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পদকল্পতরু।

সম্পূর্ণ হইয়াছে

মূল্য ৩।০ টাকা।

পরিশিষ্ট যন্ত্রস্থ।

অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

অনুরাগবল্লী।

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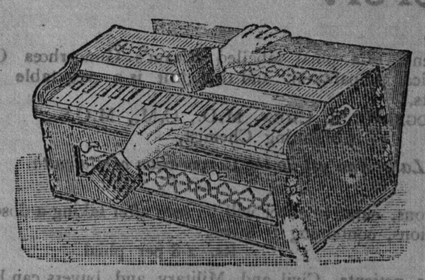
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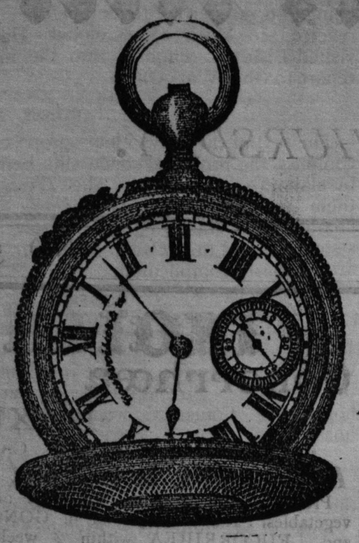

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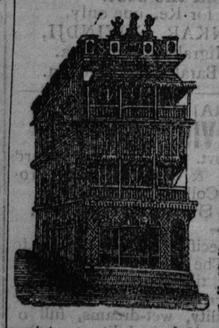

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VERNACULAR EDUCATION IN THE CENTRAL PROVINCES.

WITH reference to the Government Resolution concerning the question of remodelling the existing system of Vernacular Education in Bengal, the report on the system of Vernacular Education as it obtains in the Central Provinces, by Mr. A. Pedler, has been published in the current number of the Calcutta Gazette.

In his enquiry Mr. Pedler has not thought it fit to go beyond 1880 for before that year no attempt had apparently been made to introduce any of what may be called the modern ideas and methods in educational matters into the system employed.

The authorities in the C. P. first took up the necessity of physical training in schools in addition to the ordinary subject of mental training, and from about this date (1880) drill began to be taught in schools, and it has been since steadily encouraged, while more lately it has been reduced to a complete system. At first apparently the methods of drill were partly on European models, but it has been found that the native systems of drill and exercise are more popular, and hence a book has been prepared and issued in 1897-98) called the *Deshi Kasarat*, which is the manual for drill in all primary and vernacular schools in the Central Provinces. Mr. Pedler is of opinion that this drill has given to the schools a discipline which is very much superior to that found in the schools of Bengal and urges its being made compulsory in all schools from the Primary stage upwards. The system of drill introduced in the Central Provinces has no connection or resemblance to military drill, but that it is only intended to exercise thoroughly the various muscles and parts of the body. No apparatus is required for this drill, and hence there has been and would be absolutely no expense in its introduction into schools.

About 1887, in addition to the ordinary subjects of school, teaching, the subject of drawing (hand and eye training) was introduced in all schools, and this was followed in 1888-89 by the introduction of the methods of kindergarten teaching, object-lesson teaching science teaching (physical science in middle town schools and agriculture in rural primary schools) and also by the introduction of manual training. The subjects which were taught under the head of manual training were (1) clay modelling, (2) paper-cutting and pattern-forming, (3) cardboard work, and (4) wood work or slojd. Manual training was not, however, given a fair trial and after two years it was abolished.

The remaining four subjects, which may be taken as being modern subjects or methods of education, namely, drawing kindergarten teaching, object-lession teaching, and science teaching (physical science and agriculture), are still in use in many, if not almost all, the Vernacular schools, and on the whole, the results obtained appear to be decidedly satisfactory.

About 1894 complaints appear to have been received to the effect that the number of subjects to be learned and the length of the instruction in vernacular schools had become too great and the plan was then adopted of dividing the subjects into compulsory and optional, and into subjects to be taken by town schools and those in rural districts. In the case of the schools away from towns, etc., they are practically almost all of the upper primary class, and for the primary rural schools the compulsory subjects now in use are reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography, and the optional subjects grammar, object-lessons or elementary science, kindergarten occupations, manual training, and drawing. In addition, in the readers which are employed under the head of reading in classes III and IV, agriculture and the elements of science necessary for the explanation of the agricultural facts, as well as elementary sanitation, are included, and these do not, therefore, appear as separate subjects in the curriculum, for they are part of the compulsory course. In the case of the optional subjects mentioned, practically all except manual training are now taught in almost all schools.

In connection with the study of agriculture, it should be mentioned that in all the schools where agriculture was taught, there were school gardens attached. These gardens are divided into plots, which have to be kept in order usually by two boys working jointly. Most of these school gardens were really very good, and were well kept up.

The schools situated within municipalitie and towns are usually of the class of middls schools, and the curriculum for the midde schools is slightly different from that detailed above. In the classes up to and including class IV, corresponding to the upper primary standard, drawing is compulsory. In addition to reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography, object-lessons are also compulsory in the first three classes, while for class IV to VI completing the middle course, a certain amount of science is taught, the text-book in classes V and VI being a translation of Balfour Stewart's Primer of Physics. In class IV or the upper primary class an elementary knowledge of animals and plants and of metals and of other substances used in the arts and manufactures is required.

The optional subjects for the vernacular middle town schools and kinder garten occupations, manual training, drawing, surveying, and mensuration in classes V and VI, history in classes III to VI and geometry and algebra in class VI. Sanitation and agriculture are again included in the ordinary reading lessons in the text-books prescribed for middle schools, but in the case of agriculture it is only intended to be taken in urban schools. Of the optional subjects, kindergarten and drawing are practically always taken up, while the other subjects, which are read in the schools vary under different local circumstances.

In the case of varnacular girls' schools needle-work is compulsory in addition to reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography, while the optional subjects are grammar, object-lessons or elementary science, kindergarten occupations, manual training and drawing. Sanitation is again included in the readers used, and is thus a compulsory subject. In the girls, schools the needle-work is said to be good, and among optional subjects kindergarten is well taught.

The method of the introduction of the new subjects into the schools appears to have been simplicity itself, inasmuch as a simple departmental order was issued that such subjects should be taught in the future in all schools under the authority of Government and in those receiving public aid. At the same time, the subjects were introduced into the normal schools, so as to gradually provide trained teachers, and from year to year a considerable number of Mufassal teachers were called in from their schools to receive special courses of instruction at the normal and other training schools.

As this method had the disadvantage that for a time a good deal of the teaching would have given by persons not actually trained or instructed in such subjects, it was arranged to have conferences of Inspectors and Deputy-Inspectors and of masters, district by district, each conference lasting about three weeks, at which such subjects as kindergarten work, object-lessons, drawing, manual training, slojd, etc., were thoroughly explained to the masters to enable them to pass on the instruction to the schools. At a later date also agricultural conferences for enforcing the teaching of simple agricultural facts were held among the masters etc.

The methods of supplying trained teachers in the schools in the Central Provinces are, however, much more satisfactory than in Bengal. No person is now allowed to commence a career as a paid public teacher or would be allowed as a new teacher to present pupils for a reward from public money, unless he has passed the departmental examinations or tests as a teacher.

A Very important point to be considered with regard to the modernising of the education in the Central Provinces is its cost. In certain previous discussions which have been laid before the Bengal Government when the Central Provinces' system was compared with that in Bengal, a very strong opinion was put forward that the modern system of education was very costly. So Mr. Pedler made inquiries on the subject and from the facts and figures that he could collect, he shows that such is not the case.

HOW IT IS.

IN the streets of the town where I live I sometimes meet a poor fellow who is so badly off that his appeal for a penny or two is hardly to be resisted. He has lost both his legs above the knees and punts himself along the pavement with his hands, like a loaded barge in shallow water. Thank Mercy, one doesn't often see human hulks like him. Where there is a single instance of a man having lost both legs or both arms there are a dozen where only one limb of the pair is missing. And where there is a single case of the latter sort there are a hundred cases of people who are lame or more or less disabled, by disease or minor injuries which are scarcely noticable, yet in the long run very serious to those so afflicted.

Consequently, when we sum up both classes we perceive that it isn't the total wrecks and the incurables that are most expensive to society but the prodigious host which *must* work, and *does* work, yet always under difficulties and against hindrances. Men and women regularly employed, but who are continually breaking down in a small way, thus losing fragments of time and fractions of wages, are of the kind I mean. The amount of income lost in this way in one year in Engand is imense. And so far as the cause of all this is *disease*, and not accident or born bodily imperfection, it is almost always preventible and generally curable. Look at this for example and take heart.

'In the spring of this year, (1897), the writer says, "my health began to fail me. My appetite was poor, and after meals I had pain and weight at the chest. I could not sleep owing to the pain, and I got weaker every day. I had so much pain that I dared not eat, and rapidly lost flesh.

"I was in agony night and day, and often sat by the fire at night as I could not rest in bed. I had a deal of muscular pain, particularly in the arms. I gradually got worse and wrose and in two months, *lost two score pounds-weight.*

"I saw a doctor who gave me medicines and injected morphia to ease the pain; but I was no better for it. Then I met with a friend who told me of the great benefit he had derived from the use of a medicine called Mother Seigel's Syrup. I got a bottle of it from Mr. S. Richardson, Chemist, Bridgman Street, and in a week I could eat well and food no longer distressed me. Therefore I kept on with the medicine, and soon was strong and well. I am now in the best of health and recommend this remedy to all I meet with. You are at liberty to publish this letter as you like." —(Signed) William Bridge, Grocer and Baker, 65, Bridgman Street, Bolton, October 5th, 1897.

Here we have an illustration of the proposition with which this article sets out. From Mr. Bridge's account of his own case we see that he lost a considerable time from his business. How much that represents in money he does not say; nor is it important to the argument. For two months or more he lost from his business practically all he was worth to it; and what that situation would have signified, had it been indefinitely continued, any intelligent person can imagine. Men frequently become stricken with poverty as with illness in that way. However well any business may be managed in an emergency by others it is not to be supposed that it gets on as prosperously as when the proprietor is himself at the helm. And he cannot be there while he is suffering agonies from disease. This is true even if we make no calculation of the direct expenses created by illness, nor of the suffering experienced---the latter not computable in terms of money.

Now, please remark how quickly Mr. Bridge was cured of his ailment---bad as it seemed and really was. Dating from the time he began using Mother Seigel's Syrup, he says:—"*In a week* I could eat well, and the food no longer distressed me." His trouble was of the digestion only (acute dyspepsia), for which this preparation long ago proved itself a specific. Had he known of and employed it when the attack began he would have lost no time, felt no pain.

The lesson of the case is this:—As indigestion is a common complaint, and dangerous also when neglected, the remedy should be at hand for immediate use when needed. The more valuable the treasure the more strict should be the guard over it. And health is a jewel compared with which rubies are as the glass beads of savages.

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Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, JULY, 16, 1899.

THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.

THE following extra was issued on Wednesday :—

"We regret, our remarks on the Municipal Bill Despatch, which arrived very late yesterday night, were misleading. From our remarks, it would go to suggest that the Government of India have proposed to confer upon the elected Commissioners the privilege of electing two-thirds of the members of the General Committee. But the Government does no such thing. It leaves the matter entirely in the same state."

We found that we had fallen into an error by giving support to the scheme of the Government of India, and hastened to say so. We thought that Lord Curzon had made some important concessions; and we had very good reasons for coming to that conclusion. That the Viceroy himself thinks well of the changes proposed by him, there is no doubt. That is evident from the lofty tone of his remarks. His Lordship begins by stating that he will never intertere, in the slighest degree, with the privilege of election enjoyed by the citizens of Calcutta. One can at once see that his Lordship is quite sincere when he says this. His Lordship's scheme, however, does interfere with the privileges granted to the Indians. It is a pity his Lordship is at Simla and not here; his Lordship has evidently been misled.

To say that Lord Curzon, so wide-awake, so painstaking, so conscientious, could be misled as to utter a paradox. But admitting all, his Lordship had to hear only one side of the question. We can at once shew how Lord Curzon was misled. His Lordship quotes with approval the following reference attributed to the late Sir H. Harrison :—

"He specially quoted with approval the opinion of Sir Henry Harrison, a distinguished Chairman of the Corporation that, "under its present constitution there is a lack of motive power. The energies of the Municipal government expend themselves in criticism and not in action;" and His Honour added, "in the administration of a great city there must be provision for prompt, steady and efficacious action; and there is no room for doubt that reform of some sort is needed."

But will his Lordship believe it that only a portion of Sir H. Harrison's speech was quoted in the above? He never said what is attributed to him. What Sir H. Harrison said was quite contrary to what he has been made to say!

His Excellency says that it is monstrous that twenty-five nominated Commissioners should elect eight, and fifty elected Commissioners should elect only four, members to the General Committee. Yes, it is monstrous. The remedy, however, did not lie in reducing the fifty to twenty-five but in making the fifty elect eight and the twenty-five, four. The reduction of the fifty to twenty-five will not improve matters at all.

His Lordship proposes that he will respect the privilege of election granted to the ratepayers. That privilege was the election of two-thirds of the members of the General Committee. But under the system proposed by him, the rate-payers will be deprived of that privilege altogether. They may, under the Bill, get the privilege of electing four out of eight, but under the existing Act, they, by right, have the privilege of electing eight out of twelve.

We have before us two letters from two prominent citizens. This is what they say. One remarks :—

I may call the despatch a gilded pill. What is the reform suggested by the India Government? Not that the Corporation, now to consist of 50 members, will be free to choose its 8 representatives on the General Committee but that means should be devised for a *proper* representation of the constituent elements of the Corporation. Shorn of wordy make-believe, this means that the *elected* Commissioners would elect four and the nominated Commissioners the other four, or better still, out of the 8 members to be elected, four only will be elected out of the 25 elected Commissioners and the rest out of the nominated Commissioners. The result is the same as Sir A. Mackenzie's Bill. Is it not? Then again, the Government of India assumes that the resident rate-payers and the European merchants ought to have equal representatives and so he gives us 25 elected Commissioners (some of whom are bound to be Europeans) and 25 nominated Commissioners (most of whom would be Europeans.) Is this fair having regard to the fact that the Indian rate-payers pay about 70 per cent. of the rates?"

The other observes :—

"I have read the Municipal Bill Despatch cursorily, but what it proposes is worse than the Mackenzie Bill. The Corporation will consist of 50 members 25 of whom will be elected: of these elected Commissioners, the representatives of several wards will be Europeans and Eurasians. So that in the Corporation itself, the real rate-payers will be always in a minority and all appointments will practically go to Europeans, Eurasians or some pet Mahomedans; for the representatives of the general body of Hindus shall be nowhere. The Corporation representative in the Bengal Council henceforth will also always be a European or a Eurasian: the Vice-Chairman, Assessors and other important Municipal officers will also be Europeans or Mahomedans, just as it will please the European Commissioners. The proposed General Committee will be worse. As I have said, in the Corporation we shall be in a practical minority. The 8 men whom the Corporation will elect will practically be the nominees of the Europeans; and Government will elect 4. Formerly we were having (under the Mackenzie Bill) 4 representatives of rate-payers, now we shall have practically none unless the Local Government mercifully allows us some. The situation to my mind is very much worse than before, and I am afraid hopeless."

The above represent the views of the rate-payers.

The fact, however, is that the law when passed will not work. Of this we are almost certain. It is expected that each ward will come forward to elect a Commissioner. But the wards have no motive to elect one, and no one has any motive to stand for the Commissionership. The Ward Commissioner, as proposed, has no function. He can come forward to please the Government but he has nothing pleasant in his position as Commissioner, nor can he make himself useful as such. People do not move without a motive, that is the law of nature. The Government may induce some inferior men to stand, but they will find it difficult to induce voters to come forward to elect them.

Of course, there is yet hope for the measure, if the Local Government takes the fullest advantage of this paragraph in the Government letter :—

"The Bengal Government will doubtless, therefore, find it desirable to suggest some plan that will secure to that proportion (two-thirds) of the General Committee which is to be elected by the entire Corporation on a strictly fair and proportionate representation of the constituent elements of the electoral body. Otherwise it might be possible for either party, in the chances of voting, by a bare numerical majority to swamp the General Committee, and to secure that the entire two-thirds proportion should be of their own political complexion or class. Such a result would be destructive of that fairer representation of interests which the Government of India, equally with Sir Alexander Mackenzie and Sir John Woodburn, desire to secure. And it would be fatal to the harmonious co-operation of all parties in the future, which they hope by this suggestion to produce.

If the Bengal Government gives some popular character to the Municipality, people may be induced to join it. Under the proposed arrangement the Corporation will be a purely Government institution.

THE ELECTIVE SYSTEM IN INDIA.

WHEN the Hindu gentleman, who first succeeded in persuading the authorities, during the rule of Lord Northbrook and Sir Richard Temple, to grant to the citizens of Calcutta the privilege of election, he was taken to task by Sir Ashley Eden, the successor of Sir Richard Temple. Sir Richard after granting this boon to the citizens of Calcutta was, almost immediately after, raised to the Governorship of Bombay, and was succeeded by Sir Ashley Eden as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. When the Hindu gentleman, referred to above, went to pay the new Lieutenant-Governor (Sir A. Eden) a visit, he, the latter, sarcastically observed to him that he had no reason to think that he had done a great service to the country. "You don't know," said Sir Ashley, "what a poison it is. This privilege of election will create breach between friends, nay, between father and sons, etc."

These election contests evoke a satanic feeling in the mind which makes people, seized by it, act more like demons than human beings. When the elective franchise was granted to the citizens of Calcutta, the members of the British Indian Association resolved to nullify the measure by standing aloof. They thought that they would, by their influence, persuade every respectable man of the city to stand aloof from it. In short, they resolved not only not to compete for the Commissionerships, but to prevent others from doing so.

Under such citcumstances the Hindu gentleman, referred to above, with his friends, made out amongst themselves a list of gentlemen who would stand for election; and thus he himself had to appear as a candidate in Ward No. 1.

Every one knows what it is to stand for Ward No. 1 in Calcutta. The Hindu gentleman got the largest number of votes; but Sir Stuart Hogg, the then Chairman of the Corporation, who could never forgive the former for having destroyed the autocratic rule of which he was the head, disqualified him (unjustly we all know, though, of course, he did not know it) from standing as a Commissioner. Of course, there lay an appeal, but the servants of the Hindu gentleman had not, from ignorance, taken out a license from the Police, for his printing press, as the law required, and this made him liable to severe punishment. This threat was held out to him in order to dissuade him from appealing. The Hindu gentleman, in short, found that the best thing for him would be to retire, especially as candidates had then appeared in numbers.

Well, when he was disqualified, do you know what his opponents did? Thousands of them came to besiege him in his house with flags and tomtoms to make fun of him! They all knew that it was through his exertions alone that they had got the privilege of election, but they all forgot it at the moment, and they would have torn him to pieces if they had found an opportunity.

Such is the unearthly feeling that these election contests evoke in the mind!

Under the existing Municipal Act the Indian rate-payers of Calcutta, in spite of the evils of the elective system, possess some real advantages, which, under the proposed system, they would no longer enjoy.

Let us recall to mind how this privilege, granted to the Indians by Sir Richard, was received by the Anglo-Indian community. Under the pressure of the iron rule of Sir Stuart Hogg, they had prayed for the elective system. When their prayer was granted they repented. They found that election had transferred some power to the hands of the natives, and they groaned. Before two years had passed away, Sir Ashley Eden began to decry the system. That is almost a quarter of a century ago. Since then the Anglo-Indian community, official and non-official, have been, with some exceptions, ceaselessly trying to wrest from the Indians what was then given. None ventured, however, to take the lead in this matter; and the task was undertaken by Sir A. Mackenzie to wage a crusade against the present system.

The attitude of the Indians was all along that of humble applicants. They felt that the Anglo-Indians did not like the situation at all and were trying to deprive them of the privilege. And they did all they could to keep that community satisfied. The Indians, if they so desired, could, from their position, have exercised a predominating influence in the deliberations of the Municipality. But they never tried to exercise their authority; indeed, they starved their own quarters for the purpose of keeping the Europeans in good humour. The slightest wish of the Europeans was law to them. So great was their desire to soothe, the feelings of the Anglo-Indian community, that the other day, the Indian Commissioners voted for the European Engineer, though his rival, a Hindu, had better claims. And why? It was simply to soothe the feelings of the European community.

When the Bill was introduced, the Indians did everything that lay in their power to avert the doom. For about a year not only did the citizens of Calcutta but the whole country struggle to save the Municipality from the danger with which it was threatened. They held twenty-eight public meetings in this city alone. They struggled in a manner they had never done before. Men could not have done more than what they did.

Now that the doom of the Municipality is sealed, it is time for the Indians to retire with a good grace. When the irresistible rulers will have it, the subjects have no help in the matter but to submit. Any further agitation, therefore, would not only be useless but rather humiliating. The Europeans want the supreme control of the Municipality, let them have it.

Before the elective franchise was granted to Calcuttta, the European community had the supreme control that they are now praying for. Then they enjoyed the control, but could not exercise it, because the non-official members, being very busy men, could not give any time to Municipal affairs. The framers of the Bill knew this; and this time, to make them work, the bait of two gold Mohurs, per sitting, has been held out to them. We hope this bait will lead them to take more interest in municipal affairs than their predecessors, in pre-election days, used to do. As for the natives, their quarters were starved during the days of Sir Stuart Hogg for the benefit of the Europeans. They fared scarcely better under the elective system. And now they will be treated as in preelection days.

Let us, therefore, take leave of this wretched measure for good. Let the Indians stand aloof, and watch how the Europeans manage the affairs of the town. They demanded twelve annas, and wanted to leave the remaining four annas to the natives, so that they could find scape-goats to carry the blame for any shortcoming. Let them, however, have the entire sixteen annas. A native minority in the General Committee means no advantage but only disaster. The Indians will at least have this pleasure to console them, namely, that the Government will no longer be able to throw any blame upon talkative native Commissioners for the shortcomings of the Municipality.

Lord Curzon's object is that the Indians may not be swamped in the General Committee. But his Lordship should bear in mind that even when equally divided, the Indian has no chance against the European.

PEACE WITH THE ANGLO-INDIAN COMMUNITY.

WE said that almost immediately after the elective franchise was granted to Calcutta, an agitation was set on foot by the Anglo-Indian community for the withdrawal of the privilege. The difficulty was, however, the stubborn fact that the principle had been conceded, and a principle once conceded was never withdrawn except under grave circumstances. This was done once before. The Government, in a fit of generosity, granted three scholarships to the natives of India for the purpose of prosecuting their studies in England. The Government never dreamt that this generosity meant anything else, except the expenditure of a trifling amount of money. And so, when the scholarships were announced, there was joy everywhere,—joy in India and joy in England. But alas! this joy was soon converted into mourning amongst the members of the ruling race. For, three Indians, who had availed themselves of the Government scholarships, passed the examination,—not an examination in physics or mathematics, but *the* examination for entering into the Civil Service. This was a grave danger, and the scholarships were withdrawn no sooner it was found that they carried such deadly poison with them. Thus the scholarships were withdrawn almost immediately after they had been announced.

When Sir Stuart Hogg, the official of officials, ruled Calcutta with an iron hand, and made the non-official Europeans feel that they were no better than the natives, they grumbled. Sir Stuart was supported by the Justices of the Peace, hundreds in number, and he did not care for the native vote or the non-official European vote, or the votes of them both combined. And so the non-official Europeans groaned and threatened in turn, as Englishmen do under such circumstances. Non-official European members of the Municipality resigned, because they said they had no voice. The Editor of the *Indian Daily News*, Mr. James Wilson, wrote a pamphlet advocating election, as the only remedy for this state of affairs, and the *Englishman* supported him. So great was the fury of the non-officials against Sir Stuart Hogg, that they continued to hurl abuse upon him systematically through their organs. Indeed, the proud spirit of Sir Stuart Hogg was so moved, that he was at last led to bring a criminal suit against Mr. James Wilson, the Editor of the *Indian Daily News*. But as the Jury was composed of the members of the non-official community with whom Sir Stuart Hogg was unpopular, Mr. Wilson was found not guilty and acquitted.

Thus there was a universal cry for the elective system,—the Indians and non-official Europeans having combined to demand it. The Government conceded the principle not purely from feelings of generosity. The Municipality acquired such unpopularity that Government thought that the safest course would be to make it over to the rate-payers, European and Indian, and this was done.

The non-official Europeans had a notion that though the elective principle paved the way for the entry of the so-called demagogues into the Corporation, yet they felt sure that they would be able to exercise supreme control over its affairs. But the so-called demagogues did enter and they proved intractable. The non-official Europeans saw with dismay that under the system they had prayed for, the natives had the opportunity of enjoying some real power. And they began again to grumble.

Now, the Indian members could never have acquired any control, if the non-official Europeans had taken an active interest in the affairs of the Municipality. They were, however, too busy to be able to do so, but yet they could not forgive the Indians for exercising such power. And thus the agitation was set on foot against the measure almost immediately after it had been introduced. One serious attempt was made in 1888 to amend the present Act. A non-official member, the Hon'ble Mr. Irving, moved that the Corporation should consist of 60 members, 30 to be elected and 30 nominated. Mr. Irving's object was to deprive the rate-payers of the privilege of electing two-thirds. Seeing this and to defeat this move, the Hon'ble Babu Kally Nath Mitter proposed that the rate-payers should have the privilege of electing three-fourths of the members! There was a hot passage-at-arms over these two amendments in the Legislative Council, between Mr. Irving representing the non-official Europeans, and Babu Kally Nath representing the Indians.

Sir Henry Harrison was then the Chairman of the Municipality, and was in the Legislative Council in charge of the Bill. There he delivered a masterly speech, in which he opposed both Mr. Irving and Babu Kally Nath, and supported the arrangement that existed. In short he showed that if Babu Kally Nath Mitter's amendment were carried, the elected Commissioners would be too many, and if Mr. Irving's was accepted they would be too few.

He opposed the proposal of Babu Kally Nath by trying to prove that too many elected Commissioners would be a danger. This portion of his speech was quoted by the Hon'ble Mr. Risley. But while opposing the proposal of Mr. Irving, Sir Henry Harrison also tried to prove that it would be a danger to reduce the number of elected Commissioners. This portion of Sir Henry's speech was omitted by Mr. Risley!

Thus when Lord Curzon is pleased to cite Sir Henry Harrison as an authority, his Lordship does so under the notion that the latter was for the reduction of the number of elected Commissioners and against the present system, which he was not.

What the end will be, nobody knows. We shall continue to hope for the best; for, the matter is in the hands of Lord Curzon, who, we are convinced, will do all that he can to serve the subject races of India. But if the end happens to be a disaster, let us rejoice that it will lead the Anglo-Indian community to forgive the Indians, for having done the wrong of enjoying the elective system, for almost a quarter of a century.

Ever since the boon was granted, the Europeans have been rending the skies with cries of distress. We hope, now that they are likely to get all that they were striving for, they will cease making any further row. We can, however, tell them a story. A thief, who had entered into the house of a wealthy miser, had to flee precipitately because the latter, perceiving the movements of the former, raised an alarm. The thief in his hurry had been able to carry only a brass *lota* with a hole at the bottom, and an old cocoanut *hooka* (Indian pipe), both worth almost nothing. The wealthy miser roused the whole village by his cries. His cry of "help! help! a thief has taken away everything I possessed," disgusted the thief very much. He was not in the best of humour, for having failed in his attempt; and when, after this, the wealthy miser—the possessor of gold and gems—began to complain that the thief had carried *everything* he possessed, though only two valueless things had been taken away,—he, the thief, could not bear it any longer. So he boldly came forward and said, "Stop crying like that. Here is your 'every'"—and he flung the *lota*,—and here is your 'thing;'"—and he flung the *hooka*, and then went away. The Indians had not taken much, only some slight control over municipal affairs. And if this causes so much distress to the Anglo-Indian community, let them have their "every thing," and cease making any further row over it.

THE LATE SIR ROMESH CHUNDER MITTER.

POOR mother Bengal is in mourning to-day for the loss of a son, whose name will live green in the memory of his countrymen, not only of this but of generations to come, not simply because of his high and almost unattainable rank but because of those qualities of the head and the heart which, by their fragrance and lustre, have ever claimed the grateful notice and remembrance of an appreciative world. He was a Bengali, but his loss will be mourned not by Bengal alone but by the whole of India, for he leaves behind a name and an example by which the entire continent is bound to benefit. Though his earliest and closing years were not passed exactly in happiness, owing to domestic calamities,—dispensations of High Heaven over which humanity can never have any control,—during the greater portion of his life he seemed to have been under the protecting influence of good stars, for his career, whether at the University, or in profession, or, again, in service, was one unbroken record of success.

Calcutta was day before yesterday electrified by the terribly shocking, though not quite unexpected, news of the death of that veteran vakeel and judge, Sir Romesh Chunder Mitter, *Kt.*, whose honesty, independence and singleness of purpose have passed into a proverb. Though for a long time the victim of many complicated diseases, dyspepsia, which in rivalry with diabetes, has been claiming the largest number of victims from among our educated classes, was his chief complaint. The immediate cause of his death was, however, suffocation. The sad event took place at 2 P. M. at his Bhowanipur house amidst the lamentations of his sorrowing sons, relatives and friends.

To say that one of the brightest luminaries has fallen from the Indian firmament, or that the cruel hand of relentless Death has removed one who was justly the pride of his country and a pillar of all rightful political institutions in the country, is to utter so many platitudes. Romesh Chunder Mitter was certainly not so unknown as to require the hand of a panegyrist to bring him out. Simple and unostentatious in his life and acts, cool and collected in danger, independent and self-reliant in all circumstances, kind and generous though not effusive, he was one of those few men who are not weaned by the cajolry of fame and do not, therefore, make any bid for reputation or renown. He always worked in his quiet, unobtrusive way, never thrusting his individual opinions on others and never being guided by the mere counsels of others. He always did what he thought it was his duty to do; and never swerved from the well-defined path of rectitude and honesty. In him, therefore, we have, whether in politics or in social matters, lost a mentor and guide whom it will not be easy to replace. His soundness as a lawyer and practical politician is too well-known to be dealt with by us at any length.

Romesh Chunder came of a very respectable Kayastha family of Rajarhat-Bishnupur, near Dum-Dum Cantonment. His grandfather, Ramdhon Mitter, after receiving a most liberal education for those times, became Munsif of Bishnupur in Bankura District. His father, Ram Chunder Mitter, was the Head Clerk of the Suddur Dewani Adalut, which has since been converted into the present High Court, the Chief Justiceship of which he himself held twice.

Romesh Chunder was the youngest of six sons,—all eminent men, each in his own sphere of life. He was born in 1840. Having lost his mother in infancy, he was brought up in the house of his maternal uncle and learnt his alphabet in a school at Bhowanipur. He was then admitted to the Hindu College, whence he passed his Entrance Examination with credit. He next joined the Presidency College and took his B. A. degree in 1860. The next year saw him enrolled as a vakeel of the Suddur Dewani Adalut, after having taken the B. L. degree of the Calcutta University. Soon after, the constitution of the Suddur Dewani Adalut underwent a change, and it was converted into the present High Court.

His abilities soon made a name for him; and in a short time, he secured an assured position, among the junior members of the Bar and was taken on the Reporting staff of Haye's Report, then under the editorial charge of so able and distinguished an Advocate-General as Thomas H. Cowie. The Calcutta Bar was then very strong by the presence of men like Dwarka Nath Mitter, Anukul Chunder Mukherjee and others of no less celebrity. But yet, by the force of his talents and genius, Romesh rose in a few years to the top of his profession, so much so that when in 1874 the cruel hand of death removed Justice Dwarka Nath from the land of the living, he was selected to succeed him on the Bench, and well did the mantle of the former fall on the latter. His first colleague on the Bench was Mr., now Sir, Henry Markby, one of the soundest lawyers that ever came to India. Association soon taught Mr. Markby to entertain so high an opinion of Romesh Chunder's abilities and attainments that he secured for him the Presidentship of the Faculty of Law of the Calcutta University—an office which had hitherto been strictly restricted to Europeans. His attitude on the Bench was ever one of thorough independence, and he always held his own against every other influence.

In 1882, when Sir Richard Garth took privilege leave, the question arose as to who should officiate for him, Romesh Chunder being then the senior Puisne Judge. The Anglo-Indian press, as our readers would very well remember, raised a howl against the appointment, and did not even hesitate to threaten the overthrow of the British Empire in the East. Lord Ripon's Government, however, listened to the prayers of the Native press, to vindicate the Queen's Proclamation, and gave him the officiating appointment. In 1886, he was again appointed to officiate as Chief Justice; and, as before, nothing came to happen to fulfil the evil prognostications of our Anglo-Indian brethren. The British Empire lasts to-day without having lost in prestige or power. In 1890, just when there was a talk of the Chief Justice going on a year's leave, Romesh Chunder was made to retire on pension. The Bar presented him with a suitable address, while the Government acknowleged his services not only by the bestowal of a special pension but also of Kinghthood.

Since his retirement Sir Romesh Chunder always took a prominent part in political and social movements and lent his weight to the popular voice by joining the Indian National Congress and other political bodies. He was appointed a member of the Public Service Commission, in which case he did good service. In the Imperial Legislative Council, too, he made his mark, though ill-health compelled him to resign his seat before his term was over. We need hardly say that a grateful country will gratefully remember his services in the heat of the Consent Bill agitation. Then, again, his work as a member of the Jury Commission will ever remain green in the memory of his countrymen.

His efforts in the cause of education too were great and sincere. He was one of the earliest supporters of the City College, which remains closed for two days in his honour. In his native village he maintained at his own cost a well-equipped Higher Class English School. It is, however, not generally known that in the midst of his multifarious duties and engagements he could yet pay some attention to the material prosperity of his countrymen, and that he started the "Roller Mills Company Limited", which claimed not a little of his time and attention during the later years of his life.

He was a model zemindar, with a truly *ma bap* feeling for his tenantry, and used to maintain a Charitable Dispensary at Bishnupur.

Before we conclude we should state that he founded the Ratepayers' Association at Bhowanipur, and used to take a prominent part in the deliberations of the British Indian Association, the Zemindari Punchayet, the Property Association, and the Indian National Congress. He was also the President of the Sahitya Samiti and Vice-President of the Indian Science Association.

He has left behind him three sons, the youngest of whom is a Barrister, and the other two Vakeels. His daughter, whom he loved too well, died last year and her loss preyed heavily on his mind.

Sir Romesh Chunder was a personal friend and our heart is too full to say more about him to-day. We have no other consolation to offer to his bereaved family except this that he is in a better world and much happier than he could possibly be in this vale of tears.

WE understand that the two rivals of Babu Baikantha Nath Sen,—Rai Nalinakshya Bose, Bahadur, and Babu Sib Narayan Mookerjee,—being armed with the opinion of Mr. Woodroffe, the Officiating Advocate-General of Bengal, have submitted petitions to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, objecting to the election of the former on the ground of the Residential Clause. As we pointed out the other day, the matter was thoroughly discussed not only by the Government of Sir Charles Elliott but by that of Lord Elgin, and they arrived at a certain definite decision. It is thus too late in the day to reopen the question. The clause provides that the candidate should be a person "ordinarily resident" within the Division for which he stands. Mr. Woodroffe was asked whether Babu Baikantha Nath was "ordinarily resident" in the Burdwan Division or not, and he gave the following opinion to Rai Nalinakshya :—

OPINION.

Upon the facts stated in this case I am clearly of opinion that Babu Boikanta Nath Sen is not a person "ordinarily resident" within the Burdwan Division within the meaning

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of Regulation VI of the Regulations made under Section 1 (4) of the Indian Councils Act 1892 for Bengal and that the fact that he has a house in Burdwan District whither he resorts during the Dassera vacation, and whilst staying there performs certain family religious ceremonies cannot override the facts that he lives at Saidabad in the Moorshidabad District 11 months in the year in a house of his own with his wife and children and that this house is his ordinary place of business whence he practises as a pleader in the Court of Berhampore and other places outside the Moorshidabad District. The question is not whether Babu Boikanta Nath Sen has more than one dwelling house but where does he ordinarily reside. A man resides where he eats, drinks and sleeps and is to be found daily in the course of his usual avocation. See the King. *vs.* the Inhabitants of North Curry. 4 B and C. 959 at P. 961 and *Exparte* Breull *In re* Bowie 16ch. D. 484 at P. 487. Regarded in the light of these decisions the facts stated in the case establish that Babu Boikanta Nath Sen is ordinarily resident in the Moorshidabad District and not within the Burdwan Division. If, therefore, he stands as a candidate for recommendation to a seat in the Bengal Council by the Local Boards of the Burdwan Division, he cannot be validly elected.

(2). A suit will not lie to restrain the electoral representatives of the several District Boards in the Burdwan Division from giving their votes to Babu Boikanta Nath Sen should he present himself to them as a candidate for recommendation. In such case the proper course for Babu Nalinaksha Basu to adopt is to lodge a protest against the candidature of Babu Boikanta Nath Sen with each District Board in that Division, setting forth that Babu Boikanta Nath Sen is not a person "ordinarily resident" within the Burdwan Division. Thereafter, if notwithstanding such protest, Babu B. N. Sen be elected for recommendation, Babu Nalinaksha Basu should memorialize the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal not to nominate him and to nominate the memorialist should he have received the next greatest number of votes on such recommendation. Thereafter Babu Nalinaksha Basu can, if notwithstanding such protest and memorial Babu B. N. Sen be nominated by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and appointed by the Governor-General in Council, apply to the High Court under section 45 of the Specific Relief Act to restrain him from exercising the functions of a duly elected, nominated and appointed Councillor. See in the matter of section 45 of the Specific Relief Act and in the matter of Corkhill I. L. R. 22 Cal. 717. The protest and memorial above suggested are not condition precedent to the application under sec. 45 of the Specific Relief Act, though if lodged and presented respectively they would greatly facilitate the obtaining of the injunction.

(Sd) J. F. WOODROFFE.
28th June 1899

To Babu Sib Narayan Mookerjee Mr. Woodroffe gave the following opinion :—

1. Upon the facts stated I am of opinion that Babu Baikantha Nath is not a person ordinarily resident within the Districts of the Burdwan Division within the meaning of Regulation 6 of the Regulations made under section 1 (4) of the Indian Councils Act, 1892, for Bengal. A person is said to be ordinarily resident in a place where he ordinarily eats, drinks and sleeps or where his family or his servants eat, drink and sleep (per Bayley J. R. *vs.* North Curry 4 B. and C. 959) or where he is to be found daily (see *In Re* Bowie *Exparte* Breull 16ch D 484). The interpretation put upon residence within the limits of a Municipality in the rules made under sections 14 and 69 of the Municipal Act III of 1884 as amended by Bengal Acts IV of 1894 and II of 1896 has no application to the Regulations made under the Indian Councils Act, 1892.

Now, this very interpretation to the words, "ordinarily resident," was given when Rajah Soshi Shekhareshwar of Rajshaye objected to the election of Mr. A. Chowdhury on the same ground in 1893. Sir Charles Elliott, however, when put a quite different construction upon the words in question, as the following letter to the Commissioner of the Rajshaye Division will show:—

No. 120J.—D.

From H. J. S. Cotton, Esq., C.S.I.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.
To the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division.
Dated Darjeeling, the 25th May 1893.

Judicial.

SIR,

I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to forward to you, for report, the accompanying protest, with its enclosures, which has been presented to Government by Raja Soshisikareshwar Roy of Tahirpore against the recommendation which has been made by the electoral representatives of the Municipalities of the Rajshahi Division of Mr. Ashutosh Choudhry for nomination as a member of His Honour's Council.

2. As you are aware, the question of the meaning of the words "ordinarily resident" in rule VI of the Regulations framed under section I, sub-section (4) of the Indian Councils Act 1892, has been under the Lieutenant-Governor's consideration, and he has caused it to be made known in reply to inquiries on the subject, that, while he had no power to give an authoritative interpretation of words used in the Regulations framed under the Councils Act, he conceived that the recommendation of a suitable candidate would not be negatived if he had a fairly practical and real connection with the district, and not merely a colourable one. In the present case, it is a question of fact whether the connection of Mr. Choudhry with the Rajshahi Division is a real and practical one, or whether it is only a colourable one, as is alleged by the unsuccessful candidate. The objection having been formally lodged, must be enquired into, and you are now requested to make the necessary enquiry.

3. In the meantime, pending the result of your enquiry, the Lieutenant-Governor is not in a position to accept the recommendation of the Municipal representatives of the Rajshahi Division or to submit a nomination for that division to a seat in Council.

4. I am to add that a copy of the Raja's protest and of its enclosures, together with a copy of this letter, has been forwarded to Mr. Ashutosh Choudhry, and to request that you will give ample notice to both Raja Soshisikareshwar Roy and to Mr. Choudhry of the time and place at which you will hold the enquiry now ordered. The enquiry should be made in the presence of the parties or of their duly constituted representatives.

In the opinion of Sir Charles Elliott, then, the "recommendation of a suitable candidate would not be negatived if he had a fairly practical and real connection with the district and not merely a colourable one." In the case of Babu Baikantha Nath, there can be no doubt that he is a suitable candidate and he has "a fairly practical and real connection with the district" Indeed, Babu Baikantha Nath has not only a house and landed property in Burdwan, but he lives, at least two months in the year, in his Burdwan house. But, Sir Charles Elliott sent up the whole case to the Government of India with his remarks, and the Elgin Government passed the following order :—

NO 1162, DATED SIMLA, the 21st AUGUST, 1893
From—C. J. Lyall, Esq., C. S. I.,C. I. E,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department.
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

I am directed to acknowlege the receipt of your letter NO. 314 J. D., dated 13th July last, submitting for the orders of the Government of India, a letter from the Commissioner of Rajshaye (with enclosures) on the subject of a protest made by Rajah Sashi Shikhareswar Roy of Tahirpore, against the recommendation of the Municipalities of the Rajshaye Division for the nomination of Mr. Ashutosh Chowdhury to be a member of the Legislative Council of the Lieutenant-Governor. The first question referred for decision is whether Mr. Chowdury can be held to be "ordinarily resident" in the Rajshaye Division, within the meaning of rule 6 of the regulations sanctioned for the Bengal Council under Section 1 (4) of the Indian Councils Act, 1892.

2. In reply I am to say that from a perusal of the papers submitted, the Governor-General in Council is clearly of opinion that Mr. Chowdhury's connection with the Rajshaye Division is not such as would qualify him as a representative of the Municipalities of that Division. He seems to have a house in the Division which he might use if he pleased, but to have almost completely abandoned its use, and in these circumstances he cannot be held to be "ordinarily resident" there, within any reasonable meaning of those words. The recommendation in his favour must, therefore, be disallowed.

3. As regards the course to be followed for filling the vacancy in the Council, I am to say that the Governor General in Council is of opinion that the Municipalities in the Rajshaye Division should be invited, under Rule VII of the Regulations, to make a fresh recommendation.

It will thus be seen that Mr. Choudhury would not have been disqualified if he had not almost completely abandoned the use of the house he had in the Division. That is to say, his election would have been confirmed if his connection with the house was not merely a colourable one.

As long as the letter of Sir Charles Elliott and the decision of the Elgin Government quoted above, are not expunged and a new interpretation given to the words, so long the Government is bound to sanction the election of a candidate in the position of Babu Baikantha Nath. Babu Baikantha Nath would perhaps have never stood as a candidate and undergone all the troubles and expenses of an election if the Government interpretation of the Residential Clause were not before him. So the Government will do an unjustifiable wrong if it rejects the selection of Babu Baikantha Nath upon the strength of the opinion of Mr. Woodroffe. If there was no Government decision on the subject, then the Government might have said that, Babu Baikantha Nath, knowing that the Residential Clause might be interpretated in the ordinary way, had only taken his chance. That plea cannot be urged; and the Government have no option but to give effect to the recommendation in favour of Babu Baikantha Nath. Then, in one part of his opinion, Mr. Woodroffe himself supports Babu Baikantha Nath. For, he says that, a person is said to be ordinarily resident in a place "where his family or his servants eat, drink and sleep". Now, not only do the servants of Babu Baikantha but a part of his family reside almost throughout the year in his Burdwan house.

THE authorities find themselves placed in a difficult position when a European is accused of having murdered, or committed any serious assault upon, a native of India. If Mr. Ross, the tea-planter, whose case has just been concluded, had been an Indian, he would have been dealt with summarily. But Mr. Ross is a European, so he could not be dealt with by ordinary law courts of the country, and he must, therefore, be brought to Calcutta. And that means infinite cost to Government, and infinite trouble to the witnesses. In this case an interpreter was brought from that part of the country. We are told that the British Government is strictly impartial, but why then is there one law for the European and another for the Indian? And why is the native to be taxed that the European accused may be provided with the luxury, of being tried by the Chief Justice? Of course, the European is the master and he ought to have his special privileges, says the European. But then do not aspire to take credit for strict impartiality. Mr. Ross is a lucky man, it is the Chief Justice who tried him, and it is his Lordship who cross-examined the witnesses who had been brought forward to bring the accusation home to him. The honor alone, of being thus tried by the Chief Justice, may, we fear, lead some Europeans to commit serious crimes! The question is, who is to pay for the extra cost which the trial of a European entails upon the country? Has the Expenditure Commission taken note of this item of expense? We think it is the British Government which should pay for this extra expense, and not the natives of India.

WE are concerned to hear that the Congress Reception Committee at Lucknow have not yet been able to secure a suitable site for the Congress pandal. They had a long correspondence and personal conference on the subject with the local arthorities; but the latter, under the advice of the Civil Surgeon, have not allowed them, on the ground of sanitation, to construct the pandal either on the Shamina land or on the land opposite to the Charbagh Railway station, for which they applied. The matter is under the consideration of the liberal-minded Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces, and we trust, Sir A. P. MacDonnell will see his way to grant the prayer of the Reception Committee.

WE do not see, in the charge of his Lordship the Chief Justice to the Jury in the Ross case, same strong points raised by the Standing Counsel, Mr. O'Kinealy, for the prosecution For instance, Mr. O'Kinealy pointed out how Mr. Ross gave two apparently inconsistent versions of the explosion of his revolver. The Standing Counsel, in his address, said :—

Besides, they had the evidence of all the other villagers which showed that two shots had been fired. When Abdul was in hospital he had distinctly spoken to two shots having been fired. There was no reason for disbelieving his statement unless the jury believed what was put forward by the defence that one man was crouching behind another when the shot was fired. He really could not think that they should come to the conclusion that one shot had been fired. And then if they came to this conclusion they must disbelieve the suggestion put forward by Mr. Ross that he had not fired at all knowingly, but that his arm was struck by a stick and the revolver went off. Then again, if the jury looked to the letter of 7th February, of Mr. Ross, he submitted to them that from that letter it was not clear that this shot was fired unintentionally by the accused. He could not understand how, when it was present to the mind of the accused that he had never aimed the revolver, but that it had only been taken over by him for the purpose of keeping these persons back, he could have written as follows :—"There were about 40 or 50 men attacking me and I drew my revolver and I believe one man was shot."

Thus, in his statemeut before the court, Mr. Ross said he had not fired at all. His arm, which held the revolver, was struck with a stick and the revolver went off, not towards himself or his own men, but towards the villagers, and killed one and wounded another. In his letter of the 7th February, addressed to the local authorities, Mr. Ross, however, does not say the same thing. What he says there is that he was attacked by 40 or 50 men, and that "I drew my revolver and I believe one man was shot." This letter he wrote immediately after the affray. How is it that he had not a word in it about his arm being struck by a stick and the revolver going off? It does not stand to reason that he forgot all about it when the incident was fresh in his mind, and remembered it when it had faded away. Mr. O'Kinealy laid great stress on this point but it seemed to have escaped the Chief Justice.

Here is another point which, it appears, was not explained to the Jury. We shall quote from the speech of: Mr. O'Kinealy, as reported in the papers :—

Then as regards the plea of justification, it was a matter for the jury to decide as to whether he was justified in taking the life of one man and wounding another under the circumstances disclosed. He, however, submitted that the evidence adduced for the defence did not bear out the suggestion made that there was a wild rush of people ready to murder Mr. Ross. He doubted, whether if there had been this wild rush, all these people (coolies and Mr. Ross) would have come off so easily as they had done. Only one cooly had received any injury, while others received so slight injuries that Mr. Graham did not deem it necessary to mention them in his diary. If they came to the conclusion that the attack by these people was not a murderous one then they would have to come to the conclusion that Mr. Ross was not justified in killing one man and wounding another, and to find him guilty of murder or any one of the minor charges.

Mr. Ross says that a murderous attack was made upon him by some fifty infuriated villagers, and yet he and his men escaped unhurt! They were so close to him that they struck his arm with a stick: and yet they did not catch hold of him and give him at least a good beating, though his revolver had killed one of them and dangerously wounded another! In the opinion of Mr. O'Kinealy, this was absurd, and he tried hard to impress it both upon the presiding Judge and the Jury. But the Chief Justice did not allude to this important point when he explained the case to the Jury.

It seems, we have not yet heard the last of the case. We are informed that Mr. Ross has filed a complaint against the villagers for rioting and having used dangerous weapons in their recent quarrel with him.

AT present two very important experiments are being carried on—one with sugarcanes grown from seeds and the other with a sort of *aus* paddy. A sort of perennial sugarcane was, sometime ago, introduced in the Sibpur and Burdwan experimental agricultural farms. It is grown from seeds and with one sowing eight or ten successive crops may be gathered. When the canes are cut the roots are left in the soil and when the next season comes, new plants sprout from them, thus doing away with the necessity of going through the process of ploughing and sowing year after year. Only a little manuring is required at intervals. This variety of sugar-cane is coarse, but for the purposes of making *gur* this is the most economic sort. As for the *aus* paddy, it is claimed that two cuttings may be made at one sowing—the one at the usual time and the other in December or January. Of course, some varieties of the *aus* paddy are known to yield a second crop during the same year. These varieties are generally coarse but the one with which experiments are now being carried on, is very fine—indeed, much finner than the *Dudkhandi* sort. This year Mr. Nirtya Gopal Mukerjee, Officer in charge of the Sibpur Agricultural Class, has made arrangements for carrying on the experiments on an extensive scale. The seed was procured from the Central Provinces.

SIR ROMESH CHUNDER MITTER, whose sad death we have to mourn to-day, was the first Indian who officiated as Chief Justice of the highest judicial tribunal in the land, namely, the Calcutta High Court. We owed this boon to Lord Ripon, who was fiercely attacked by the Anglo-Indian Press for his liberal policy. Sir Romesh Chunder, however, showed by the manner he discharged his duties that in point of ability he was second to none of his English predecessors on the Bench. We are also grateful to Sir A. Havelock for permitting Mr. Justice Subramania Ayer to serve as the Acting Chief Justice of Madras. The Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab had a similar opportunity of showing his liberality, but he did not choose to avail himself of it. The Chief Judge of the Punjab Chief Court, Mr. Clarke, recently took six months' leave, and the next senior Judge was Mr. Justice Protul Chander Chatterjee. But Sir Macworth Young would not have him and recommended Mr. Walker, a junior Judge, for the post. The Government of India, however, gave it to Mr. Justice Reid, who is senior to Mr. Walker but junior to Mr. Chatterjee. Needless to say that Mr. Chatterjee is as competent as Mr. Reid, but his claims have been over-looked simply because he is an Indian!

HIS Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal visits Bhagulpore on the 16th instant; and, as in duty bound, the local Landholders' Association will greet him with an address of welcome, an advance copy of which has been sent to us and is published in another column. The address contains several requests, all of which except-*one*, His Honour will, no doubt, be able to dispose of in a satisfactory manner. This one relates to the disastrous results of the disfranchisement of the Dacca Division, which, as we have shown over and over again, has done only unmitigated evil. Now, if things were not disturbed but left as they were, Dacca would have elected its representative on the retirement of Babu Surendra Nath Bannerjee, and Bhagulpore would have done the same on the retirement of Babu Jatra Mohun Sen, the Chittagong member. This was the arrangement made in 1893 by Sir Charles Elliott and confirmed by him in 1895 and re-confirmed in 1897 by his successor, Sir A. Mackenzie. But, by disturbing this arrangement and allowing the Presidency Division to elect again a representative, the fight now lies between Dacca and Bhagulpore as to which should be permitted to exercise the privilege when the Chitttagong member retires. The Bhagulpore Association urges, with considerable force, that as according to the previously announced arrangement, it will be the turn of that Division to return a representative on the retirement of the Chittagong member. His Honour should be pleased to see that it is not deprived of its turn, specially as on the last occasion, the Bhagulpore people were not able to elect a member of their own on account of the election having resulted in a tie. But, then, if His Honour accedes to the prayer of Bhagulpore, he will be led to do double wrong to Dacca. Indeed, when Dacca was disfranchised in favour of the Presidency Division, the public were given to understand that the people of East Bengal would be deprived of the privilege for a few months only, that is, till the expiry of the term of the Chittagong member. If Dacca were again thrown overboard in favour of Bhagulpore, it would practically remain disfranchised for two long years, and for aught one knows, for four or six years; for, the so-called privilege of election now depends wholly upon the sweet will of the Lieutenant-Governor. It must now be plain to the meanest comprehension that, the passing of the Municipal Bill having been a foregone conclusion, there was absolutely no necessity for introducing the dangerous precedent of paying to Peter what was due to Paul. If the order of rotation laid down by Sir Charles Elliott and Sir Alexander Mackenzie were followed, Sir John Woodburn would not have found himself in the delicate position which awaits him at Bhagulpore.

BABU BHUPENDRA NATH BOSE sends us the following :—

I am afraid my countrymen have failed to grasp the true meaning of Lord Curzon's Despatch. It is cruel kindness to turn the arguments of the representatives of the Corporation against themselves. I believe Lord Curzon has dealt with these arguments much in the same way as a schoolman would do in the middle ages. Under Mackenzie's Bill the rate-payers had a clear majority in the Corporation. The Budget was to be dealt with by the Corporation, who would thus exercise control over reckless expenditure. Increase in Municipal taxation means practically nothing to the merchants, who do not contribute anything towards it, except for houses they may occupy, whereas it means starvation and ruin to many poor families in the northern part of Calcutta. Sir A. Mackenzie's Corporation had also the appointment of the higher officials; and the rate-payers through their representatives had a preponderating voice in the selection of these officials.

The Corporation under Lord Curzon's Despatch will consist of 25 representatives of the rate-payers who bear the bulk of Municipal taxation and 25 nominees of Government and the mercantile and trading communities, who may, for all practical purposes, be treated as Government men. Of the 25 representatives of the rate-payers, at least 5 will be Europeans or Eurasians and 3 Mahomedans; and these gentlemen generally place themselves in Government ranks: So that in the Corporation itself the independent representatives of the rate-payers will be 17 against 33 and the rate-payers will thus be in a standing minority. Again, as regards the General Committee, though Lord Curzon repudiates Sir A. Mackenzie's arrangement as illogical, he proposes a scheme which, with due deference, I venture to say is still more illogical: Of 12 members of the General Committee 4 will be elected by Government directly, and the remaining 8 will be elected by the whole Corporation, in which Government has a permanent majority, and who may not elect any of the representatives of the rate-payers; so that where we would have 4 representatives in the General Committee under the Mackenzie scheme, under Lord Curzon's scheme we *may* have, and I say, we *shall* have, none. Lord Curzon, indeed, seems to foresee this position and he directs the Local Government to frame rules for proper representation in the General Committee of all interests. Assuming that the Local Government will direct that 6 men should be elected to represent the general rate-payers, the election of these 6 members will rest with the entire Corporation according to Lord Curzon's Despatch, and the Government having a majority in the Corporation will determine the election of these 6 members of the General Committee, the result being that whereas in the scheme of Sir Alexander Mackenzie we would have a General Committee with a compact minority of 4 good men and true as representatives of the rate-payers elected by the elected Commissioners only, we shall now have six *ap-ke waste* gentlemen as representatives of the rate-payers elected by a majority of Government men.

I am sorry I have written at such length but I think our countrymen should be warned in time so that the unthinking effusiveness of the moment may not turn into wailing and lamentation.

THE Sub-divisional Magistrate of Barh appears to have a very queer idea of the dignity of the Court. Three persons charged with theft appeared in Court to surrender themselves, and they were asked by the Peshkar, so it is said, to present themselves at 4 P. M. on the same day. But it so happened that one of the three, failed to appear just in time having to attend a call of nature. He came half-an-hour late. For this the court found him guilty of contempt under sec 228 I. P. C., and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 100. An appeal, we learn, has been preferred against the order to the District Judge of Patna.

IN a case of disagreement between the Judge and the Jury, we invariably find that while the Judge is for conviction the Jury is for acquittal. It is, therefore, all the more refreshing to find that there is at least one Sessions Judge who disagreed with the unanimous verdict of the Jury when the latter were for conviction. The facts are, says the *Behar Herald*, that a man named Behary was recently murdered in the house of one Shamlal. Shamlal informed the police of the occurrence implicating some ten or twelve persons in the crime. The case proved to be false and Shamlal was prosecuted under sec 211 I.P.C. and committed to take his trial at the Sessions. The Jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty. The Judge, Mr. G. W. Place, however, disagreeing with it, has referred the case to the High Court.

NOW that the report of the Committee appointed to consider the question of the system of Vernacular Education in Bengal, is before the public, it would be interesting to note that the Government of the N.-W. Provinces have also been considering the question. As representations had been received from persons and public bodies interested in the subject, expressing dissatisfaction with certain features of the educational system in those Provinces, the Government appointed a Committee to enquire into the matter. That body have now closed their labours and the Government have issued a Resolution on the report submitted by them. One of the points considered by the Committee was the multiplicity and stiffness of the subjects taught to boys in the lower classes. The Committee reported that "over-examination in the lower classes, cramming, over-pressure, the straining of memory and the neglect of other faculties, were the evils most prevalent and recommended as remedial measures (i) the lightening of the course of studies in the lower classes as well as a reduction in the number of examinations; (ii) the restraining of the key-making tendencies of schoolmasters, and (iii) the grant of some liberty and the right of exercising one's discretion to individual schoolmasters for judging the merit of their students, and for making a choice of the text-books suited to them." It is gratifying to observe that the N.-W. P. Government have adopted all these recommendations and requested the Director of Public Instruction to take early steps to carry out the recommendations.

THE *Medini Bandhab* in its last issue says that feelings are growing more and more strained between Messrs. Watson and Co. and their tenants. Our contemporary regrets that its appeals for bringing about a better state of things has proved but a cry in the wilderness. During the short time that there have been these differences among the parties, a large number of cases, both civil and criminal, have cropped up. In the intesests of peace and the well-being of the people in general, it is now high time that the authorities should step in and make up their quarrels.

IF the *Times of Assam* is to be credited, the Dibrugurh jail authorities do not much like the visit of non-official visitors to the jail. The following order issued by the Jail Superintendent speaks for itself :—"Orders of the Superintendent of the Dibrugarh Jail, dated 3rd July 1899 The non-official visitors may be informed that the Jailer and his clerk remain absent from office between 12 to 2-30 p. m., when they go for breakfast, and if any of them like to come during this time, sufficient notice may be given to the Jailer so that he may arrange to be present when the visitors come." The *Times* thus relates the circumstances, which led to the promulgation of the order given above :—"About a month ago one of the visitors went to visit the Jail in the afternoon, and he found that there was neither the Jailer nor his assistant present at the time. Again, a couple of days ago before the issue of the above notice, the same visitor went to the Jail twice in the course of one day, in the forenoon and afternoon, but on neither occasion was the Jailer or his assistant present." The non-official visitors have very keenly taken to heart this action of the jail authorities and we learn from our contemporary that they intend resigning their office.

THE old game of Patna is being played over again at Dacca. It will be remembered how there was a fight between the Municipality and the District officials at Patna over the appointment of the Municipal Engineer-Secretary. There were several candidates including one European, for the post. The Municipal Commissioners selected a highly qualified Indian from among the candidates and recommended him for the appointment. But the Commissioner of the Division thought that the European candidate should have been selected because of his having been a European. He, therefore, asked the Municipal Commissioners to reconsider their decision but they stuck to their resolve and in the long run carried their point. History repeats itself and we find a repetition of the same scene at Dacca. The post of Secretary to the Dacca Municipality having fallen vacant, the Commissioners, by an overwhelming majority, selected Babu Sarat Chandra Sen, a passed student of the Poona Engineering College, and duly qualified by practical experience. But the Executive Engineer, Mr. Stowell, one of the Commissioners, was of opinion that Babu Sarat Chandra would not do well and proposed the selection of another gentleman, who, it is said, has no university degree. Of course, Mr. Stowell was outvoted; and in disgust he resigned his office as Municipal Commissioner. In due time the nomination of Babu Sarat Chandra came up before the Divisional Commissioner who vetoed it and asked the Municipal Commissioners to reconsider the question. The matter now stands here and we learn that the Commissioners' new nomination will be only a reiteration of their former decision.

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JUSTICE HARINGTON.—Mr. Justice Harington joins the Calcutta High Court in the autumn.

REDUCTION OF TELEGRAPH RATES.—It is said that the Secretary of State will shortly communicate with the different Cable Companies for a reduction of the telegraph rates between England and India, and the hope is entertained that it will be an accomplished fact ere long.

OFFICIAL CHANGE.—MR. F. F. Handley acts as Legal Remembrancer, during Mr. Pratt's deputation to the High Court. Mr. F. E. Pargiter succeeds Mr. Handley as District and Sessions Judge of the 24-Parganas, and Mr. B. G. Geidt officiates as Additional Judge.

BENGAL PROVINCIAL RAILWAY.—The laproximate earnings of this Railway for the pst 13 days of June 1899 were Coaching, Rs. 2,333; Goods, Rs. 187; Miscellaneous, Rs. 80. Total Rs. 2,700 or Rs. 85 per open mile. In the corresponding 12 days of the previous year the total earnings were Rs. 3,046 or Rs. 95 per open mile. Total for 25 weeks from 1st. January 1899 Rs. 309,827 as compared with Rs. 38,161. Total for corresponding 25 weeks of 1898.

PROTECTION OF PRESS TELEGRAMS.—The introduction of the Press Telegraphic Message Copyright Bill, which takes place on Friday, has been urged on several occasions during the last 27 years. Government believe that enterprise in the direction of a first rate telegraphic service of news is now checked for the want of proper protection. The Bill is framed on the model of the most recent of Colonial enactments, viz., the Ceylon Ordnance of 1898. Fines are proposed, of Rs. 100 for the first, and Rs. 500 for the second offence.

OBITUARY.—Several cases of cholera have occurred among the native population in the city, one of the victims being the aged Hindu ascetic Swamy Bhaskaranda, known as the holy man of Benares, who died on Sunday and was buried, in his usual siting posture, cross legged, in his garden at Durgakund. It is reported that deceased had desired that his body should be placed on a *machan* and exposed to be devoured by birds of the air, but his disciples did not carry out his last wishes in this respect, but buried him instead as is the custom of *Sadhus*. A *mut* will be erected over the grave which will be resorted to by Hindus, by whom deceased was held in great veneration.

PETROLEUM TANK STEAMERS.—The stately sailing vessels which not so many years ago used to form so prominent a feature of Hughli shipping are gradually disappearing before the advent of steam. Another blow has recently been struck at the "tall admiral." The bulk of the oil-trade from America to the East has hitherto been carried in sailing ships, but on Tuesday there came up the Hughli the British steamer Robert Dickenson from Philadelphia carrying oil in tanks. According to the *Petroleum Gazette* the Robert Dickenson marks revolution in oil shipments which will mean an end to the use of sailing ships in the Eastern oil-trade. The petroleum which reaches Calcutta from the Caspian and the Dutch East Indies is already carried in tank steamers. —*Englishman.*

SURVEY OPERATION.—The resolution of the Government on the operations of the Survey Department for 1898 has been published. The total area surveyed was 26,223 miles as against 26,269 in the previous year. The party employed in Mekran was attacked, and 17 lives were lost. Personal and public property to a large extent were plundered, and work was brought to an abrupt conclusion. With this exception, all the Survey parties successfully concluded their allotted tasks. A detachment undertook the revision of the principal triangulations in the Kasia and Garo Hills, with a view to ascertain the displacement of vertical and horizontal that had taken place during the earthquake. The result shows that the area affected had suffered more or less, the general apparent effect being that the area had been both widened and raised. Government notice with satisfaction that the Training School at Dehra Doon has justified its institution.

AN EXPECTED VISIT.—The Earl of Suffolk will visit Calcutta very shortly for the purpose of making arrangements for his kennels at Barrackpore.

GRANT OF LEAVE.—Mr. C.E. Collings, Chief Superintendent, Accountant-General's Office, Bengal, takes three months' leave from August, and Mr. Bryning will officiate.

DR. GRIERSON.—Dr. Grierson, I. C. S., C.I.E., is shortly proceeding on furlough to England. On the expiration of his leave he will be placed on special duty in London in connection with the Linguistic Survey.

KING *vs.* LOW.—After the Commander-in-Chief in India has considered the case of Lieutenant King, who was sentenced in connection with the assault on Mr. Low, the papers will be forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief in England for final decision.

EXPORT FROM CALCUTTA.—The total value of exports from Calcutta during the month of June was Rs. 3,58,59,494, and of Imports Rs. 3,59,50,034, giving an account of Rs. 74,39,361 in the former, and a decrease of Rs. 27,55,717 in the latter over the corresponding period of last year.

MUNICIPAL PROCEEDINGS VETOED.—The Municipal Council of Chandernagore having created a tax of 5 per cent. on the rent value of houses in the European quarters only, the proceedings of that assembly have been declared null and void by the Governor in Privy Council, as being derogatory to the principles of equality and universality, which must constitute the fundamental character of public taxation.

INDIAN TEA AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—In response to representations from the Indian Tea Association, and with a view to assist that body to an effective representation of the tea industry at the Paris Exhibition the Government of India have agreed to meet any expenditure falling under the undermentioned heads of the Association's estimate within the limit of the sum of £3,250; (1) open air space and Royalty; (2) space in courts and Royalty; (3) decorating and furnishing; (4) carved wood screen, and also to pay the sum of £750 towards other expenses.

CAPTURE OF TIGER CUBS.—A correspondent writes:—In the middle of June Bir Kisori Mohan Shekar Deo, the Jubaraj of Gangpur, received information that a huge tigress, with three cubs, was on an adjoining hill. He instantly went to the hill and brought away the three cubs. He had scarcely gone a quarter of a mile when he heard a growl. He stopped his elephant, and fired at the tigress, but missed, and the brute disappeared in the jungle. The tigress then commenced to trouble the neighbouring villages. The villagers sought the aid of the Feudatory Chief who went to the hill on the 4th instant, and lying in wait a few hours, shot the tigress dead.

IMPORT TRADE OF CALCUTTA.—The improvement in the import trade of Calcutta during the previous two months, was not continued in June. The total value of imports dropped by nearly ten per cent., the falling off in merchandise nearly reached fifteen per cent., but there was an increase of about ten lakhs in value of treasure imported owing to much larger receipts of silver. Imports of gold were smaller in value by nearly three lakhs. With the exception of railway materials, spices, and drugs the falling off in value of imports was general. In cotton goods alone the decrease was equal to thirty-one lakhs, grey piece goods dropping by nineteen million yards. In mineral oil, metals, refined sugar and machinery the decreases in value were also considerable. There were no importations of bounty-fed sugar during the past month.

THE CHERRA-COMPANYGANJ RAILWAY.—The isolated State line in Assam, known as the Cherra-Companyganj Railway, mainly used for the carriage of limestones from Komora quarry to Companyganj, a distance of eight miles, was considerably damaged by the earthquake of the 12th of June, 1897, and subsequent floods, and was in consequence closed for traffic till the end of 1898. Owing to the unstable condition of the railway, and to the fact that it has been worked at a loss to the State, the advisability of its abandonment was considered; but on the recommendation of the Chief Commissioner it was decided to keep the railway open for traffic. The railway has again been breached by floods at several places, and has been closed to traffic since May last. No attempt will be made to restore the line until after the close of the monsoon.

THE PHEAR LANE TRAGEDY.—It appears that the woman Annie Rodrigues wrote four letters—one addressed to the Commissioner of Police, another to her sister, a third to her husband and the fourth to the father of Napoleon Lightburn, the deceased. In the last letter, she advised the old man never again to interfere in the love affairs of young couples. His son was her true love and it was he (the old man) who was trying to tear him away from her, by arranging for his marriage with another woman. She stated further that this had occasioned her many a bitter tear and that she had sworn that she would make him (Lightburn, Sir.) shed tears of blood, which she had now fulfilled. She asked her husband in writing to pay her funeral expenses. The other letters were of a practical nature. It is said that she had purchased that clasp knife from the New Market. The inquest will be held on the 25th instant.

OUTRAGE AT RANIGUNJ.—The Ranigunj correspondent of the *Englishman* telegraphs under date the 13th July:—A young man, Mr. Ironsides, employed at the Bengal Paper Mills at Ranigunj, was cruelly murdered on Wednesday morning. He was missed about one o'clock in the morning and could not be traced till late last evening, when his body was found in a tank of hot water at the mill. He had evidently been brutally beaten with sticks, and there were two distinct finger marks on his throat. The *post mortem* examination was held this morning by two European doctors, which went to prove that the unfortunate man had been murdered before he was thrown into the water. The mill peons have all been arrested and are in custody. The deceased has only been out in the country a short time. He will be buried this evening with military honours. Another assistant, Mr. Williams of the same mill, also lately out from England, who was working with the deceased, was attacked and very severely beaten at the same time by the same men, but he wisely remained in the machine room and was protected from further violence by his own native workmen.

HINDU HAND-BOOKS:—The distinguished Orientalist, A. V. William Jackson, Professor of oriental languages, Columbia University, in the city of New York, in a letter to the author, highly compliment, the two little books, *viz*, "The Hindu System of Moral Scince" and "The Hindu System of Religious Scince and Art" as being a proof of "the earnest activity shown by Indian Scholars which is an encouraging sign of what one may look for in the future in the way of increasing one's knowledge of the ancient land its thought, past and present" The *Theosophist* for this month notices this book in the follwoing terms. The two books are uniform in size (about the size of our T. S. Manuals), have been carefully prepared and will be found useful to those who wish to gain a knowledge of the fundamental principles of the subjects discussed. The author, Kishori Lal Sarkar, M. A. B. L., has done his work creditably. He treats of the revelations of "Rationalism and Emotionalism," as set forth in Hindu works and it has evidently been his endeavour to embody the cream of all the so-called sacred literature of the Hindus in these two valuable manuals. The books have been cordially recommended by Prof. Max Muller and Dr. Hubbe Schleiden. We bespeak for them a ready sale. The books are to be had of Sarasi Lal Sarkar M. A., 121 Cornwallis Street, Calcutta, price one rupee each.

PLAGUE NEWS.

PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

THURSDAY again saw no case of or death from plague. The total mortality was 46 as against 47 the mean of the last five years.

THE MISSES Leiter have given up the idea of going to Kashmir.

MR. SCOTT O' CONNOR from the North West Provinces, officiates as Comptroller of Assam.

AN armourer is being court martialed at Nowshera selling a rifle stolen from the Armoury.

COLONEL MONTGOMERY, Settlement Commissioner of the Punjab, goes on three months leave at the end of this month. Captain Dunlop Smith officiates.

SIR ARTHUR STRACHEY, Chief Justice of the N. W. P. High Court, left Allahabad for Bombay *en route* for England on Wednesday. Mr. Justice Knox acts as Chief Justice during Sir A. Strachey's absence. Mr. Justice Burkitt leaves Allahabad by the special mail train to-day (Friday for England.)

IN the High Court on Tuesday the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Bannerjee confirmed the death sentences passed by the Sessions Judge on the three dacoits whom Messrs. Goad and Richardson, with the Jhansi police, had such difficulty in capturing. The Chief Justice paid a well-merited tribute to the gallantry of the European officers, who effected the arrests at the imminent peril of their lives.

THE Austrian Lloyd's steamer *Wouldobona* which had to be towed into the harbour last Monday with her propeller broken, grounded last night in the harbour while being towed to No. I berth. No damage was sustained through the grounding of the vessel, which is discharging cargo so as to get at the propeller which has snapped off. She will sail n about fifteen days.

ON Wednesday, says the *Advocate*:—Mr. Jones Bateman, the Sessions Judge of Lucknow, commenced the trial of one Musamat Sidhni Garurin of Kullhmati, thana Banthra, aged about 20 years, for the murder of Nanah Chamar with a *gandasa*. The evidence for the prosecution was to the effect that a few days before the murder the deceased Nanah, while passing some fields saw certain Chamar with Musamat Sidhni, and reported the matter to the *panches*, in the village. A *punchayet* was held and the man and woman were both outcasted. From this action the woman bore a grudge against the deceased and took her revenge when she found the deceased sleeping in his house at 5 A. M. in the morning, when the wife of the deceased had gone to fetch water from the well leaving the door open. The story of the woman is quite a different one she says that deceased caught hold of her forcibly and took her to his house for an immoral purpose and on her refusal the deceased threatened to cut her nose. While the deceased was so threatening she by chance got hold of a *gandasa* and with it gave him seven successive wounds in his neck and shoulder till at last he was dead, and she did so in self-defence

GOVERNMENT has approved of the scheme of a punitive police for Tinnevelly. An Assistant Superintendent of Police will be specially in charge. The decision as to the apportionment of the cost is withheld, pending Mr. Hammick's report. The force is to be organised from outside the district. No special arrangements are made for Madura. The military, scattered about in small parties, are being concentrated in Sivakasi, Tenkasi, Palamcottah, Virudapatti, and Nagalapuram. Mr. Hughes, hitherto Personal Assistant to the Collector and stationed at Tuticorin, will do duty as another Special Magistrate at Tinnevelly for the trial of riot cases. Mr. Thompson is holding his Court at Satur, and is trying Sivakasi and Sirudupati cases. Mr. Hughes is at Tinnevelly for trying Tenkasi cases. Mr. Vibert, hitherto in charge at Ottapidaram, will relieve Mr. Hughes of his ordinary work at Tuticorin. The first case being tried by Mr. Thompson is from Sargundrapuram, near Virudupati. There are thirty accused. The first is a village Magistrate, the second his brother. The trustees of the Sivakasi temple will open the temple in two or three days, a special police guard having just been sanctioned. The Shanar community of Sivakasi presented Mr. Hammick, the Special Commissioner, with a petition telling the tale of their oppression and persecution by other communities in the district and commenting on the attitude of the native officials, which they alleged was hostile to the Shanars.

TELEGRAMS.

[INDIAN TELEGRAM.]

THE IMPERIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SIMLA, JULY 12.

The following is the list of business to be brought forward at the next sitting of the Imperial Legislative Council to be held here on Friday next. The following Bill introduced at the last meeting of the Council will be passed:—(1) The Puddukotah-Travancore Marriage Bill; (2) the North Indian Canal and Drainage Bill; (3) the Indian Registration Act Amended Bill; (4) the Land Improvement Act Amendment Bill. The Hon'ble Mr. Rayleigh, the Law Member, will introduce a Bill to incorporate the Kirk Sessions of the Church of Scotland in British India and a Bill to make better provisions for the registration of ships in British India. Sir Edwin Collen will introduce a Bill for conversion into British Indian Currency of sums expended in British Currency under the Army Act. The Hon'ble Mr. Rivaz will introduce a Bill to provide protection to certain telegraphic press messages. The Hon'ble Mr. Rayleigh will also introduce a Bill to amend the Transfer of Property Act of 1882.

THE SUPREME LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(From our Own Correspondent.)

SIMLA, JULY 14.

At to-day's meeting of the Supreme Legislative Council the Pudukotah and Travancore Marriage Bill, the Bill to amend the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, the Bill to amend the Indian Registration Act and the Bill to amend the Land Improvement Loans Act were all passed unanimously. The Hon'ble Mr. Rayleigh, the Law Member, in introducing the Scotch Kirk Possessions Bill, explained that the new Bill would make Kirks here incorporable bodies with power to hold property, sell or invest it, independent of the great Kirk Sessions of Edinburgh. Then, in introducing the Ships Registration Bill, he explained that this Bill would empower the Government of India to lay down rules to select ports of registration and registrars of native ships. The Hon'ble Sir Arthur Collen in introducing the Bill for conversion into Indian currency of sums expressed in British currency in the Army Act, explained that it was necessary, equitable and reasonable to recover fines and other recoveries from British soldiers at a rate of exchange that they drew their pay in. The Hon'ble Mr. Rivaz in introducing the Bill to provide for the protection of certain press messages, explained that this matter had been engaging attention, from time to time, during the last 27 years and that a Copyrigh Act was introduced in 1885 in which provisions were made for the protection of press messages received from abroad for 24 hours. But that Bill was dropped. Since then though the amendment of the general law of copyright has been suspended, the question of protecting foreign press telegrams has again been brought forward, and the Government of India thinks that a good case has been made out. All important British Colonies have undertaken legislation of this kind and this new Bill which has been framed upon the basis of the recently enacted Ceylon Copyright Ordinance of 1898, proposes to provide protection for 36 hours. The Hon'ble Mr. Rayleigh, in introducing the Bill to amend the Transfer of Property Act, explained that the proposed amendments would refer to Chapter VIII, dealing with the subject of actionable claims. The sections in that chapter, he said, were all explained in very wide and general terms, some of them in so wide terms indeed, that they went beyond the policy that the law required and to make unnecessary difference between British and Indian laws on the subject. Hence the opinions of provincial Governments and the legal profession were taken. The Hon'ble member then explained that it was on the basis of these opinions and suggestions that the entire chapter had been revised by the Hon'ble Mr. Chalmers and that so far as he himself was concerned he would adopt it.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, JULY 11.

The New North Wales Lancers, who are undergoing a course of military instruction at Aldershot, have volunteered for service in South Africa in case of war.

LONDON, JULY 11.

In the House of Commons this evening Mr. Chamberlain, replying to Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman, said he was still uncertain as to the practical effect of the new scheme proposed by the Boers, but judging from present information, it appeared not to immediately affect the representation of the Uitlanders in the Volksraad.

LONDON, JULY 11.

The 73rd Battery of Artillery has been selected for service in Africa, making the fifth Battery now under orders.

LONDON, JULY 12.

The Congress of the Federated Grocer's Association, after hearing a deputation from tea dealers, has adopted a resolution protesting against the abolition of the one pound draft allowance. The tea dealers to-day appointed a permanent committee to watch developments.

LONDON, JULY 12.

It is reported that the British cruiser *Theseus*, of the Mediterranean Squadron, has gone ashore in a fog near Girgenti on the coast of Sicily. Efforts are being made to tow her off.

LONDON, JULY 12.

Mr. Wrightson, the Conservative candidate, has been elected member for East St. Pancras by a majority of 187 votes over Mr. Costelloe, the Liberal, candidate, and replaces Mr. Webster, who resigned his seat. The voting was as follows:—

Wrightson	... 2,610
Costelloe	... 2,423

LONDON, JULY 12.

The second match between the Gentlemen and the Players resulted in a victory for the Gentlemen by an inings and 59 runs.

Lancashire has defeated Leicestershire by an innings and 170 runs.

The Australians won the match against the Midland counties at Birmingham by 44 runs.

Sussex beat Hamshire by 57 runs.

The game between Yorkshire and Somersetshire ended in a draw.

LONDON, JULY 13.

The Transvaal Volksraad are now debating on the new Franchise Law, the preamble of which has been passed.

LONDON, JULY 13.

In consequence of several accidents at Bisley the Council of the National Rifle Association have condemned Mark IV ammunition as being too dangerous to competitors and have reverted to Mark II. Colonel Haddon has visited Bisley to enquire into the matter and report to the War Office.

LONDON, JULY 14.

The text of the new Boar proposal is most complex, the proposed concession being hedged by elaborate limitations. The *Times* describes them as a mockery. The *Daily Telegraph* characterises them as a rigmarole of inconsistencies, and the *Daily Chronicle* says they are curiously complicated.

LONDON, JULY 14.

The question having been raised in the Dominion House of Commons as to offering Canadian troops for service in South Africa, the Premier, Sir Wilfred Laurier, said he hoped the Transvaal would submit without hostilities.

LONDON, JULY 14.

The following is the result of the race for the Eclipse Stakes, which was run to-day:—

Duke of Westminster's Flying Fox	... 1
Duke of Westminster's Frontier	... 2
Prince Soltykoff's Ninus	... 3

RASH AND NEGLIGENT NAVIGATION.

MR. GARTH, instructed by Babu Prosonno Gopal Roy, moved for a rule on behalf of Captain Rogers, commander of the steamer *Ulwar*, who was convicted under section 280 I. P. Code for rash and negligent navigation and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 200, by the District Magistrate of Khulna. The facts appear to be that on the morning of the 21st December, 1898, the steamar *Ulwar* was proceeding up the river Fulhata, with two flats attached to it. At about the same time the Sub-divisional Officer of Bagerhat was proceeding to Morelgunj in a country boat. While the steamer was at a distance of about 5 or 6 *rasees* from the boat, the Sub-divisional Officer sent a man, who ran along the bank and shouted out to the steamer people. The steamer which had been in mid-stream suddenly swerved round towards the south bank. This happened when the steamer was 2 or 3 *rasees* from the boat. The steamer then came on and struck the boat in front. The people who were inside, all scrambled up to the bank and no life was lost. The petitioner was then charged under Sec. 280 I. P. Code for rash and negligent navigation and summoned to take his trial on the 28th April. After hearing the evidence the District Magistrate held that the petitioner being the principal officer and in charge of the steamer was responsible for its management although the plea of the petitioner was that he was not then on duty. He was accordingly convicted and sentenced as above. On hearing the learned Counsel, their Lordships granted a rule to show cause why the conviction and sentence should not be set aside.

TRAGEDY IN TOWN.

ON Thursday morning, at about 2 A. M., a double tragedy took place in the upper flat of No. 85, Phear's lane, the victims being one Mrs. Annie Rodrigues and a West Indian named Napoleon Francis Lightburn, employed the Port Commissioners. Both the deceased lived together. The woman was the wife of one Mr. Rodrigues. It was more than two years ago that she left his protection and picked up the acquaintance of Lightburn and the couple lived in peace and harmony. Lightburn arranged recently to marry a young woman in Cawnpore. Thursday, the 13th instant, was fixed for their engagement and it was to take place in the house in which Mrs. Annie lived. This was made known to Mrs. Annie who was afterwards induced to make up her differences with her husband, Mr. Rodrigues, and go and live with him. Notwithstanding all this arrangements, she appeared to be very unhappy at the proposal of her having to part with Lightburn. The two retired to bed on Wednesday night. At about 2 A. M. in the morning Lightburn, it is said, cried out "I am stabbed." His sister Cox, who was sleeping in the next room with her husband, came out and found her brother lying dead on the floor, with a deep gash on the right side of the neck. Mrs. Rodrigues too was fouud in a dying condition on the bed with seven wounds on her person. A new claspknife, stained with blood, was found near the bed. Information was sent to the Police and Superintendent Johnstones and Inspectors Faria and Hamilton, went to the spot followed by Superintendent Jogendra Chunder Mitter, Rai Bahadur, and Mr. Halliday, Deputy Commissioner of Police. But before their arrival, the woman expired. The bodies were removed to the Morgue. An inquest will be held in due course.

AN interesting international question has arisen in Malabar, where the French have two places, one at Mahi and the other at Calicut. The latter is on the sea coast, and the former is *en route* to Cannanore, where has been located for several decades the Central Jail in Malabar for the Civil and Criminal prisoners. These prisoners used to be taken to Cannanore through Mahi. But lately a judgment-debtor raised a difficulty and it has been solved by the Deputy Magistrate of Calicut. A judgment-debtor was arrested at Calicut, and when he was being taken through the French territory at Calicut, he refused to go with the peon. The Central Nazir did his best to remove him from the French territory but did not succeed. Consequently the judgment-debtor was criminally prosecuted for escaping from the peon's custody, but the complainant was thrown out on the ground that the offence took place within the French dominions and that, therefore, the British Indian Magistrate had no jurisdiction to try the case. The District Judge has, we understand, ordered the Nazir to put in a revision petition to the District Magistrate against the order of the Deputy Magistrate. In the meantime, he has issued a memo to all the District Munsiffs that the Civil prisoners ought not to be taken through the French dominions, on their way to Cannanore. The peons are, therefore, obliged to study the geography of the French dominion in Malabar and go through unfrequented paths.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

INDIA AND ENGLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, JUNE 23.

THE SUGAR QUESTION.

I understan d Sir Henry Fowler is much disa ppointed at the result of his attack upon he Government with regard to the Sugar Bounties question. A correspondent in the *Times* rather pertinently indicates the weakness of Sir Henry's attack, which, I think, I pointed out in my letter about three weeks ago. This correspondent says :—

"Sir Henry Fo wler speaking on the Indian Sugar Bounties question said, 'I say that what we cannot and dare not do for Great Britain, we have no right to do in India.'

Unconsciously, no doubt, in these words, he was using precisely the same argument as was used by Sir Henry James on Feb. 21, 1895, on the Indian Cotton Duties debate, and on that occasion Mr. Fowler replied by quoting Mr. Fawcett :—

"If the House were to take the abstract principles of political economy and apply them cut and dried without considering the social and political circumstances of the case, they would act more like pedants than politicians and might produce an amount of discontent in India that would seriously imperil the integrity of the Empire.

"Statesmen must consider, not whether a particular tax is theoretically bad, but whether it creates discontent among the people, and, looking at the question in that light, he asserted that there was no single tax levied in India which was so satisfactory to the people of that country as a revenue raised by import duties."

A comparison between the speeches of Mr. H. H. Fowler in 1895 and of Sir Henry Fowler in 1899 suggests that in the transition from one side of the House to the other, the member for Wolverhamptom has been indeed translated.

It would be interesting to know whether, having imposed countervailing duties on cotton manufactures in India, he is prepared to support the same in Great Britain.

This is a dilemma from which Sir Henry Fowler cannot extricate himself without a long elaborate argument in reply to a clear crisp statement, which is seldom a success. However, Lord George Hamilton and Mr. Chamberlain have half-a-dozon dilemmas in their policy to one possessed by Sir Henry. Here is one, for instance, cleverly put by Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman in a speech last Saturday :—

Is India, according to the glowing picture of the noble lord, to develop her sugar industry so as to supply not only her own wants but the wants of the world? In that case, what is to become of Mauritius, the prosperity of which is so dear to the Colonial Secretary? On the other hand, if Mauritius is to flood the Indian market with its sugar, where is the benefit to the Indian trade?

The simple lesson of the whole matter is, that the sooner India improves and brings up to date her own processes of refining the better. She could then not only grow all the sugar required for her own consumption, but prove a formidable rival to bounty-fed stuff in other countries. The whole business is mainly a sop thrown to the Protectionist Cerberus in this country in view of an approaching General Election.

A careful study of the Conservative presst especially that of the provinces, does not lead me to believe that the sugar policy of the Government will do them any good with the constituencies. For instance, the "Yorkshire Post," the most powerful Tory journal in the provinces, declares that the imposition of countervailing duties was quite unnecessary in the interests of the people of India, and that the case seems to have been one for waiting and watching rather than for the hasty action which has characterised the Government policy throughout. Most of the Tory editors walk round the subject like a dog round a hedgehog, treating the action of the Government rather as a warning to bounty-giving States than as a sop to the protectionist feeling which exists so strongly within the Cabinet itself. They practically admit the force of Sir Henry Fowler's taunt, that the Government is doing in India what they cannot and dare not do for Great Britain, but contend that if British public opinion is not yet educated up to the point of meeting the bounty system with the direct negative of countervailing duties, that is no reason why India should suffer. Generally the Conservative press approves the action in India, but carefully shuts the door on any extension of the policy to this country. I do not think myself that foolish and besotted as the Government are becoming in all matters of domestic policy, that they are sufficiently besotted to go to the country with the wife of every workman-voter paying a halfpenny per pound more for her sugar! That is a consideration which affects votes with a vengeance. I send you a number of leading articles from various influential newspapers from which you can gather the general trend of public opinion, but I expect the subject is now somewhat stale with you and, as a matter of practical politics, the thing will begin and end in India, where it seems to meet with general approval. When the matter is removed from the stormy sea of party politics to the quiet haven of common-sense, the verdict is that the industrial position of India cannot be treated in precisely the same fashion as the industrial position of Britain. No sugar is grown in this country, and it is only the refiner who is affected by the bounties; the general consumer benefits greatly by them, neither can the political position of India be placed on the same plane as that of Britain. The fiscal system is different; countervailing duties already exist. There is an equally wide difference between public opinion in the two countries. It is neither wise nor politic to impose our will upon India, or play the despot by refusing the Queen-Empress's consent to a measure approved and acclaimed by all classes in India, because it may be made the thin end of the wedge for something or other in the future in our own political life. These are I think, the chief considerations which affected the division list last week, and gave the Government such a thumping majority. These are certainly the considerations which took staunch Liberals like Sir Charles Cameron into the lobby against Sir Henry Fowler, and kept away many others like Mr. Herbert Roberts; indeed, it was the *absence* of so many Liberals who could not conscientiously support Sir Henry Fowler, yet shrank from the appearance of supporting a Protectionist move for this country, that gave the Government their overwhelming majority. The debate has done no good to either party. The impression has been made that the professed devotion of the Government to the interests of Free Trade, and that their action has been not entirely in the interests of India, but rather an experiment in fiscal economy upon the opinion of the country. The hostile votes of such staunch supporters as Mr. Courtney, Mr. Maclean, Mr. Galloway and Mr. Kenyon are significant. On the whole all parties concerned are very willing to make a quiet funeral of the whole controversy, which has proved itself a veritable boomerang to all concerned in it.

HIS HONOUR AT JALPAIGURI.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

JALPAIGURI, JULY 12.

HIS Honour the Lieutenant-Governor arrived at this station by the down mail just at 8-30 P. M. (Madras time), on the 7th instant, as notified in the tour programme issued 2 or 3 days before His Honour's arrival. The Lieutenant-Governor was received at the platform by the Deputy Commissioner and the Superintendent of Police. Munshi Rahim Buksh Khan Bahadur and Babu Hari Mohan Chandra were also present at the station and were there introduced to His Honour by the Deputy Commissioner. A guard-of-honour was present at the station; after they had presented arms His Honour drove to the Jalpaiguri Club through a large crowd. The route was well decorated and lighted with acetylene gas supplied by the Acetylene Gas Co., of Calcutta.

Next day (8th July), at 6-30 A. M. the Lieutenant-Governor inspected the Jail, after which he inspected the Commissioner's Office and thence drove to the Dispensary. His Honour went over every room and had some kind words for the in-door patients. He then drove to the Dinbazaar, the only private bazar in the town. The shopkeepers on either side of the road leading to it had tastefully decorated their shops. His Honour went all over the bazzar and seemed to be glad to see that its proprietor, the Raikut of the Baikantapur estate, had spared no money to make it a model bazaar in the district. From Dinbazaar His Honour went straight to the District Board's Office, where a Durbar was to be held, and which was tastefully decorated for the purpose. On alighting Sir John inspected the guard-of-honour. His Honour then took his seat on the *dais* (temporarily made for the purpose) and then the Durbar commenced.

The Deputy Commissioner introduced the signatories to the address and the members of the District Board to His Honour. Kumar J. D. Raikut then read the address and presented it in a silver casket, prepared by one Sashadhar Karmakar, a local artizan. His Honour replied in a neat little speech on the subjects dwelt on in the address. He then conferred the title of Khan Bahadur upon Munsi Rahim Buksh of this town. He made a neat little speech in Urdu which was appreciated by those present at the Durbar. When the ceremony was over His Honour left at 9 A. M.

It was notified in the programme that His Honour would grant private interviews to the Native gentry of this District at 12 o'clock; but, as he was to stay here the next day also, he received them on the 9th. At 4-30 P. M., His Honour, accompanied by the Divisional Commissioner, the Chief Engineer, the Superintending Engineer and other officers of his staff inspected the Katcheries. His Honour went over every room of the Deputy Commissioner's office. He visited the newly-built pucca Munsiffi and then the court house of the Deputy Magistrates. After that His Honour went over to the Treasury, at which he had only a look from the outside. At 8-18 P.M. there was a dinner party at the Club. Almost all the leading European gentlemen of the district were invited. The cost of this dinner, as we are informed, has been borne by Khan Bahadur Rahim Buksh.

The next day, the 9th July, at 8 A.M. His Honour visited the school. He went round every class and examined the boys in different subjects. He also saw some boys on the play-ground and was much pleased with their performances. His Honour gave Rs. 50 to the Head-master to be distributed among the meritorious boys as prizes and granted them a holiday. His Honour was also pleased to make some satisfactory remarks in the visitor's book. The children, as we are informed, were at ease in his presence, and were addressed as "Babu Saheban" by His Honour.

At 12 o'clock almost all the *elite* of the town were present at the Club for an interview with His Honour. The only persons to whom the Lieutenant-Governor accorded separate interviews were Kumar Jagadindra Deb Raikut and he Khan Bahadur, while the rest were received in batches. Kumar Jagadindra Deb Raikut went infirst and remained with His Honour for nearly three quarters of an hour. The Khan Bahadur followed and was there for about half-an-hour. After him followed the Deputy Magistrates in a batch; they took about 10 minutes, and after them the two Munsiffs, the Chaklajat Manager, the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality and the members of the District Board in a batch were introduced His Honour had kind words for everyone of them and they were much pleased with their reception.

The Lieutenant-Governor left Jalpaiguri by the down mail train at 8-30 P.M. (Ry. time) the same day after dinner. His departure being private, there were no other gentlemen of the town present at the station except the Deputy Commissioner and the Superintendent of Police. The route was illuminated on that night also.

Another address of welcome, printed at the local press and signed by 2075 influential muffasil Jotedars of the district was intended to have been presented and read to His Honour at the Durbar but owing to the delay in collecting so many signatures within so short a time, it could not be read. It was, however, presented to His Honour through the Deputy Commissioner. The Jotedars are thankful to him for his kindly presenting their address to His Honour in time.

MR. T. L. F. BEAUMONT is elected an Additional Member of the Legislative Council of Bombay, *vice* Mr. McLellan, resigned.

SUIT FOR THE RESTITUTION OF CONJUGAL RIGHTS.

JUDGMENT has been deliverd by the Subordinate Judge of Cawnpore in the suit brought by Chandri Rahimyai against (1) Aga Mohammad Raza, a well-known resident of Cawnpore and his daughter, (2) Unissa Sultan Begum for the restitution of conjugal rights, and to make defendant No. 1, father of the wife, deliver her to the plaintiff. The plaintiff alleged that the marriage took place on 23rd June, 1894, that they since lived as husband and wife until sometime in July 1897, but that at the end of that month when he desired to take her home to his village in the district of Fatehpur, her father refused to send her with him. Both the father and the girl denied the marriage. The former related how the acquaintanceship sprang up between him and Chandri Rahimyai which eventually led to the latter offering in the beginning of 1894 to marry his daughter. Inquiries, however, resulted in the discovery that plaintiff did not belong to his own persuasion of Shiya, but was a Sunni; that he was already possessed of a wife and children; and that the property in which he claimed a share was in the name of his father from whom and his brothers he was undivided. He agreed, however, to accept plaintiff's proposal on the conditions that he would purchase a house in Cawnpore so that the girl might not be taken away to Fatehpur, and that he would get his share of property by consent of his father divided and settle the same on the girl in lieu of dower. Plaintiff consented to the conditions, and a few days after made defendant believe that he had bought a house in Cawnpore which he had put under repairs and had become Shiya. Then only Aga Mohammad promised to give him his daughter in marriage and the ceremony of *mongni* (bethrthal) was gone through. Plaintiff kept up his assurances, but meanwhile defendant discovered that he was not of a respectable family and had only deceived him; he had not bought the house and had not obtained his father's consent to divide the property. Defendant thereupon refused to bestow his daughter on him. He complained that his younger son was in collusion with the plaintiff whom he had given back all the correspondence. He hinted that his daughter was of full age, and so his promise with regard to her was not binding on either of them. The daughter defendant No. 2, stated that if any promise regarding her was made she denies it as binding on her, she being of full age.

The Court, held however, that plaintiff married defendant No. 2 and that they lived as husband and wife. A decree for restitution of conjugal rights was therefore passed.

THE LUMSDEN-AUGIER CASE.

TRIAL BY JURY CLAIMED.

AN extraordinary amount of interest was shown in the hearing of the case of Lumsden *vs.* Augier, which came on for hearing before Mr. Emslie, Sub-divisional Officer of Raniganj, on Thursday, the Court being filled to overflowing by Europeans engaged in the collieries in the district, and others who had come in from neighbouring stations. The accused who is an Eurasian of about 40, though he looks somewhat older, entered the small court room, accompanied by his counsel, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Cranenburgh, who were instructed by Messrs. Dignam and Co., solicitors or the Ranigunge Coal Association, who are defraying the expenses of the defence. Mr. Temple, solicitor, instructed by Mr. Ernest Dessa, Government Railway Police, appeared on behalf of the East Indian Railway Company, who are prosecuting.

It will be remembered that in this case Mrs. Lumsden, wife Mr. David Lumsden, Registrar of the Bengal Legislative Department, charged Mr. Augier with having made in decent gestures to her and attempting to enter the first-class compartment in which she was travelling on the night of the 21st June last, while she was on her way to Calcutta, between Dinapore and Jha Jha.

Mr. Allen stated to the Court that he had learned with considerable surprise that neither Mr. Lumsden, who was the nominal prosecutor, nor Mrs. Lumsden, who was the real prosecutrix, in this case, were present. He understood that Mr. Lumsden was suffering from nervous prostration, which had necessitated his absence from Calcutta and from the Court that day, and that he had gone to Darjeeling. There was, he understood, a medical certificate to that effect, but there was nothing to account for Mrs. Lumsden's absence, and the question would arise as to what course the Court intended to pursue under the circumstances. Counsel believed that an application would be made that the matter should stand over for any time that the Court thought reasonable.

Mr. Temple said that the case was one of considerable importance, and had awaken considerable public interest and was one which should certainly be gone into fully. Mr. Lumsden appeared to be very ill, and it was only natural that his wife should be with him at such a time. The prosecution had absolutely no instructions to withdraw from the case, and he would ask the Court to grant an adjournment.

The Court: I should like to know definitely whether, on behalf of the accused, you apply for a trial by jury.

Mr. Allen: As to that, I am certainly instructed by my client to claim the right to be tried as a European British subject. Unless your Honour takes the view that the certificate is not sufficient. There is nothing to show hat it is worth the paper it is written on. It certainly purports to be signed by a Dr. Simpson or Simmonds, but there is nobody here who saw the doctor write it. Of course, it is possible that such a person may exist, but I have never heard of anybody of that name in Calcutta. You have simply this application for postponement, and this certificate to support it.

The Court: This is a warrant case.

Mr. Allen: That is so, but as things stand, I say that the proper course is to withdraw the case.

In answer to the Magistrate, Mr. Dessa said that he had seen Mr. Lumsden in Calcutta; that he was looking seedy at the time, and that Mr. Lumsden said he was going for a change, and would send a medical certificate to the Inspector-General of Police. Inspector Dessa had subsequently ascertained that he had gone to Darjeeling on a month's leave.

Mr. Allen pointed out that the medical certificate was dated the 2nd July, and intimation of this fact should have been given to his client. Believing that the case would be heard to-day, the accused, or rather the Ranigunge Association in his behalf, had gone to considerable expense, expecting that the case would be heard.

The Court: I certainly think that it is very hard on the defence. The Assistant Inspector-General of Police should have informed me of this, but as this has not been done, I have nothing to be but to grant an adjournment. Are you prepared to prove that your client is a European British subject?

Mr. Allen then referred to a baptismal certificate which showed that accused was the child of Pierre Joseph and Allen Augier, was born in Calcutta on the 29th January, 1859, and was baptised at St. Thomas's Church, Middleton Street, on the 16th February of the same year. Counsel then referred to the certificate of marriage between his father, Pierre Joseph Augier, and Allen Wilson, according to the rites of the Church of Scotland on the 12th March, 1853, and went on to show that the latter was the lawful daughter of a Mr. James Wilson, who was proprietor of the Poopree Indigo Factory, Tirhoot, and a pure Scotchman. This fact he hoped to establish by other evidence. Accused's grand-aunt who was 90 years of age, was still living in Calcutta, and although she belonged to another branch of the family, she would be able to prove that accused could come under the provisions of Section 4. This was not a matter with regard to which the strictest proof should be required.

The Court: When did his grand-father die?

Mr. Allen: About 35 or 40 years ago.

The Court: It would not be very difficult to get somebody who knew him in Tirhoot. At present your statement amounts to a mere assertion. There doss not seem to be any proof either way. James Wilson may have been, and probably was a Scotchman, but it is a very serious thing to summon a jury in this district.

Mr. Allen read Section 453 of the Procedure Code.

The Court: Some proof is obviously necessary that his grand-father was a Scotchman. At present it is a mere assertion. If you are allowed reasonable time say two or three weeks, I do not see why you should not be able to prove it by old planters and others.

Mr. Allen: I have no doubt that we will be able to prove that. If we take out a commission to examine the old lady, Mr. Augier's grand aunt, she will be able to prove it. In all these cases of family pedigree it is almost always a matter of hearsay. It is not a thing that you can prove positively. No doubt we could also get somebody in Tirhoot to prove that James Wilson was a Scotchman.

The Court: You will have to get people who will be able to say that he passed as a Scotchman. That will do.

Mr. Allen: Yes; proof of that kind will no doubt be forthcoming.

The Court: Have you anything to say on this point Mr. Temple?

Mr. Temple: I leave it entirely in your hands.

Mr. Allen said he would probably file affidavits by planters who would perhaps remember James Wilson.

The Court: I should that the Secretary of the Planters' Association would probably be able to supply the required information.

Mr. Allen: Since you must postpone the case at the instance of the prosecution, perhaps it would be better to adjourn it for a month.

Mr. Temple proposed to call such witnesses as were present, but on Mr. Allen objecting, the objection was allowed. Mr. Temple then desired the Court to take the evidence now of Private Neville who was, he said, on his way to Australia.

Mr. Allen objected, as this could not be done under any law of procedure. The accused must be put on his trial before any evidence could be taken. If he was examined now, Mr. Allen would not cross-examine him till the proper time, in which case if the witness went to Australia before that, his evidence would have to be expunged.

The Court: What is the nature of Mr. Neville's evidence?

Mr. Temple: He assisted Mr. Lumsden to seize Mr. Augier.

Mr. Allen: There is no question of seizing Mr. Augier. There is no question that a complaint was made.

The Court. When does he leave.

Private Neville: The boat sails on the 10th of August.

The Court: Then there is lots of time.

Mr. Allen: It is incumbent by law that the complainant should be examined first (reads sections 251, 252, and 253 C. P. Code).

The Court: Do you know whether there is any ruling on that point?

Mr. Allen: There is no ruling necessary. It is as plain as A. B. C. A certain Judge of a certain High Court had a box for receiving petitions in revision cases, and directed that all applications for revision should be put into it. Counsel were not to be heard, but this box was secretly opened and the petition were dealt with and dismissed. When this Judge's successor came to administer justice there, he was told that the practice was to put petitions in that box, but he declined to follow it and decided instead to follow the Code as it stood. The Code said that the complainant should be examined first and that was plain enough. Mr. Neville, it was said, had seized the accused, whatever that might mean. It was not a question of seizing, but the question was did the witness see the accused on the footboard of the carriage or hear him use indecent words or make indecent gestures. This was not urged.

The Court ultimately decided in favour of Mr. Allen's contention, and observed that as Private Neville was not leaving before the 10th August, they could fix any date between the 31st July and 10th August.

Mr. Allen suggested the 5th August if it suited the Court and the other side.

Mr. Temple desired it to be fully understood that on the 5th August the question as to whether the accused was a British-born subject would be finally settled, because they could not go into the claim further.

Mr. Allen thought that the time would be sufficient for him. As regards the commissions to be issued, application would be made later on, and interrogatories and cross-interrogatories could be put.

After some further discussion regarding thl affidavits, Mr. Allen intended to put in with regard to the nationality of accused's maternae grand-father and his claim to be tried by a jury, the case was adjourned till Saturday, the 5th August.—*Indian Daily News*.

AN EPIDEMIC OF DIARRHŒA.

Mr. A. Sanders, writing from Cocoanu Grove, Fla., says there has been quite an epidemic of diarrhœa there. He had a severe attack and was cured by four doses of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy. He says he also recommended it to others and they say it is the best medicine they ever used. For sale by

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RAILWAY PROGRAMME FOR 1899-1900.

THE following is a list Railway Surveys which will be proceeded with in the cold weather of 1899-1900 :—

(*a*).—Surveys begun in 1898-99 and still in hand are the Burdwan-Howrah Chord 57 miles, Gya-Katrasgarh 112 miles, and Jerria coal extension 14 miles, by the East Indian Railway; Muxoodpur-Majeegatee 18 miles, and Chandipur-Taki 39 miles, by the Bengal Central Railway; Aonrihar-Jaunpur 34 miles and Ballia-Ghazipur 34 miles, by the Bengal and North Western Railway; Nanjangode-Erode 110 miles, and Mutupet-Avadyarkovil 51 miles, by the South Indian Railway; Kinu-Kabwet-Thabeit-Kyin 32 miles by the Burma Railways; Tirupatar-Krishnagiri 25 miles, by the Madras Railway; Akhanra-Chairab Bazar 19 miles, Tilagaon-Sylhet 38 miles, and Hajiganj-Shatnol 25 miles, by the Assam-Bengal Railway Company; Sagaing Bridge (Irrawaddy), by the Burma Railways; Bara-Ajmir and Marwar 274 miles, Kohat and Bannu 245 miles, Ranaghat-Ganges Katiher 287 miles, by the Director of Railway Construction; Naihaty-Ballygunj 40 miles, by the Eastern Bengal State Railway; and Berhampur-Russulkonda 50 miles, by the East-Coast State Railway. Total (*a*) 1,504 miles.

(*b*).—New surveys proposed for 1899-1900:—Ait, Kanch, Jalaun and Madhogarh line 55 miles, and Dholpur-Bari 20 miles, by the Indian Midland Railway Company; Henzada-Myanoung 80 miles, and Pegu Moulmein 50 miles, by the Burma Railways; Dacca State Railway extensions 234 miles, by the Eastern Bengal State Railway; Amritsar-Sarhali 26 miles, Malekwal-Lyallpur (Jech Doab) 100 miles, and Fatehpur, Markandi 60, miles by the Director of Railway Construction; Morappur-Dharmapuri 16 miles, by the Madras Railway; Kalikiri-Royachoti 32 miles, by the South Indian Railway; Allahabad-Fyzabad, 100 miles, Khandwa-Akola 150 miles, and Basim-Nandid by the Director of Railway Construction; Salem-Shevaroy 8 miles, by the Madras Railway; Mutta River, by the East Indian Railway, and Arsikere-Mangalore 138 miles, by the Mysore Durbar. Total (*b*) 1,069 miles, plus (*a*) 1,504; equals 2,575 miles.

THE second section of the Tapti Valley Railway, from Vyala to Chinchpada, a distance of 37 miles, was opened for passenger traffic on the 10th instant.

A CORRESPONDENT says that Sir Arthur Collins, the late Chief Justice of Madras, now at home, is trying to get into the India Council, where there happens to be a vacancy at present. His predecessor Sir Charles Turner, entered the Council on his retirement. It is a fact, says our correspondent, that Sir Arthur has influence with Lord Salisbury, but he will find in Sir Philip Hutchins, the Secretary to the India Council, a sworn and consistent enemy.

THE approval of Her Majesty's Secretary of State to the Government of India's scheme for the reorganisation of the Military Works Department has been received. The reorganisation will be carried out at once, details of which will shortly be given out. The Department will be reorganised on a purely military footing.

ON Sunday morning last a band of armed dacoits attacked a hut near Moulmein, took all the money they could find, and having tied up the occupants, except a young woman whom they took with them, set the house on fire and decamped. The house-owner, his wife and infant grandchild were burned. The young woman was subsequently released by the dacoits who have not been captured.

IN connection with the recent attack on a rations convoy near Haidari Kach, when a sepoy was killed, the Shaman Khel, within whose limits the offence was committed, having failed to trace the offenders, it was decided to enforce the responsibility of the Shaman Khel and exact reprisals. Accordingly at 1 A.M. on the 11th, 90 rifles marched from Sarmekai and 70 from Jandola, and smartly surprised three Shaman Khel encampments, taking 23 prisoners without a shot being fired. The troops were all back in camp at 2 P. M.

MUNICIPAL law in the North-West Provinces and Oudh has been none the more intelligible, convenient or useful for being dispersed in several distinct enactments. As now amended andrecast, the new Municipalities Bill remedies this defect and consolidates the entire municipal law of the Provinces in one comprehensive measure. The report of the Select Committee on the Bill—of which, by the way, Babu Sri Ram and Pundit Bishambhar Nath are the two native members—will be presented at the forthcoming meeting of the Provincial Legislative Council at Lucknow, and the Bill will then be submitted to the Government of India in order that its introduction may be sanctioned.—*Pioneer*.

THE following information has been issued by the Public Works Department:—"The Government of India has recently had under consideration of desirability of an improved system for the collection of traffic statistics to be submitted with Railway projects. With this object traffic officers are now deputed with engineers on the surveys of new lines of railway for the purposes of collecting information relating to probable traffic to be expected. This information is to be submitted to the Government of India in such form as will show the probable traffic which can be expected, together with general information as to the character of the country traversed, its capabilities for development, and the population of the villages along the route of the proposed railway and trade entries, ect., as well as any other useful information that can be given. The above will be of interest to promoters and others interested Indian railways, who on application to the Government of India in the Public Works Department will be furnished with further information on the subject."

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

BARADA GOALINI'S CASE.

GROUNDS OF COMMITMENT.

As the reader is aware, a rule has been granted by the High Court for the transfer of this case from Bankura to some other district. We publish below the grounds of commitment of the accused persons to the Sessions for trial.

In this case the Sessions Judge has directed that the accused persons named above should be committed to the Court of Sessions under charges under sections 342,354, 376 and 376 read with 511 of the Indian Penal Code. I have accordingly drawn up a charge and I am committing the accused persons to take their trial in the Court of Sessions.

In order, however, to prevent all future misconception, I wish to point out that the evidence on the record does not in my opinion justify the commitment, I will briefly give my reasons for holding this opinion.

The whole case turns on the genuineness or otherwise of the first information filed with the record. In this first information the present accused persons have not been mentioned at all, and as I contend, the prosecutrix did not when she lodged the first information state that the offence of rape was committed on her person. So that if the first information correctly embodies the statement which the prosecutrix made immediately after the occurrence no Court will convict the accused persons of the offences with which they have been charged.

With regard to the first information the Sessions Judge stated in his first judgment that the evidence showed that the first information was lodged at the thana immediately after the occurrence, that according to the first information itself it was lodged at 2-4 P-M., but the Sub-Inspector did not go to the place of occurrence which is very close to the thana till 5 P. M. Coupling this fact with the fact that the accused Abinash Chandra Khan is the son of an Honorary Magistrate of the town, the Sessions Judge came to the conclusion that there were grave reasons to suspect the integrity of the police enquiry and record. In the course of the enquiry, before Babu Khetra Mohan Mitter, the Sub-Inspector pointed out that the first information was actually lodged at 4 P. M. and that there was no delay on his part in commencing the enquiry. Unfortunately Babu Khetra Mohan Mitra did not clearly understand the explanation ; but I venture to think that there can be no doubt whatever that the figures 2-4 which the Sub-Inspector used to indicate the time at which the first information was lodged was intended by him to mean *dooi praher, charita* or 4 P. M. An examination of special diaries and other papers in the handwriting of this officer will show that he is constantly in the habit of indicating the hours in the afternoon in this way. He has, when he was examined by me, filed two special diaries in two cases investigated by him in 1895 and 1897 respectively to prove this ; and these special diaries will show that his statement is correct. It should be noted of course that the special diaries which are examined should be those in the handwriting of the Sub-Inspector himself for it may happen that in a document he indicated the hours in this way, but in the copy of the document which a writer-constable or some other officer afterwards made, the hours were indicated in some other way. It appears to me also that the Sub-Inspector wrote the letter (*ta*) after the figure 4.

In his second judgment the Sessions Judge has somewhat changed his opinion in this particular point. He has not accepted the thing—which the Sub-Inspector has put forward ; but he thinks that the figures 2-4 may mean 4 minutes after 2 P.M., as he at first thought or they may mean between 2 and 4 P.M. He has, however, pointed out that there is internal evidence in the special diary itself to show that at least Abinash's name must have been mentioned at once by the prosecutrix. It appears to me, however, that the entry in the special diary to which the Sessions Judge refers does not at all prove what he says it proves. If the Sessions Judge's view is correct, then we must suppose that the Sub-Inspector after receiving the first information at once communicated with Abinash's friends; and that after coming into an agreement with them to shield Abinash, deliberately tampered with the first information and omitted the names of the actual offenders from it, but he was such a fool that immediately afterwards he forgot all about his compact with Abinash's friends, and in one of the very first entries in the special dairy blurted out the name of the man whom he had corruptly agreed to shield, and in order to shield whom he had not hesitated to tamper with the first information. Is this at all a likely theory ? On the other hand, the special diary shows that when the Sub-Inspector went to the spot at 4-30 P.M, he was informed by Prasanno Kalu, a witness in the case, who has throughout taken a rather prominent part in the case, that when he and the witnesses Nimai and Chandra went to the house where the prosecutrix was confined, they found Abinash in the room from which the prosecutrix was taken out. It appears to me that the diary does not show that the Sub-Inspector tampered with the first information. On the other hand, it shows that as soon as Abinash Khan's name was mentioned he made him an accused person in the case and took steps to find out where he was.

Another very important point in connection with the first information is the meaning which is to be attached to the expression which the prosecutrix used to describe the violence which was actually committed on her person. The actual words she used were * * * * * * * I think that the only meaning which can be attached, to these words is that the person indicated dishonored or insulted her by squeezing her breasts. To say that they mean that the person indicated raped her after squeezing her breasts is to give an extremely forced meaning to the words. I need not discuss the case any further. It appears to me that there are no reasonable grounds for holding that the first information has been tampered with, and as the first information shows that Abinash Chunder Khan and Purna Chander Das were not at all mentioned when the prosecutrix went to the Thana soon after the occurrence, and that the prosecutrix did not charge any one with ravishing her, I do not think that there are valid grounds for committing the persons named above.

Before concluding I must enter an emphatic protest about the way in which the Sessions Judge has spoken of the Sub-Inspector and the Magistracy. He has without, as it appears to me, any sufficient grounds charged the Sub-Inspector with tampering with the first information and has made various other imputations against him. He has also not been sparing in the language which he has used towards Deputy Magistrate Babu Khetra Mohan Mitra. Among other things he has charged this officer with being saturated with bias and with subserviency. The Deputy Magistrate made certain mistakes in his judgment but I do not think that there is any ground whatever for saying that he was biased in the case. As to subserviency I do not know what the Sessions Judge means by using the word. If he means that the Dy. Magistrate decided the case in the way in which he decided it in compliance with any instructions which I gave to him or in consequence of any influence which I brought to bear on him, I can only say that the imputation is utterly unfounded and should not have been made in a judicial document.

Sd. B. De,
Magte.

S IT RIGHT

FOR AN EDITOR TO RECOMMEND PATENT MEDICINES ?

From Sylvan Valley News. Brevard. N. C.

It may be a question whether the editor of a newspaper has the right to publicly recommend any of the various proprietary medicines which flood the market, yet as a preventive of sufferins we feel it a duty to say a good word for Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœg Remedy. We have known and used thia medicine in our family for twenty years and have always found it reliable. In many cases a dose of this remedy would save hours of suffering while a physician is awaited. We do not believe in depending implicitly on any medicine for a cure, but we do believe that if a bottle of Chamberlain's Diarrhœa Remedy were kept on hand and administered at the inception of an attack much suffering might be avoided and in very many cases the presence of a physician would not be required. At least this has been our experience during the past twenty years For sale by

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SRI SWAMI BHASKARANAND SARASWATI.

A BRIEF SKETCH OF HIS LIFE.

SRI SWAMI BHASKARANAND SARASWATI was born in 1833 in the district of Cawnpore. When eight years of age he was sent to a Pundit to learn Sanskrit and the progress he made was remarkable, for in his seventeenth year he was recognised as a great Sanskrit scholar. He then began to study the Vedanta philosophy with great masters, one of whom was Pundit Anant Ram of Patna, then living at Hardwar and his rapid mastery of the subject was astonishing. Subsequently he studied and practiced *Patanjali Darshan* (Yoga philosophy) and attained proficiency in it. At the age of 18 he went on a pilgrimage to sacred places in India, and after he had visited nearly all the sacred shrines of India he thought himself fit for a life of seclusion (*Sanyas*). He was at this time known to all as a Sanskrit scholar, philosopher, and a real *Yogi*. His dignified mien and venerable face silenced those who doubted if a man could learn and practise *Yoga* at such an early age. About the age of 27 Sri Swamiji was initiated into the holy order of *Sanyas* by Paramhansa Sri Purnanand Saraswati, of Ujjain, being christened Sri Swami Bhaskaranand Saraswati, by which name he was afterwards known to the world. After this the Swami travelled more than once along the banks of the Ganges from its source to its fall, and also to other sacred places and cities. During these troublesome wanderings he flung aside all clothing but a place of cloth (*kopin*). Even this he discarded when he took his permanent abode in Benares in the Anandbag Garden of the Maharaja of Amethi. In this garden he remained up to the last moment of his life. Crowds of people daily visited the place to pay their respects and reverence to Sri Swamiji from every part of India and also from foreign countries. Sri Swamiji was one of the great souls who feel the paramount need of true religion and *Sanyasism*. He was a thinker, philosopher and a *Yogi* and one who soared beyond the visible. Calm silent and majestic he remained immersed in the glory of his own soul. On the 9th instant at 12 P. M., he passed away while in a sitting posture, as if he was engaged in meditation, and his death has cast gloom over all who came in contact with him, who feel that his was one of those rarely gifted natures not easy to replace.

His burial took place on Monday, the 10th, in the middle dome of the garden of Anandbag with the Vedic rituals and with great solemnity. At the time of burial a large gathering of gentlemen of all nationalities numbering 5000 or 6000 were present, among whom were :—Maharaja of Benares, Maharaja of Ajodhya, Raja of Nugode, Raja Tejsing of Mainpuri, Dewan of Maharaja of Benares, Babu Rajendra Sing of Bharatpur, Rai Bulbhadur Dass, rais, Benares.

DUEL OF WILD HORSES.

WILLIAM JAMESON REID, who spent several years in exploring China and Thibet, gives the following account of the wild horses of Thibet in his book "Through Unexplored Asia," which is to be published shortly.

"Wild horses, called by the Sifanese Dzerlikadu, are very numerous in the country to the eastward of Sukul at the base of the mountain ranges. They are generally in large herds, very shy, and when frightened continue their flight for days. They are never hunted, owing to the difficulties of the chase, but are captured by strong nooses attached to sunken stakes, distributed in the districts which they are known to frequent, in this manner insuring their capture without injury. These horses usually roam over the country in groups of fifty to a hundred. Each lot of mares is led by a stallion, in the size of whose family depends on his age, strength, and courage ; his individual qualities keeping his herd together. Over this he maintains the most strict watchfulness, for if he descries intruders from other herds in his ranks he rushes to the encounter and tries in every way by biting and kicking to drive them off. During the breeding season the males are exceptionally aggressive, and encounters among themselves and even attacks on human beings, are of frequent occurrence.

"Long before reaching this country we had been entertained by numerous narratives of a more or less nebulous character concerning the almost human characteristics of these animals, in which stories we had placed no more faith than in those usually told by the natives. The head man of Sukul, we had immediately concluded, was no better than his followers, for he told such astonishing tales of the doings of this equine nation that we momentarily expected he would tell of cities, forts, and houses built by them. We were all the more surprised, therefore, when, on the second day, he came to us with the assertion that if we were still incredulous he was ready and willing to put proof to the test, as several of his hunters had reported a number of herds in the valley plain to the southward. Accordingly, shortly before night all, we rode for some hours, until we had reached a spot whence we could over look the plain where we were informed the astonishing wonders of which we had been told might be performed.

HERDS OF WILD HORSES.

"About 10 o'clock as shivering with the almost arctic coldness of the weather, we were making futile efforts to keep warm, and cursing our stupidity in coming to verify fairy tales, we were aroused to action by an ominous stir among our ponies, who were straining at their tethers and whinning nervously. A few minutes later, a weird shrieking howl, as of some soul in dire distress, floated through their sounding near at hand and yet far removed. Following the guide, we mounted to a little jutting crag overlooking the broad plain, which stretched away for miles from the foot of the broad plateaus, and there, indeed saw a sight which almost beggared description. The broad expanse, lighted by the new moon, which rendered thesurrounding country almost as luminous as day, was filled with herds upon herds of horses of every size, color, and description. For several moments we were dumfounded at a sight so thrilling and awe-inspiring—a vast, surging mass of living, breathing animals busily engaged in feeding on the luxuriant grass of the valley. Suddenly upon the night air resounded a blood-curdling neigh, as clear as a bugle call, and immediately the herd stopped feeding and stood with heads erect, as a mighty army at the call of its leader. Another prolonged neigh, pitched in a some-what higher key, and, like a whirlwind, the whole herd bolted up the valley, as orderly and regularly as the finest disciplined army, with three or four, which seemed to be the leaders, symetrically arranged ahead of the main body, and flanking and rear detachments posted with studious exactness.

"On reaching the head of the plain once more they came to a halt and grazing was resumed. Our attention had been so drawn in following the action of this herd that we had not noticed that another fully as large had come from far down the valley and had installed themselves on the feeding grounds just vacated. The scene in front was now all engaging; cold and fatigue were alike forgotten in the enthralling interest of the moment. For half an hour both herds cropped the short grass in silence, when a shrill neigh from the group nearest to us attracted our attention in their direction. They had all stopped feeding, and stood restless and fearful as if detecting the approach of some terrible enemy. Suddenly from out the compactly gathered mass sprang a gigantic stallion, who, after pawing the earth and meanwhile neighing fiercely, proceeded at a gallop a full half mile up the valley, stopping every few hundred feet to repeat his bellicose neighing.

THE CHALLENGE TO A COMBAT.

"Following his movements, we now saw that another animal was galloping down in a similar manner from the other herd, doubtless to accept the challenge. The newcomer was a magnificent snow-white, and, with the clear light of the moon shining upon him, he presented a gigantic appearance when contrasted with his smaller antagonist. When within a quarter of a mile of each other the two beasts came to another half and stood facing their respective herds, paving the ground and neighing fiercely, and bending their shapely necks much in the manner of two actors in sword combat making the preliminary flourish previous to deadly action.

"To describe the events of the next ten minutes I would require pages of hyperbole to give in any measure a faint idea of the supreme grandeur and weirdness of this herculean struggle between two giants. They rushed at each other time and time again like immense catapults ; they fought with tooth and hoof, while no other sound could be heard—the two herds, who had meanwhile approached nearer to the sturggle, gazing on their leaders as if carved in stone. One would have had to be within a few feet of the titanic combat to describe accurately the events of that short quarter of an hour. The two beasts could be seen rearing in the air, locked togetherlike two wrestlers, their teeth tearing each other and their great hoofs relentlessly kicking in all directions with the force of the pile drivers. Both animals were tiring perceptibly, when in an instant all was over. A sharp rally, and then the ghostly form of the big white stallion rose alone, and on the ground lay the prostrate body of his antagonis The victor contented himself with giving utterance to short, exultant neighs and ever and anon kicking the body of his defeated foe.

"We had seen the great equine duel, but we little knew what was yet in store for us. Soon there was a movement in both herds, and with the same military promptness as we had witnessed before, with the mares and colts in the centres, the two bodies formed, and without the least warning or signal rushed at eachother. It seemed as if the very heavens were falling in. The din and crash as they swept together, even at our long distance, was terrific and in the clear moonlight could be seen the rolling mass of contestants surging like a huge wave over the plain. At the end of ten minutes, and as suddenly as it had commenced, the battle terminated, and the two herds slowly separated. We could not see some of the results of the awful conflict, for, scatted here and there, all over the plain, were the forms of those who had fallen in the sanguinary conflict."

A GENTLEMAN at Nilambur in Calicut is sending to the Paris Exhibition some specimens of the quaint palm leaf hats worn by the hill mahouts and trackers of the Nilambur jungles.

IT is understood that a Bill to reduce civi appeals in the Punjab is likely to be introduced into the Imperial Legislative Council.

MR. HILTON, Superintending Engineer, Punjab, is appointed to officiate as Chief Engineer and Secretary to the Government of the Punjab in the Public Works Department, from the 29th of June, 1899.

THE ATHLETIC WOMAN A DEGENERATE.

DR. ARABELLA KENEALY returns to the charge against "Woman as an Athelete," in the "Nineteenth Century," with a rejoinder to Mrs. Chant's criticism. She enters her protest against masculine women, and against effeminate men, as opposed to the normal evolutionary process which differentiates the sexes the more as the type advances. She bases her position on this fundamental distinction :—

"Muscle is of two kinds—'voluntary muscle,' muscle that is, over which the mind and will, by means of their nervous telegraphic system, have control ; and 'involuntary muscle,' as that composing the heart, the diaphragm, the coats of the stomach and the whole digestive canal, which surrounds each artery and vein from least to greatest, regulating blood supply and nutrition, and which enters largely into the composition of every vital organ of the body."

THE MOST VALUABLE FACTOR.

The danger of the female athlete is that her development of the voluntary muscle takes place at the expense of the involuntary muscles and the sympathetic nervous system which regulates it. Activity mental or physical, increases the number of times the heart-muscle contracts in a minute "; and only in intervals of rest can the heart-muscle recuperate itself. Diminish these; the heart suffers: digestion suffers, "Twenty-four hours in bed or a day of lounging will do more to restore a tired or over-taxed liver than will any amount of athletics. The most valuable factor in physical development (as is recognised by horse, dog, and other trainers) is repose."

THS MODERN WOMAN DEGENERATING.

This evolutionary principle, "by means of its complex sympathetic network of nerves and its involuntary muscle system, regulating nutrition and blood-supply," determines the "evolvement of the girl into a woman":—

"Here we have a frank, outspoken, active-limbed young person, almost as much boy as girl in her modes of thought and muscle energies. She becomes (if she be allowed to obey the impulse which is the impulse of her fullest development) quiet, slower and more restrained of movement, shyer, imaginative, emotional, tenderer of thought and impulse, softer of voice, more diffident of speech, touched with new reverences, moods, and aspirations. She acquires gradually the mysterious, elusive, lovely charm of woman.

"Now watch this development thwarted by athletics, dwarfed by brain exhaustion, nipped by inherited disease, or stunted by starvation. Instead of a regeneration there is a degeneration. Instead of physicial enrichment there is but physical impoverishment. She loses the charm of childhood without gaining another. She remains unlovely or grows course; she stops short at the puerile stage with the straight up-and-down lines of the puerile type, or she assumes the stout and sturdy, it may be gross, lines which are a degeneration from it. And it is this peurile type, or the degeneration from it, which is increasing largely among our modern women."

THE PERFECTION OF HUMAN ATTAINMENT.

This degenerate type "will never be the inspirations of any man's life."—

"And after all, ... to be the inspiration of a man's or a woman's life, and thereby to be father or the mother of children who are the offspring of that inspiration, is the perfection of human attainment."

Then comes up the question, which type of woman yields the better type of baby ? The writer answers:—

"I have before me as I write a review of patients, friends, and acquaintances. In every instance the children of the less muscular and less robust women carry off the palm, some in beauty, some in intelligence, some in high mental or moral development."

THE PENALTY—CANCER!

And yet more terrible phantom is invoked:—

"All the beauty and wonderful phenomena of sex are dependent absolutely upon the presence and health of a special physical organisation . . and it is precisely in that system which normally should be the vitalising force of the body that the great proportion of cases of the terrible disease occur. And cancer is largely on the increase. Cancer is proverbially frequent in the woman of robust and strong physique, showing pre-eminently that the robust type of woman is essentially not the healthy one. For the worst of all degenerations is cancer.

THE CONSERVATION OF WOMANLY FORCES.

"Tuberculosis, gout, cancer, lunacy, epilepsy, and every species of neurosis are, despite our enormous advances in sanitary knowledge and our immensely improved conditions, increasing to an alarming extent. There are many factors in this health deterioration, but the great and universal remedy, pending the removal of these factors, is wholly and absolutely the conservation of womanly forces. The woman whose physical completeness precludes her from spending all her energies in muscular or mental effort stores these for her children. In this our day, when men are compelled by the demands of life to strain their powers to the utmost, this quality of conservation and the scope allowed to it are most inestimable factors in human development—factors we are doing our rash best to eliminate. Moreover this reserve fund it is woman's duty to set aside for the race is the subtle and evolving power which makes the charm of her presence, and is the secret of her moral influence.

AN ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

THE following is the draft address to be presented by the Bhagulpur Landholder's Association to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor on his expected visit to Bhagulpur:—

We, the President, Vice-Presidents and members of the Committee of the Bhagalpur Landholders' Association, on behalf of ourselves and the other members of the Association and as representing the Zemindars and Landholders of this Division, beg most respectfully to offer Your Honor our loyal and hearty welcome on the occasion of your first visit to the head-quarters of the Division.

Your Honor's wide sympathy with the feelings and sentiments of the people of this country, shown by your wise and sympathetic measures relating to the plague in Calcutta, has endeared you to the people as a wise, far-seeing and sympathetic ruler, and we hope and trust that the period of your rule will be an epoch in the administration of this large Province, singularly remarkable for wise and benevolent measures which will permanently secure for you a place in the hearts of the people.

We have learnt with deep concern that it is proposed to extend the Cadastral Survey and Settlement operations to this Division, and believing that the extension is uncalled for, unnecessary and injurious to the landed classes we beg to be allowed to represent that before the said Survey and Settlement have been extended to and completed in all the Districts of the Patna Division and the results and consequences thereof fully known, it will be premature to extend the said operations to other parts of this Province unless required by the people themselves. The expense of the Survey and Settlement operations as payable to Government, including what is not payable to it, will fall heavily upon the people, and the maintenance of the Record in subsequent years will cause much strain, expense, and trouble to them, and both combined, will far out weigh any beneficial results that may be expected from the extension of the said operations to this Division. Further, there is no fixity of holdings in many parts of this Division, ryots frequently change, land which in one year is cultivated becomes barren or sandy in the next year or in two or three years, and the Kosi and the Ganges rivers inundate and diluviate lands by shifting their courses or by discharging their waters by new branches through tracts which were wholly free from their devastations. The Survey and the Settlement of lands so situated and the enforcement of the maintenance of the Record of Rights in respect thereof are unnecessary, unprofitable and highly undesirable.

We beg to be permitted to call Your Honor's attention to another matter in which the Zemindars of this Province are interested. It is the incidence of the Dak Cess which, as time advances and the Imperial Postal System more develops, should year by year lessen rather than increase. At present the Dak Cess is levied from all estates which pay to Government a certain minimum amount of revenue. Previous to the enactment of Act VIII. of 1862 (B. C.), only particular estates through which the Zemindari Daks passed were liable to maintain them. We hope Your Honor will be able to lighten the burden imposed on the Zemindars on account of this Cess. Another matter in connection with the imposition of this Cess which is a source of grievance is that the opening of separate accounts under Act XI of 1859 or the Bengal Land Registration Act VII of 1876 is not recognized and Zemindars are not freed from liability to payment of the Cess if they pay it in proportion to the Government revenue assessed on their interests in the estate in accordance with the separate account opened. There is no reason why a different principle should be adopted as regards the realization of the Dak Cess from what obtains regarding the realization of the Road and Public Works Cesses. In respect of the latter Cesses separate accounts opened for payment of Government Revenue are acted on and given effect to, and separate accounts are accordingly opened for payment of the said Cesses.

We highly value the privilege which has been conferred on the people of electing their representatives to the local Legislative Council. According to the rotation previously laid down, it will be the turn of the municipalities of this Division to recommend a member for a seat in the Bengal Council on the retirement of the Honorable Member for Chittagong. We hope and trust that this Division will not be deprived of its turn, more especially as since the privilege has been granted, this Division has not been fortunate enough to have a member in the Council as recommended by the representatives of the people, though the appointment of the President of this Association has a member of it, when a tie took place at the election in this Division in the year 1895, was doubtless gratifying to us.

The construction of the Hajipur-Katihar railway line which traverses through parts of the districts of Monghyr, Bhagalpur and Purneah will open a wide tract of land for railway traffic and we feel grateful to the Government for it, but we believe that if sufficient and necessary water ways be not provided for the railway line will impede drainage, cause injury to the landholders and ryots by reason of the land remaining too moist or under water at the time of cultivation of the cold weather crops and be a source of disease among the people residing near it. Although the attention of the Government has already been invited to this subject by the late Commissioner of this Division and a conference was held in his office, we are not aware how far the railway authorities in charge of the project will give effect to the actual demands for water ways.

In approaching Your Honor with this tribute of welcome, we have been actuated not only by a sense of duty but also by feelings of pleasure, as your advent to this place has afforded us an opportunity of paying our respect personally to a Governor of your established reputation and of wide sympathies for the people.

With a sincere and heartfelt wish that Your Honor and Lady Woodburn may have long life and prosperity.

AN attempt has been made to wreck a passenger train between Timmanchorla and Guntakul junction on the Madras Railway. The driver, observing an obstruction on the line, stopped the train about 50 yards before it. The obstruction was a large stone. The matter has been reported to the police.

THE *Daily Post* of Bangalore learns that the Mysore Durbar has resolved to undertake the Sivansamudram Electric Project in which the Convery falls are to be utilized for generating the native power, and has directed Captain A. T. de Lotbinere R. E., Deputy Chief Engineer, to proceed to England, to fully investigate the matter with the assistance of experts there and to place orders for machinery and equipment in the hands of competent persons. The Sivansamudram Electric Project was first suggested by the late Mr. Thomas Inmann, who, however, was not fortunate enough to command the confidence of the Durbar, though he was strongly supported by some of those who were in its confidence in matrers relating to speculation and enterprise. But Mysore has now a Chief Engineer who is determined to see things himself and judge them by their merits independent of all personal considerations. The idea of deputing Captain Lotbinere for a full investigation of the project may be welcomed by all, though, of course, there is sure to be some difference of opinion on the question if the Durbar should work it up utilizing public funds therefor. If the investigations show that the project is a workable one, e dare say it will have sufficient attraction for foreign capital.

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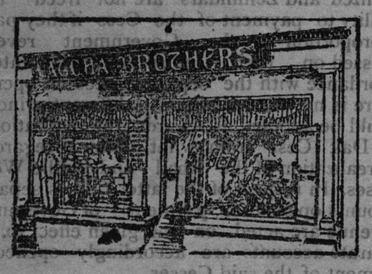

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I have used yonr "Kuntaline" oil. It is very efficacious for strengthening the hair, promoting its growth and preventing wading off and premature grayness. I have derived much satisfaction from its good perfume.

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