a wholesale and wanton destruction of private and public property. The Governor General in Council thinks it right to state that at Amritsar the loss of life might have been greater but for the protection afforded by unofficial Indians to those who were threatened by the mob and he takes this opportunity of expressing the gratitude of Government for this conspicuous example of loyalty and humane feeling.

It remains for the Governor General in Council to assert in the clearest manner the intention of Government to prevent by all means, however drastic, any recurrence of these excesses. He will not hesitate to employ the ample military resources at his disposal to suppress organized outrage, rioting or concerted opposition to the maintenance of law and order, and has already sanctioned the application of the State Offences Regulation 1804 in a modified form to certain districts of the Punjab. He will further use all preventive measures provided by the statutes to check disorder at its source and in Regulation 3 of 1818 and the corresponding regulations applicable to Bombay and Madras and in the rules under the Defence of India Act he has powers which will enable him to deal effectively with those who promote disorder. He has sanctioned the extension of the provisions of the Seditious Meetings Act to the Districts of Lahore and Amritsar in the Punjab and will authorise a similar extension to other areas in which local Governments see reason to require it. The Police Act of 1861 enables a local government to quarter additional police on any locality which is guilt of organized offences against the public peace at the charge of the inhabitants and to levy from the latter compensation for those who have suffered from injury to their property. The Governor General in Council will advise local governments to make a free use of these provisions where necessary. The Governor General in Council feels that many of those who inaugurated this agitation must regret the lamentable consequences which have ensued, the loss of life and property and the damage to the reputation of India. He now appeals to all loyal subjects of the Crown and to all those who have an interest in the maintenance of law and protection of property both to dissociate themselves publicly from the movement and to exert themselves in quieting unrest and preventing disorder. To all those who render such assistance to the cause of the public and the State and to those servants of Government who are charged with the onerous responsibility of suppressing excesses against the public peace and tranquility the Governor General in Council extends the fullest assurance of countenance and support.

U. P. GOVT. ON THE PRESENT SITUATION.

A PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

(Associated Press of India.)

Allahabad, April 14.

The United Provinces Govt have issued a press communique contradicting the rumours afloat regarding the Rowlatt Bill and explaining the nature, provisions and the operation of the act if enforced. The communique then goes on to say, "if the people maintain their loyalty to the King Emperor there is no reason why the enforcement of any part of the act should be apprehended. No good can come of agitation against the measure which is directed only against revolutionary criminals. Grave responsibility rests on those who foment agitation against this Act spreading false rumours among ignorant people. The Government will not flingh from its duty to preserve law and order and all sober minded people should assist Government in explaining to people real facts about this Act. The Lieutenant Governor appeals to all loyal and patriotic men to pressive untarnished the fair name of the province of Agra and Oudh and to avoid the crime and bloodshed that have occurred elsewhere.

AHMEDABAD.

MARTIAL LAW DECLARED. 250 CASUALTIES.

Simla, April 14—Some Government buildings are reported destroyed at Viramgaum, some forty miles from Ahmedabad on the B. B. and C I. Railway.

Order has been restored at Ahmedabad after the rioters had 250 casualties.

Bombay, April 14.—News from Ahmedabad continues meagre but it is understood the situation there is very serious but well in hand and the town is under martial law for the last two days. Mr. Gandhi left Bombay on Saturday night for Ahmedabad.

LAHORE AND AMRITSAR.

MARTIAL LAW ESTABLISHED.

Simla, April 14

The following communique is issued by the Home Department, Government of India:—As the Government General in Council is satisfied that a state of open rebellion against the authority of Government exists in the districts of Lahore and Amritsar, he has been pleased to bring into force in those districts the provisions of Section 2 of the Bengal State Offences regulation 1804 for the trial by Courts Martial instead of the ordinary criminal courts of persons taken in arms in open hostility to the British Government or in the act of opposing by force of arms the authority of the same or in the actual commission of any covert act of rebellion against the State or in the act or openly aiding and abetting the enemies of the British Government. An ordinance is however about to issue providing that every such trial instead of being held by a Court Martial shall be held by a Commission constituted on lines similar to those prescribed in the Defence of India Act.

MARTIAL LAW IN GUJRANWALA.

Associated Press of India.)

Simla, April 15.

Martial Law has been proclaimed in Gujranwala district (Punjab) and similar Ordinance to that relating to Amritsar and Lahore issues immediately.

MARTIAL LAW IN LAHORE.

(Associated Press of India.)

Lahore, April 14.

Martial law has been proclaimed this morning.

THE ORDINANCE.

(Associated Press of India.)

Simla, April 15.

The ordinance in connection with establishment of martial law in Lahore and Amritsar districts runs:—

Ordinance No. 1 of 1919.

1. (1) This ordinance way ha called the martial law Ordinance 1919

(2) It shall come into operation at midnight between the 15th and the 16th April. 1919.

2. (1) Every trial held under the Bengal State Offences Regulation 1804 (here in after called the said Regulation) shall instead of being held by a court martial be held by a Commission consisting of three persons appointed in this behalf by the Local Government.

(2) The Local Government may appoint as many Commissions for this purpose as it may deem expedient.

(3) At least two members of every such Commission shall be persons who have served as Sessions Judges or Additional Sessions Judges for a period of not less than three years, or persons qualified under Section 101 of the Government of India Act 1915 for appointment as judges of a High Court. The Local Government shall nominate one of the members of the Commission to be president thereof.

3. A Commission shall be convened by the Local Government or by such officer as the Local Government may authorise in this behalf.

4. A Commission shall have all the powers of a general court martial under the Indian Army Act 1911 and shall subject to the provisions of this ordinance, in all matters follow so far as may be the procedures regulating trials by such court martial prescribed by or under the said Act provided that where in the opinion of the convening authority a summary trial is necessary in the interest of the public safety. Such authority may direct that the Commission shall follow the procedure prescribed for a summary general court martial by or under the said act and the Commission shall, so far as may be and subject to the provisions of this ordinance, follow such procedure accordingly.

Provided further, that sections 78, 80 and 82 of the said Act shall not apply to any trial under this ordinance.

5. The finding and sentence of a Commission shall not be subject to confirmation by any authority.

6. Nothing in this ordinance shall affect any trial held or begun to be held by court martial under the said regulation prior to the commencement of this ordinance. Save as provided by section 6 the provisions of this ordinance shall apply to all persons referred to in the said regulation who are charged with any of the offences therein described committed on or after the 13th April 1919.

Chelmsford, Viceroy and Governor General.

AT LAHORE.

SHOPS CONTINUED SHUT.

WIRES TO SIMLA WERE CUT.

(Associated Press of India.)

Lahore, April 14

On Sunday relief was carriew out in the city and everything passed off quietly. Shops continued shut and supplies for civil station were very scarce and dear and have to be obtained from outlying village. A little before 1 p. m. on Sunday the Deputy Commssioner summoned certain Ward Commissioners and leaders of communities and asked them to use their influence to have the shops opened by 4 p. m., failing which military authoritiis would be left to deal with the situation.

On Saturday evening wires to Simla were cut and telegraphic and telephonic communication rendered impossible.

A MASS MEETING AT LUCKNOW

(From a correspondent.)

Lucknow, April 14.

The Satyagrahis of Lucknow held a mass meeting on the 13th instant. There were fifty thousand audience. Moulana Fazlurrahman, Editor of the "Akhowat" was the chief speaker. He said: If India is to achieve a prominent place amongst the great nations then it must make sacrifices. The sacrifices can best be made by adopting the "Passive Resistance" which has been started by Mahatma Gandhi. His speech was received with thundering applause. A considerable number of people enlisted as members of the Gaytagraha. Mr. Harkarnath Misra and others also addressed the meeting.

The Tilak Purse Fund now amounts to Rs. 78,000.

DAMAGED RAILWAYS IN KATHIAWAR

Bombay, April 14—Damage to the railway line between Nadiad and Ahmedabad has been repaired and through communication restored. Beyond Ahmedabad damages in the metre gauge line have been also repaired while the broad guage line to Viramgaum and further up into Kathiawar is expected to be cleared by to-night. No letters or mails were received from Ahmedabad area in the Bombay G P O. yesterday, while to-day's Guzerat mail brought only a handful of letters as compared with the daily average of two bags.

MR. GANDHI'S ADVICE.

SATYAGRAHA HINTS FOR THE MASSES.

Bombay, April 14—Mr. Gandhi has issued the following advice to the public:—"In order that Satyagraha may have full play and a chance of permeating the masses, in my humble opinion the following instructions should be strictly obeyed. Some of the items may require change later. The rest are inviolable principles of Satyagraha. No procession, no organised demonstration, no "hartals" on any account whatsoever without instructions of the committee. All police orders to be implicitly obeyed. No violence, no stone throwing, no obstructions to tram-cars and traffic. No pressure to be exercised against anyone. At public meetings no clapping of hands no demonstrations of approval or disapproval, no cries of "shame," no cheers, perfect stillness, perfect obedience to instructions of volunteers or management.

(Sd.) Mohandas K. Gandhi.

SALE OF SATYAGRAHI NEWSPAPERS.

(Associated Press of India.)

Madras, April 15.

As announced copied of unregistered newspapers "Satyagrahi" was sold this evening in the beach at 3 pies per copy. These papers were in Telugu, Tamil and English copies were typewritten while those in vernaculars were in handwriting. Six of the papers bearing the signatures of prominent Satyagrahies among whom were Dr. M. C. Nanjunda Rao and Kasthuriraga Iyengar were sold in auction and Rs. 143 was realised.

DEPORTATIONS OF LALA DUNICHAND HARKISSEN AND PUNDIT RAMBHUJDATT CHOWDHURY.

(Associated Press of India.)

Lahore April 14.

Lala Dunichand, Bar-at-law, Harkishan, Bar at law; and Pandit Rambhujdatt Chaudhuri pleader were deported to-day to unknown distination at eleven a m.

SEDITIOUS MEETINGS ACT

APPLIED TO LAHORE AND AMRITSAR.

Simla, April 13.—A "Gazette of India" extraordinary issued to-day notifies that in pursuance of Section 1 Sub-Section (2) of the Prevention of Seditious Meetings Act 1911 (X of 1911) the Governor General in Council is pleased to notify that the said Act shall have operation in the districts of Lahore and Amritsar of the Punjab

DISTURBANCES AT AHMEDABAD.

(Associated Press of India.)

Bombay, April 14

The following communique is issued by Government to-night:—"Disturbances which broke out in Ahmedabad on the tenth continued on eleventh. Various Government buildings in the city were burnt by rioters, one European Sergeant and one Indian constable were killed and there were considerable casualties among the rioters. The electrical power house is reported to have been damaged and two European employees seriously handled.

The I G of police and the Commissioner, Northern Division arrived at Ahmedabad at 1-30 p. m. on the twelfth with a military force The city which is strongly packetted with military and police forces is now quiet, the main roads practically deserted business at a stand still and all shops shut.

Mr Gandhi arrivad at Ahmedabad on Sunday morning.

A crowd of rioters on the 12th burnt the Railway station and various Government buildings at Viramgam The Aval Karkun of Viramgam was murdered, a military force has been despatched and order has been restored. It is hoped that communications with Vramgam, which have been interrupted, will be restored to-morrow. The interruption of communications has seriously impeded famine relief in Gujrat and adjoining areas.

Viramgam is railway junction between British territory and Kathiawar states: The Governor who left Bombay for Simla on Thursday evening returned to Bombay by Special train to-night.—(Delayed in transmission.

Bombay, April 15.

(Associated Press of India.)

The following communique has been issued by the Government of Bombay: the condition of Ahmedabad city on 14th was distinctly better and military regulations now considerably relaxed. Confidence is being restored and shops are opening and ordinary business is being gradually resumed. Information has been received that the Viramgaum treasury was looted on Saturday. Military forces have been despatched to all points at which the disturbances are likely to occur. No further disorder is reported.

MR. GHANDI'S EARNEST APPEAL TO PEOPLE.

TO ABSTAIN FROM ACT OF VIOLENCE.

Bombay, April 15

Mr. Gandhi attended a meeting of cloth merchants of Bombay before his departure for Ahmedabad when Mr. Gandhi is said to have made earnest appeal to people to abstain from any act of violence. He appeared deeply affected by the news of disturbance in Gujrat. At Mr. Gandhi's suggestion a committee of trading men has bean appointed to raise a body of volunteers to assist in preservation of order in cloth market and surrounding locality.

A petition signed by four to five thousand Parsees will be submitted to Government protesting against the Rowlatt Act and asking for its repeal.

RIOTS AT DELHI.

A COMMUNIQUE.

Simla, April 15

The following communique is issued by the Home Department, Government of India:—The "Bombay Chronicle" of 5th April published an article on recent riots at Delhi communicated by its Delhi correspondent. The article stated "The latest evidence proved that soft-nosed solid nickle tube velopex bullets were used. Buck shot is admitted by the authorities but bullets collected from various quarters prove the above facts."

"I myself saw mushroomed bullet extracted from a brick which appeared to be a velopex bullet. Similarly I have seen hollow soft-nosed nickle bullets and also solid ones in short deadly ammunitions have been used."

Careful enquiries prove that there is not slightest foundation for the allegation that soft-nosed bullets were used. The ammunition supplied to the police was the ordinary buck-shot, the cartridges of which contain large shot and not bullets. A Military Court of Enquiry has reported that the troops used Government ammunition (.305 mark 7 with pointed bullets) only that there was no opportunity of tapering with this ammunition nor was there any evidence that the ammunition was tampered with. It is possible that some of the bullets fired by the troops should have flattened themselves or musbroomed on striking masonary or iron gates at short range.

The Civil Surgeon of Delhi has made the following statement:—"I examined all the wounded rioters brought to hospital on March 30th and subsequent dates. Six men were injured by buck-shot and five by .303 modern bullets. There was one case which was probably injured by some sharp cutting instruments.

Among the corpses brought to hospital for examination seven in number all were deaths caused by bullet wounds except the one referred to above of having been killed by some sharp cutting instrument.

There was no suspicion of any injuries or deaths being caused by soft-nosed bullets.

The question of taking action against the "Bombay Chronicle" and other newspapers that published this false allegation is under consideration. In the meantime, the Government of India think it desirable to contradict at the earliest opportunity this libel aimed at His Majesty's soldiers.

FEW SHOPS OPENED IN CHANDNEY CHOWK.

(Associated Press of India.)

Delhi, April 15.

Late in the evening very few shops were opened in Chandni Chowk.

"MADRAS MAIL" ON THE DELHI RIOTS.

(Associated Press of India).

Madras, April 15.

Commenting on the Delhi and Lahore riots etc. the "Madras Times" writes:—In this matter grave responsibility rests upon the Government of India which it cannot shirk. It possesses wide powers. It must use them wrthout stint. The ultimate origin of the present disorders is the refusal of the Government of India to govern. It has capitulated to agitation at every turn.

ANOTHER RIOT AT AMRITSAR.

200 CASUALTIES.

Simla, April 14—News has been received from the Punjab that the Amritsar mob has again broken out in a violent attack against the authorities. The rebels were repulsed by the military and they suffered 200 casualties.

LAHORE MAILS HELD UP LAST NIGHT'S TRAIN BROUGHT BACK TO DELHI.

Delhi, April 14—The mail from Lahore has not yet arrived. The mail for Lahore which left Delhi last night has been brought back here this morning.

Simla, April 14—It is reported that railway communication with Lahore is interrupted and mails are not going thorough regularly.

Lahore, April 14—The "hartal" still continues All shops and Mandis are still closed inside and outside the city. Military and armed police are guarding Badshahi Mosque and city. Everything is so far quiet to-day.

Latest news of the Kasur outbreak says the Munsiff's Court and Post Office were burnt but the police fired on mob and successfully defended the treasury.

DELHI OFFICIALS' WARNING. TO LEADERS.

Delhi, April 14

This afternoon Mr. Barron Chief Commissioner, convened a meeting of political leaders here to consider what steps should be taken to put a stop to the present situation. Among those present besides the Chief Commissioner were Col. Beadon, General Drake Brockman, Khan Bahadur Ajmal Khan Dr. Ansari Rai Bahadur Sultan Singh, Mr. Abdul Gaffur Mr. Sheonarain and Mr. Pearey L[illegible] Swami Shradhanand was asked thro[ugh] Khan Bahadur Ahmal Khan but he f[ailed] to attend. The Chief Commissioner p[ointed] ed out to the leaders that the situation in fact become dangerous, that it had beyond the shutting of shops by those desired to do so that people were being f[orced] ed to observe the strike with the result that the labourers and poor classes were suffering greatly and were prevented from obtaining their food, that railways were affected as coolies were unable to carry on, being threatened if they continued to do their work. He read to them appropriate passages from the speech of Lord Ronaldshay delivered before the Marwaris on Sunday last and explained to the meeting how similar features of the situation mentioned by Lord Ronaldshay in Calcutta were becoming apparent in Delhi and he invited their cooperation to put an end to that situation. The Deputy Commissioner said he proposed to issue a proclamation contemplated by section 188, Indian Penal Code, declaring that interference with any person carrying on his daily work was illegal and punishable It was also proposed that after the proclamation the city would be patrolled with police and troops in order to show to law-abiding citizens that Government support was present if they resisted the efforts of those interfering with them. The leaders of the public explained why their efforts had failed hitherto but they asked for one more opportunity to be given before the police or military were brought out to meet their wishes. The Chief Commissioner adjourned the meeting till ten o'clock tomorrow morning by which time it will be seen whether the efforts of the leaders had proved successful or not. It was hoped that by agreement between shopkeepers and butchers some of the shops at any rate would be opened this evening and the slaughter house would work early to-morrow morning. While the meeting was in progress inside the Town Hall a large crowd gathered outside its gates which were well guarded and made a demonstration, shouting that their leaders were being interned. After the termination of the meeting the leaders while getting out of the Town Hall were the recipients of huge ovation, the crowds shouting their "jai."

No shop has been opened at the time of writing this message (8 p. m.) and so far the efforts of the leaders have failed.

INDIAN PRESS IN PUNJAB.

PUBLICATION OF ACCOUNTS OF DISTURBANCES PROHIBITED.

Lahore, April 11

The following order has been issued by the Punjab Government and was served on the publisuers of the Indian edited newspapers, to-day:—

(Order under Rule 3 of he Defence of Indian (Consolication) Rule, 1915.)

Whereas in the opinion of the Local Government there are reasonable grounds for believing that the publishers are about to publish in their newspapers account of or references to the disturbances which have taken and are taking place in Lahore and Amritsar.

And whereas in the opinion of the Local Government the publication of such accounts or references is likely to be prejudicial to public safety and preservation of order.

Now, therefore, the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased hereby to direct, that the said shall not publish or permit to be published in any newspaper of which he is the publisher any references to accounts of or criticisms of the said disturbances or any other disturbances of a similar nature in India, or, of measures taken by the authorities to deal with such disturbances unless and untill any such references, accounts or criticisms shall have been submitted for pre-censorship to the Press Adviser to the Punjab Government, or other officer authorised by the Local Government, in this behalf and shall have been duly passed for publication by that officer.

By order of the Lieutent-Governor the Punjab.

(SD.) E. Joseph, (Secretary).

(This order does not apply to the "Civil and Military Gazette" as it has published accounts of the disturbances at Lahore and Amritsar in to day's edition.")

THE PRESS ACT.

NOTICES SERVED ON TWO MADRAS PAPERS.

Madras, April 14.—Notice under the Press Act has been served upon the printer of "Swadeshi-mitram" to appear before the Chief Presidency Magistrate on Wednesday next and show cause why security of Rs. 2,000 should not be demanded from him. A similar notice has been served on the "Hindu Nesan," another Tamil daily.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Mr. B. Shukul Ksigns.

MEMBERSHIP OF VICEROY'S COUNCIL ON ACCOUNT OF GOVT'S ATTITUDE RE THE PASSING OF THE ROWLATT ACT.

We are glad to announce that Mr. B. Shukul has resigned his membership of the Imperial Legislative Council. The following is the letter he has addressed to the Viceroy:—

"Dated, Sihora, the 6th April 1919.

My Lord,

I respectfully beg to tender my resignation of membership of the Indian Legislative Council and while doing so, let me assure Your lordship that it is an over whelming sense of duty which impells me to take this course.

As your lordship is aware, I never concealed my detestation of the Rowlatt Bill I always regarded it as a most inopportune and an ill-advised measure particularly at a time of peace, when nothing but calm prevailed throughout the country and I have always held that the Emergency Law, as now enacted, is not only subversive of the fundamental principles of liberty and justice but is also destructive of the elementary rights of free citizenship on which is based the very safety of the country to a whole and the state itself and as such it is fraught with dangerous consequences For these reasons I for one could not in all conscience reconcile myself with the attitude which the government adopted with regard to this Bill from the very beginning and I could not help expressing my profound dissatisfaction with the manner of its passage into law by the Government with the help of the majority of the official votes exclusively and that too, not only in the teeth of the solid non-official opposition in the Council Chamber but all the unanimous outside popular opposition to it in the country, notwithstanding.

Your lordship is further aware that I along with my other Hon'ble non-official colleagues in the council at the final stage of the debate on the bill, requested you to withhold your assent to the bill but that too, you could not see your way to accept and last of all, I expected and hoped that in view of the critical situation created in the country by the passage of this obnoxious bill into law, the Secretary of State for India, Mr. Montague, would advise His Majesty to signify His disallowance to the bill and I waited so long, but waited in vain, and I now observe that the government is as determined, as ever to retain this coercive measure in the Statute book, without showing the least regard for the feelings and sentiments of the people in the country and persists in a policy with which I have been in entire disagrement and which I believe to be absolutely wrong altogether uncalled for, and extremely harmful, in the best interest of the country and the Empire which it is my duty to serve.

I have therefore taken a long time to consider the matter in all its aspects and have after a long, deep and anxious reflection come decidedly to the conclusion that it is no longer possible for me to continue as an Additional Member of the Council, constituted as at present and be at the same time of any real service to my fellow country men. It is therefore with the greatest reluctance and regret that I decide to tender my resignation.

I am my Lord
Your Lordship's Most Obedient Servant
B. D. Shukul'

THE ALI BROTHERS.

THE GOVT. OF INDIA'S DECISION

THEY ARE NOT TO BE RELEASED.

A telegram from Chindwara, dated April 12 informs us that Government of India has just communicated orders, refusing to release Messrs Shaukat Ali and Mohamed Ali. It says:

"The Government has just communicated the orders refusing to release Messrs Shaukat Ali and Mohamed Ali. When the committee was appointed in last September it was generally believed that nothing but the white washing of the executives was intended. Some of the gentlemen, including Mahatma Gandhi who had had the brothers' case in hands for the last 16 months believed that the committee would also provide loophole for the Government to escape.

"The announcement of the Government's decision on the committee's recommendation was expected last December and it was understood that the Secretary of State favoured the release of the Ali brothers but Sir James Meston and Sir Charles Cleveland opposed it, urging at least the postponement of release until the signature of peace treaty. The brothers however pressed for decision and when no less than four representations were practically ignored, they interviewed the Chief Commissioner at Chhindwara on 24th March. He promised to take up their case to the Viceroy, whom he met on 31st with the result as stated above.

The following communications were issued by the committee:—

"The conclusions on committee are summed up in the following Paras "Having now recorded our findings on chrages submitted to us it only remains for us to say that having regard to acts done and opinions expressed by Mohamedali and Shaukatali previous to the date of their internment the Govt of India wer fully justified in imposing restriction upon their liberty and to add that the conduct of the brothers since internment has been sufficient justification for refusal to release them during war Re the question whether they might now be released from restrictions imposed upon them the committee writes as follows: "our advice is that Mohamed Ali and Shaukatali should now be released as we have no reason to believe that they have in any way changed the views they held before the war. We understand that their internment was undertaken as a war measure and in view of the fact that the war is now virtually over, although peace terms have not yet been signed it appears to us that there is no longer any occasion to apprehend that any views or activities of theirs can interfere with relation between great Britain and Turkey."

This however is a matter in which Govt of India have been constrained to arrive at a different conclusion. The committee were not in a position to appreciate the political situation in all its bearings or the difficulties arising out of the past. The Question of peace have not yet been decided and in view of the fact that there has been no change whatever in the attitude of the brothers. The Govt. cannot take the responsibility of acting upon the committee's advice at present juncture, they do not, therefore, propose to take any action on the report at present.

HINDU-MUSSALMAN UNION AT ALIGARH.

STRIKE OF THE LAWYERS.

STATION MASTER RETURNS BADGES

(From a correspondent.)

Aligarh, April 12.

The news of Mahatma Gandhi's arrest arrived here on the tenth afternoon and had spontaneous effect upon the people. Immediately on the arrival of the news the shopkeepers began to close shops. It was however considered more advisable to consider the matter first and it was only with the greatest difficulty that the people were persuaded to re-open the shops. In the evening the spokesmen of the people assembled and decided that there should be complete general suspension of business and to hold an open air meeting on the next day. The chief feature of yesterday's demonstration, probably the first time in the history of the English courts of law in India, was that the Vakils, Barristers, Mukhtiars all struck work The Courts were left without pleaders. The hands of the Postal Press, nearly one thousand, struck, so did the coolies. The Railway Station Masters returned badges and said they would rather not work than work on the day of national mourning. Another important feature of yesterday's demonstration was the spontaneous gathering of the Hindus and Musalmans in the Jumma Masjid at the time of Friday's prayers. Hindus about four thousand were very cordially welcomed by their Mohammedan brothers. They actually took shoes off the feet of the Hindus with their own hands. The finest arrangement for "sherbat" was at once made for the Hindus After the prayers in which both the Hindus and Mohammedans joined, Moulvi Asrarulaha Sahib delivered a most impressive lecture on the advantages of unity between Hindus and Mohammedans, after which Pandit Sohanlal Gour, vakil was carried to the pulpit and was asked to address the meeting. He dealt at length on the advantages of unity of the two sister communities and said that both the Hindus and Musalmans were sons of one Almighty father difference laid only in the methods of worship. All the religion-rivers falling in one great ocean. The speech was so impressive that the people actually moved to tears and promised in the House of the God never to break the seal of unity. In the evening there was a huge mass meeting at Achal Tank like of which, except the great meeting of Sunday, Aligarh had never seen before. The number of persons present estimated over fifteen thousand. All were bare-headed. The first resolution was that the mass meeting of the citizens of Aligarh expresses deep resentment on the action of the Bureauoratic authorities, ordering Mahatma Gandhi not to enter Delhi and the Punjab Provinces, and to limit his movement in the Bombay Presidency and also expresses deepest concern for the arrest of the most revered patriot leader while under the Satyagraha vow, and most heartily congratulate Mahatma Ghandi for accomplishing the first stage of his mission. The speakers were Messrs Odeybir Singh, Malkhan Singh and Mahendrapal Singh The second resolution runs thus: "time has arrived for the formation of a Committee of those who are willing to take the vow that they would henceforth buy only swadeshi good. The meeting requests the persons who are wiling to take the vow to gather in this place on Sunday next at six in the evening, so that a proper organisation may be formed. The speakers were Messrs Harronkhan Sherwani, Sohanlal Gour Lwalapershad Jiguasu. The Third resolution was to consider the last message of import to the country and regards absolutely necessary for the welfare of India that the two great communities should be strengthened by bonds of unity and prays to the Almighty father to grant power to further strengthen the hands of friendship and unity so that India same out of the struggle stronger and more worthy of upholding the honour. The speakers were: Messrs Anvarulhuda, and Mohanlal Verma. Amidst the greatest enthusiasm the last message of Mahatma Gandhi was read in Urdu and Hindi. Them the memorable meeting came to a close; after that the people were asked to re-open their shops.

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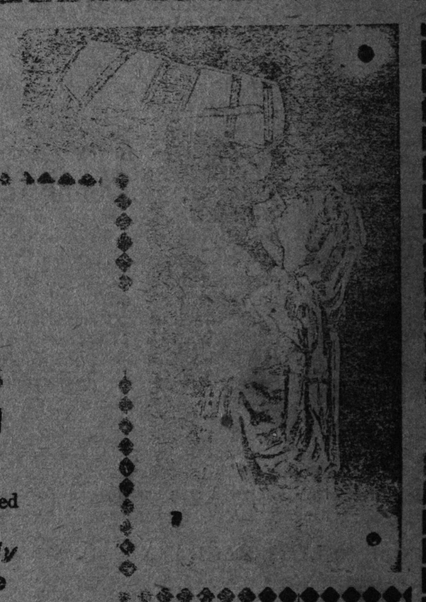

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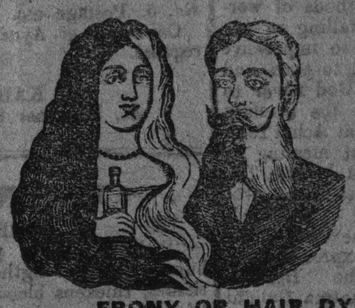

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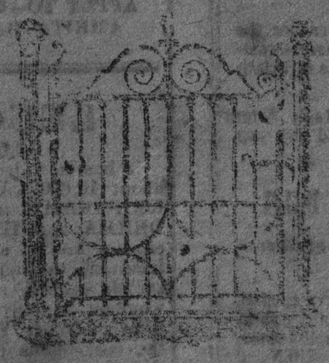

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