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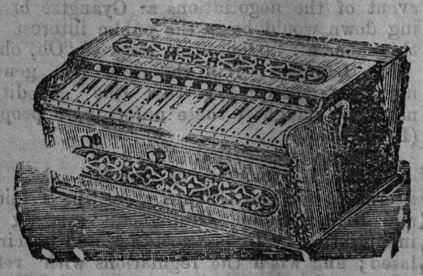

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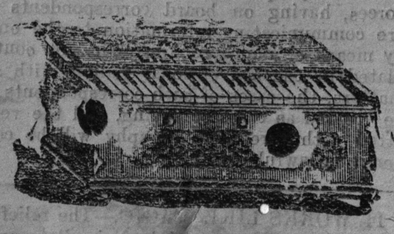

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DEAR SIR,—The ornaments which you have supplied to me on order on the occasion of my danghter's marriage, have all been of approved design and of neat workmanship. I cannot but too highly recommend the promptitude with which my order was complied with. Thanking you for the same and wishing you success, I remain (Sd.) Kedar Nath Sanyal, Ex. Asst. Commr. Habiganj, Sylhet. Dated 3rd January 1890.

Babu Nityananda Biswas of Rampur-Boaliah has executed my orders with great promptness, and the workmanship he has exhibited is highly creditable. He is, as far as I am able to judge, honest and fully deserves encouragement and patronage. He is trustworthy in his dealings with his customers.

Dated 4-2-90. Sd). Nil Kant Majumde,
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INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Tuesday, April 19.

THE TIBET MISSION.

The Earl of Hardwicke moved to resolve:—"That this House consents to the revenue of India being applied to defray the expenses of any military operations which have or may become necessary beyond the frontiers of his Majesty's Indian possessions, for the purpose of protecting the political mission which has been despatched to the Tibetan Government." He said that the only criticism of the motion which suggested itself to his mind was that it might be asked why his Majesty's Government had not made the motion before. The answer to that question was that, by doing so, they would "ipso facto" have defeated their own object. They would have turned what they earnestly desired should be a peaceful mission into a military expedition. The alteration in the nature of the mission was due to the action of the Tibetans themselves. Had their troops not been allowed to attack the mission at Guru, his Majesty's Government would not have had to come to Parliament with any motion of this kind. That encounter having taken place, the only course open to the Government was to come to Parliament with the motion to which he now asked their lordships to agree. He would add that such papers as there were relating to the advance of the mission of Gyangtse and the arrival there of Col. Younghusband would be laid on the table in the course of a few days.

Earl Spencer said that the Opposition adhered to the views they expressed on this subject when it was debated on previous occasions, and he did not think it necessary to repeat them. In the debate on the Address he expressed his surprise that the Government had not then presented a resolution in accordance with the requirements of the Government of India Act, and he said that it seemed impossible to conceive that a mission with an escort of such dimensions could be considered wholly a peaceful mission, and what he said then had been fully borne out. He could not help thinking that, knowing as they did the position of Thibet and the very strong views expressed and the strong action taken by the Thibetan Government against the admission of foreigners, his Majesty's Government were over sanguine and self-esteeming in their view. He said now, as he had said before, that the Government ought to have asked for this resolution at once, and that it was impossible, in view of the circumstances connected with it, to describe this mission as altogether a peaceful one, though he understood that it was the wish of the Government that it might be so considered. Unless the Thibetans departed from their usual policy, it was to be expected that they would oppose, if necessary by force, a mission which proceeded to that country. We knew the melancholy circumstance that had occurred in consequence of the progress of the mission. He did not desire to assume that there had been any lack or restraint on the part of the troops; but heavy slaughter had taken place. It was a matter of regret that the troops should have had twice to inflict such severe punishment on the ignorant Thibetans. He wished now to uphold the resolution, which he thought ought to have been proposed earlier. He desired, however, to ask the Government what their future policy was to be. The policy set forth in a despatch of Nov. 6 sanctioned the advance of the mission to Gyangtse, but deprecated any occupation or permanent intervention in Tibetan affairs, or the establishment of a permanent mission. The advance, it was laid down, should be made for the sole purpose of obtaining satisfaction, and as soon as reparation had been obtained a withdrawal should be effected. He was anxious to hear whether the Government adhered to that policy, or proposed to go further than they had at present authorised. They had only authorised an advance to Gyangtse. Did they intend to authorise the mission to go further?

The Earl of Northbrook expressed his sense of the responsibility which rested on Parliament to protect the interests of the people of India against the improper application of the revenues of India; and further recognised the importance of economy in Indian finance. Bearing these considerations in mind, he believed the House could accept the resolution with perfect propriety. This mission had undoubtedly been undertaken in the interests of India. He had read the papers connected with the subject, and he recognised with satisfaction the moderation with which his Majesty's Government and the Government of India had treated a question of great difficulty. He had no hesitation in supporting the resolution. As to the future, he hoped that his Majesty's Government would act with the same moderation and forbearance, and would be cautious about sanctioning the appointment of a permanent Resident at Lhassa. It would be a dangerous thing to send a Minister to such a country unless there were every desire to receive him. He wished to assure the Foreign Secretary that he had read with great satisfaction the langutge which he used to the Russian Government in certain communications which had passed. He believed that plain speaking with Russia was the best plan, and need not be prejudicial to the friendly relations of the two countries. He heartily concurred with what had been said about the convention with France, and at some more favourable time he hoped that a similar arrangement might be entered into with Russia.

The Marquess of Lansdowne: The speech just delivered must have had the effect of removing from the minds of your lordships any lingering doubts as to the propriety of this resolution. This mission has been undertaken in the interests of India, and the only question is at what moment that mission ceased to have a political complexion and acquired a military complexion. We have been taken to task for not recognising from the first that the mission was likely to acquire the character of a military operation. We desired in all sincerity that the mission should have a political and not a military complexion, and as far as we were concerned there was no reason whatever why the mission should not have achieved its object without firing a single shot, and while maintaining its political character to the last. But the unfortunate collision which has taken place left us nothing to do but to regularise the matter by bringing it before Parliament in accordance with the section of the Government of India Act. If we had taken the other course, and had described this mission as a military mission, we should, in the first place, have misdescribed its true aim and purport; and by proclaiming the fact that it was an invasion of Thibet we should have increased the chances of collision and diminished the chances of peace. We were, therefore, amply justified in preserving to the mission its political complexion as long as we could. As to what was said by Lord Northbrook on the manner in which these negotiations have been conducted, I am extremelly grateful to the noble earl for his speech, for no one speaks with more knowledge than he does in regard to Indian affairs. I was rejoiced when I heard him give credit not only to Lord Curzon's Government, but to other Governments before his, for having dealt cautiously and considerately with this question. There is no case in which a strong civilised Power has dealt more considerately with a weak and semi-barbarous Power. I was glad to hear what fell from the noble earl opposite in regard to the manner in which Lord Curzon has handled this question, because an attempt has been made to represent Lord Curzon as having from the first taken up an attitude of antagonism to his Majesty's Government—an attempt which is based on a misrepresentation of the facts. If your lordships will look at Lord Curzon's despatch of Jan. 8 of last year, you will find in that a full and complete account of the principles upon which Lord Curzon proposed to deal with the Thibetan Question. What were they? In the first place, Lord Curzon insisted that it was necessary to resort to more practical measures in dealing with the Thibetans, measures more likely to be productive of results than a policy of friendly representation upon which we had so long relied. Then Lord Curzon proposed that, instead of attempting to deal with Thibet through China as the suzerain Power, we should deal directly with the Thibetans on Thibetan territory, and for this purpose he proposed a mission with a sufficient military escort. Besides this Lord Curzon laid down—and I ask your lordships' particular attention to this point—that there was in the mind of the Secretary of State for India complete absence of any political designs upon Thibet, and that we did not desire to establish a protectorate or anything in the nature of a permanent occupation of the country. In all this his Majesty'n Government and the Viceroy were completely at one, and the only point of difference of opinion was that thich arose when we came to onsider whether negotiations should be conducted at Lhassa or at Gyangtse, and upon this point Lord Curzon loyally accepted the policy of his Majesty's Government and has given effect to it. Well, you will find that we adopted this policy cautiously, and it was not until the Viceroy represented to us that it was absolutely the only way of bringing negotiations in progress to a satisfactory result, then only, when all other means had failed, we authorised the advance of the mission to Gyangtse. It is not the case, as has sometimes been represented, that there was a kind of "Rake's Progress" on the part of his Majesty's Government, egged on by a military Viceroy; it was a policy deliberately adopted after very careful discussion, and a complete accord was arrived at between the Government in India and the India Office at home. The noble earl has expressed a hope that upon one point I would make an announcement to your lordships' House, whether his Majesty's Government still adhere to the general line of policy indicated in the telegram sent to the Government of India on Nov. 6 last. My lords, we do adhere to the policy laid down in that despatch. (Hear, hear.) I do not by that mean to say that, whatever happens, we are never to move an inch beyond the limit laid down, but it was adopted after the fullest consideration, and by it we shall be guided in dealing with future aspects of the question. (Hear, hear.) So far as we are able to understand the situation in Thibet, there seems now to be a better prospect than there has ever been offered of arriving at a satisfactory settlement upon the basis of that despatch. (Hear, hear.) The Thibetans have up to the present time been induced to offer persistent resistance to diplomatic overtures and to any attempt to send a mission into their country, relying on the inaccessibility of their country and the stupendous difficulties to be encountered by an advancing force. These obstacles have been successfully surmounted by the gallant body of troops following Col. Younghusband into Thibet; and, although we may speak with more regret than pride of the actual armed collision which took place between Col. Younghusband's soldiers and the badly armed and badly disciplined body opposed to them, I think we may speak with pride of the energy and endurance displayed by our troops under great privations and severe climatic conditions at an altitude exceeding that of Mont Blanc. (Hear, hear.) We have reason to know that the result has not been without effect on the minds of the Thibetan people. The noble earl who spoke last referred to the relations between Russia and Thibet. We have received from the Russian Government official statements which are recorded in the Blue Book; we receive them without in the least calling in question their absolute sincerity, and I would rather not attempt to add anything on the point during the present discussion. But we have to consider not only the attitude of Russia towards Thibet, but the attitude of Thibet towards Russia, and there can be no doubt, because we are so informed by those who have the best means of knowing, that the comings and goings which have taken place, and which have not unnaturally taken place, between the monks of Lhassa and the Buddhist subjects of the Czar in different parts of Asia have resulted, or had resulted, in creating in the minds of those extremely ignorant and superstitious people a belief that they might rely on Russian sympthy and assistance. That belief must by this time have been rudely dispelled by events wihch have taken place. Therefore I think we may fairly assume that one result may be, and probably will be, to bring the Thibetans to a sense of reason, and we may hope before long to find them ready to accept the moderate neighbourly terms we are ready to place within their reach. Meanwhile it must be most satisfactory to know that the mission, after undergoing immense hardship and privations, appears to have arrived at a point where the conditions are much less rugged and unfavourable, and where we can afford to wait, at any rate for a time, and see whether some ray of reason will steal through the solid darkness which appears to characterise the Thibetan mind. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was then agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Friday, April 15.

Indian Excise and Customs Revenues.—Mr. Herbert Roberts asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he will state what was the total amount of the net Excise and Customs revenues on liquor and drugs consumed in India during the years 1901-1902 and 1902-1903.

Mr. Brodrick: The net Excise Revenue of India from liquors and drugs for 1901-1902 and 1902-1903 was 4,025, 770 and 43,84,181l. respectively. As regards Customs revenue, the receipts from drugs other than opium are not stated separately in the accounts, but are included with those from chemicals, dyes, etc. The net Customs revenue from liquors and opium for 1901-1902 and 1902-1903 was 464,481l. and 504,261l. respectively.

Monday, April 18.

The Thibet "Mission."—Mr. Ltmbert osked whether, in the event of the negotiations at Gyangtse with Thibet breaking down, it was proposed to continue the advance to Lhassa.

Mr. Brodrick did not think that a statement of the intentions of the Government in the event of the negotiations at Gyangtse breaking down would be in the public interest at this moment. (Opposition cries of "Oh, oh.")

Mr. Lambert: Will the right hon. gentleman issue instructions that this expedition need not slaughter these unfortunate people? (Hear, hear.)

No reply was given.

Asiatic Labour.—Sir H. Fowler asked the Secretard for the Colonies when the Trinidad and British Guiana Ordinances relating to immigration of Indian coolies would be circulated; and when the regulations with reference to Chinese immigration into the Transvaal would be laid on the table.

Mr. Lyttelton: The Ordinances will be circulated on April 21. The regulations will be laid as soon as possible, but I cannot yet fix a definite date.

Rates on Telegrams to India.—Mr. Weir asked the Secretary of State for India: Having regard to the recommendations made by Lord Curzon, will he consider the expediency of communicating with the Postmaster-General, and with the telegraph companies concerned, with a view to secure a reduction in the rates on telegrams to India from 4s. 6d. to 2s. per word, and a corresponding reduction in the Press rates.

Mr. Brodrick: The recommendations made by the Government of India are now under consideration, and the expediency of communicating with the telegraph companies with a view to the proposed reduction of rates will be duly considered.

Indian Cotton.—Mr. Emmott asked the Secretary of State fer India: If he will state how the estimates of local consumption of cotton for purposes other than cotton spinning are made; and whether he will consider the advisability of presenting to the House each year a return showing, in regard to the previous year, the total estimated yield of cotton both in British India and the Native States, and the export from India and the consumption in India both in cotton manufacture and for other purposes.

Mr. Brodrick: Various estimates have at different times been made of the quantity of cotton locally consumed in India otherwise than by the Indian spinning mills. A summary of the data on which the calculation has been made is given in volume IV., page 55, of Dr. George Watt's "Dictionary of the Economic Produce of India." I will ask the Viceroy whether any more recent and reliable estimate has been made, and whether the return showing, in regard to the previous year, the total estimated yield of cotton both in British India and the natives States, and the export from India and the consumption in India both in cotton manufactured and for other purposes, asked for by the hon. member can be prepared.

Wednesday, April 20.

The Bengal Excise Bill.—Mr. Herbert Roberts aske the Secretary of State for India: Whether any recent instructions have been issued to the provincial administrations by the Government of India with reference to excise legislation; and whether he will state what is the present attitude of the Government of India with regard to the consideration of amendments in the Bengal Excise Bill directed to secure some practicable measure of local control in respect to the opening of shops for the sale of intoxicating liquors and drugs.

Mr. Brodrick: The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The Bengal Legislative Council have recommitted the Excise Bill to the Select Committee with instructions to consider the expediency of inserting provisions for securing the due ascertainment of local public opinion before new liquor or drug shops are opened, to the extent indicated in paragraph 103 of the Government of India's despatch of Feb. 4, 1890. I have no reason to suppose that the Government of India's attitude towards any specific proposals which may result from this reference will be other than that which may be inferred from the contents of the above-mentioned despatch.

Wireless Telegraphy in the Far East.—Mr. Brynmor Jones asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs: Whether the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has received any communication from the Russian Government as to the possible treatment of neutral vessels having on board correspondents who may, by means of improved apparatus, communicate news to the Japanese fleet or army now operating against Russia, and of its intention to treat such correspondents as spies; and, if so, will he lay the communication upon the table or state its purport.

Earl Percy: The Russian circular to the Powers to which reference is made was communicated to his Majesty's Government on the 15th inst., and is now under consideration. It is to the following effect:—"The Russian Viceroy in the Far East has declared that if neutral steamships are seized off the coast of the Kwantung peninsula, or within the zone of military operations of the Russian naval forces, having on board correspondents who are communicating information to the enemy by means of improved apparatus not contemplated in the conventions dealing with such matters, the cases of such correspondents will be treated as cases of spying, and the vessels fitted with wireless telegraphy will be considered as lawful prizes."

IT WORKS LIKE MAGIC.—The relief obtained from Chamberlain's Pain Balm when applied to a burn or scald is so nearly instantaneous that it seems almost magical in its effect. An injury of this kind heals without maturation when this remedy is applied and unless the wound is very severe does not leave a scar. For sale by

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

The Indian Police Commission.—Mr. Herbert Roberts asked the Secretary of State for India: If he can now state when he will be able to lay the report of the Indian Police Commission before Parliament, in view of the fact that a summary of this report was published in the press on April 5.

Mr. Brodrick: I am not aware how the substance of the article referred to reached the journal in which it appears, but, as I stated on Feb. 16, I regret I cannot lay the report till I receive the opinion of the Government of India.

Thursday, April 21.

The Indian Police Commission.—Sir Seymour King asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether his attention had been called to a statement made officially on Feb. 15 last by Sir Denzil Ibbetson, at a meeting of the Viceroy's Council, to the effect that the issues involved in the recommendations of the Indian Police Commission were then before the Secretary of State for India, and that the publication of the report depended on his consideration of the question; and whether he can explain the delay in the consideration of the question.

Mr. Brodrick: I have not seen any report of a statement by Sir D. Ibbetson that the recommendations of the Police Commission were before me for consideration, nor would such a statement have been correct. But he appears to have said, quite accurately, that the publication of the report was deferred, under my orders and those of my predecessor, until the consideration of the issues involved should be further advanced. As I have already explained on more than one occasion, and as the Viceroy has also stated in the speech which he delivered on the Budget on March 30, the report had to be laid before local Governments for their opinions; and until those opinions have been obtained orders cannot be passed upon the recommendations of the Commission. So far as I am aware, there has been no avoidable delay in the consideration of the subject, and I have pressed the Government of India to expedite their recommendations as far as they are able.

The Indian Coinage.—Mr. Schwann asked the Secretary of State fr India: If he will state what was the total of Government of India rupees coined by the Indian Government during each finnncial year from 1893, when the Indian mints were closed to the public, up to March 31 of the present year; the amount of net profit which the Government of India has received during each financial year from the coinage of the said rupees; does this profit consist chiefly of the appreciation of the rupee in India, as compared with their intrinsic value, consequent on the artificial scarcity of these produced by the prolonged closing of the mints against coinage by the public; what is the amount of deficit or surplus, as the case may be, which has been shown in each year in the financial statement of the Government of India during each of the years above specified; have the net profits on the coinage of Government of India rupees been taken credit for in the Indian financial statement as revenue receipts, and have they consequently been applied to the diminishment of the annual deficits or the increase of the annual surpluses during the period in question; if these profits on coinage have been so taken credit for, what would be the amounts of the deficits or surpluses of the Indian Government for each of the years since 1893 if the said profits on the rupee coinage were deducted.

Mr. Brodrick: The total of Government of India rupees coined by the Government of India is as follows:—1893-94, 4,14,11,170 rs.; 1893-95, nil; 1895-96, nil; 1896-97, nil; 1897-98, 48,64,720 rs.; 1898-99, 41,79,600 rs.; 1899-1900, 1,30,18,080 rs.; 1900-1901, 17,14,79,318 rs.; 1901-1902, 4,95,20,460 rs.; 1902-1903, 11,27,22,680 rs.; 1903-1904 (first 11 months,) about 14,00,00,000 rs. The net profit on the rupee coinage from April 1, 1903 to Mar. 31,1900, is not shown separately in the accounts. The net profit on the coinage of new rupees since April 1, 1900, has been:—1900-1901, 3,031,294l.; 1901-1902, 415,100l.; 1902-1903, 264,028l.; 1903-1904, 2,465001. (estimated). The profit consists of the difference between the cost price of rupees and the value (1s. 4d.) at which they circulate, and the surpluses and deficits from 1893-94 are:—

	Surplus.	Deficit.
	£	£
1893-94	—	1,031,332
1894-95	462,073	—
1895-96	1,202,666	—
1896-97	—	1,136,681
1897-98	—	3,572,807
1898-99	2,640,873	—
1899-1900	2,774,623	—
1900-1901	1,670,204	—
1901-1902	4,950,243	—
1902-1903	3,069,549	—
1903-1904	2,711,200 (estimated)	

From April 1, 1893, to March 31, 1900, the net profits on the rupee coinage were regarded as revenue receipts, and contributed therefore to increase the surplus or diminish the deficit of the year. From April 1, 1900, the net profits on the coinage have been transferred to the gold reserve fund, and no longer affect the surplus or deficit of the year.

Tea Imports.—Sir Edward Sassoon asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer if he would state the quantity and value of all grades of tea imported in 1902-1903, and the quantity and value of teas imported from our possessions and dependencies.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain: The imports tea of all grades in the financial year 1902 1903 amounted to 280,062,365 lb., valued at 8,316,544l. Of this 252,539 lb., valued at 7,513,431l., represented imports from British possessions and dependencies.

India Councils Bill.—The second reading of this Bill was [illegible] till Monday April

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It has been decided to appoint Mr. A. L. P. Tucker, C.I.E., now on special duty in the Foreign Department, to officiate as Resident of Nepal, "vice" Lieutenant-Colonel Ravenshaw, who will act next July as Resident of Mysore.

AN AMERICAN EDITOR, Mr. John E. Cook, publisher of the "Banner-Stockman," of Clarendon, Texas, U. S. A., in a letter regarding Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, says: "On one occasion I am sure it saved my life, curing me of a very bad attack of cramp colic." This remedy meets with the same success in this country as in America and never fails to give relief. For sale by

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

NOTES ON RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

THE PATRIOTISM OF O HANA SAN. A RUSSIAN SPY AND HIS JAPANESE WIFE.

Tokio, March 6.

There is a good deal of quiet tragedy connected with the long outstanding settlement of accounts between Japan and Russia.

The political relations of the two countries have never been of the most cardial, but that circumstance has not prevented much pleasant social intercourse between individuals, for in his private capacity the much-abused Russian has many good points. Indeed, it is very curious to note that the majority of foreigners—not even excluding Anglo-Saxons—who have been brought into frequent contact with the Russians are strongly disposed to sympathise with them in the present war. A friend writes from Port Arthur before the outbreak of hostillities: "These people are more akin to me than the Japanese. Their religion, their magnificent literature, their music, their kindly and hospitable nature, all appeal to me. In Japan I was always sensible of a barrier between me and the most intimate of my Japanese acquaintances; here I have already made several close friends."

All this, irrespective of the merits of the quarrel, since these seem so abundantly clear that it is difficult to imagine that an Englishman, uninscired by selfish motives, would deliberately and with full knowledge of the facts take the side of the Russians, or advocate their claims, though, as intimated above, some secretly cherish a hope that they may not be too badly beaten by the remorseless Japanese, lest European prestige should suffer.

NO PERSONAL HOSTILITY.

I doubt whether the Russian has ever been personally unpopular among the Japanese. Baron Rosen himself, the late Russian Minister at Tokio, enjoyed the genuine esteem of all classes, and at the international club was invariably the centre of a group of native friends with whom he would engage in lively conversation or play a game of billiards. The Russian Ecclesiastical Mission is among the strongest in Japan, and the cathedral at Surugadai, Tokio, a conspicuous object of the great metropolis. The Russian language being one of the most difficult in the world, Japanese has, perhaps, fewer terrors for the Russian than for the average foreigner, while the Japanese on their side, have been so alive to the value of a practical knowledge of Russian as to pirate Alexandrow's Russo-English Dictionary and to sell the same at a quarter of the original price.

But I opened this letter with an allusion to tragedy, and it seems to me that the expression is not too emphatic to describe the sudden rupture of private tise that has been so frequently entailed by the grim drama now in course of presentation before a world audience. Take this little incidence as an example of the sort of thing I mean.

A JAPANESE PANDORA.

M. was a Russian, married to a Japanese, and living at Yokohama. He spoke Japanese almost like a native, and was in almost every respect an affectionate husband. The wife, who may be called O Hana San, appeared fond of her husband, and all went well until late in January, when even the most sanguine had abandoned hope of peace. For some time before this, however, O Hana San had notice that her husband, though frank and open in most things, attached great importance to a sort of despatch-box, which he never allowed to leave his side for an instant. Even under nominal circumstances this fact would have excited her curiosity, both as a woman and a Japanese at that, but as a reader of the vernacular Press she was well aware that there were such beings as Russian spies in existence, and that, although her husband was ostensibly a teacher, she really knew nothing of his antecedents.

Partriotism is admittedly the grand passion of the Japanese. In feudal days it took the form of loyalty to a lord, and no true Samurai would hesitate for a moment as between the claims of a blood relation and those of his chiefs. To-day the Emperor is the great-lord, and O Hana San, though she loved her foreign husband, could not doubt as to where her duty lay. A Japanese proverb has it "Chushin ji kun ni tsukaezu," "A faithful servant will not serve two masters," and acting in this belief O Hana San determined to gain possession of the despatch box and see what it contained. So one evening she took advantage of a certain Russian weakness and made poor M. terribly drunk, and seizing the box, hurried off to the nearest police-station. Here she told her story, and the inspector commended her for her patriotic action.

DOMESTIC TRAGEDY

The box was broken open, and sure enough contained numerous maps and plans of Japanese fortifications and naval ports, besides several valuable Russian documents bearing upon the enemy's military and naval schemes. O Hana San was praised more than ever, but she had lost her home and her husband. As for the latter, the papers say he woke up from his drunken stupor to realise his irreparable loss of both wife and papers, and left Japan without waiting to take leave of his friends.

Russian spy is sometimes apocryphal, but, on the other hand, he sometimes exists. The spy is not necessarily a Russian, for Muscovite gold has not always been powerless to sap the virtue of the weaker-minded and more avaricious Japanese. Early during the progress of hostilities a quarter-of-a-mile stretch of the railway between Aomori and Sendai was blown up by Russian agents three of whom were arrested, and only a few days ago a Japanese was sentenced by the Yokohama court to a long term of imprisonment for an unsuccessful attempt to secure military and naval secrets. This fellow was in the pay of a Russian naval attache, and for upwards of five years had been paying large sums to the draughtsmen at places like Yokosuka and Kure for maps and plans of the defences. The humorous aspect of this true story is that the draughtsmen, so far from betraying their trust, had merely betrayed the spy, to whom, with the connivance of the authorities, they had all along supplied false plans and sketches.

There is likewise the story of the Rusiasn resident of Tokio who knew no word of Japanese, but was one day caught by a friend of mine in the act of writing a long communication in that heart-breaking script known as the "sosho," or "grass character," which is a sealed book to nine hundred and ninety-nine foreigners out of a thousand.

E. J. HARRISON.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

which his whole political life is lived as regards home affairs. That this course is either insincere or unintelligent can with no plausibility be denied. Either the assumption in home politics is a malicious farce, discrediting all concerned, or the assumption in Indian politics is preposterous. It is simply the assumption of racial self-esteem, visibly made in most national quarrels; and it deserves no respect. That men who admittedly cannot be trusted at home to govern their fellow-freemen, save under constant surveillance from their equals, are going without such surveillance to govern properly a vast world of voteless Orientals, is a hypothesis that thughtful men mustdecline to make. If there be any meaning in the political history of Great Britian for the past eight hundred years, *it is morally certain that there must be much misgovernment in British India.* I press this at the outset to clear the ground."

I venture to hope that hhis weightily-expressed opinion will receive marked attention from Indian reformers who should find in it, and in the deductions and ramifications following from it, a perfect arsenal of political weapons. As Mr. Robertson puts it, the Englishman, with regard to the principles of rule prevailing in England and in India respectively, declares by his conduct that home politics are a malicious farce in their underlying principles, discrediting all concerned, or "the assumption in India is preposterous." Too much cannot be made of this gross inconsistency. In the past too little has been made of it. With the weighty preamble to which I have drawn attention, Mr. Robertson proceeds in sixteen pages to give a rapid and most searching survey of Anglo-Indian administration and its fruits. On every side he finds more than ample justification for his indictment:

"It is morally certain that there must be much misgovernment in British India."

The moral is certainly supported by actual facts of daily experience. The time has long passed since Indian administration needed to be brought into line with the administration of the United Kingdom, the Australian Commonwealth, the Canadian Dominion, New Zealand, Nova Scotia, and other countries—not to stray outside Britain and the Britains oversea for examples which should be followed. What will be done, and by whom, to lift the country from the slough of despair in which it daily sinks lower and lower?

An attempt to wreck a train was made about midnight on Sunday, between Sedaw and Yamethin, when a sleeper was placed on the line, with which the engine attached to a special goods train from Thazi collided, sustaining, however, very slight damage.

The annual Fair at Sipi, a village near Mashobra in the Rana of Koti's territory and some six miles beyond Simla, will be held on the 13th and 14th instant. Saturday, the 14th, is a public holiday at Simla on account of the Fair, which is made the occasion of numerous pic-nics at Sipi.

Maung Shwe Buin, K. S. M., retired Additional Julge, Small Cause Court, Rangoon, against whom recently charges of bribery were made at the instance of cerain advocates, applied to the Chief Court to be enrolled as a third grade pleader to practise in the Subordinate Courts. The application was refused.

A great slab of stone lies ready at Mangapatnam Station to be created. It bears the following inscription:—"To the memory of 10 Eurpeans and Eurasians and 61 Hindus and Mahomedans, who lost their lives near this spot in a diastrous accident on 12th September, 1902, when the mail train from Madras was precipitated into a breach caused by the carrying away, during a violent storm of part of bridge No. 665."

In supersession of existing orders on the subject, the Government or H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore have been pleased to prescribe the following rates of rewards to be uniformly observed in all districts of the Province; for the destruction of wild animals: Tigers, Rs. 35; panthers, Rs. 20; wild dogs, Rs. 10; hyenas, Rs. 5; jungle cats, Rs. 2. The prices payable at the Treasuries for the skins of wild animals will be raised in the case of tiger skins to Rs. 6, and of the skins of panthers to Rs. 2 each.

A proposal is now before the Post-master-Genertl for the constitution of Travancore and Cochin into a separate Division, to be placed under the charge of a single Superintendent. At present Travancohe belongs to the Palamcottah, and Cochin to the Calicut Division. The object of this proposal would appear to be to extend the British Postal system in these two States. Consequent upon the adoption of these arrangements two additional Superintendents will probably be appointed to the Postal Department of the Madras Presiedncy.

The laying of the rails of the Ootacamund Nilgiri railway will be taken up by next month. The delay is that the Pioneers, who are expected to carry out this work, have not yet arrived. The Government of India asked Mr. C. F. Sykes whether the Pioneers, about 250 men, who are deputed on special duty in the extension work, ought to get an extra allowance or not. Mr. Sykes is said to be in favour of giving them a small extra sum, but the Government of India has given only ten lakhs of rupees for the extension of the whole line. I has after all been decid d to work the new line with electricity from Mettupalaiyam to Ooty, and eventually the proposal of Mr. Molesworth to light Coonoor, Wellington and Ooty with electricity will be taken into consideration. However, should the line be worked by electricity, it is felt it may require more than 10 lakhs of rupees

The axle of a truck, attached to a goods train and loaded with timber, booked to Keighley Street, Rangoon, broke near Kanyutkwin on Sunday owing to a flaw in the metal, and caused the derailment of several vehicles blocking the line and damaging several telegraph post. The disabled vehicle was lifted and thrown off the line, while the derailed vehicles were righted. This caused a detention of about three hours to several trains.

Government of Mysore has sanctioned the appointment of a suitable man on a salary of Rs. 50 per mensem to be placed in charge of the experiments in the Laboratory compound. Mr. D. G. Ramchendra Rao, the official who was till now in charge of this work, has been selected for the appointment of Superintendent of the Experimental Farm to be established and has been deputed to Poona to undergo preliminary training in the Bombay Government Farm.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

—:o:—

Presidency Jail.—Captain R. McL. Dalziell, M.B., I.M.S., is appointed to act as Superintendent of the Presidency Jail, during the absence, on leave, of Captain J. Mulvany, I.M.S.

Legislative.—The Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to accept the resignation by the Hon'ble Mr. James Tisdall Woodroffe of his office of Member of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

Sanction has been given to the construction of an electric tramway in Cawnpore from Sirsaya Ghat to the passenger station on the East Indian Railway at Cawnpore. The streets along the route will be lit by electricity.

Customs.—Mr. A. J. Chotzner is appointed to be an Assistant Collector of Customs, Calcutta, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of the 24-Parganas district.

Plague Regulations.—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Marine Department, states that Honkong has been declared to be infected with plague and that the Plague Regulations issued by Government, will be enforced in the ports of Orissa and Chittagong against vessels arriving from that place.

Dacoity In Mymensingh.—The local paper reports that many dacoits live in boats on the Jamuna river, but the Police is inefficient and quite unable to orrest these mauraders and bring them to justice. We hope the attention of the authorities will be drawn to it early. It also adds that some dacoits implicated in the Douhajani Dacoity case have been arrested recently.

Calcutta Police—Mr. R. A. D. O'Bignell, Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, is allowed combined leave for six months. Mr. F. L. Halliday, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, is appointed to act as Commissioner of Police, Calcutta. Mr. F. C. T. Halliday, Officiating District Superintendent of Police, on special duty in the Calcutta Police, is appointed to act as Deputy Commisioner of Police, Calcutta.

Plague Figures.—The Plague mortality in India for the week ending 30th April showed a satisfactory decline, the total having fallen from 44,783 to 38,478. The principal figures are: Bombay City, 520; Bombay Presidency, 3,027; Karachi, 219; Madras, 62; Calcutta, 270; Bengal, 1,062; United Provinces, 2,965; Punjab, 33,953; Central Provinces, 214; Mysore, 145; Hyderabad, 338; Central India, 512; Rajputana, 865; and Kashmir, 627.

Scarcity Of Water.—The "Pallibasi" of Kalna complains of scarcity of drinking water in his sub-division. The "Ratnakar" of Assansole also in a leading article very loudly complains of the same grievance. Our local vernacular contemporary the "Bangabasi" has for the last three weeks persistently trying to impress upon the authorities the sufferings under which the people in the Moffusil labour now-a-days from scarcity of water. We hope, kind and conscientious as Sir Andrew is, the prayers of our contemporaries will not go in vain.

Conviction of a Shahib.—It will be remembered by the readers of the "Patrika" that sometime ago, a man named Shaik Amir charged Mr. Boisogomofl, a merchant of this city with having wrongfully restrained him and subsequently made him over to the police on a charge of having assaulted him. On the other hand, Mr. Boisogomoff charged Shaik Amir with having defamed him before his servants and boycotted him. Both the cases were tried by Mr. Bonnaud. The case against Mr. Boisogomoff was heard and he was sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 50. In the boycotting case Shaik Amir was convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 10.

Alleged Assault, etc.—On Monday, before Mr. Weston, a young woman, named Elizebeth Francis, a convert to the Christian faith applied for a process against one George Elias under the following circumstances. The defendant had been absuing a neighbour, when applicant was standing close by. The neighbour drew her attention to it and laid that she should be cited as a witness. The applicant in reply said that the man was drunk and that no notice of the matter need be taken. On the following day, the detendant, it is alleged, entered into the room of the applicant and flung a shoe at her face and said that he should dishonor her. Neighbours interfered and the man went away. The Court having examined the applicant, thought it was a petty quarrel and dismissed the complaint.

A Serious Disturbance in a Marraige.—On Monday, before Babu Gopal Chander Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate of Alipore, one Shib Charan Basack and two others of Bastombagan were charged with being members of an unlawful assembly, rioting and causing grievous hurt, under the following circumstances. Recently a mariage took place in the village of the accused who on this occasion demanded 'Barwurie' from the father of the bridegroom. On this a quarrel ensued between the parties in the course of which the accused in a body fell upon the bridegroom party and thereby seriously wounding some of them with lathi blows took to their heels. The charge having satisfactorily been proved against all the accused they were convicted and sentenced to four months' rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 20 each.

The White Lotus Day at Serampore.—The members of the Serampore Theosophical Society celebrated the White Lotus Day with due ceremony on Sunday morning last. At 7 o'clock the members assembled in the Lodge Rooms when a deep solemnity was visible in every face. Babu A. C. Goswami B.A. read a paper reviewing the life work of the late Madam Blavatsky and impressed upon the members the necessity of observing the day as sacred, dwelling at the same time on the virtues of the revered lady. Babu D. N. Goswami also read a paper in Bengalee which in manner and matter alike was admirable. The influence these papers produced cannot fail to be salutary. Then followed readings from the Geeta and the "Light of Asia!" Then came the distribution of alms to the poor. More than 100 beggars had assembled in the quadrangle of the Lodge building each of whom received a two anna bit and some quantity of rice. The scene was most touching as each recipient left the place amid ejaculations worthy of the occasion in memory of H. P. B. The morning ceremony over, in the evening a learned lecture on "Bhakti" was delivered by Pandit Sham Lal Goswami much to the edification of the members and the outside public.

Duty on opium.—It is notified that the Governor-General in Council is pleased to increase by one hundred rupees per chest the duty on opium imported by land into the Presidency of Bombay for exportation by sea from the port of Bombay. Accordingly it is notified that till further orders all opium imported by land into the Presidency of Bombay and covered by a poss for exportation by sea from the Port of Bombay granted in accordance with rule 16 of the Rules made under the Opium Act, 1878, published by the Government of Bombay in their notification No. 4472, a date 3rd June, 1885, shall be subject to the following duty upon each chest weighing 140¼ nett avoirdupois weight viz., when the pass for such opium is granted at Ajmir Rs. 625; when the pass for such Opium is granted elsewhere Rs. 900.

Calcutta Central Telegraph Office.—Since Mr. Chappel went on leave there does not appear to be anybody in the Government Telegraph Department able to control with facility and satisfaction the traffic of the Calcutta Central Office. Complaints of messages unduly delayed and wrongly delivered accrue daily, and newspaper offices are the chief sufferers. We ourselves had occasion the other day to complain of being disturbed at a late hour at night by a peon who had a message for somebody else, and all the consolation we got was a request for the number of the message which was made the excuse for the unjustifiable intrusion. When this can occur to those who have a registered address and have regular transactions with the Telegraph Office, we can easily imagine what arises in the case of the private individuals differently circumstanced.—"I Engineering."

Vital Statistics.—The total number of deaths registered during the week ending 30th April, 1904, was 738 against 912 and 1,015 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 145. There were 103 deaths from cholera, against 102 and 128 in the two preceding weeks; the number is higher than the average of the past quinquennium by 41. There were 270 deaths from plague, against 440 and 500 in the two preceding weeks. There were 5 deaths from small-pox during the week, against 5 in the previous week. There were 10 deaths from tetanus, against 13 in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel complaints amounted to 88 and 57, respectively, against 92 and 56 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 45.2 per mille per annum, against 43.9, the mean of the last five years.

Dislocation of Mail Traffic on the E. I. R.—The cry is loud in the land that the East Indian Railway, the most important and best equipped system in India, are egregiously behind hand in their methods of dealing with the mails running over their line. From nearly every up-country station complaints daily arrive of letters delayed beyond all endurance owing to misconnection of trains at large junctions. The cause of this dislocation of the schedule is the growing increase of passenger traffic during the globe-trotting season. The East Indian Railway carry the bulk of the passengers who arrive from Europe and depart from India from October to May, and by the archaic methods they adopt to deal with the rush, they upset not only their own programme, but also those of connecting lines, and evoke undeserved denunciation of the much abused Post Office. We wonder if Mr. Robertson took this matter ino consideration when he suggested a general acceleration of the speed of mail trans in India.—"I. Engineering."

It will be interesting to note the course of events in Somaliland when the Field Force is withdrawn a few days hence. It has not yet been announced what garrisons will be left behind, but obviously none can be placed very far inland as the friendly tribes are not to be trusted and the Mullah has still a sufficient number of riflemen and levies to make things unpleasant for those who may attempt to oppose him. To place troops in isolated posts would be to run unnecessary risks and might lead to relief expeditions having to be organised a few weeks hence. The expeditionary force seems to have done all that was possible in the circumstances, and the losses inflicted on the Mullah's followers at Jidballi on the 10th January effectually prevented them from ever venturing on another battle. They numbered on that occasion about 6,000 and left over 1,000 dead on the field and on their line of retreat. As there were only 47 casualties among the troops engaged the action was decisive enough. The Mullah was eventually driven east of the 49th parallel of longitude and so out of the British Protectorate. If the rains in March had held off his adherents would have lost nearly all the flocks and camels in the Sorl, but unluckily heavy showers fell just in time to save them. The troops engaged in the operations have had a very trying time, but though feeling the effect of long marches and a short supply of water on many occasions they are reported to be in good health generally.

A Shocking Murder at Alipur.—Early on Tuesday morning, Inspector Daly of the Alipur Thanna was informed that an atrocious and cold blooded murder had been perpetrated over night at Gopalnagar very near to the local Thanna. The Inspector hastened to the spot and found that one Beharie Lall Dutta, a clerk in the employ of the Port Commissioners Calcutta was lying dead in a pool of blood in the verandah of his house with a deep wound on the back of his skull apparently caused by sharp weapon. The murder seems to have been committed by some ruffians who had some time past been on the look out for an opportunity of robbing the man of his cash and jewellery which was of a considerable value. On the night of the occurrence the deceased preferred to sleep in the open verandah as it was much more airy and cooler than his usual sleeping apartment which he took care to lock up before retiring to bed. The horrible deed must have been perpetrated at dead of night and the culprits after commission of the offence broke open the doors of the house and having entered the sleeping room of the deceased broke open two wooden boxes which contained nothing worth the trouble and made an unsuccessful attempt to open the iron safe which was stuffed with cash and jewellery, but the key of which the owner had very prudently thrown into the adjoining garden whence it was discovered by the Police. The Commissioner of Police and Superintendent Bowen also have been to the spot. A certain tenant of the deceased, named Panchoo Cowrie Kurmokar has been arrested on suspicion as blood stains were found on his person. A vigorous Police enquiry is going on.

TELEGRAMS

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANSE WAR.

London, May. 6.

The "Times'" correspondent, in an instructive telegram from the Yalu River, shows that the Russians had a narrow escape, of being surrounded. The "Times" comments on the bad generalship of the Russians, whose tactics are criticised on the Continent, and even in Paris.—"Pioneer."

The American Minister at Tokio cables to Washington that the Japanese have landed at Kinchau, forty miles from Port Arthur. Consequently the railway is closed and the investment of the garrison has begun.

Reuter's Tokio correspondent says that Admiral Hosoya reports that warships and transports arrived at Liaotung (sic) yesterday morning, when blue-jackets landed and seized the hills without firing a shot. Japanese gunboats meanwhile shelled the enemy, who were a few of the Seventh Division. The second Japanese army then landed.

London, May 7.

Reuter's St. Petersburg correspondent says that General Pflug reports that the Japanese landed from sixty transports on the 5th instant at Pitsewo and also at Cape Terminal under the guns of the warships. The Russian posts retired. Ten thousand had landed by evening.

Two Japanese columns subsequently were despatched west and south-west.

A train crowded with sick from Port Arthur was fired upon and had a narrow escape.

Though not officially admitted, it is believed at St. Petersburg that Port Arthur is iso-

Amiral Alexeieff and the Grand Duke Boris left Port Arthur hurriedly to escape being cut off.

The smallest possible force is left at Port Arthur, which is provisioned for one year.

The Japanese have swarmed over the Liaotung Peninsula and cut the railway and telegraphs, thus isolating Port Arthur. Admiral Togo telegraphs that Port Arthur is completely blocked, except for boats.

It is believed that the smaller vessels can leave Port Arthur. Admiral Togo is watching vigilantly to protect the transports. It is expected that the Japanese will march forthwith to Talienwan, and establish their base there. They seemingly landed on both sides of the Peninsula.

General Stoessel, in a speech at Port Arthur yesterday, referred to the new phase of the war, whereby Port Arthur was threatened on the land side, and said he trusted to the endurance of the defenders.

Advices received at St. Petersburg state that the Russians have retreated from Fenghuancheng which the Japanese have occupied.

The Japanese have destroyed the railway at Port Adams and blown up the bridge.

Reuter at Shanhaikwan says that the Japanese are reported to be preparing to land two divisions near Niuchwang with the object of eventually effecting a junction with General Kuroki's army as it advances from the Yalu.

Reuter wires from Mukden that Admiral Alexeieff has arrived there.

London, May 8.

General Kuroki reports that Fengihuangcheng was captured on Friday before the Russians had a chance of recovering from the demoralisation of the defeat on the Yalu.

General Kuroki reports that the Russians before evacuating Fengchuangcheng burnt their ammunition.

The Russian casualties on the 1st instant probably exceed three thousand.

Reuter's correspondent at Shanhaikwan on the 8th says that the Russians are retreating to Haicheng and evacuating the western Laiotung Peninsula.

The Japanese from Thursday to Saturday landed at Kinchan 10,000, at Fuchan 10,000, at Pitiewo 7,000 and have occupied Wafungtien and Pulatien.

Heavy firing was heard at Kaichan, where the transports were previously seen.

Turmoil prevails at Niuchwang, where preparations are going on for flight.

Russia has ordered the mobilisation of the Charkoff and Moscow Army Corps and other troops to strengthen the Manchurian Army.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says that the attack on Port Arthur on the 4th, resulting in the sealing of the entrance, was the most desperate and hitherto most gallant exploit in naval warfare. A furious storm separated the ships, and the commanding officer consequently signalled them to desist. Isolated steamers, in the face of an intense Russian fire, nevertheless proceeded, and five reached the harbour mouth and two penetrated inside and exploded, many of the crew being killed, wounded and missing.

London, May 9.

There is an universal chorus of eulogy at the masterly strategy of the Japanese combined with its swift and unflinching execution; even the German press, hitherto most reserved, cannot withhold a tribute of admiration.

The Japanese loan is expected to be issued to-night. It was quoted on Saturday at 2½ per cent. premium and to-day at three. Its unqualified success is assured.

An official despatch states that the Japanese total losses at the battle of the Yalu were thiry officers and 870 men killed and wounded.

Reports from various sources state that dysentry, small-pox and typhus are raging among the Russians in Manchuria. Reuter wires from St. Petersburg that Admiral Alexeieff has removed his headquarters to Harbin. General Kuropatkin at present remains at Liaoyang.

The Japanese successes have caused a feeling of apprehension in Russia, and the general staff declare that the latest developments assure a long and bitter war.

In the Reichstag, Herr Bebel, Socialist, attacked the Government's pro-Russian attitude in the war, and declared that the Kaiser's telegram of sympathy to the Tsar on the occasion of the Petropavlovsk disaster in no way reflected the feeling of the nation. Count Buelow denied that the Kaiser's telegram was a departure from neutrality. He regretted that the disasters of a neighbouring friendly nation had been the object of malicious articles and caricatures in a portion of the German press.

Reuter wires from Niuchwang that the Russians are preparing to evacuate Niuchwang, troops are leaving all day, every gun is being entrained and the forts are dismantled. The general staff has left Liaoyang for Mukden. A despatch from General Kuropatkin, received in St. Petersburg, confirms the occupation of

TELEGRAMS.

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR

Fenghuangcheng. The Japanese are advancing in two columns from the Yalu; no mention is made of the fighting. The official statement gives the Russian casualties in the battle on the Yalu as seventy officers and 2,324 men killed and wounded.

The Daily Telegraph says that the campaign has been conducted with a brilliance timost unparalleled in war. Japan's success, it says, is due to the consummate combination of naval and military action which even England had never rivalled; their successes in the last three months have been more narvellous than Germany's in 1870.

The Daily News says that the fight on the Yalu seems to have decided the possession of Southern Manchuria. Russia is rapidly reaping the effects of her imperialism.

The Standard says that there have been few finer feats in the war than the blocking of Port Arthur.

Reuter wires from Shanhaikwan that the evacuation of Niuchwang continues. The Russians have promised to leave a rearguard to prevent pillage. The Russians are commandeering cattle and causing great indignation to the Japnese.

A Daily Telegraph despatch from Shanghai says the Tartar General refuses to obey the Russian order, that all Chinese are to leave Mukden, and has decided to remain at his post until the last moment.

GENERAL.

London, May 7.

Mr. Balfour, speaking at a meeting of the Primrose League in the Albert Hall to-day, dwelt upon the difficulty of inducing the Porte to effect reforms, and declared that Government would not allow themselves to be the catspaw of the revolutionaries, who would rather have genuine reform fail than succeed if it did not go their whole length.

He referred to the enormous value of the Anglo-French Agreement, which he believed to be permanent. What might at first seem a solidified bulwark against the invading tide of war, resisting all changes and chances besetting interatical arrangements.

London, May 8.

A letter from the Duke of Marlborough to the Cotton Growers' Association emphasizes the necessity for making the Empire self-supporting in regard to raw cotton, and the development of cotton growing being permanent and independent of the caprice of harvests and markets and unrelaxed whenever the old sources of supply again appear adequate, because shortage is sooner or later bound to recur.

London, May 9.

Elaborate First Army Corps manœuvres are being held at Aldershot. Forty thousand men are participating. The King and the Duke of Connaught were present.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS

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THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR

Colombo, May 5.

It is feared that England and Denmark will jointly refuse permission for the Baltic Fleet to pass through the Sound.

General Artfater, acting Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Artillery, has committed suicide. It is surmised he preferred to take his own life rather than submit to the punishment which he excepted would be inflicted upon him for having committed a rash act by disobeying the orders of his superior officers.

News from Hongkong states that Russia has arranged at Brussels to borrow 800 million francs from French and Belgian bankers.

The Sound is a strait which connects the Kattegat and Baltic Seas, and separates the Danish Island of Zealand from Sweden. Its length, nearly due north and south, is 66 miles, and its breadth, measured from Copenhagen eastward is 17 miles. The name Sound, however, is more properly applied to the narrow part of the passage, which, between Elsinore and Helsingfors has a width of only 3 miles. Formerly by almost immemorial custom, sanctioned by treaties and finally confirmed by the Congress of Vienna in 1815 all merchant vessels passing the Sound had to pay duty to Denmark at Elsinore. But 1857 the duties were abolished by treaty, England paying one-third of the indemnity.—"A. I."

Bombay, May 9.

General Kuroki reports: "Our cavalry is dispersing the enemy. Our infantry detachment occupied Feng-huan-cheng on 6th. The enemy before evacuating burnt their ammunition. The enemy's refugees continue to come out of the adjoining forests and villages and surrender. Natives say that the Russian wounded passing Feng-huang-cheng on litters on 2nd instant amounted to 800, their total casualities probably exceed 3,000. Our army landed at Liaotung reports that our detachment repulsing a small body of the enemy on the 6th, occupied Pulatien and destroyed the railway and telegraphic communication. Port Arthur is cut off."

THE TIBET MISSION.
ENGAGEMENT AT GYANTSE.
THE TIBETANS REPULSED.

Simla, May 9.

According to a press communique it is stated that on the 6th information was received that Mission Camp at Gyantse was attacked on the previous morning at 4 o'clock. The Tibetans were repulsed with a loss of about 250 killed and wounded. Meanwhile information had been received of the gthering of Tibetans in the neighbourhood of Karo La which was considered threatening to our line of communication, and Colonel Brander with 4 companies of the 32nd Pioneers, 40 Mounted Infantry, 27-pounders and 2 maxims moved from Gyantse to attack them. He reports that on the 6th he found the enemy about 2,500 strong, strongly sangared, and that after about 4 hours' resistance he succeeded in outflanking and dispersing them. The enemy's loss has not been ascertained yet. It is to be regretted that Captain Bethune and three men of the 32nd Pioneers were killed and 14 men wounded. All is quiet now at Gyantse.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Calcutta Gazette.—May 11.

APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS.

Mr. F. R. Roe, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Muzaffarpur, is appointed to act, as District and Sessions Judge of Burdwan.

Mr. E. P. Chapman, District and Sessions Judge, Purnea, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Muzaffanpur, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. A. E. Staley.

Mr. J. J. Platel, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nadia, is appointed to act, as District and Sessions Judge of Purnea.

Mr. Satis Chandra Mukherjee, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Khulna, on leave, is appointed to act, as Magistrate and Collector of Birbhum.

Mr. Ahsanuddin Ahmad, Magistrate and Collector, Birbhum, is appointed to be Magistrate and Collector of Khulna.

Babu Hari Charan Bose, M.A., B.L., is appointed to be a Probationary Deputy Collector, and is posted to the Head-quarters station of the 24-Parganas district.

Babu Satis Chandra Mukerjee, substantive "pro tempore" Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Parganas, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Chittagong district.

Mr. A. E. Staley, District and Sessions Judge, Muzaffarpur, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of the 24-Parganas, during the absence, on deputation, of the Hon'ble Mr. F. E. Pargiter.

Mr. J. C. Jack, Assistant Magistrate and Collector is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Backergunge during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. H. C. Streatfeild, on being relieved of his Settlement duties in that district.

Mr. H. C. Streatfeild, Magistrate and Collector, Backergunge, is appointed to act as Commissioner of the Dacca Division, during the absence, on deputation, of the Hon'ble Mr. H. Savage.

LEAVE.

Babu Surendra Nath Ghosh, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cuttack, is allowed leave for one month and thirteen days, under article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Ashutosh Datta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore, is allowed leave for six weeks, under article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations,

Mr. C. P. Caspersz, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, 24-Parganas, is allowed combined leave for ten months, viz., privilege leave for three months under article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations, and furlough for the remaining period, under article 305 (b) of the Regulations.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Hemanta Kumar Haldar, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in Chota Nagpur, to be ordinarily stationed at Purulia, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Amulya Chandra Ghose.

Babu Mahendra Nath Das, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the District of Midnapore, to be ordinarily stationed at Tamluk, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Durga Prosad Ghose.

Babu Manmatha Chandra Bose, B.L., is appointed to act as Munsif in the district of Tippera, to be ordinarily stationed at Tippera, during the absence, on leave of Mr. Mahomed Zahoor.

Babu Gopal Das Ghose, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Jessore, to be ordinarily stationed at Satkhira during absence, on leave, of Babu Upendra Nath Datta.

Babu Rasik Monan Bhattacharjya is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Backergunge, to be ordinarily stationed at Barisal, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Ramesh Chandra Sen.

Babu Satis Chandra Banerjee, Munsif of Arrah, in the district of Shahabad, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Saran, to be ordinarily stationed at Motihari.

Babu Abinash Chandra Chackerbutty, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsiff in Chota Nagpur, to be ordinarily stationed at Ranchi, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Sasi Bhusan Sen.

Babu Rajeshwar Prosad, B.A., L.L.B., is appointed to act as a Munsif in Chota Nagpur, to be ordinarily stationed at Hazaribagh, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Trailakya Nath Som.

Babu Satis Chandra Banerjee, Munsiff of Arrah, in the district of Shahabad, is allowed extension of leave for fifteen days, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Ambica Charan Dutta, Munsif of Chatal, in the district of Midnapore, is allowed leave, for thirty days, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Baman Das Mukerjee, Munsif of Rangpur, is allowed extension of leave for one month, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Umesh Chunder Chuckerbutty, Munsif, under orders of transfer to Ranaghat, in the district of Nadia, is allowed extension of leave for six days, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. A. F. M. Abdur Rahman, Khan Bahadur, Fourth Judge, Court of Small Causes, Calcutta, is allowed extension of leave for fourteen days, under article 272 of the Civil Service Regulations.

SUBORDINATE CIVIL SERVICE.

Babu Braja Nath Rai, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Rajshahi Division, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Rangpur district.

Babu Kandhji Sahay, Sub-Deputy Collector, Sonthal Parganas, is allowed extension of leave for one week, under article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Lakshmi Misra, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Singhbhum district.

Babu Chunder Sikhar Mukerjee, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Presidency Division, is posed to the Satkhira subdivision of the Khulna district.

Maulvi Saiyad Tojammul Ali, Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Cutack district.

Babu Aswini Kumar Datta, substantive pro tempore Sub-Dputy Collector, Dacca Division, is posted to the Patuakhali subdivision of the Backergunge district.

Babu Ambu Nath Chatterjee, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Vishnupur, Bankura, is transferred to the Raniganj subdivision of the Burdwan district.

Babu Charu Chandra Chaudhuri, Sub-Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the Patna Division.

Babu Promode Chandra Sen Gupta, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Chittagong Division, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Chittagong district.

Maulvi Abdur Rahman Mahmood, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Sirajgunge, Pabna, is allowed privilege leave for twelve days, under article 242 (a) of the Civil Service Regulations, and extraordinary leave for thirty days, under rule 2, article 339 of the Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him.

SLIGHT INJURIES often disable a man and cause several days' loss of time and when blood poison develops, sometimes result in the loss of a hand or limb. Chamberlain's Pain Balm is an antiseptic liniment. When applied to cuts, bruises and burns it causes them to heal quickly and without maturation and prevents any danger of blood poison. For sale by

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

AN OFFICER KILLED BY A TIGER.

A Cocanada correspondent of the "Hindu" writes:—Mr. A. C. Wodhouse, a Deputy Collector, who had been in charge of our Agency Division for over five years and was known as a very conscientious officer, came by his death under very painful circumstances. It is said that while he was out on Agency tour he was told of a tiger trying to make short work of a bull in the vicinity, and immediately he went with a revolver in hand to shoot the beast. He fired a few shots which injured the tiger and the next morning, he went again in search of the tiger which from behind a bush sprang on him and mauled him severely. He was removed to Rajahmundry in a state of coma when the local doctors tried their level best for him but without success. He succumbed to the wounds on the 27th ultimo. It is very sad to think of his premature death caused by his love of sport.

AN INCIDENT AT A RAILWAY STATION.

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Dacca, May 6.

Here is an incident in which your poor correspondent had the misfortune to face the ire of two irate Sahibs and a lady, at dead of night, in front of the local Railway station. On the 30th April last I had an occasion to go to the Railway station to receive a friend of mine who was expected by the 1 a. m. Train, I had engaged a carriage to be paid on the hourly rate and drove to the station at quarter past twelve. On reaching the station-gate I alighted from the carriage and was going inside the station when I was called out by the coachman. I retraced my steps and on going near the carriage I discovered to my utter surprise, a Sahib, escorted by a lady and another Sahib, seated in my carriage and shouting "Hako, Hako," with a majestic air. The gharhiwala tried his best to convince him that the carriage had been engaged by me, but to no effect. I too explained the fact to him, but he refused to believe me saying that I "told stories" and that the carriage had been cooly for his use.

After a good deal of disputation, I was at last able to convince him of the truth of my story. But, as befitted a "British Lion," he then sat to discuss my "right" of retaining the carriage, when there was yet half-an-hour for the train to come, and over and above, perhaps, when a Topiwalla was in need of a drive. I told him plainly that I could not afford to lend him my carriage as I was in some need of it. His Railway-friend (Mr. Hunt, L.O.," I think) then took down the Municipal number of the carriage; and the Sahib asked me my name, and ordered the coachman to drive on. But my "Mat Hako" gave courage to the coachman, who had been cowed down by the Sahib's "Hako Hako." At last I said that in case he left his card with me, he could have a drive in my carriage without my consent. On my insisting upon this Hobson's Choice, the man asked me what I meant to do. I said that as I was a pressman.

The Sahib's companions were not idle and mute all this while. The lady was explaining the real meaning of my words. She said to the Sahib "He means to say that you must leave the carriage,—how impudent!" And my office as a newspaper-representative found a most sympathetic place in her heart, as a plausible source of my "impudence." The other Sahib had been but "ditto-ing" the lady's utterances. Imagin my position at that time,—a "native" standing face to face with two or three "Europeans" (or, more properly,—"Whites") and surrounded by some hundred Railway coolies, on the very Railway station (an absolute monarchy), at half-past-twelve in the night.

Now, to my point, the Sahib then asked, what I was. I said that I was the Dacca-correspondent of the "Patrika." At this he sent his hosts for the station master. Mr. Browne came out, (fortunately this gentleman was acquainted with me) as he was in charge of the station at that time. He was asked whether he knew me. He in a mild tone replied "Yes, yes, I recollect him, he is a Newspaper-man. But I can't say whether he is the Dacca-correspondent. The Sahib was in a sorrowful plight, he took up his hat and came out of the carriage, saying "I have made a mistake this time, excuse me." As the Sahib was on the point of coming out, his Memhahib said "Why do you leave the carriage?" but the former made no reply to her most logical question.

It is understood that all the Mounted Infantry together with the Bikanir Camel Corps will be among the troops returning from Somaliland this month. The strength of the garrison to be left at Berbera and elsewhere has not yet been made public.

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High Court.—May 11.

THE JHAJHA SHOOTING CASE.

Emperor vs. Robert Stuart.

Mr. S. P. Sinha, Standing Counsel, with Mr. Shelly Bonnerjee appeared for the Crown and Mr. Garth with Mr. H. H. Remfry appeared for the acnused.

ADDRESS TO THE JURY.

Prosecution.

Mr. S. P. Sinha in addressing the jury said that the whole of the evidence had been placed before them and they were now in a position to consider whether the wound was inflicted intentionally or by mere accident. In the first place they would have to consider as to where the occurrence took place. It had been suggested that the occurrence took place not in the house of the complainant but in the house of his brother Ramprosad. All the witnesses for the prosecution, specially the eye-witnesses, stated that the occurrence took place in the house of Tulsi. In order to consider the question as to where the occurrence took place the jury would have to consider the two statements made by the accused, one before the Police Officer and the other before the Magistrate. Those statements, the jury would find, did not agree. In both these statements the accused stated that the occurrence took place in the house of Ramproshad: but with regard to details there were certain discrepancies. In judging those statements they would have to consider as to how far those discrepancies affected the credibility of the story put forward by the accused. In the statement before the police the accused had stated: He went to Tulsi's house at about 2 p.m. to get his sister's clothes. He asked Tulsi where was his Dhobi living. Tulsi directed him to his Dhobi's house. Accused then went to his Dhobi's house, but the door of the house was closed. Tulsi accompanied him with a stick in his hand. Learned Counsel then addressing the jury said that they would remember that it appeared (on evidence that Ramproshad's house was locked. He then asked the jury to consider whether this part of the story was true or not. In the first place Tulsi was directing the accused to Ramproshad's house. Why should he follow the accused with a stick in his hand? If his intention was not to assist the accused in that matter at all or to tell him where his brother used to live, why should Tulsi give any direction at all? Why he should follow him with a stick, evidently suggesting that Tulsi was following with the intention of committing an assault. Learned Counsel suggested that the story for the defence was improbable, and in support of that learned Counsel drew the attention of the jury to the second statement made by the accused. The accused had stated that he was about to open his Dhobi's door when Tulsi told him not to open the door. The accused stated that he wanted to take away his sister's clothes. He then opened the door and as he entered the room Tulsi rushed on him. On the other hand the accused had stated that he went to Ramproshad's house. He entered therein when Tulsi came up and began to scuffle with him for entering into his brother's house in the latter's absence. In the scuffle Tulsi threw the accused down. The pistol slipped out of his pocket and he wanted to prevent it from falling in: The accused and Tulsi were struggling in the course of which the pistol accidently went off. Before the Magistrate the accused had stated a quite different story. Tulsi was on him and touched the pistol which was in his pocket. Accused got frightened and touched the same. A third suggestion put forward was that Tulsi was preventing the accused from entering the house of Ramproshad. When the accused was leaning over, Tulsi caught hold of the muzzle and the pistol went off. Learned Counsel asked the jury to consider these discrepancies. He also pointed out that the Police Sub-Inspector, who held the enquiry, did not go immediately to the house of Ramproshad or Tulsi to see as to where the occurrence took place. The question for the jury to consider was as to which of these statements were to be believed. On the one hand they had the witnesses for the prosecution before them, while on the other the jury had the bare statement of the accused and no one to support it. Learned Counsel then discussed the evidence of the witnesses, pointed out the truth of the case for the prosecution, and in conclusion asked the jury to consider and weigh the evidence.

Mr. Garth in reply said, the maximum punishment in both the charges against the accused was transportation, and as the accused was only a young man just entering life the jury should take particular care in returning a verdict. He then dwelt on the two different statements of the accused and showed that considering the circumstances they were substantially the same. Certain facts, Counsel stated, which had not been mentioned by the prosecution before, were practically admitted by the prosecution witnesses in cross-examination, as, for instance, the fact of the accused demanding his sister's clothes from the Dhobi and not his own. The scene of the occurrence was more probably Ramproshad's house and not Tulsi's as alleged by the prosecution. The fact of the wound being slantingly upwards was also in favour of the accused's story, that the revolver accidentally went off in the scuffle. The wound again was not of a serious nature being only a flesh wound. The story of the tossing about a bundle of clothes, Counsel submitted, was a myth and was only invented when the case had come before the Magistrate, i.e., about 23 days after the date of the occurrence. Counsel next submitted that none of these alleged eye-witnesses of the occurrence, namely Dhuki, Ganashi and Buksh, were present at all from the beginning but came there after the shot had been fired on hearing the sound. Counsel next commented at some length on the evidence of the different witnesses.

Summing up.

His Lordship addressing the jury said that the accused before them had been charged with having attempted to commit murder and also with having voluntarily caused grievous hurt with a dangerous weapon. To these charges he had pleaded not guilty. It was for the jury to say whether on the evidence placed before them they could come to the conclusion that he was guilty of the offences to which he was being charged. Mr. Garth in opening the case to the jury had remarked of the gravity of the charges that had been made against the accused, a lad. Those no doubt were the facts which would receive their sympathy but they would not cause them to depart from their duty and deliver a true and conscientious verdict on the evidence which they had heard. The facts of the case were not very complicated though there was, of course, material contradiction in the case put before them on the side of the prosecution as well as on the side of the defence. Tulsi Dhobi stated his story before them to the effect that the accused came to his house one afternoon at about 2 o'clock. The first question which the accused put to the complainant was where was his Dhobi (meaning the complainant's brother). Tulsi replied that he did not know. The Sahib insisted that the clothes were with Tulsi. On that an altercation ensued. The Sahib began to pull about the other clothes that were on the table. Tulsi remonstrated and said why the accused was pulling about his clothes. The Sahib told him several times to keep quiet and then pulled out his pistol from his pocket and said that he would kill him. The statement of the accused was of a different effect. He said that he went there to ask not for his own clothes but for his sister's. He wanted to get them from Ramproshad, who was the accused's Dhobi. He asked Tulsi where was his Dhobi's house. Then he tried to get into Ramproshad's house. Tulsi tried to prevent him. There was a scuffle in the course of which the gun went off. The real question they would have to consider was whether the pistol was shot intentionally or accidentally. Besides Tulsi, they had three witnesses, viz., Ganesh, Dukhi and Buksh, who told them that they saw the whole affair. They were attracted by the sight of the Sahib and they went there. They corroborated Tulsi's story. There had been discrepancies which have been pointed out to them. They would have to consider whether those discrepancies were the result of the failure of memory owing to the lapse of time that had been elapsed, or they were due to the fact that the witnesses had concocted the sitory which they induced them to believe. His Lordship did not think it necessary for him to go over any details of all the discrepancies between the different witnesses and the statements made at different times. Those descrepancies had been sufficiently pointed out to them by Mr. Garth, who had just addressed them. But though those discripancies would naturally guide their consideration they would no doubt address their minds to other matters. The first thing was they had been asked by the learned Standing Counsel to consider whether the complainant had any reason for making such a false story. What motive the complainant had in bringing such a false story? The witnesses were not educated men. There was a great tendency in them to mix up inference with observations. Most of them no doubt lived in the bazar and some of them had been there on thereabout when the event occurred. What did they hear and see? What it was probable for them to hear and see? There was a Sahib in the bazar; he entered the Dhobi's house; a pistol was fired. Witnesses came there, saw the smoke and the Sahib and Tulsi in that position. What was then the inference to which those witnesses would naturally come? Was it not that the Sahib must have caused the wound to the Dhobi? It might come to this, that those witnesses 'bona fide' believed that the Sahib really did shot the Dhobi. Having seen what they actually did see, they gave them (jury) the details of the occurrence, which they imagined they had observed. Before they (jury) convicted the accused they must satisfy that those witnesses really did observe the facts to which they had disposed and that they had told them truly what facts they did observe. Now in considering their story they would have to estimate its probability. Was the provocation that Tulsi and the witnesses said the Sahib had received sufficient to cause him to pull out the revolver and shoot a man with whom he was quarreling. Tulsi was not his Dhobi. That he had not got his clothes was admitted. They would have, therefore, to ask themselves why should the accused encourage to point out the said object because Tulsi refused to give his clothes. Was it likely that a youngman like the accused would dare to shoot a fellow creature in his anger, that he would be so reckless as to pull out his pistol and deliberately aim at Tulsi in the presence of three men who were watching him? Another consideration which occurred to his Lordship was that the distance between the two men, when the bullet was shot, was very short. Unfortunately the evidence of the Sub-Inspector was so incomplete that it did not throw full light on what really took place. He did not go to Ramproshad's house to get any corroboration of the accused's story. He went only to Tulsi's house, but even from the investigation and from the facts which he observed, certain matters came to light, which did throw some light. Tulsi's story was that there was a bundle of clothes on the table and the accused began to scatter them about. Witnesses had all said that the Sub-Inspector did not go to Tulsi's house on the 1st day; he went there next day. But on that day all the clothes were in proper order on the table. They would have to consider whether the story told by the prosecution were true. The Sub-Inspector was shown no soiled clothes; he looked for marks of blood on the floor but he could not find any. If after having considered the observations which came from Counsel on both sides, they came to the conclusion that the story set up by witnesses for the prosecution was true, then there could be no doubt that the accused was guilty of the offences with which he was charged, viz., he either attempted to murder the Dhobi or intended to cause him grievous hurt. His Lordship then told the jury to remember that it was for the prosecution to satisfy them and not the accused that the story for the prosecution was a true one. They must be satisfied with the evidence adduced. From the evidence they had heard that it was the accused who fired the shot and that the fire was deliberate. His Lordship need hardly told them that if they found any reasonable doubt in the matter the accused was entitled to the benefit of that doubt.

His Lordship then asked the jury to consider their verdict

Verdict.

The jury without retiring returned a unanimous verdict of "not guilty" on both the counts.

His Lordship accepted the verdict and acquitted the accused.

Reports from Kabul show that the crop prospects in Afghanistan generally are good, the harvests promising well, just as is the case in the Punjab and Baluchistan. The high prices which prevailed in the Afghan bazars consequent on the drought in 1902-03 are now falling, as food supplies seem likely to be abundant.

THE DACCA SENSATION.

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(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Dacca, May 7.

Here is the full text of the judgment in the case brought by Mr. A. C. Roy, against Mr. Dey:—

Abinash Chandra Ray vs. Harinath De.

Complainant came to Dacca some months ago, on a visit intending, apparently, to do some business. Here he found an old college friend of his, in the accused, who is a professor in the Dacca College. It is on evidence that the latter took him up and and much for him to prosecute his prospects and welfare in Dacca. After a time, however, there was an estrangement, which has culminated in the present case. Complainant alleges that the accused has defamed him—firstly, by saying he might run off with certain money collected by him for a raffle; secondly, by saying that he is an dishonest man and a blackguard, and thirdly, by saying that a case recently brought by complainant against one Lalmohan Saha, of this town, is false and instituted with a view extort money from Lalmohan Saha.

The petition of complaint contains other allegations, some of which might wisely have been omitted; but the sum and substance of it is that complainant has been defamed by the accused, and that the defamation consists of the three statements mentioned. The first statement has not been proved to have ever been made by the accused. In fact, one witness tells us that when complainant's conduct in the matter of the raffle was bing talked about, the accused told the speaker to keep quiet as he had no right to make such a remark. I do not therefore believe that the accused ever said this. As to the third statement, the only evidence as to what accused said about the case of Lalmohan Saha is the statement of the second witness (Nalini Kumar Dutt) that he had heard that the object of A. C. Ray's bringing the case was to extort Lalmohan Saha. This accused evidently said it only once and that in a private conversation. He did nothing to spread a rumour to this effect, and it is not on evidence that he ever said he believed what he had heard. That the story was not of his own intention, is evident from the articles in the three numbers of a local paper called "The Bengal Times" which complainant himself has filed. These show that such a rumour existed. The man saying therefore that one has heard a certain thing which has become sufficiently public to appear in a newspaper is not defamation. The only one of the three statements imputed to accused of which there is any evidence, is the second that the complainant is a dishonest man and a blackguard. This is deposed to by the two witnesses examined by the complainant. One (S. W. Percival) tells us that the accused said that Ray behaved dishonestly towards him: the other (Nalini Kumar Dutt) that the accused said that A. C. Ray was once very honest, but now he is very dishonest. The circumstances under which the remark was made are these:—The two witnesses and the accused were engaged in supervising the last Entrance Examination: On one of the days, accused mentioned the case of Lalmohan Saha to Mr. Percival. The latter thereupon went and repeated this to Babu Nalini Kumar Dutt as both of these gentlemen were very friendly with the complainant: they both came back to Mr. De to his private room. There they talked over the case of Lalmohan Saha with the object of finding some means of settling it amicably. Dutt and Percival asked the accused to aphowever, refused at first to have anything to go and see the complainant. The accused, however, refused at first to have anyhing to do with the matter, alleging as his reason that the complainant was dishonest. This was a private conversation among friends and it does not seem that the accused wanted to blacken the character of the complainant. In order that this statement should amount to defamation, it must be shown that the accused had reason to believe that it would harm the complainant's reputation. It evidently did not make the witness Dutt think any the less of complainant as he shortly asserted that complainant was quite honest, nor did it affect the witness Percival, so far as we can judge from his evodence. The statement therefore did not lower his character or credit in the eyes of the two persons who heard it. The person who has done the harm if any harm has been done, is Nalini Dutt, who admits having told several people what accused said. When the accused made the statement he did not know that Dutt would be have like that, and so could not know or have reason to believe that the complainant's reputation would be affected. Another point to be noticed is that on a previous occasion, a rumour had been spread by one Kiran Mitra that the complainant was dishonest. This rumour he said lost him some money (Vice evidence) but he did not think it worth his while to sue Kiran Mitra for defamation. If his reputation was not worth defending them, why is he so careful about it now? "I am afraid he has been actuated principally by malice." I have not considered the question whether the statement that the complainant is dishonest is true. It was made when the accused wanted an excuse for not interfering in the other case; it was made to two men who were friends of both parties and in circumstances which lead me to believe that it was intended to be confidential. It has not affected the friendship between these two men and complainant and so has not in respect of these two, lowered his character or his credit. The compalainant has produced no evidence that his credit or his character has been lowered in respect of other persons, and unless it has, there has been no defamation. For all these reasons I must hold that there is no case and discharge the accused accordingly, under section 233 C. P. C.,

Sd J. T. RANKIN.
Dist Magistrate.
25-4-04.

Against this order a motion has been filed before the District Judge. It has been submitted on the ground that the lower court had put a wrong construction of Sec. 499 I. P. C The records of the case have been called for

The hearing of the cases against Lal Mohan Sha was originally fixed on 29th April and 4th May respectively. But on an application made by Roy to the District Magistrate for time to move the High Court for the transfer of the cases, 20 days' time have been granted.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, MAY 12, 1904.

"NO CONVICTION, NO PROMOTION."

THE Kurnool correspondent of the "Madras Standard" writes to that paper how the administration of criminal justice is going to fall into pieces in that district. Here is an extract from his letter:—

"One of our subordinate Magistrates the other day told some Vakils, who were present in his Court, that the District Magistrate found fault with him as an acquitting and discharging Magistrate, and that he was asked by the District Magistrate to pass severe convictions."

And the inevitable result has followed—the whole subordinate service has been demoralized and its members are vying with one another in carrying out the behest of their official superior. But let the correspondent describe the situation:—

"Anyhow, some of our subordinate Magistrates, thinking it to be the desire of their chief, have been, of late, lavish in their sentences of 6 months' rigorous imprisonment on persons accused of any offence, whether sufficiently proved to be guilty or otherwise."

And why are they prostituting justice in this manner? Because, their promotion and future prospects depend entirely upon the good reports of their official superiors.

It was during the administration of Sir Charles Elliott, as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, that the policy of "No conviction, no promotion," was brought specially to the front, though it prevailed everywhere long before. It was Sir Charles who expressed his joy openly in official documents when a large number of men had been convicted, and the anguish of his soul in the same manner when the number of convictions was small according to his standard. It was he who issued a circular regarding a Purulia case in which the Magistrates were asked to punish at least one man and thus compensate their day's labour when they had to try a criminal case! And it was he who punished the Deputy Magistrate Babu Atul Chandra Chatterjee for refusing to convict a man sent up by the police and for which Sir Charles had a fight with Sir Comer Petheram.

We were led to write a series of articles, headed, "No conviction, no promotion" at that time: and they created a great stir. Sir Charles Elliott found that he had to defend himself from the charges which the articles suggested against him, and he sent the following letter to us for publication:—

"Belvedere, 14th Feb. 1893.

"Sir,—The Lieutenant-Governor's attention has been drawn to the following passage at the end of the article in your issue of February 14, 1893, headed 'The Plague Spot,' "There is no doubt of it.....no promotion."

"I am desired to inquire what authority has been adduced to lead you to believe that H. H. the Lieutenant-Governor ever wrote anything of the sort. He is satisfied that you have been misled in the matter, and that no such order can be quoted as having issued under his authority or with his knowledge.

Yours faithfully,
J. W. CURRIE, Captain
Private Secretary."

In reply we said that we never suggested that Sir Charles Elliott had issued any circular intimating that he would not promote a man whose percentage of convictions was small. What we said was that his sayings and doings led every one to that conclusion.

Similarly, Sir Charles Elliott's acts and utterances created the impression that police officers should be promoted according to the percentage of the convictions of the cases sent up by them. And thus District Police Superintendents were found to bully the Deputy Magistrates for the purpose of getting the majority of police cases convicted. Several police officers were also punished, because of the low percentage of the convictions of the cases sent up by them. We brought this matter to the notice of Sir A. P. MacDonnell who was fortunately at the time officiating for Sir Charles Elliott, who had gone home on six months' leave for the purpose of fighting his battle with Sir Comer Petheram in England. And the result of our appeal was the following circular:—

"Mr. H. J. S. Cotton, Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, has forwarded the following communication to all Commissioners of divisions and to the Inspector-General of Police, enunciating the principle of utilising the statistics of convictions and acquittals.

"In view of the prevalence in some quarters of an impression that a police officer is judged efficient or otherwise according as the percentage of convictions secured by him in cases sent up for trial in A Form is high or low, the Officiating Lieutenant-Governor desires me to take this opportunity of pointing out, for your information and for the guidance of your subordinates, that this impression rests on no good foundation, and that it is inconsistent with the instructions of the Inspector-General of Police contained in his circular No. 4 of the 6th September 1892, and the repeated declarations and assurances of Government on the subject. I am to explain that although statistics are essential to the maintenance of due control and supervision over police work, they should be used, not as a standard to be worked up to, but as a test for indicating where defect in work is to be looked for. If, for instance, in the police work of any district it is fund that out of 100 cases sent up for trial in A Form, convictions have been obtained in not more than 50 cases, a reasonable presumption arises that in the remaining 50 cases there has been either imperfect enquiry by the police, or the unnecessary harassment of innocent persons. The procedure of the supervising officer in such a case should be, not to punish the police without further investigation, but to examine a sufficient proportion of the records of the 50 cases in which no conviction had been obtained, and after ascertaining wherein the police proceedings had been ill-directed, imperfect or productive of hardship to the accused, to issue such disciplinary orders in regard to the enquiring officers as might be needed and to provide as far as [illegible] against the recurrence of such errors. [illegible] centage of convictions was higher [illegible] 75, then as the action [illegible] by the judgment [illegible] of cases, [illegible] tics of acquittals and convictions serve the purpose of a graduated "danger signal" on a railway, and afford an indication to the controlling officer of mistakes, more or less, which should be corrected.

"2. I am to add that this principle of utilising the statistics of convictions and acquittals is applicable 'mutatis mutandis' to judicial trials, and should be followed by Commissioners and District Magistrates in supervising the work of magisterial officers subordinate to them, and in ascertaining and correcting their mistakes.

"3. The use of such statistics, when properly applied, is indeed obvious, and the test of percentages is not one which any Government or controlling authority can dispense with or reject; but as the object of the test may have been misunderstood in some cases, the Officiating Lieutenant-Governor desires to emphatically enjoin on all inspecting officers the necessity of shunning any action and avoiding the use of any language which may give colour to the impression that the work of their subordinates is judged by an arithmetical standard and not according to its intrinsic merit."

So this question was settled in a satisfactory manner, though we must say that the policy of "No conviction, no promotion" remains practically even now in full force in Bengal as well as in other Provinces. We hope the just and sympathetic ruler of Bengal will be pleased to discard this policy, and inaugurate a wholesome reform in this direction.

SLAVERY ABROAD AND FREEDOM AT HOME.

SIR H. Campbell-Bannerman, during the debate on the Tibetan affair, wanted to know which was the superior power—the Imperial Government, or the Government of India? For, said he, though the Imperial Government and the Indian Government did not much agree about the aim and scope of the Tibetan expedition, yet the Indian authorities were going to have everything in their own way. This question has at last been asked, because, it is getting evident day by day that the Indian Government, with the help of the Indian Secretary in England, can snap its fingers not only at the British Parliament, but also the Imperial Government.

If the Indian Government and the Indian Secretary of State are so disposed, they can drag England to any direction they choose. This Tibet expedition is a proof of this danger. It was undertaken without the consent of Parliament, or the full knowledge of the British Cabinet. Indeed, the latter yet does not know what the real intentions of the Indian Government are. Here are then matters drifting to a position created by the Government of India,—a circumstance which goes to establish the fact that the latter is beyond the control of the Cabinet at Home.

There was a time when our humble selves, with the help of Messrs Bradlaugh, Caine, Roerts and others, tried to keep the British Parliament in touch with the affairs of India. This alarmed the Indian Government, and its supporters both here and in England. Mighty efforts were made by them to stop Indian questions being frequently asked in Parliament; and the attempt succeeded, possibly, because Mr. Bradlaugh died. And now, if a member of Parliament can be moved to interpellate the Indian Secretary of State, he is sought to be silenced by the reply that India has a Parliament of its own, and all Indian matters ought to be referred there. It was, in this manner, the India Government achieved its practical independence.

Far-seeing Englishmen have, however, realized that if the India Government is day by day getting more and more independent of the control at Home, the Imperial Government is getting, in the same proportion, independent of the British public. Sir Ashley Eden of Bengal called the British Parliament "a sickly plant." As a matter of fact, in spite of the boasted independence of Englishmen, they are now utterly helpless in the hands of, say, two or three men.

About half of England consider Mr. Chamberlain something like a traitor, at least a danger to his country; but he is as firm as ever in his commanding position. The English papers abuse him as the Indian papers did the late Mr. H. A. D. Phillips, the irrepressible Magistrate. But Mr. Phillips laughed at the Indian papers as Mr. Chamberlain is laughing at his opponents in the English press. A large number of Englishmen, perhaps the majority, hate Lord Milner of South Africa. But he does not "care two pence" for English opinion, that is his own utterance. He considers himself superior to Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, the leader of the Liberals, and treats with contempt the opinion of a member who only represents "a little group of Scotch boroughs," to quote Lord Milner again.

We have then this consolation that if we are in the "iron grip" of "a strong Government," so are the Englishmen at home quite helpless in the hands of an uncontrollable Ministry. If the Indian Government can make the Imperial Government to do anything it likes, so can the Imperial Government, that is to say, less than half a dozen Englishmen lead the British Parliament by the nose. If we cry in vain for protection against the doings of irresponsible officials here, so are the English people at the absolute mercy of a few autocrats in their own country.

In short, if the British people were pleased to give India a Government of unmitigated despotism, keeping the priceless privilege of liberty to themselves, they are being punished for their utter selfishness and disregard of the supremacy of morals. If they gave the Indians despotism, the Indians, in return, have given it back to them; for it must be borne in mind that it is to India solely that they owe their present abject position.

They tried slavery abroad and independence at home, but that is an experiment which can never succeed. British officials trained under the bureaucratic rule of India, have over-run England, and dragged down free--born Englishmen almost in the same deplorable condition as the one to which the Indians have been reduced.

DEATH AND DISEASE AMONG EUROPEAN ARMY OF INDIA.

WE have always held that, it is more in the interests of the English nation than those of the Indian that British soldiers in this country should be as few as possible. Tommy Atkins no doubt lives like a Prince in India at the cost [illegible] He enjoys comforts here which [illegible] of in his native land. He lives in a palatial house; he is well nourished with meat, rum and other healthy food in sufficient quantity; he breathes pure air and drinks wholesome water; servants attend on him and electric fans swinge over his head; he plays badminton and dresses like a gentleman; yet his miseries know no bounds, because of the uncongenial character of the climate and the peculiar circumstances of the Indian garrison life. In short, the health of the European army in India ought to be a source of deep anxiety to all patriotic Englishmen.

The report of the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India for 1902 shows that the health of the European army during that year was worse than in 1901; for, though the admission rate, the constantly sick rate, and the invaliding rate were all slightly lower, the death-rate was considerably higher. The chief causes of admission into hospital were venereal diseases and ague. These diseases accounted for 26 per cent. and 23 per cent. respectively of the total number of admissions from all causes.

The chief causes of death were, as in 1901, enteric fever and abscess of the liver, the death-rates of these diseases being higher than in the previous year. The former accounted for 29 per cent., and the latter 13 per cent., of the total number of deaths.

The Chief causes of invaliding were, in order, secondary syphilis, debility, and ague.

There were 11 deaths from alcoholism. The average number of suicides per annum for the 10 years 1891-1900 was 19. In 1902 there were 16, of which 7 were by gun-shot, 3 by cut-throat, 2 by drowning, 2 by poisoning, 1 by jumping from a height, and 1 by placing himself in front of a train.

A considerable portion of the space of the report is devoted to the discussion of two diseases, namely enteric fever and venereal diseases. In 1902 as in 1901, the greatest liability to suffer and die from enteric fever was between the ages of 20 and 25, and during the first year of Indian service. The cause or causes of enteric fever are still unknown. The general belief among medical officers seems to be that, it is due to contaminated water.

Among all the European troops in India during 1902 the total admission rate on account of venereal diseases was 281.4 per thousand, as compared with 276.0 per thousand for the previous year. In other words, among every 1,000 men in India during 1902 there were five more admissions to hospital for venereal disease than among the same number of men in 1901.

The havoc which this loathsome disease is committing will be more vividly realised when it is stated that during 1902 there were 1,430.84 men constantly sick in hospital on account of venereal diseases as compared with 1,416.04 during 1901. The average period during which a case remained in hospital was 30.66 days as compared with a period of 30.99 in 1901; and the total loss of service by the European troops on account of venereal diseases alone was about 522,257 days, as compared with 516,855 days in the previous year.

The loss of service by detention in hospital on account of venereal disease was nearly nine and a half times as much as on account of enteric fever. There were 15 deaths and 310 invalidings directly due to venereal disease during 1902 as compared with 8 deaths and 383 invalidings during 1901.

It is a remarkable fact that venereal diseases were nearly nine times as prevalent among European troops during 1902 as among Indian troops. While among European troops an average annual strength of 60,540 gave 17.036 admissions, in the case of the Indian troops an annual strength of 124.231 gave only 4,071 admissions. In other words, there were only 33 admissions into hospital for every thousand men among Indian troops, as compared with 281 admissions for every thousand men among British troops.

Even the officers are not free from this disease; for, we find, in the Bengal, the Punjab, the Madras and the Bombay Command, 3.6, 4.6, 21.5, and 10.4 per thousand of officers respectively were down with this dreadful malady in 1902.

Not only are the systems of thousands of British troops totally wrecked by this disease, but they dessiminate the poison among thousands of women in England. In this way they are constantly contaminating English society with a most loathsome, contagious and dangerous disease. We wonder that the English people knowing this danger, yet allow their young men to be sent out here, confined in barracks, fed with meat and rum, and then let loose among women of ill-fame to ruin themselves and their countrywomen at home.

There is another aspect of the case. [illegible] rulers here cannot afford to lose their character as an enlightened people. But the disgusting sights which European soldiers [illegible] and then present in this country are calculated to lower the ruling nation in the estimation of the people.

LORD CURZON'S PROCLAMAT[illegible]

THUS sayeth George Nathaniel Curz[illegible] of Keddleston, in the county of D[illegible] Ireland, P.C., D.L., G.M.S.I., G[illegible] by the Grace of Heaven, Viceroy an[illegible] General of India:—

In the fifth year of Vicero[illegible] these commands:—

1. Whereas contentment has [illegible] cipal characteristic of men of [illegible] East, whose sages and saints ha[illegible] in forests and mountains, w[illegible] suited to spiritual culture [illegible] cities, and have never bee[illegible] for wealth, honour or office, [illegible] degenerate sons have lost [illegible] for learning's sake, and [illegible] the portals of our Univers[illegible] ing admission into the [illegible] Empire, much to the [illegible] spiritual culture for w[illegible] were so noted in the [illegible] in the West, and wh[illegible] revive among them s[illegible] of learning for lear[illegible] passion for the [illegible] order that "in the h[illegible] education," they [illegible] appear in compe[illegible] public service whi[illegible] they may remain [illegible] while we shall [illegible] cannot pass exan[illegible] to serve the [illegible] now open to th[illegible]

II. Whereas [illegible] the life here[illegible] and whereas [illegible] eir holy R[illegible] material West and seriously jeopardising the salvation of their souls, which they used to value above all earthly things, we, in compassion for them, do hereby order that none of them shall henceforth be eligible for any public office which carries with it a salary of Rs. 100 or upwards, and we hope, all Indians, loyal as they are, will not mind this small temptation of wealth, even if it goes against them in the world to come; for the public service of the country, which is intended for their benefit by keeping their bodies and souls together, so that they may fast, pray and meditate, cannot be carried on without some co-operation on their part.

III. Whereas our Finance Minister is drawing more money from the country than we can afford to spend even by our Delhi Durbar, Thibetan missions and Memorial Hall, and whereas it has been rightly pointed out by our Honorary Colleagues headed by the Maharatta Brahmin whom we take this opportunity of holding forth as an ideal to be followed by all native officials who clamour for increase of their salaries, as he was quite content with less than Rs. 100 a month, that it will be an act of injustice to our native subjects not to spend the same in the country, we in compassion for them do hereby order that additional posts be created in all departments for Europeans, and among them some new Lieutenant-Governorships, Viceregal Memberships, Director-Generalships and so forth, and we hope all native subjects of light and leading will approve of this act of ours, solely intended for the benefit of their country.

IV. Whereas the Rishis of India have enjoined their countrymen to shun wealth as poison and whereas the Indians of the present day have forgotten that wholesome advice, we in compassion for them do hereby order that no native of India outside the ranks of the public service should be allowed to have more wealth than what is required for the bare necessaries of life; for that will be detrimental to their spiritual growth; and whereas it is necessary for their own spiritual culture as well as for performing acts of loyalty and paying revenues to the Sircar that they must live, we do hereby further order that they be fed at the expense of the State in times of famine, and for the same reason, we do also order that they must not be killed by any Englishman; and be it known to all that we in our anxiety to protect the lives of the natives of India punished a whole regiment of the "Whites," one of whom killed a native of India, because the latter failed to supply them with women.

V. Whereas Sankara, the great Indian sage and philosopher, with whose writings we have been made familiar by our Hon. colleague the great Orientalist, Mr. Risley, has laid it down that "fortunate are surely the people in rags"; and whereas the people of India, in spite of their contact with the material West, have still great spiritual potentialities in them, and whereas the Britsh Government, in whose hands through Divine Dispensation the destinies of the Indian Nation have been placed for all time to come, will not consider its mission fulfilled unless it has been able to raise this once ancient and noble race by whose side we Westerners are mere children of yesterday, we lay it down for the future guidance of all our officers in various departments that it should be the aim of one and all of them to do all in their power to constantly put before the Indian people the ideal set forth above and to make them as speedily as possible to attain it, so that as soon as they shuffle off their mortal coils, their souls will not have to transmigrate from one place to another, but will at once attain Nirvana or final Beatitude, the goal of ambition of all natives of India from the time of Lord Buddha, who is respected alike in the West as in the East, and whose life we have read in the "Light of Asia" by Sir Edwin Arnold and whose image we have ordered to be preserved in the Victoria Memorial Hall intended for the preservation of all that is glorious and inglorious of the Indian peopl[illegible], and out of respect for whose memory, we have ordered our trusted officer Colonel Younghusband, to march to Thibet and meet face to face with the Lamas, who have been all along longing for the land of Nirvana, with our Maxim guns and magazine rifles.

Thus we issue this Pious Proclamation in conformity with the Ancient Law of the East, [illegible] though belonging to the West, we are [illegible] than the Asiatics themselves.

[illegible] spair fills the mind [illegible] gh the discussions in [illegible] betan affair. We have [illegible] beral-minded Liberals in [illegible] ons, after condemning the [illegible] the beginning to the end, [illegible] fortable conclusion that it [illegible] should pay the cost of the [illegible] liberal-minded Lords disposed [illegible] n a still more selfish manner, [illegible] Englishman who is a greater [illegible] a or whose sense of justice is [illegible] than that of Lord Northbrook? [illegible] le-minded nobleman had no hesi- [illegible] ying that "this mission had un- [illegible] een undertaken in the interests of [illegible] In the interests of India" forsooth! [illegible] hat are these interests? Would [illegible] r plague disappear from India if the [illegible] s were butchered like so many sheep? [illegible] asserted that, the object of the Mission [illegible] o checkmate Russia in Tibet. But the [illegible] sh Government has admitted that the [illegible] sian intrigue in that country is a myth. [illegible] d, even if Russians were really backing the [illegible] betans, England was much more interested [illegible] n frustrating them than India. The Earl "ex- [illegible] pressed his sense of the responsibility which [illegible] rested on Parliament to protect the interests [illegible] of the people of India against the improper [illegible] application of the revenues of India;" and [illegible] further "recognised the importance of economy [illegible] in Indian finance." And yet he could see his [illegible] way to not only vote for the fastening of the [illegible] cost of the Tibetan invasion upon the starving Indians, but offer congratulations both to the Indian and the Home Governments upon the admirable way they have been conducting the affair. It is really a melancholy sight to find a man like Lord Northbrook, who is one of the noblest specimens of the English nation, talking in this manner about a business which, even the Marquis of Lansdowne was obliged to admit, should be looked upon "with more regret than pride." Has morality departed from the British Parliament? Fancy even Lord Northbrook was led to give his support to an affair of which every Englishman ought to be ashamed for three reasons; first, the invasion of Tibet is an act of aggression, pure and smple; secondly, India should never have been compelled to bear the cost of the expedition; and thirdly, this butchery of the ill-armed Tibetans is a great blot upon the fair name of England. It is some consolation that a small body of Englishmen and Irishmen are condemning the expedition, as it ought to be condemned by every man who is not blinded by selfishness or whose moral perceptions are not deadened. Mr. Webb's letter to the "Freeman's Journal" and the editorial remarks of that journal upon the letter, reproduced elsewhere, will, however, show that this noble band is in a hopeless minority and that they are practically crying in the wilderness like the Indians. The reader is aware that another massacre of the Tibetans took place only about a week ago. As on the former occasion, the unhappy Tibetan rabble, who came to defend their country, armed with "swords and six-foot spears," were mown down like so many sheep by Maxims and rifle fire while fleeing in confusion to save their lives.

THOSE Anglo-Indians, who embarrass the Government by their sympathy with European offenders, do greater harm to the people of this country than they do to themselves; and hence we deem it our duty to notice so frequently cases of failure of justice in which the members of the ruling classes are involved. It is a general complaint that the European jury in this country do not perform their duty properly when they have to deal with a culprit of their own community. At one time the notorious Cossitolah jury in Calcutta was a by-word in the country. When the Hoff and some other cases in the Allahabad High Court resulted in the acquittal of the accused, the Hon'ble Judges of that Court were so disgusted with the perversity of the Allahabad European jury that they made a report to the Government for taking steps to prevent such scandals in future. In the tea or indigo districts, the conviction of a European offender, even upon the clearest evidence, is not always possible, because a European jury would not convict a countryman of theirs. The latest complaint comes from the Punjab. A Sergeant and a Corporal of the Oxfordshire Light were hauled up, on a charge of theft, before the Sessions Judge of Umballa, who tried them with the help of a European jury, who, as usual, found him not guilty. Thereupon the Judge referred the matter to the Chief Court, stating that the jury of Europeans were evidently influenced by race prejudice and sympathy and acquitted the accused against clear evidence of guilty, the only Indian juror being a wine and spirit dealer having money transactions with Europeans. The Chief Court considered the accused guilty, but said that the jury were entitled to the most favourable explanation of their unsatisfactory verdict. It was possible that they erred from simple incapacity to weigh the evidence or draw conclusions which irresistibly follow from proved facts, and that they were not false to their oath. The accused, being of good character, and having been in custody for three months, were sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment each.

OF course the jurors who deliberately acquit a prisoner from race considerations are worse than those who do the same from stupidity. But the result is equally disastrous; for the verdict, perverse or stupid, means the same thing, namely, the escape of a guilty person. It is the Europeans who bring disgrace upon the jury system in this country, but it is the Indians who are held responsible and made to suffer from it! Indeed, if the life of the Indian jury system has been taken out of it, and the mere shadow of the real thing has been left to the people, it is due to the perversity of the European jurors. The European culprit however suffers very little; for, not only is he always entitled to a trial by jury, but is always sure of the majority of his countrymen as his jurors, and therefore, his acquittal, as a rule, is a foregone conclusion. The Indians, on the other hand, not only do not enjoy the privilege of being tried by their own peers, but, those who can claim it in some half-a-dozen districts, have been given a system of jury which differs very little from the system of assessorship, and this, because, the European jurors are either perverse or stupid!

LORD CURZON intended to chalk out an independent path for himself. He had no desire of following blind-fold in the foot-steps of his predecessors. But eventually he had to give way, and take to the beaten track. He was opposed to frontier expeditions. He said so and took credit for it; and, as a matter of fact, proved by his action that he intended to stand by his own creed. But subsequently we see him sending the "peaceful" expedition to Tibet. He professed himself a friend of the Press. He ended by putting a gag in its mouth. He posed as a friend of education, but the Indians accuse him of having dealt a fatal blow to the cause of education. He promised to respect the feelings and wishes of the people. But he made an attempt to trample them under foot when he undertook a tour in East Bengal, not for the purpose of gathering information as his Lordship was pleased to declare, but for killing the agitation against the partition of Bengal. And, last, though not the least, in the name of "a liberal education" but really to provide for the "Poor Whites," he has sought to stop competitive examinations for the public services. Every body should read the article of the "Manchester Guardian" on the last subject, reproduced in these columns yesterday, and also Lord Curzon's "Proclamation," published elsewhere, though, of course, its authenticity we can't guarantee. The demoralizing atmosphere of India is irresistible, for even a strong man like Lord Curzon had to succumb to it.

THE case of Roy Bahadoor Ganpat Sing of Ajimgunj and his servant Uday Chand, particulars of which were published in our last issue, is one more instance showing the extraordinary vigor with which the Magistrate of Berhampur, Mr. Carey, is ruling his district. The case has naturally struck terror into the hearts of the people. Roy Bahadoor Ganpat Sing is a well-known Zemindar, his property yielding an annual income of one and-a-half lakh of rupees. On the 28th December last, the Roy Bahadoor, through Uday Chand, lodged an information at the thana that some unknown thieves had broken into his residence and carried off property worth about Rs. 10,000. A police investigation followed

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and the investigating officer reported the case to be maliciously false. Thereupon a notice was issued by the Sub-Divisional Officer of Lalbag upon both the Roy Bahadoor and his man to prove the case, and, in case of failure, they were ordered to be prosecuted under sections 182 and 211 of the Indian Penal Code. The matter was heard by the Sub-Divisional Officer of Lalbag, who, after a full inquiry, came to the conclusion that the complaint was a true one and that no prosecution should be sanctioned. The matter should have stopped here. But no, that was not to be. The District Superintendent of Police, for reasons best known to him, was not satisfied with the result. He made a report to Mr. Carey, in which he expressed his opinion that the case was false. The D. S. P. had no business to make a report of the kind after the S. D. O. had decided the case after a judicial inquiry. He had no first-hand or direct information of the case—he simply drew his inspiration from his subordinates, and with this borrowed and second-hand knowledge, he thought himself quite competent to sit in judgment upon the decision of the S. D. O. and to characterize it as an erroneous one! And what is more to be wondered at is that Mr. Carey, the superior of the D.S.P., accepted the version of his subordinate as gospel truth and allowed himself to be played into his hands. And thus commenced the troubles of Roy Bahadoor Ganpat Sing and his man. Aremd with irresistible power, Mr. Carey at once issued a notice upon the Roy Bahadoor and his man to show cause why they should not be prosecuted under sections 182 and 211. The aggrieved parties sought the help of the High Court, and the proceedings were quashed.

In his explanation, Mr. Carey said:—

"As regards the question of hardship it appears to me that the District Superintendent's report contains very strong reasons for believing the case to be purely false and that in the interest of justice these should be fully investigated."

And what are the reasons? Surely, they are not to be found in the records. The judgment of the High Court thus disposed of the point:—

"The District Magistrate has laid various allegations in his explanation which we find it difficult to deal with, because we have nothing before us to support that, nor do we think that we can properly examine and discuss the report made by the District Superintendent of Police to the District Magistrate."

The matter stood thus. The D. S. P. heard evidently something against the Roy Bahadoor behind his back from some interested parties and was prejudiced against him, and he found no difficulty in making his head, Mr. Carey, play a tool into his hands.

Again, Mr. Carey says:—

"The case was instituted before the police and after a very careful personal enquiry the District Superintendent of Police reported it to be intentionally false giving definite reasons."

But the Hon'ble Judges gave no weight to the report of the D. S. P. Their Lordships observed:—

"We have read the decision of the Sub-Divisional Officer of Lalbag and the Magistrate's explanation which he has sent in answer to the rule. It appears to us that the Sub-Divisional Officer's enquiry was a full and careful one; that the reasons which he has given appear to be well weighed and sound and that we do not find anything in it to lead to dessent from the conclusion which he has arrived."

So, what was considered by the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court as "a full and careful inquiry" and "as sound and well-weighed reasons," was thrown away by Mr. Carey who did not scruple to subject a highly respectable gentleman to all sorts of indignities and troubles at the mere bidding of his subordinate! Mr. Carey seeks to justify his doings "in the interest of justice." But, surely, justice does not consist in bringing a false charge against innocent people and harassing them to death. If Mr. Carey and the Police Superintendents were private parties, the persecuted gentleman might have sought redress in a court of law. But, as they are officials, he has no such remedy in his hands. The matter therefore rests wholly with the Lieutenant-Governor. If His Honour do not interfere in a case like this, well may we say, that Bengal has no ruler to control its affairs.

Mr. E. F. Knight, the War Correspondent of the "Morning Post," is simply struck dumb with the fever of patriotism, with which the Japanese of all classes are just now overtaken. By way of illustration, he narrates some incidents noticed in the Japanese papers. A murderer was condemned to be hanged. On the eve of his execution, he had four shillings with him. The jailor advised him to expend this sum in the purchase of one last luxurious meal. But the man would not listen to this. He gave the sum as his humble mite to the war fund. The next day, he walked smiling to the gallows, because he was able to contribute something to the cause of his country, before he was launched into eternity. So great is the eagerness to fight out the Russians, that many men, who, on account of physical infirmity or other causes, have been refused permission to fight for their country, have committed suicide in their intense disappointment. A lady envied the lucky lot of another, because the six sons of the latter were in the army, while her husband and only two sons had gone to the war. Here is a true story. A Japanese woman married a Russian, to whom she was devotedly attached. She came to know that he was a spy and she at once betrayed him. "Indeed," says the correspondent, "there is something almost uncanny in the admirable devotion to their country displayed by these people, which sweeps all personal affections and considerations aside."

Because Mr. P. N. Roy, who had shown his proficiency in the study of Geology in England and was given an appointment by the Secretary of State, in the Department of the Geological Survey of India, the Director-General, Mr. H. B. Medlicott, lost his temper, and abused the Bengalees in his annual Report. What a malicious and senseless attack! His idea is that the Bengalees will never learn anything useful. But what of Professor J. C. Bose; What of Professor P. C. Roy? What of Mr. Rudra who has a world-wide reputation as a Mining Engineer and who got an ovation in America? Scientific men are supposed to be gentle, absent-minded, and simple. Their minds are full of the subtleties of science, and they have no opportunity of indulging in emotions of any sort. Nay, it is said that customs of the world have to be reversed in the case of savants, for not knowing how to court a woman, the women have to court them. How is it then that Mr. Medlicott found opportunities of nourishing so much malice in his heart? If he is full of science where did he find space for this venom? A man who surveys a vast continent ought to be able to survey his own heart. We said more than once that the mischievous measures of Lord Curzon were all directed against the Bengalees, and in this crusade he was encouraged by the vast body of his subordinates. The Bengalees, in short, are not liked, because they are considered formidable rivals of Englishmen here. Pray, what have the Bengalees done to deserve such kind attention from Englishmen? By the way, Mr. Medlicott accuses the Bengalee of want of originality. But, may we enquire, what original work has he, an Englishman and a princely-paid official, produced? On the other hand, is it not a fact that, the Americans, the Germans, the French and other European nations are now beating down the English in originality in science, art, and industry? Give the Bengalees the same opportunities that Englishmen possess and then condemn them, and not before.

They employed trained dogs in America to hunt down run-away slaves; in Assam, the services of ferry men, it appears, are utilized for the purpose of catching alleged absconding tea-garden coolies. So a kind of slavery really exists in Assam. What is most astounding is that this unjustifiable practice, though known to the Chief Commissioner, has not only been not knocked on the head, but allowed to remain as it is. At least this is what the "Weekly Chronicle" of Sylhet says. Here is the strange story related by our contemporary. The startling fact transpired during the course of the cross-examination of a steamer agent's clerk before an Extra-Assistant Commissioner of Tezpore that the practice of arresting run-away coolies by ferry-men is a longstanding one; that this clerk himself, on receipt of information from a garden manager, had detained coolies, instead of giving them tickets for journey elsewhere, and was rewarded for every such case of detection and detention; and that he would not even issue tickets if any coolies were known to be going to complain against a manager. Nor is this all. Certain correspondence has passed between the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam and the Assam Tea Association on the subject, in which the Assam Government drew attention of the Association to a case of some absconding coolies having been illegally arrested and detained by a ferry-man at the instance of a tea garden manager, and also to reports to the effect that ferry-men not infrequently stop persons of the coolie class who seek to cross by their ferries, on suspicion of their being absconders. In some case, the ferry-men, it is stated, act with authority under section 195 of Act VI of 1901, from the manager of the garden, though no such plea was possible in the particular case which came to the notice of the Chief Commissioner. The Chief Commissioner was fully alive to the illegality and the evils of the practice; nay, His Honour, we are told, expressed himself even disposed to prohibit ferry-men and their servants from accepting an authorization from any employer to arrest deserters from the tea-gardens under section 195 of Act VI of 1901. But, all the same, the Hon'ble Mr. Fuller, we are assured, has yielded to the clamour of the tea planters and the practice now flourishes practically with his sanction. The Tea Association, in its reply to the letter of the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, to quote the words of the "Weekly Chronicle",

"gives a veiled rebuff by telling the Chief Commissioner that the difficulties in obtaining warrants and the delays in getting them served already handicap the tea industry and make the arrest of an absconding coolie a very doubtful matter in view of the growing facilities for communication. So the Government is asked to allow matters to remain in "statu quo" on the condition that in future all authorizations to the ferry-men [illegible] Sec. 195 of Act VI should be [illegible] give a full description of [illegible] and that no Act XIII [illegible] be included in such a [illegible] Commissioner has ev[illegible] suggestion, for it appea[illegible] have issued a circular to [illegible] planting community in th[illegible] posal."

We need hardly point ou[illegible] planters are invested with [illegible] powers they may reduce th[illegible] position of slaves. Even th[illegible] planters of Bengal, who ruled [illegible] the heydey of their prosperity, [illegible] such arbitrary powers. It is q[illegible] the interests of tea industry an[illegible] tected, but that is no reason th[illegible] coolies should be placed at the abso[illegible] of their powerful masters. As a [illegible] fact, it is the coolies, and not the tea [illegible] who need protection. It is quite poss[illegible] the Chief Commissioner has his own ve[illegible] the case. If so, we shall be extremely [illegible] to His Honour if he will publish all [illegible] in connection with this matter. It has [illegible] been the laudable ambition of the Hon[illegible] Mr. Fuller to hold the balance even betw[illegible] the planters and the coolies. Surely, H[illegible] Honour will never countenance a practi[illegible] which appears to be dangerous and obnoxiou[illegible] on the very face of it, inasmuch as it enables the planters to harass and oppress the coolies, who have incurred their displeasure, through the ferry-men, with impunity, and under the shelter of the Government itself.

An interesting animal is the flying frog of Borneo. Its long toes are webbed to the tips, and thus act as little parachutes, enabling the frog to leap from lofty trees and descend gradually.

What, but for the presence of mind of some of the residents, would have been a serious fire broke out in the Bonnie Moon hotel Simla, on Sunday night, a lamp exploding and setting the building, which is largely of wood, aflame. The blaze was seen by the diners who succeeded in extinguishing it with earth.

The following appears in the "Indian Engineering":—"We learn that Mr. Gardiner has taken over charge of this Circle. (Western Circle, P. W. D., Bengal.) We sincerely congratulate Government on their choice, but could not the claims of Mr. K. C. Banerjee be recognised as well?" It is the policy of ostracising the children of the soil from all the departments of the State that led the Government to disregard the superior claims of Rai Khetter Chunder and appoint a European, though junior, to this prize post.

Verestchogin went to the Far East to make studies and collect material for a series of paintings of the scenes in the Russo-Japanese war, which he proposed eventually to show in an Exhibition to be called the "Horrors of War." We wish all soldiers of every nation will pay a visit to this exhibition. Imperialism and earth-hunger is at the bottom of this bloody affair known as war. These scenes of the "Horrors of War" may do something to spiritualise the West and hence we wish that those pictures be sent to all powers who worship mammon as God.

Mr. R. C. Hamilton succeeds Mr. Carey temporarily as Magistrate of Murshidabad. Our readers may recollect that Mr. Hamilton, while working as such in Khulna made himself a little unpopular in connection with a clerk's case there. He was however then reprimanded by the then Lieutenant-Governor, and since then we have heard little against him. It may therefore be fairly expected that Murshidabad will have no cause to regret the change in their District Officer. Every Civilian should remember that it is very easy to be unpopular but very difficult to win good opinion and thereby blessings of the people.

Mr. Carey, the District Magistrate of Murshidabad, has obtained leave for six weeks. The part he played of late at Murshidabad made the place too hot for him to stay there any longer. It was, therefore, time he went elsewhere on leave or transfer. But, now that he has obtained leave for a month and a half let us hope that, while enjoying it, Mr. Carey will in his cooler moments review the past in his own mind, weigh every work he has done and come back a thoroughly changed man—changed, of course, for the better. By the bye it is a fact that Murshidabad saw an unusually large number of changes in the executive service during Mr. Carey's regime that it ever did within living memory.

Sometime ago it was rumoured that the Tibetans had fortified the Karo Pass, two marches from Gyantse, and that there was real intention to oppose the Mission when it again moved forward. It is now announced that two more encounters with the Tibetans have taken place. The first attack appears to have been repulsed with greater or less ease, while the other was an attack by a British force of about 200 men, under Colonel Brander, upon a very strong position occupied by the Tibetans with at least 1,500. Both Sikhs and Gurkhas behaved gallantly, but it was apparently owing to the dash of the Gurkhas that the wall was finally carried. Our losses, for a fight with Tibetans were severe. Captain Bethune, of the 32nd Sikhs, and two men were killed, and 21 men were wounded. Badly armed and badly disciplined though they are, the Tibetans, it seems, are determined to oppose the Mission, for they believe, in spite of the pacific announcement by Colonel Younghusband, that the British are coming to take away their independence.

The Cawnpur Experimental Farm, we are told, is doing good and useful work in the United Provinces. Last year 588 maunds of seed were supplied by the Farm to cultivators and zemindars, as against 366 maunds during the previous year. It has also been supplying the Kashmir State with a selection of agricultural implements. For a long while it was under discussion whether an Agricultural College should not be associated with the Farm and now that Government has decided definitely against the idea, the already existing Agricultural School there is to be closely connected with the Agricultural College at Pusa by means of scholarships, etc. In a purely agricultural country like India such Experimental Farms and Agricultural Schools are bound to do immense good to the people who are in a semi-starvation condition; and we congratulate the Government for having directed its attention to this noble purpose. After destroying the indigenous industries and monopolising the resources of the land in their own hands the government is bound to do something to save the people from famine which has already found a firm hold in the country. And as by improving the agriculture the people can, at least to a certain extent, ameliorate their condition, this [illegible] attempt or rather duty of the government is sure to be hailed with joy by the 300 millions of people inhabiting this ill-fated country.

[illegible] has, of late, become notorious for [illegible] cases, in which Europeans are accused [illegible] committed cowardly assaults upon [illegible]ians. We have already reported two [illegible]s and now comes the third. In the [illegible] the accused was a European Guard, [illegible]ond case the assailant was a mili[illegible] and in the present case the [illegible]ilant is a European Police Ser[illegible]cer whose special duty is to pro[illegible]k from the oppression of the [illegible] let us narrate the present case [illegible] "Behar Herald." A coolie of [illegible]d Co., labour contractors of [illegible]an Railway company at the [illegible]ion, filed a complainant on [illegible]fore the City Magistrate of [illegible]uropean Police Sergeant of [illegible] that the Police Sergeant [illegible] the case of a woman who [illegible] Passenger train at the [illegible]d. The Sergeant asked [illegible]ll him the truth about [illegible]oolie denying all know[illegible] was assaulted in the [illegible] Tuesday last. He fell [illegible]seless when the ac[illegible]way and washed his [illegible]len when the com[illegible]he Magistrate. The [illegible]red that the record [illegible] District Magistrate [illegible]ay be sent to the [illegible], Railway Police [illegible] commissions and [illegible]uld have done, [illegible]mmission to in[illegible]sault cases and [illegible]hem.

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

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(From Our Own Correspondent.)

London, April 22.

LORD CURZON'S GREATEST WRONG TO INDIA.

One journal, at least, in England has taken the trouble to examine Lord Curzon's abominable and unjust action in connection with the abolition of educational examinations as the avenues to public service. Having examined this, the worst of many thigs the Viceroy has done, the journal in question unreservedly condemns the procedure he has adopted. I am greatly tempted to quote some of the most pertinent observations of this capable critic. But, quotations would not do justice to the article, and, matters being as they are, I prefer that you should have the whole of the observation for your consideration. I, therefore, put the article in question, which is far too long for insertion in this column, under another heading, and send it for quotation in full elsewhere in these pages. Is it conceivable that the Indian people will accept so retrograde and dangerous an action as this without making the stoutest fight of their lives?

INDIAN COUNCILS BILL.

A tiny measure concerning India is now before the House of Commons, and, it may be supposed, it will become an Act without amendment, passing through all its stages with an irriducible minimum of discussion. As it is the only measure concerning India which has been before Parliament for a considerable period, it may be quoted in full. Perhaps, if so much kindness be given to it, there may be encouragement afforded to the Secretary of State for India to see to it that not only this trifling effort but some really earnest legislation be undertaken. Here, then, is the India Councils Bill in its entirety:

A
BILL
to
Amend the India Councils Act, 1874.

A. D. 1904.

Beit enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the consent and advice of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. In section one of the India Councils Act, 1874, the words 'who shall be called the member of council for public works purposes,' and in section two of the same Act the words 'for public works purposes,' are hereby repealed.
2. This Act may be cited as the Indian Councils Act, 1904.

This, with the exception of the endorsement on the back of the document is all, every word of it!

THE ASSAM TEA PLANTER'S UNPLEASANT SURPRISE.

I imagine the excitement during the past few days of the European tea planters in Assam and of the numerous Anglo-Indians who have invested their savings in tea estates must have rivalled in intensiy that other excitement which in Western Bengal has regard so fiercely and so long. Like a thunderbolt out of a clear sky, a sky with no suspicion of cloud in all its azure deeps, must have come in every tea garden in Eastern India the announcement of the increase of the duty on tea, made three days ago at Westminster by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The very last thing that the tea people, in England and in India, anticipated this year was that an addition to the duty would be among Mr. Austen Chamberlain's proposals. How angry they must feel with that gentleman and his father. It is not going too far, I think—certainly it is not going too far with regard to the tea planters in Ceylon—to say that ninety-five out of every hundred European tea planters in India are or were!—ardent Chamberlainites, rampant Jingoes. Well, in being made to fill one of the holes in a Budget which deals with war expenditure in the piping times of peace, they will have an object lesson in the charms of their idol and his policy which may serve to disillusion them. Were this to be the case, good would come out of evil. An examination of the situation makes one think that Mr. Austan Chamberlain cannot have very carefully considered the tax on tea before he increased it by fifty per cent. That tax, I believe, now stands alone among taxes on food in that it represents the full value of the article taxed. The average price of tea on a plantation, says an authority, works out at from 7½d. to 8d. per pound. That is the tea for which there is a popular demand: the tea-tax, as it now stands, works out therefore at a hundred per cent. on the prime cost. Never, I suppose, were the members of a trade taken so much by surprise as were the growers, the shippers, the brokers, the salesmen, the large consumers, of tea. They were in a condition of extreme self-satisfaction—a fatuous self-confidence as it has proved to be. Here are two confessions of amazement, made within a few hours of the Chancellor's announcement:

"1. "It is quite unexpected," said a notable tea merchant. "Our teas, of course, are bought as the opportunity affords, and if we do not require it at the moment, it is kept in bond. No, we withdrew nothing; we had no idea the tax would be raised. We have one hundred and sixty shops in various parts of London, and it will make a considerable difference to us."

2. "Well, we have been caught napping, that's all," remarked an official in a big tea supply Company to a newspaper representative. "We never dreamt that tea was going to be touched or we could have taken any quantity out of bond. Ouh representatives were at the Custom House this morning, and we asked how things were looking. The reply was that they were quieter than usual. This is going to make the brokers sit up."

"Who will pay this tax?" the representative asked, "the dealer or the consumer?"

"That is the worst feature of this tax; it is going to hit the poor people hardest of all. The rich won't feel it, but the poor, who already buy the cheapest possible quality, will suffer. If I might offer a suggestion it would be that the poor people should not pay 1s. 8d. for their tea instead of 1s. 6d., and use a little less, they would then find the tax would touch them hardly at all."

The Budget will be unpopular all round. The well-to-do British people will not relish having to pay more for their te[illegible] than they have already been made to [illegible] with which they [illegible] sweetening it, supply an element which is necessary to the proper nutrition of the human body. Fortunately, these disaffected individuals can, in the American phrase, "turn the rascals out," and will, undoubtedly do so, as soon as Mr. Balfour gives them a chance. As for the exasperated tea planters,—well, if they will worship such Jingoes as Joseph Chamberlain, they must not cry out if they find themselves pretty heavily fined and hampered for their political faith.

A MOTTO FOR INDIAN REFORMERS.

"All the Friends of the Cause must
go to work,
keep to work,
hold on, and
NEVER GIVE UP."

A WORTHY EXAMPLE FOR INDIAN EDITORS.

"In all my writings I have used strong, indignant, vehement, language, and direct, pointed, scorching, reproof. I have nothing to recall. Many have censured me for my severity—but, thank God! none have stigmatised me with lukewarmness. Passion is reason,—here!"

—WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON.

March 5, 1830.

WHY THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF RULE IN INDIA *MUST* BE A FAILURE.

What a shockingly unkind, not to say abominable, remark to make, some one will say, perhaps, on reading the above undoubtedly long caption to this paragraph. Such a remark would be unjust. There is nothing intentionally unkind in the assertion. It is, indeed, uttered in cold blood, simply as an easily demonstrable axiom in political life. It is merely John Stuart Mill's famous aphorism, as to the impossibility of one people ever ruling properly another people, put into striking and concrete form. On the present occasion, the expression is an introduction to the consideration of a too-frequently forgotten foundation fact in current history. The fact to which I allude is vigorously stated in an apothegm recently uttered by Mr. J. M. Robertson in a most admirable paper on "Our Relation to India", which he read to a select circle of thoughtful people desirous to do their duty by the Indian people so far as is in their power, which paper also finds publication in the current number of Mrs. Bradlaugh Bonner's monthly magazine, "The Reformer." The apothegm is as follows:

"If there be any meaning in the political history of Great Britain for the past eight hundred years, *it is morally certain that there must be much misgovernment in British India.*"

Mr. Robertson precedes the above important generalisation by three paragraphs of close reasoning which make the above severe condemnation logically inevitable. He begins by asserting that a Briton who could frame a just judgment on British rule in India had never set out by remembering a fact which, normally, he is very apt to overlook. "That fact is," he proceeds, with great force and appositeness to say, "that during the whole course of English constitutional government it has been a standing principle that no set of men can be trusted to govern the country save under stringent and incessant criticism. No goodness of character or height of capacity has ever been admitted to suffice for a single year to dispense with the hostile vigilance of an organised opposition; and no statesman since the Norman Conquest has escaped being charged with at least grave errors of administration. The most energetic leaders in modern times have been precisely those most hotly-condemned by great masses of their countrymen."

Here is a point too often forgotten. In England, no man, be he a Gladstone or a Disraeli, a Cobden or a Bright, a Chamberlain or a Balfour, is considered wise enough or good enough to rule his countrymen, save under a most rigorous and daily-exercised supervision. Yet such men are dealing with the affairs of their own country, affairs with which they are intimately acquainted, affairs in the midst of which they have grown up and in which their fathers have played a part, so that inherited ability comes to their aid. Nevertheless, their country will not put unchecked power into their hands. On the contrary, a hundred thousand eyes watch all they do, fifty thousand voices day by day subject their acts to most rigorous criticism. Criticism, however, is not enough. Let those placed in office act contrary to the views of the majority of their countrymen, and swift punishment, at the very least dismissal from public service, follows. The very man who is not wise enough or good enough to be trusted at home by those who know him best, but must be watched and checked in all he does say, the Hon. George Nathaniel Curzon, M.P., as Under Secretary of State for India—no sooner reaches India as Viceroy than he finds himself in a world where few of the restraints he knew in England exist, and, let him act as he may, no power is known whereby distrust may find expression in dismissal. As with great men, so with little men. It would not be possible for Mr. Ernest Clements, First Class Magistrate, Bombay Presidency, to have displayed such pitiful judicial incompetency over so long a period as marked that gentleman's management of the Tilak case, to have acted in so reprehensible a manner in any country under British jurisdiction, save only in India. Mr. Robertson, in the course of his argument proceeds to point out that when the ordinary British citizen speaks of British administration in India or in Egypt, "or any other unconstitutionally governed dependency of his country," he instantly adopts an altogether different attitude. Like one of Kipling's drunken heroes who speaks of places south of Suez as being places

"Where there ain't no Ten Commandments,"

the average Briton regards these countries under his government as needing no Ten Political Commandments: his will becomes law, and is all-sufficient for the creatures he honours by his rule.

"He almost invariably ignores that standing doctrine of home political life, and takes it for granted that a bureaucracy subject to no public opposition, a bureaucracy under no Parliamentary scrutiny, deals in the main both wisely and justly with an alien subject population, destitute of all political rights. Liberal and Tory in this matter seem to be, as a rule, much alike. Each abandons, as regards Indian administration, his normal convictio[illegible] that the other is not to be trust[illegible] sight. A Viceroy indeed ma[illegible] little journalistic crit[illegible] of the merit[illegible]

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

LORD CURZON'S GREATEST WRONG TO INDIA.

A NOTABLE CONDEMNATION.

We give here the full text of the leading article in the "Manchester Guardian" concerning the abolition in India of examinations for the public service, to which our London correspondent refers in his letter of this week. It is as follows:—

The "Gazette of India" announces the abolition of competitive examinations for admission to the public service in that country. This change does not apply to the "Indian Civil Service" as it is understood here, but merely to the immense number of minor posts for which candidates are examined in India, and which offer one of the favourite careers of educated Indians. The hope of a place in the higher Indian Civil Service will still continue to shape the studies and to interest the parents of young Englishmen who are good at examinations but not rich. Prudent Oxford and Cambridge undergraduates will, as before, weigh up the assured career in India against the vast but precarious prizes of the Bar and the adequate games but inadequate pay of the school-master; and if on a review of these considerations they "hear the East," as Mr. Kipling says "a-calling," their wisdom will select a Tripos or a Final School with due regard to the measure in which its subject is reputed to "pay" in the Indian Civil Service examination. We all, in some moods, call this shocking. Young men ought not to be thinking of marks or careers or what "pays"; they ought to be thinking of genuine culture, of their own highest development. So Lord Curzon says, too, in the "Gazette of India." He is nobly severe on the "excessive prominence given to examinations" and on the temptation to teachers and pupils "to concentrate their energies not so much upon genuine study as upon the questions likely to be set by the examiners." In short, he says, "the Government of India hold that the multiplication of competitive tests for Government service neither results in advantage to Government nor is consistent with the highest interests of a liberal education." Accordingly competitive examinations for the Indian public servine are to be done away with—but not in England; only in India. While Oxford proceeds along the primrose path Lord Curzon, her admirable product, will point out to the Universities of Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras the steep and thorny path to "the highest interests of a liberal education."

Throughout this Educational Minute of Lord Curzon's who tones seem to be contending in his voice. There is the tone of the father of India telling his child home truths, cruel only to be kind, and seeing for her better than she can see for her poor self; and there is the tone of the aghast Anglo-Indian, wondering what things are coming to, with these educated natives pushing themselves into all sorts of public work as they do. We impute no mean or merely personal fear to Lord Curzon. If there were an examination for the post of Viceroy next week we believe he would get it for this Minute of his is as good a specimen of the academical prize essay as ever we read. But, not on his own account, he does seem to echo a little the familiar dismay of the average Anglo-Indian in presence of the genie we have let out of the pot by helping able Indians to learn. Already that dismay has had one highly practical effect—the absolute refusal of the India Office to hold the Indian Civil Service examinations simultaneously in England and in India. To keep the natives out they are forced either to educate themselves here or to pay the price of a return ticket from India to London by way of extra entance fee for the examination. The expedient is not a heroic one; still, the risk that otherwise the white man might be despoiled of a large portion of his Indian burthen is felt to be too dreadful to contemplate. The alarm which dictates this precaution is really only a subdivision of the familiar Anglo-Indian aversion from anything which causes the occupations of English and natives in India to overlap more than they do. Socially and professionally as well as geographically, they feel the propriety of a "native quarter" well apart from the European quarter. Mr. Kipling has expressed it all beautifully. Half-a-dozen of his stories express with the eloquence of sympathy this dislike which is half contempt and half jealousy of the native who gets on as an official —together with the correlative enthusiasm for the native in his proper place as picturesque "super" in the drama of the "White Man's Burden." For a good time now this feeling has found in the education of natives a nucleus to condense on. What is it that gets all these Indians into the upper Civil Service in spite of the beneficent precaution that has been mentioned? Education. What fills the Indian Bar with pestilent rivals to the forensic eloquence that would not quite do for Strangeways but surely ought to do for Calcutta? Education again. What is it that impregnates so many native heads with plaguey notions from Burke and Macaulay, Mill and Bentham about human liberty and the respect due to human individuality? Education, nothing but education. "Education—that's the enemy," to adapt Gambetta's war-cry.

Of course it is not put quite so baldly as this. Education for natives of India is not to be stopped; it is to be made "liberal." At least, one student in a small Welsh college when asked to write an essay on "A Liberal Education" is known to have begun: "A liberal education is so called because it gets a man into the liberal professions—the Church and the Excise." Too long has the Indian undergraduate likewise valued a University education as a means to the Civil Service or the Bar. Henceforward Lord Curzon will train him to love Learning for Learning's sake by withdrawing as much of her dowry as can be managed. No doubt the improvement thus effected in the higher types of native culture will be very great. If British undergraduates were less often distracted from their prime duty of enlarging human knowledge by a perverse anxiety to earn their living, no doubt our British culture also would be remarkably enhanced. It is one of the blessings attendant on such a possession as India that if we cannot always be virtuous ourselves we can at least arrange for her to be so. But as to Lord Curzon's other anxiety—for "advantage to Government"—one would like to hear more. If the minor Indian public servants are not selected by examination they must be selected by nomination. Lord Curzon says as much. "The Government," he claims, must be "sole judge as to the best method of securing the type of officers which it requires for its service." But "the Government" when a particular choice comes to be made by nomination is usually some very human person. When certain legal appointments have to be made "the Government" is Lord Halsbury—with results which have exhausted the satiric humour of the Bar. "The Government" when nominations of any kind to lucrative public posts have to be made is commonly found, even in our own pure country, to be marvellously furnished with nephews, sons-in-law, old servants so good or so bad that at all costs they must be provided for by the public, objects of benevolence so deserving that they must not be restricted to the enjoyment of "the Government's" merely private and personal power of giving. Of course there is seldom unqualified jobbery. There is usually jobbery of our peculiarly moderate conscientious English type, which really does take some thought for the public service while not thinking of it alone. Still, it is this moderate and qualified jobbery, and not any judicial or inspired selection by pure merit, that Lord Curzon can hope at the best to substitute for the unquestionably imperfect but still quite honest method of choice by examination.

NEWS BY THE MAIL.

AN ECCENTRIC INDIAN JUDGE.

"I believe you to be a girl; why are you wearing male attire?" said a policeman in Russell Square to a good-looking smooth-faced young person, the chief features of whose dress were grey tweed trousers and jacket, a golf cap, a fancy tie, and a pair of neat patent leather shoes. "What is it to you?" retorted an elderly well-dressed man who accompanied the wearer of the tweed suit. "That's my servant, and I can do as I like with her." Not accepting this view, the policeman arrested the couple as suspected persons, and they subsequently appeared in the dock together at Clerken-well, the girl still wearing the garb in which she was taken into custody. It appeared that the elderly gentleman was Mr. Francis Wolfe-Murray, who is residing at the Hardinge Hotel, High Holborn. He is, according to his own account, a retired Indian judge, and is fifty years old. The girl was Beatrice Holland, aged nineteen, who described herself as a secretary, and is in the service of Mr. Murray. A girl named Alice Buckley stated that about six weeks ago she was engaged by Mr. Murray as a servant, and was provided apartments in Store Street, Tottenham Court Road. Because she refused to go about with him dressed as a boy, he tore her skirts off, and endeavoured to strangle her. She was so frightened that she fled from the room and left his service. She thought he was not right. On the previous evening she saw the two prisoners in an omnibus. She spoke to the girl, and afterwards gave information to the police. While the train which led to the arrests had thus been laid, it seemed that Mr. Murray and the masquearding girl went on to the Hotel Russell and walked into the restaurant. Noticing at once that Holland was a girl, the chief clerk there intimated that they would not be served. The couple were ordered out, and were arrested as already related before they had quitted the Square. Mr. Murray said he was prepared to state privately the reason for his behaviour.

"State it now," said Mr. D'Eyncourt.

"I don't want it made public," said Mr. Murray.

"Make your statement now," said Mr. D'Eyncourt with emphasis.

Mr. Murray then said: "For many years I have been a judge in India. I have been staying at the Arundel Hotel, and I have inquired of the police in that neighbourhood as to whether I am allowed so to dress my servant. I have my own object in doing what I have done."

"Tell me why you go about with a woman in this way?" asked Mr. D'Eyncourt.

"I wish to find out the opinion of the lower classes on tariff reform. If I go about myself, it can be seen that I am a gentleman, and the people will not tell me the truth. Therefore I take a servant. I take a woman with me, because if I have a man I have to pay a tax, and I am a Scotchman, and want value for my money. A woman is cheaper, and I never lose my temper with a woman, and I swear uncommonly hard."

The case was remanded for the prisoner to be medically examined.

THE ACTION AGAINST KING LEOPOLD.

The action brought against King Leopold by the creditors of his daughter, the Princess Louise, in which Princess Stephanie intervened, to recover their legal share of their late mother's estate, has concluded in a decision in favour of His Majesty. The Court declared that the late Queen's will was not subject to its jurisdiction, and that the marriage contract was in reality an international treaty. The Princesses were therefore non-suited. The creditors of Princess Louise, after waiting in vain for several months after the death of the Queen for the payment of their accounts, and fearing that King Leopold would give the greater part of his wealth to the nation during his life, and bequeath little to his daughters, resolved to demand the liquidation of the late Queen's estate, and a settlement of the rights of the heirs under the marriage contract. On behalf of the King, however, Counsel urged that His Majesty's marriage contract was above the action of the law which overned the acts of his subjects; that it was, in fact, an international treaty, and that the Court had no power to interfere.

NEW COLONIAL AND INDIAN EXHIBITION.

Influential support has been secured for the project of the Directors of the Crystal Palace to hold, during the summer of next year, an Imperial Exhibition in which all the Governments and Administrations of over-sea Britain are being asked to participate. The rapid strides that have been made in imperialist sentiment and in business intercourse between Great Britain and her Colonies and Dependencies and the current proposals for a closer union, justify, in the opinion of the promoters, the proposal to repeat and expand the successful experiment of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition of 1886. The special object of the Exhibition to be opened in May of next year will be, to quote the preliminary prospectus of the present scheme, to "demonstrate that the British Empire produces all the necessaries and luxuries of life in quantities large enough to supply the wants of all its inhabitants, while the quality is at least equal to those produced in any other portion of the globe." In a word, it is intended to prove that the Empire "can be entirely self-sustained, and that in this respect it differs from any other, however large may be its area and varied its resources." The space available for the exhibition of products will be reserved for the tenancy of the various Governments and Administrations until February next, when any space remaining unutilised will be offered to the British exhibitors of Colonial produce and manufactures. The Honorary Advisory Committee has been joined by the Duke of Argyll, the Duke of Westminster, Lord Salisbury, Lord Linlithgow, Lord Grey, Lord Kintore, Lord Jersey, Lord Dunraven, Lord Brassey, Lord Strathcona, Field Marshal Sir Henry Norman, Sir C. W. Cayzer, Sir T. Sutherland, General Sir Bevan Edwards, Sir George Birdwood, Sir Herbert Maxwell, M. P., Sir George Sydenham Clarke, Major-General Sir O. T. Burne, Sir M. M. Bhownaggree, M. P., Sir G. Taubman Goldie, Sir H. E. H. Jerningham, Sir Neville Lubbock, Sir Gilbert Parker, M. P., Sir C. H. Metcalfe, Sir Horace Tozer, and other gentlemen connected with India and the Colonies.

The Tibet Mission.

THE INVASION OF TIBET.

In the face of yesterday's news from Tibet—news the character of which has long been anticipated by persons like myself who have watched the inception and progress of this buccancering expedition—it is difficult not to despair of our pretended Christianity and boasted civilisation. As I turned from this news my eyes fell on the words of Job: "The tabernacles of robbers prosper, and they that provoke God are secure."

"Of 1,500 (Tibetans) only half escaped death or wounds. The scene after the action resembled a shambles. . . . Our casualties: a major a correspondent wounded, and seven Sepoys wounded."

Separated from India by almost inaccessible mountains, the unfortunate Tibetans asked only to be let alone. There is not the breath of a suggestion they ever desired to interfere with us. Such conventions as exist have been forced upon them. Lord Lansdowne, in the House of Lords, has fully accepted Russian disavowal of intrigue. In the history of the world I can think of no worse piece of unprovoked aggression on flimsier pretexts "Merely a political mission!"—with thuosands of troops, Gatling guns, and a host of camp followers! It proves how deeply the virus of ascendency has entered even into some of the best Protestant blood in Ireland, when from a Protestant body professing to be against all war not a word of protest has officially gone up against this present piece of pagan barbarity any more than against the war in South Africa. "All war is wrong"—no paricular war is to be protested against so long as waged by a Conservative Government.

Increasingly do I realise the unfairness of classing all Englishmen together in our condemnation of the wicked doings of the English Government. On occasions such as the present—alas! of late years how often recurring —I have to seek sympathy, outside a small, almost family, circle, amongst fellow-Protestants across the Channel. And there we find noble protests, not alone in the columns of powerful papers such as the "Daily News," "Manchester Guardian," and a host of minor ones, such as "India," the "Investors' Review," and the "New Age," but from noble-minded men, many of whom have held leading positions in the Government of India. And what a rebuke to the assumption of exclusive Protestant pretensions of philanthropy are the utterances of one of the Catholic Bishops in America concerning lynching, and the Marquis of Ripon concerning this raid:—

"While I desire the utmost development of our trade and commerce in every part of the world, while I admit that in these days it is a foremost duty of the Government to do all that they can to advance and develop our commerce, I hold strongly to the view that it is unjust to attempt to do it by the agency of force. . . . It is my deliberate opinion, and as it involves considerations of right and wrong, I am afraid I am not likely to change it. . . . You cannot by force make people your friends."

Sir Henry Cotton has proved the futility of the excuse that this "mission" was undertaken with the approval of Tibet's suzeraine, China. The Delhi of Durham cannot think of anything worse than this trampling on a quiet race." Sir William Wedderburn—"Any pretext was good enough for the wolf before he devoured the lamb, and any pretext was good enough for the Government in order to invade Tibet. . . . . The real crime of the Tibetans seemed to be that they would not have anything whatever to do with us, and another crime was that they appeared to be a defenceless people. Even Lord Rosebery, speaking of supposed breaches of treaty obligations, allowed that—"Taken together, they might be held to afford some excuse for our action, on the assumption that we were bent on picking a quarrel with the Tibetans; but they afford no justification whatever for such an expedition as that on which we were embarked." Leonard Courtney and Samuel Smith, Sir John Jardine and Mr. Lough, have all spoken out, and Frederic Harrison—about this war as well as the last war—is true to his convictions regarding amity among peoples. "He represented a political and social movement which for twenty-four years had continually protested against all these forms of wanton aggression, and against the growth of this Imperial mania, which, he believed, would ruin the Empire and sacrifice our country; but he did not think they had had so purely a wanton agression as this attack, this attempt to conquer Tibet, and he was not sure it was not as dangerous as any of them." Sir Wilfrid Lawson, speaking upon this subject, is witty as usual—"He had been thinking of the way the people of this country were being humbugged. Protection was advocated, but it was called Fiscal Reform; war was called the promotion of Christianity among heathens; slavery was called teaching the natives the dignity of labour; making people drunk by Act of Parliament was called justice to licence holders, and this raid was called a political mission."

Apart from its wickedness, this invasion, without the consent of Parliament previously obtained, is directly in the face of Clause 55 of the Act for the Bettrment of India. The military oligarchy that rules India, when it has set its mind upon any particular course of action, in truth cares no more for conventions or the decisions of Parliament than does Lord Milner for home prejudice, and apart from humanity and law this costly raid, leading inevitable to heavier military burdens, is being waged, without consent asked at the expense of the Indian people already heavily taxed, and whose average income is but some forty shillings per annum. The ambitions and predilections of a military aristocracy are difficult enough to curb in a free country. But where, as in India, they have free play in the marshalling of mercenaries of a different race, and in putting their hands in the pockets of a people, no bounds can be placed to their arrogant pretensions.

In the face of doings such as the present, one's soul renewedly cries out in almost helpless agony at

"All the woes we see—
And worse, the woes we see not—which throb through
The immedicable soul, with heartaches ever new."

Whether reconcilation with England, and real assumption of joint responsibilities with her, comes through Home Rule in my time or not, so long as the flag we are asked to respect is soaked in infamies such as this invasion of Tibet, so long will it continue to be to a considerable number of us an emblem of violence and wrong, of oppression of the weak, rather than of civilisation and liberty.

I trust our Parliamentary Party will make as good a record about Tibet as about the Transvaal. William Redmond has already made a good beginning.—Alfred Webb in the "Freeman's Journal."

Dublin, Easter Sunday, 1904.

On this the "Freeman's Journal" thus remarks:—

THE MASSACRE IN TIBET.

Even England has done nothing worse than the latest exploit of her "peaceful mission" to Thibet. We concur with the view expressed in the indignant leter which we publish to-day from Mr. Alfred Webb. "In the history of the world, I can think of no worse piece of unprovoked agression on flimsier pretexts." Thibet had given no excuse. Russia, as Lord Lansdowne confessed, had given none. The expedition was not an invasion at all; it was a mere peaceful political mission to reason about commercial obligations. The pleaceful political mission went with an army and artillery, and, as a touch of its quality, massarcred about seven hundred unarmed Thibetans.

"Power and ball
Are goodwill's strongest magnets,
And peace, to make it stick at all,
Should be druv in with bagnets."

It is the most horrible outrage on humanity and Christianity that has disgraced Europe for many years. Whatever may be the incidental fabrications of enterprising Pressmen, it is plain that the soldiers have, without any temptation, slaughtered these poor wretches in cold blood without risk to themselves. The marvel is that such an outrage published in the newspapers awakens no thrill of horror in England. On the contrary, Englishmen shrug their shouldersself-complacently in gentle deprecation of the massacre, and promptly console themselves with the hope that it will prove serviceable to British interests. The "Daily Telegraph" is first in its congratulations over the great victory, and the "Irish Times" is a good second, bestowing many substantial marks of favour the butchers. If there were in the troops that massacred the Thibetans any "hands-upper" who had seen service in South Africa, he must have thought his job much improved. There were no De Wets amongst the Thibetans; no skilful riflemen; no rifles. A pheasant battue was as easy and as dangerous. Is there any other nation in the world but the English would have the audacity to boast of such a performance? That typical British paper, the "Daily Telegraph," is charmed with this unique display of British chivalry. "It was not a battle, but a battue," the "Daiy Telegraph" confesses. "In no sense was it the sort of victory which British troops love to gain, but it was a measure of swift and stern retaliation absolutely demanded and justified by the circumstances. For the first time these untamed borderers, led to their fate by the extraordinary mixture of fierceness and levity which blends in their character, have felt that the iron hand under the glove of British power can close with a crushing grip. We can only hope that evil may be turned to good, and that the whole affair may open the eyes of the Lamas to the nature of the forces they have been trifling with for the last few years." It was a "battle" much more to British taste than the campaign against the Boers. Of course, the Thibetans were solely to blame. In British history the fable of the wolf and the lamb is constantly repeated. "With the shot fired by their general the Thibetans became a mass of infuriated devildom, slashing with swords and blazing with matchlock at the faces of every white man and Indian soldier near them." Fourteen hundred infuriated devils, slashing with swords and blazing with matchlocks—result, one officer killed and half-a-dozen of the rank-and-file wounded. Was there ever a more palpable lie? The most horrible thing in the whole horrible business was the ruthless massacre of the retreating men. The "Daily Chronicle" thus describes this wanton massacre:—"A scene then followed, more impressive and awful than the fight in the cockpit. The Thibetans, though their retreat was still open, disdained to scatter and run. They tramped away slowly, steadily, sullen and solemn, followed by a perfect hail of bullets. The mountain battery came into action, and tore their line with shrapnel. A terrible trail of dead and dying marked their line of march. Finally, the last wounded Thibetan limped round the corner about four hundred yards away. The grim tragedy was over." We are gravely informed with wholly unconscious irony that the mission, despite this regrettable incident, will strictly maintain its peaceful character. Nay, the "Daily Telegraph" is sure that this illustration of British benevolence cannot fail to endear the English to the natives. "The Thibetan prisoners have been treated with kindness, and the wounded have received every attention that could be bestowed upon them. They will carry the news of this unexpected gentleness to their villages, and the extent to which we have been enabled to show ourselves both powerful and merciful may make a more effectual impression than anything else could have created." Unotuous hypocrisy can reach no further. What a truly pastoral picture it is. The Thibetns in their remote villages singing the praises of the Britishers, whose "unexpected gentleness" took the form of Gatling guns, who mowed down 700 of them without pity, whose "mercy was the spotted tiger's rage."

THE INDIAN PAPER CURRENCY RESERVE.

A Circular letter, with enclosures, addressed by the Government of India to the various Chambers of Commerce and Presidency Banks, inviting their opinions upon the proposal, now under the consideration of the Governor-General in Council, to increase the invested portion of the Paper Currency Reserve from ten to twelve crores of rupees, was published at Simla on May 7. The letter, which is signed by Mr. Mant, summarises the history of increases from six to eight crores in this maximum in 1889, and from eight to ten crores in 1895, and points out that the proposed further increase to twelve crores would appear to be now fully justified upon the same grounds as were held to justify previous increases, namely, the progressive growth which continues to take place in the amount of notes necessary for the monetary transactions of the country, and, therefore, permanently outstanding. Tables are appended, which show that the minimum value of notes in circulation has risen steadily from twenty crores in 1895 to twenty-seven crores last year; whereas it was only twelve crores in 1880 and fifteen crores in 1889. A further reduction of two crores in the amount of coin maintained to ensure the immediate cashability of currency notes would still leave a reserve of more than fifty per cent. under the least favourable conditions which occurred last year.

The case for the further investment of two crores is, the letter continues, even stronger at the present time than in 1896, because the net circulation has lately shown a very rapid tendency to increase—the minimum, which was twenty-two crores in 1900-02, having risen to twenty-three crores in 1902-03 and to twenty-seven crores in 1903-04; and this increase Government think may be taken as an index of the growth of the monetary transactions of the country, and consequently of the minimum amount of notes which will be necessary for such transactions. Moreover, in 1896 some doubts were expressed as to the effect on the stability of exchange of a measure which would result in increasing the rupee circulation by two crores. At the present time the stock of gold in the Currency Reserve is so high that the Government of India could view with equanimity such an addition to the silver currency. The letter goes on to point out, however, that the gold held in reserve affords the means of effecting the proposed investment without altering the volume of the rupee currency, and adds that has been suggested to the Government of India that it would be desirable for some reasons to make the investments not in rupee securities, but in sterling securities, either of the British Government or of the Government of India. It concludes as follows: As on former occasions, if it should be decided that an increase in the amount of the investment may safely be made, care would be taken to exercise the power only on some convenient opportunity, when it would be possible to carry out the operation without prejudicing the market in Government Securities

POST OFFICE NOTIFICATION.

The following promotions of Superintendents of Post Offices are made, with effect from the 22nd February 1904:—

(1) From the grade of Rs. 300—400 to that of Rs. 400—500—Messrs. J. R. Webster, A. C. W. Lemarchand, A. Bean, F. W. Tytler, W. J. O'Grady, J. C. Morgan, A. C. Firth, C. Currie, V. Ramakasabhai Pillai, B.A., B.L., H. C. Roussac, C. K. Dutt.

(2) From the grade of Rs. 250 to that of Rs. 300—400—Pundit Shiva Pal, Messrs. Dorabji M. Lalkaka, M. R. Muthusawmy Naidu, Sufder Hussain, B.A., W. J. Gardiner, Munshi Muhammad Kazim, Mr. C. J. Stowell, Babus Becharam Basu, Hemanta Kumar Raha, M. A., Messrs. M. J. Stephen, C. E. [illegible], Pundit Chandika Prasad, Messrs. A. B. Hutton, G. S. Clifford, H. R. Hebberd, [illegible] Dadabhai Surti, A. B. Thompson, J. M. Gorman, S. Seshachellum Naidu, Lala Mukand Behary Lal, Mr. H. S. H. Pilkington.

(3) From the grade of Rs. 200 to that of Rs. 250—Messrs. C. S. Venkatasubbierr, A. J. Hughes, Babu Kshetra Pada Banerji, Messrs O. Kulach, C. W. Wynch, Babu Ramani Mohan Ghosh, B.A., B.L., Messrs Ramchandra Govind Dashotar, F. J. Baker, J. Home, Dorabji Sorabji Captain, Munshi Abdulla Khan, Lala Sundar Lal, Babu Dwarka Nath Majumdar, Messrs P. A. Krishnama Charlu, B.A., A. Lane Ryan, Babus Lachmi Narayan, Mahendra Nath Lahiri, B.A., Messrs L. F. V. Kalberer, Dattatraya Manjappa Nadkarni, Lala Peary Lall, M.A., Mr. Erach Kharsetji Kalkaka, Syed Niaz Kutab, M.A., L.L.B., Messrs W. Hogan, W. St. J. Pusey, J. N. Craddock, Babus Surendra Nath Das, Tinkari Ray, Jogesh Chandra Banerji, B.A., Messrs Rustomji Dorabji Romer, B.A., J. J. Emerson, H. J. Hebbered, T. R. Hill, H. M. Richardson.

(4) Mr. Willait Rai is appointed Superintendent of Post Offices in the Rs. 250 grade, with effect from the 4th March 1904.

(5) The following officers are appointed permanently to the Rs. 200 grade of Superintendents of Post Offices, with effect from the 22nd February 1904—Babu Pran Gopal Mukerji, Messrs G. J. H. Quilter, D. M. Kalapesi, Lala Sukhdial Das, Mr. S. Allsop, Lala Naubat Rai, Mr. C. Srinivasa Row, M. A., Babu Krishna Sahai Sinha, Messrs J. S. Nelson, E. M. Duhan, E. Clerici.

Mr. M. R. Muthuswamy Naidu, Superintendent of Post Offices, 3rd grade, is granted an extension of privilege leave for one month and fifteen days.

Mr. T. R. Hill, Superintendent of post offices, 4th grade, is granted privilege leave for one month and 15 days, Babu Mritunjoy Chatterji acting for him.

HOW TO AVOID TROUBLE.—Now is the time to provide yourself and family with a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. It is almost certain to be needed before the summer is over, and if procured now may save you a trip to town in the night or in your busiest season. It is everywhere admitted to be the most successful medicine in use for bowel complaints, both for children and adults. No family can afford to be without it. For sale by
Smith Stanistreet & Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul & Co., Abdool Rahaman and Abdool Kareem, Calcutta.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE OUTLOOK IN THE BALKANS

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A GRAVE SITUATION.

In view of Lord Lansdowne's despairing announcement as to the abortive character of the Austro-Russian Reform Scheme, the following account of the present situation in Macedonia from an occassional correspondent of the "Times" will be read with interest.

It has happened to every European who has spent much time in the interior of Macedonia to be drawn into embarrassing discussions upon the wisdom and the advisability of rebellion. The scene is some ruined village, and in the audience there are widows and orphaned children, maimed bodies and broken lives. One can but dwell on the indescribable risks, the certainty of a havoc yet more general, a bloodshed yet more pitiless. One points to the favourable omens and bids the peasants except something from the awakened sympathy of Europe. But invariably the dialogue closes with a remark to which there is no answer. "Unless we rise again Europe will forget our very existence," says the young man who led the village band last autumn, while his father, the priest, expounds the parable of the unjust Judge and the importunate widow. Here in Salonika, after five months spent in the devastated regions of the Monastir vilayet, the crude truth of this reading of the situation seems unpleasantly evident. The exiguous programme of reform embodied in the second Austro-Russian scheme has dwindled to the severest "minimum," and even that "minimum" is still unrealized. Nothing is heard of that redistribution of administrative areas which was to isolate the competing races in separate provinces. The numerous staff of Austro-Russian agents who were to travel perpetually in the interior inquest of abuses is not yet on the spot. The reorganization of the tribunals and the still more important remodelling of the system of taxation are not yet under discussion. The Embassies appear to have concentrated their whole attention on the "gendarmerie," with the result that after five months of discussion the Porte is still triumphantly obstructive. The winter is over, the snows are melting, and the bands that have hibernated in the remoter hamlets are beginning to move again. When they ask for a single proof that Europe is resolute and sincere, there is nothing to show them save the usual notes, the stereotyped promises, the interested exhortations. One learns such as the real disposition of these people after five months of intimate intercourse. I am convinced that in the district I know best the appearance in the town of Kastoria of a single European officer, wearing European uniform, and invested with the command of the local "gendarmerie," would suffice to avert or at least to postpone a rising. Even that modest evidence of a new "regime" is not forthcoming. There have been no local obstacles to the realization of the Austro-Russian plan. The Macedonian Committee, the favourite scapegoat of diplomacy, has been quiescent to a degree quite unprecedented even in winter. Macedonia has been tranquil, partly from exhaustion, partly from expectation. Only the obstinacy of Turkey and the apathy of Europe can explain the wasted months.

THE PUZZLED PEASANT.

The immediate problem for a diplomacy whose professed aim was to keep the peace was to give the Macedonian populations some earnest of a happier future which would suffice to awaken their hopes and fortify their patience during the slow work of reconstruction and reform. It is with a race of villagers that we have to deal. It is little to them that a new species of Consul called Civil Agent has come to Salonika, and less that the police in Monastir town have been dressed in neat new uniforms with green facings and white gloves. Such changes may impress the sedentary and parasitic population of the bazaars. The peasant only returns from his rare visits to town with the reflection that in his own little world nothing whatever is changed. He is still the pawn between the Greek propaganda and the Bulgarian Committee puzzled to choose between the espionage and denunciation of the one and the cruder violence of the other. His master the Turk is as willing as ever to hire himself out as the tool of the Greek Bishop no more able than before to check the desultory terrorism of the Bulgarian bands. It is true no doubt that the village has been permitted to elect a Christian as watchman. But he may not carry arms, and is sometimes happens that the old Turkish brigand-watchman, though he no longer wears the little brass badge of office, still disposes as he pleases of the honour, the labour and the properties of his charges. The Albanian Bey is still master in his fortress. The Bashi-Bazooks of the neighbouring Moslem village are still armed; still lords of the wood and the hillside and the road that leads to market. Above all the tithe is still framed out to the middleman, who takes his 20 or 30 per cent. where ten or 12 is due. The vice of Turkish administration is an insane centralization rounded upon suspicion and distrust. Each instalment of the Austro-Russian reforms has only aggravated that voice. In normal times the local Turkish official is no better than a blind instrument of his superiors in the hierarchy, and a well-meaning man only differs in a nagative way from the corrupt or the fanatical. He may not do evil, but he dare not do good. The Palace paralyses all initiative, and the atmosphere of espionage is fatal first of all to good intentions. The new reforms have but tightened the links with the centre. Of all their provisions, two only are important and effectual. Last year's scheme recognized Hilmi Pasha as Inspector-General of the three vilayets, so that where there were three responsible governors before there is only one to-day. This year's scheme has appointed two European Civil Agents attached to the Inspector-General, and, as he practically superseded the Vallis, so they have virtually destroyed the local control which the Consuls in Uskub, Monastir, and Salonika used to exercise with more or less result.

HILMA PASHA.

Hilmi Pasha is a typical product of the Turkish system, bred, like his less plausible colleagues, in the all-pervading atmosphere of intrigue, suspicion, and make-believe. He has energy and intelligence, but his energy serves only to repress the initiative of his subordinates; his intelligence is directed to producing paper achievements and stage effects. He spends four months in rotation in each vilayet, bringing with him at each remove a perambulating staff, a travelling company which plays the comedy of reform in each capital in turn. His arrival suspends the ordinary administration. The local Vali sulks in Salonika, takes to chess in Monastir, and adjourns to fight the Albanians from Uskub. For a brief season the bureacratic machine runs at high pressure. The telegraph works busily, and Hilmi Pasha, handling in his office reams of little despatches, govern busily as governing is understood in Turkey. He takes his departure at length, satisfied that everything has been reformed. The Vali returns to his palace, the telegraph clerks breathe once more, and presently the Consuls, no longer plied with endless statistics of reform, note that the Inspector-General has left behind him a discredited and enervated "personnel." But the Consuls themselves are superseded. The other day, at Monastir, when the Russian and Austrian representatives presented their usual weekly budget of complaints to the Vali, they were informed that it is now the function of the new civil agents in Salonika to discuss such matters directly with Hilmi Pasha. Centralization could no further go. So far from creating an alert and responsible administration in Macedonia under local European control, the Austro-Russian reforms have weakened the Turkish Executive, lessened the European, control, and reduced the business of government to a polite interchange of views in a comfortable office, remote from the villages where the peasant suffers and the Bey oppresses, between one official who represents the Palace, and two other officials who represent diplomacy. The old plan of baggling in Constantinople was no less effectual.

It will be objected that Hilmi Pasha, a man of quite exceptional talents, is sincere and well meaning. The truth probably is that he is extremely anxious to create a favourable impression on European observers. His reports are always plausible documents, but the reality behind them is more instructive. Shut up among his telegrams in his office he knows as little of Macedonian village life as an Austrian Chancellor. Dependent on his subordinates for all the information he possesses, he cannot even control the execution of his own orders.

TERRORIZED VILLAGERS.

The fear which prevented these villagers from returning to their ruined homes seemed to me at first unreasonable. Little by little I came to understand it. I once happened to see an armed Turk, the retainer of a wealthy landed proprietor, levying blackmail on every passer-by on the frequented main road within sight of the town of Klissoura at broad midday. Close to Kastorio, again on the high road, two sick women and a man were mercilessly beaten by soldiers, on their way to the British Relief Society's hospital. Perhaps the most instructive incident of the kind occurred close to the town of Resna. The people of two burned Bulgarian villages were congregated for the winter in a third village (Jancovez) which had escaped unscathed. They were for the most part charcoal-burners, and contrived to live through the earlier winter months, despite the loss of their harvests and their homes, by working at their trade. Then, on a festival, two of them were savagely and quite wantonly murdered on the high road by soldiers from a neighbouring post. Inquiry and punishment were promised. Two weeks later I happened to be in this village when no fewer than nine charcoal-burners came home suffering from bruises and wounds inflicted with the butts of their rifles by these same soldiers near the same spot. Once more inquiry was promised, and once more nothing was done. It was an end of charcoal-burning for the winter. No one dare stir abroad, and the villagers, now managed by famine, had to be kept alive by doles of flour from the Relief Society. In a civilized country a murder or an outrage is an isolated event from which only the immediate victim suffers. In Turkey it is a danger-signal which paralyses the whole life of a district, warns the wealthy man to put up his shutters, and keeps even the poor man at home. The mischief is not merely that the authorities are often Tanatical and especially indifferent where the life of a Christian is at stake. It is even more serious that they are indolent and incapable. There is no ideal of security, no value set on life. An Albanian servant employed by the Relief Society at Ochrida happened in the quiet course of his daily business to murder a Turkish soldier. He went scot free. The soldier was a poor stranger from Anatolia, the servant was a popular man with local connexions whom it might have been awkward to punish. And yet the prefect of Ochrida is quite the most capable and enlightened official in Macedonia. When the life of a Moslem in the service of the State is held so cheap it moy be imagined how Christians fare.

It would serve no purpose to multiply instances. Reform as understood by Austria and Russian has altered nothing in Macedonia. The absence of security renders any sort of resuperation impossible in the devasted regions. There is some money in the country, but no merchant will lend a villager who may be robbed and murdered to-morrow, or burned out once more in a new insurrection. The peasants are without oxen or horses, and the next harvest must be more or less a failure. Add to this that the authorities still refuse to allow the tens of thousands of peasants who earn their bread by migratory labour in Bulgaria and Constantinople to leave the country. Econonomically the future seems hopeless, and if the Committee should once more give the signal for revolt, despair will recruit its bands. It is true that the Committee is not capable for the moment of a very formidable military action. But it does not rely on military action. Any mad act of provocation will suffice to awaken the fanaticism of the Turks to start burnings and massacres once more and so to reopen the Macedonian question. I am revealing no secret when I state that the committee will hold a congress towards the end of April. It will then decide whether the omens point to serious reforms and if it sees no proof that Europe is in earnest, it will certainly raise its standard once more. To those of us who have been seen the fruits of one rising—the burned homes, the starving children, the wounded women, the young and the aged whom fear has made insane—the prospect is merely hideous. A few weeks yet remain in which Europe may vert the horror. A month hence it may be too late.

The Viceroy will hold a Levee at Simla on the evening of Friday, the 27th May.

The Russian Government orders on the subject of prize courts and contraband of war are republished in the "Gazette of India." Articles under the latter include despatches and correspondence intended for the Japanese.

IRRIGATION FROM WELLS.

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A SYSTEMATIC SURVEY.

Mr. A. Chatterton, Inspector of Technical Schools and Officer in Charge, Schools of Arts, Madras, submitted a circular on the above subject to the Board of Revenue, Madras, which has amended it and directed that it be translated into the vernaculars and published in digest in the "Gazettes." The following is the circular:—

Recent enquiries have shown that in a great many cases the water-supply from wells can be materially improved by sinking them deeper or by enlarging their capacity. It is probable that if more powerful means of lifting water were employed, the area under cultivation by water from a well might be very considerably increased in not a few cases to the manifest advantage of the owner of the well. It is desirable that the water supply from wells should be investigated scientifically, and that a Systematic survey of the wells of the Presidency should be undertaken so as to obtain information which will enable Government to assist landholders in increasing the area under garden cultivation by water raised from wells. As a preliminary step, owners of wells which yield a good supply of water in the hot weather are requested to furnish information on the following points:—(1) the situation of the well; (2) the nature of the soil and subsoil in which the well is sunk; (3) the dimensions and shape of the well; (4) the depth of water in the well in the hot weather; (5) the number of kavalais, picottas or other forms of waterlift which are employed in raising water from the well; and (6) the number of acres cultivated under the well and the nature of the crops grown.

Information on these points should be sent to Mr. A. Chatterton, Professor of Engineering, on Special Duty, School of Arts, Madras. The information thus furnished will be carefully examined, and typical well will be inspected, and, if necessary, suggested improvements will be carried out on them with the owners consent, and it is hoped that by so doing it will be possible to materially assist the development of well cultivation and thus increase the prosperity of the agricultural community. From experiments which have recently been conducted, it has been conclusively proved that where the supply of water from a well is sufficiently large to justify the setting up of an engine and pump to raise water from the well, the cost of doing so is much less than when cattle are employed to lift the water. There is not the least doubt that throughout the Madras Presidency there are many places where small engines and pumps could be employed to raise water for garden cultivation with immense advantage. It has been proposed to establish engines and pumps at certain places in the Madras Presidency (College of Agriculture, Saidapet; Free Church of Scotland Mission Settlement, Melrosapuram, near Chingleput; Atur on the banks of the Palar river near Chingleput; Kadiampatti near Salem on the lands of the Rev. M. Anderson; Cuddalore on land belonging to Mr. S. Deivanayagam Moodelliar; Manamadura American Mission Settlement, and Hagari near Bellary,) and is hoped that the agricultural community will, as far as posisible, avail themselves of such opportunities as they may possess for making themselves acquainted with the results obtained at these places. It should be perfectly clearly understood that when the owner of a well supplies the information asked for above, he incurse no liability of any kind, and nothing will be done to his well without his own consent The sole object of Government is to obtain an adequate amount of information regarding the capacity of wells, so that steps may be taken to devise arrangements for improving them.

THE OUTPUT OF GOLD IN SOUTHERN INDIA.

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The Mysore Mine for the last month has given another big output of 16,765 ounces of gold against 17,581 ounces in March, a decrease of 816 ounces. As, however, 560 ounces in March, were from scalings the decrease is only 256 ounces. The following are the details of the crushings during April:—16,000 tons of quartz, milled, produced 15,321 ounces of gold, 13,650 tons of tailings treated, by the cyanide process, produced 1,444 ounces. The Oorgaum Mine returned 6,250 ounces against 6254 in March. The details are:—10,884 tons of stuff, crushed, produced 5,259 ounces of gold; 10,201 tons of tailings treated by cyanided produced 991 ounces. The Nundydroog Mine returned 5,412 ounces against 5,308 in March, the details being: 6,200 tons of quartz, crushed, yielded 4,911 ounces of gold; 5,018 tons of tailings, treated by the cyanide process yielded 501 ounces. The Superintendent of the Champion Reefs Mine corrects the total number of ounces of that mine. The total was 17,716 and not 17,116. The decrease, therefore, is 154 ounces as compared to March and not 754 ounces.

The Seistan Boundary Commission are going into summer quarters owing to the inundation of the country, due to the rapid rise of the Lower Helmund River.

The thermometer in Lahore, says the local paper, seems to have got mixed about its dates, for yesterday it registered a maximum shade temperature of over 112½ deg.—about a month before altitudes of that sort are due. The result was that the temperature all might never fell to 80 degs., which is slumber-point, and the mean temperature of the twenty-four hours reached 96 degs. which is 9 degs. above normal. And yet according to the official convention the cold weather is not yet over, and the time for the exodus to the summer capital is still several days distant. The reputation of Jacoobabad, by the way, is in no danger of being eclipsed, since 120degs. has already been reported from that salubhious stotion.

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And you will know in 24 hours what a marvellous remedy

R. LAUGIN & CO'S.

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

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

HEALING BALM

DOCTORS—Who are looked upon and very rightly too as jewels of the profession and whose treatises on medicines medical and medical science are largely read as text-books in all Medical Schools and Colleges, have, after a long, varied and coreful experiment of the preparation, given, of their own accord, the following testimonials:—

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

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