REG 59

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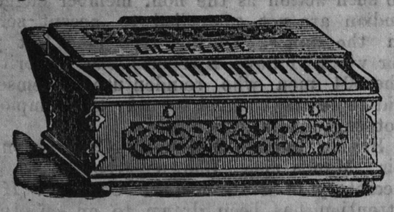

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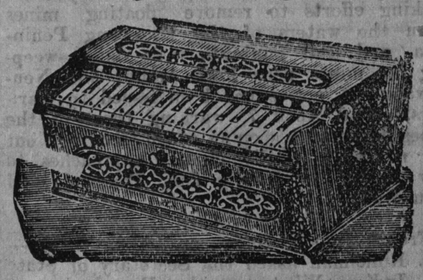

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I just received to-day all the silver utensils in sets from your mohorir. The polish and the making of the article is excellent and well approved. As you made for me in the past various golden ornaments of value, I can honestly recommend you to other gentlemen. In fact your dealings with me for the last 16 years have won my full confidence in your business, I shall send you some more orders very soon.

Ranaghat
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(Sd.) Dina Nath Mukherjee,
Dy. Magistrate, Rajshahi,

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

Dated 4-2-90. (Sd). Nil Kant Majumder, Professor, Presidency College.

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Price per Bottle one Rupee only.

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It is a novel and charming preparation composed of the finest Genuine Musk, Otto of Roses, and some other new and valuable Aromatics and Spices for imparting a rich and delicious taste to the Betel. A few grains of this Powder taken with the betel will wonderfully improve its taste and flavour. Betel user will find it a necessity and a luxury indeed,

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Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

EXPLORATION OF UNKNOWN LANDS.

(Special for the "Patrika.")

The explorers who go out in quest of unknown lands and seas are surely estimable men, for they hazard their lives for the benefit of the whole human race. According to western ideas such men are lauded up and diefied for opening up to the gaze of the civilized world fresh fields and pastures new. But are the results of their labours always productive of unalloyed good? If Columbus had not discovered America there would not have been any need of anxiety on the part of the present European trespassers in the continent on account of the approaching wholesale extermination of such a fine specimen of God's creation as the Red Indians. The same is the case with the original inhabitants of the Andaman Islands, and the same is probably the case with the natives of once famous and idolized Ind. Many of our readers are aware that not more than ten years have passed since it was first decided at the International Geographical Congress in London to explore the last great continent of the earth, the South Polar Zone, by means of international collaboration. Since then though several private expeditions had been dispatched for the purpose of exploring the unknown regions south of the Tierra del Fuego it was not until the year 1901 that England, Germany and Sweden actually started on this enterprise undertaking to investigate different tracts in the South Polar regions. With the exception of the German expedition none of the explorers was able to return home according to the previously chalked out plans. The English explorers, it will be remembered, were "frozen up" and obliged to remain in the Antarctic regions for a year more. The Swedish contingent shared the same fate and lost their vessel.

Though within the last few years some most important volumes have been published dealing with recent expeditions to the Poles some more time is likely to elapse before the scientific results duly classified and edited can be given to the world. An ordinary reader however is likely to peruse the publications with thrilling interest as they speak of the mysterious lands and waters at the utmost end of the earth. We shall quote below a short passage from the recently published volume of Dr. Nordenskjold showing not only the grand and awe-inspiring character of the description of natural sceneries but also proving that explorations of unknown lands are not productive of unalloyed good.

The scene was King George's Island, the first point of destination in the Antarctic regions. Green water and glittering white iceberg, with a back-ground of a snow-bound shore—that was the first impression:

"All our thoughts, all our attention was directed towards the colossal shining mass which slowly ross out of the ocean before us, and soon filled the whole horizon. It was the most wonderful picture my eyes had ever beheld. . . . The whole of the large island forms a wild mountainous country, with sharp peaks. Anywhere at all in the Arctic regions the most striking contrasts and the most changing scenery would be visible, but here everything is buried beneath ice and snow—ice which creeps from along the hill-crests and the lower valleys up to the highest points without leaving a single spot free from snow, and which grows and grows to an immense, continuous covering, so that the land stands out to the view as one glittering vault of ice. It is but in a few places—the most precipitous—that the dark rocks look through. And a most peculiar contrast to this unbroken mass of ice is formed by a few small, stone-free rocky islets, broken, pointed, bizarre of form. Towards the sea the land is bounded by a high, perpendicular, gleaming wall of ice."

Next day, when landing, the explorers found that what from the sea had seemed to be a dead wilderness of ice was a coast "swarming with life." Seals and penguins in unnumbered multitudes had their somewhat overcrowded colonies on the rocks. The fear of man was not yet in these guileless creatures, and Dr. Nordenskjold and his comrades were not animated by the spirit which causes in men the desire to "kill something" as a mere pastime. Wherefore both seals and birds suffered from the presence of man no sooner than it was necessary to kill them for food.

Bharat Vaisajyanilaya.

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SUPERINTENDING PHYSICIAN:

Kaviraj Keshab Lal Roy.

All sorts of Sastric MEDICINES, GHRITAS, OILS etc., are always in stock.

People, stricken down by diseases, will be good though to write to us, with full description of their ailments, and prescriptions from competent Kabirajes of this firm will be sent to them free.

Letters should enclose a half-anna postage stamp Apply for our Catalogue.

The Editor of the Amrita Bazar Patrika writes:—

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

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

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

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

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

Babu Madhu Sudhan De, Retired Jailor, writes:—

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

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

"My grand daughter had been suffering from chronic [illegible] attended with fever and other complic[illegible] some of the eminent physicians [illegible] I placed her under the treatment [illegible]B LAL ROY, who, I am glad to [illegible] a very short time. The case [illegible] has convinced me that Ayur[illegible]roperly" prepared, are most

[illegible]ANAGER,
[illegible]LCUTTA.

BURDWAN NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Burdwan, April 28.

THE ONDAL GANG.

It is a great relief to see that almost all the leading members of the notorious Ondal gang, who proved a veritable pest for eight long years to the good people of Ondal and the neighbouring villages by reason of their audacious lawlessness, have now been punished according to law by the able Sub-divisional Officer of Ranigunj, Mr. E. H. Peterson. The District authorities of Burdwan did very well to depute Babu Bepin Behary Guha, a very capable and experienced Head Constable to keep a strict watch over the dangerous Ondal gang, for, it was through his instrumentality that the offenders have at last been brought to book. Your readers may remember that some of the leading members of this notorious gang finding him to be a serious obstacle in the way of carrying on their nefarious trade quite unmolested, had wrecked terrible vengeance on him by beating him twice within an ace of his life. In the first case of the said Head Constable's which had occurred on the 2nd of November last, three persons named Mukunda Bagdi Thaka Bagdi and Bhim Bagdi, were convicted of the offences of being members of an unlawful assembly and of assault under sections 147 and 353 I. P. C. and each of them was sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for four months and to pay a fine of Rs. 25 in default, to suffer imprisonment for one month more. The case was concluded on the 27th March last. In his second case which had taken place on the 21st January last, four offenders named Thaka, Bhagu Bagdi, Upendra Goala and Makhan Goala were convicted of three offences, two under sections 147 and 149 I. P. C. for which each of them was sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for two years and one under section 325 I. P. C. which secured each of them rigorous imprisonment for two years more and also muleted him to a fine of Rs. 50, in default, imprisonment for three months more. These sentences would include solitary confinement for two months and run concurrently. Each of the accused was also ordered to execute a personal recognizance bond of Rs. 100 and to furnish one surety of Rs. 50, for good behaviour and keeping the peace for three years under section 106 Cr. P. C. This case was concluded on the 20th instant. In the Behary Chowkidar's case of which the occurrence had taken place on the 19th February last, and which was also concluded in the same court of the Sub-divisional Officer of Ranigunj on the 20th instant, six offenders, namely, Thaka, Bhagu, Mukunda, Makhan, Upendra and Baroda Bouri, were convicted of the offence of being members of an unlawful assembly under section 147 I. P. C. and sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for six months each, including solitary confinement for one month. Further, Mukunda Goala and Baroda Bagdi were ordered to execute a bond of Rs. 100 and also to furnish a surety of Rs. 50 for good behaviour and to keep the peace for three years under section 106 Cr. P. C. In another case brought by Babu Behary Bagdi in which he charged Bhagu Bagdi and Upendra Goala under section 447 I. P. C. with the offence of being members of an unlawful assembly on the 21st of January last, the accused were convicted and sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for six weeks each, on the 31st of March last by the same Sub-divisional officer.

It now remains for us to see what reward the authorities think fit to award to Babu Bepin Behary Guha for his excellent services in connection with the notorious and dangerous Ondal gang. We have ample faith in the sense of justice of Mr. J. V. Ryan, the present Distcirt Superintendent of Police, Burdwan.

THE EARTHQUAKE.

EFFECTS IN KASHMIR.

From a most interesting paper sent to us by Mr. A. Mitra, Meteorological Reporter of the Kashmir State, on the Earthquake of the 4th instant, we make the following extract:

Kashmir is situated in the Middle Mountain Zone of the Kashmir Himalayas which is characterized by the want of the same correspondence between the directions of the ridges and the strike of the beds as there is in the Outer Hills in which lies the town of Jummoo. It is held that the glaciers of the Kashmir Himalayas were formerly of vastly greater proportion than at present and they existed at levels where there are none now. Large accumulations of gneissic boulders derived from glacial regions of Kag-nag are found in the Jhelum Valley between Uri and Baramula. In the valley of Kashmir itself Drew found glacier-mud. This region has been pronounced by Count Bellore as the least stable of the North Western Himalayas, from a seismic point of view, for, in his opinion, the Himalayan chains here have not yet done rising.

The old tradition, that at one time the Valley of Kashmir was completely occupied by a large lake, is confirmed by the observations of modern geologists which lake, some believe, might have reached a level of nearly 2,000 feet above the present level of the Valley. The existing lakes are only remnants of the old. The soil of the lower plain of Kashmir is loam or clay, the surface of which has been formed by deposits of river alluvium. In the lakes now existing lacustrine deposits are still being made. The "Kharewas" or plateaus are formed of beds of clay or sand. The following, according to Drew is the geological formation of the "Kharewas" at Peri near Islamabad.

Coarse drab or brown sand mixed with pebbles	20 feet.
Fine soft brown sand	3 "
Hard fine grained sand	15 "
Blue sandy clay	5 "
Fine soft sand	5 "
Coarse sand as in the uppermost stratum.....	2 "

Similar beds lie all through a section of 250 feet.

In some parts of the Valley are found hills of palæozoic limestone showing phenomena which distinctly connect them with the old lake. Beds of conglomerate, of rounded pebbles of limestone and sand and calcareous mud are evident. These pebble beds are supposed to have been a single beach, formed at the foot of a limestone cliff which encircled the lake. Fresh water shells have also been found in the beds. The flat tops of the Kharewas are considered to have formed the original surface of the deposits. Some strata consisting of beds of conglomerate, sand and loam, with which are mixed many species of land and fresh water shells, with plants and minute fish scales are found in many places between Haripore and the Baramulla. The Pir Panjal mountains are chiefly of igneous or volcanic origin. The hills on the South-eastern and South-western parts of the valley are composed of grey-coloured compact limestone, containing here and there marine fossils with belemnites and small shells. Harmukh is composed of granite, but elsewhere this stone is rarely met with. All round the Valley are found Amygdaloidal traps of submarine volcanic origin.

In palæozoit and also in eocene times volcanic agencies were, no doubt, actively at work in the Kashmir Himalayas. That volcanic action is still not fully subsided in these regions is evidenced by greater frequency of earthquakes and also by the prevalence of thermal springs.

The ruins of Martund, Avantipore etc. no doubt show the effects of earthquakes. The ruins of Avantipore, on the hillside, clearly shows the existence of a large and prosperous city at that place in the past, destroyed most probably by earthquakes.

Severe earthquakes are recorded in the years 1552, 1669 1780 and 1828. The great earthquake of 30th May 1885 will however long be remembered as a great catastrophe which visited Kashmir within recent times.

At three o'clock on that morning a violent shaking of the houses was felt which lasted for several seconds. In this short time several houses in Srinagar fell, killing some 200 people; the barracks in the cantonment came down, burying many soldiers and some 60 cavalry horses. The Place at Sher Ghari was seriously injured and general consternation prevailed. The area of the shock, as far as the Valley of Kashmir was concerned, was from Srinagore to Baramulla, the centre being at the latter place. At the village of [illegible]ura, in the low hills 10 mi[illegible]outh of Baramulla, large [illegible] occurred; and at Pattan [illegible]y between Srinagar and Baramulla, [illegible] temple in ruins was nearly destroyed. [illegible]was a large fissure on the ground near [illegible]. At Sopore, the town was nearly destroyed, and at Baramulla similar destruction was caused. The number of deaths were 3,390, of which 2,700 occurred between Sopore and Baramulla. Besides this loss of life, more than 6,000 houses and huts were destroyed, and large numbers of sheep and cattle killed, the lower part of the houses being used by the cattle at night. The shocks, which commenced on the 30th May, were followed in the first hour after the first great shock, by 6 severe shocks, followed by 19 more, making 25 shocks in 37 hours, and for some days afterwards they continued at the rate of 3 or 4 every 24 hours. T[illegible] gradually became less frequent, but [illegible] occasionally severe, and with less fre[illegible] took [illegible]s

[illegible] co[illegible]
(2)[illegible]
work. The [illegible]
in the case [illegible]
separate clock which actuates the whole instrument at a given second are fixed inside and at the back of the clock. The coils on the separate clock are for stopping this clock at the moment of commencement of vibration, this clock first actuating the coils and the clock attached to the iron plate.

There are 3 pens, one giving vertical shocks from whatever direction the wave comes another being placed at right angles also records all horizontal movements of the earth.

It may be mentioned that Milne's Horizontal Pendulum is a different instrument. It recorded the Assam earthquake in the Isle of Wight, though Professor Symons wrote to us that if there had been one at Cherapoonji or Calcutta it might not have.

Milne himself wrote "Milne would tell Kashmir what is taking place in distant countries even at their antipodes. It is for unfelt rather than for felt disturbances."

We wanted the felt disturbances to be recorded hence ordered Casella's modification under the advice of Sir John Eliot from whom I obtained much help in its selection.

(1). The clock in connection with our Seismograph automatically stopped at 6-10 a. m. showing that to have been the exact time when the first vibration occurred in Srinagar.

A pendulum clock in the Hospital also stopped at that time. This clock was keeping the same time as the mid-day gun which is fired according to the Madras Timing received at the Telegraph office.

(2). The vibration commenced from East and travelled to West with an oscillation of ¼-inch, then two violent oscillations of 2½ inches, then followed eight short tremors, followed by two of 1½ and 2¾ inches, then again small irregular vibrations of the needle six times, followed by 2 sharp shocks of 1¾ and 1½ inches. After this, gentle tremor lasting for 57 seconds with 20 vibrations of the needle. After this again a continuous long oscillation for 119 seconds the lightest oscillation recording 4½ inches.

(3). The whole period was 3 minutes 50 seconds.

(4). Direction East to West, (Not West to East as was at first supposed.)

There was no vertical movement.

(5). It willl be seen that this earthquake in point of duration was the same as one recorded on the 6th October 1902. The direction was different ad intensity much less.

CONCLUSIONS.

It appears that the earthquake of the 4th originated in a place East of Kashmir probably South East from which focal activity it traversed the outer Himalyan ranges where it was very active, gradually penetrating the Middle Mountains with slightly diminished force till the wave path reached Gilgit on the West, with much more diminished intensity. It is not clear whether it reached Kashmir direct from the South or through the Middle Mountain ranges transmitted in an Easternly direction. There appears to have been no angle of emergence in the Kashmir Himalayas which was within the isoseismic circle, but beyond the Meizo seismic area.

In Kashmir the last earthquake, in which the Valley or its near neighbourhood was the epicentrum, was on the 30th May 1885, in the subsequent ones including the last earthquake of the 4th April, Kashmir fell on the wave path of shocks of which other places chiefly the Outer Mountain ranges of the Himalayas were the epicentrum.

India In Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Friday, April 7.

The Earthquake in India.—In reply to Mr. Herbert Roberts, Mr. Brodrick said he had no information with reference to the earthquake in India beyond that contained in the Viceroy's telegram which was published in the morning's newspapers. He had telegraphed to the Viceroy for further information. He would communicate to the press any further information that might be obtained. All possible efforts with regard to relief would be used by the Indian Government.

Monday, April 10.

The Earthquake in India.—In answer to Mr. Disraeli and Sir M. Bhownaggree, who asked as to the number of casualties caused by the recent earthquakes and landslides in India,

Mr. Brodrick gave the House similar information to that conveyed to the House of Lords by the Marquess of Bath.

The Treatment of Native Races.—Mr. J. O'Kelly asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether, having regard to the recent allegations with reference to the ill-treatment of native races in Australia, in India, in Nigeria, in South Africa, as well as in the Philippines, and in French, German, Congo State, Portuguese territories, and elsewhere, his Majesty's Government will take steps to secure the appointment of an International Commission to inquire into all these matters, and to bring forward recommendations to alleviate the condition of the native races generally.

Mr. Balfour: In answer to the hon. gentleman, I have to say I do not think anything would be gained by entering into diplomatic negotiations with other Powers for the purpose of assembling a conference on this subject.

The Tibetan Treaty.—Mr. Lambert asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether the Chinese Ambassador has expressed adhesion to the Tibetan treaty; if not, whether any modifications have been suggested, and what portion of Tibet is now occupied by British troops.

Mr. Brodrick: I have as yet received no report from the Government of India on the negotiations which are proceeding with the Chinese Plenipotentiary on the subject of the adhesion of China to the Tibetan treaty. The only part of Tibet occupied by British troops is Chumbi, where two and a-half companies of native infantry are stationed. The British trade agent at Gyangtse has an escort of 50 men.

Floating Mines in Chinese Waters.—Sir Thomas Wrightson asked the Secretary to the Admiralty: If he can say how many floating mines have been recovered from Chinese waters since his last statement to the House; and what, if any, measures are being taken to prevent neutral ships from coming within the zone of danger.

Mr. Pretyman: The number of floating mines which have been recovered from Chinese waters since March 15 is not known, but on March 23 Sir Claude MacDonald telegraphed that the Japanese Navy were making efforts to remove floating mines from the waters of the Liao-tung Peninsula, and that gunboats were daily sweeping for mines near Port Arthur and Neuchwang. A notice has been issued to mariners, dated April 7, warning them of the necessity of still keeping a constant look out for mines, especially in the approaches to any part of the Kwang Tung Peninsula and Neu-chwang.

Tuesday, April 11.

French Import Duties on Indian Goods.—Mr. Runciman asked the Secretary of State for India: What are the French import duties on Indian silk goods and Indian jute goods; and what are the corresponding duties on British silk goods and British jute goods.

Mr. Brodrick: The French import duties on silk goods and on jute goods are numerous, owing to the minuteness of classification adopted in the tariff. The various duties on silk goods and jute goods the manufacture of the United Kingdom are set out in detail on pages 80-82 and 100-102 of the Parliamentary Return of Foreign Import Duties for 1904. Similar goods the produce or manufacture of India pay the same duties, except so far as the United Kingdom, in virtue of most-favoured-nation treatment, enjoys certain conventional rates which do not apply to India.

Wednesday, April 12.

The Duties on Indian Silk Goods Entering France.—Mr. Soares asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether the duties on Indian silk goods entering France are higher than the duties on similar goods from China or Japan; and whether any negotiations have taken place on the subject.

Mr. Brodrick: Silk goods of Chinese or Japanese origin, so far as they are not on the free list, are admitted into France at lower rates than are applicable to similar goods of Indian origin. The answer to the second question is in the negative.

New Indian Government Appointments.—Dr. Shipman asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he will state how many new Indian Government appointments of 5,000 rs. per annum and upwards have been created since 1892; and how many of these appointments are how held by Europeans and how many by Indians.

Mr. Brodrick: I observe that the same information was asked for by the hon. Mr. Gokhale at a meeting of the Council of the Governor-General of India on March 10, and that the Financial Member of the Council replied as follows:—"The preparation of the return asked for by the hon. Member would require a reference to Account Offices, Civil, Public Works, and Military, all over India. It would involve a very large amount of labour, and occupy several months of time. In these circumstances the Governor-General in Council does not feel justified in ordering the return to be prepared." I therefore hesitate to make so considerable a call on the Government of India.

Thursday, April 13.

Russian Import Duties on Indian Tea.—Mr. Runciman asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether the Russian import duties on Indian tea have been raised in the past few years; if so, when were they raised; whether any reason was assigned by the Russian Government for raising them; and whether any negotiations have taken place on the subject.

Earl Percy, who replied on behalf of Mr. Brodrick, said: The duties were raised in September 1903, so far as the European frontiers and Black Sea ports were concerned, but not as regards imports through Dalny and Vladivostok, through which route the trade immediately showed a considerable expansion. It was understood that the step was a protest against the action taken by his Majesty's Government to give effect to the Brussels Sugar Convention. As regards the last part of the question the answer is in the negative.

Chinese Consul for the Transvaal.—In reply to Mr. Charles Allen, Mr. Lyttelton states that a Chinese consul has been appointed in the Transvaal. His name is Liu Yu-Lin. He will reside at Johannesburg. The interests of the Chinese coolies are, and will continue to be, looked after by the superintendent of Foreign Labour and his staff as well as by the Chinese consul when he arrives.

British Indian Subjects in the Transvaal.—Mr. Runciman asked the Secretary of State for India what steps he proposes to take to protect his Majesty's British Indian subjects against the agitation now being stirred up against them by certain white traders in the Transvaal.

Mr. Lyttelton: His Majesty's Government adhere to the attitude taken up in my despatch of July 20, 1904, printed at pages 38 to 45 of (Cd. 2239).

Ill-treatment of Indian Coolies in Natal.—Sir Mancherjee Bhownaggree asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies: Whether, in view of the frequent police court proceedings arising from the alleged ill-treatment of Indian indentured coolies in the Natal coal mines, he will call for a report from the Natal Government on the subject, and suggest the holding of a public inquiry thereon.

Mr. Lyttelton: There is a protector of Indian immigrants in Natal whose duty it is to watch over their interests. I have referred to his last two annual reports, and do not find anything which would warrant to such action as the hon. member suggests. Indian are not compelled to accept service in the mines. During 1903 (the last year for which I have a report) the majority of the 504 men who reindentured themselves did so to the coal mines and other employers not engaged in agriculture.

British Indian Traders in Cape Colony.—Sir Mancherjee Bhownaggree asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies: If his attention has been drawn to an enactment by the Government of Cape Colony seeking to suppress British Indian traders by means of a clause requiring applications for trading licenses being made in a European language or in Yiddish; and whether, having regard to the fact that such requirement is calculated to deprive those traders of the rights they have hitherto possessed, he will advise the Crown to withhold assent to the enactment in question.

Mr. Lyttelton: I should be obliged if the hon. member would indicate the special enactment to which he refers.

Indian and the Liquor Law in South Africa.—Sir Mancherjee Bhownaggree asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies: If he is aware that the Liquor Law of the late South African Republic to the effect that no Negro, aboriginal, native, or coloured person may be served with alcoholic drink, has been made applicable now by the Transvaal Government to respectable and educated Eurasians and other subjects of his Majesty from India employed on the railways of the country; and whether he will represent to the Transvaal Government that such application of the prohibition is not called for, since the object of the provision in question was solely to prevent intemperance among the natives of the country and immigrants of the uneducated coolie class.

Mr. Lyttelton: Under Sections 46 and 48 of the Liquor Licensing Ordinance passed by the Transvaal Legislature in October 1902 no coloured person may be supplied with intoxicating liquor (Cd. 1365), and under Section I (c) of Ordinance No. 68 of 1903 a railway employe's liquor license authorities a sale of liquor only to white male persons of the age of 16 years and upwards who are employed on the construction of any railway works in the Transvaal. It is admitted that the liquor legislation of the Transvaal has had a salutary effect, but I will bring the point raised by the hon. member to the notice of the officer administering the Government and ask for a report. Provision has been made under Proclamation No. 35 of 1901, printed at 42 of Cd. 904, for exempting coloured persons of education from special legislation affecting natives and coloured persons generally.

Appointments to Judicial Offices in India.—Mr. Hemphill asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he can state in how many instances appointments to judicial and other legal offices in India have been, since January 1, 1902, made of candidates from home; and in how many of those instances the appointees have been members of the English, Scotch, and Irish Bars respectively.

Mr. Brodrick: Three such appointments of candidates from home have been made since the date mentioned—two to judgeships of Indian High Courts, and one to the post of legal member of the Governor-General's Council. Of the three gentlemen appointed two have been members of the English and one of the Irish Bar.

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THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, MAY 4, 1905.

THE BRIGHT SIDE OF THE COMMISSIONERS' CIRCULAR.

LAST summer when all the Commissioners of Divisions met and sat in secret conclave at Darjeeling the public was led to suspect that they must have been engaged in some work which did not bode good to them, or else why should they hold their sittings within closed doors? The newspapers gave vent to this popular suspicion and the only reply which the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to vouchsafe was the denunciation of his critics. In his speech at the St. Andrew's Dinner Sir Andrew Fraser enumerated the ways in which he was sought to be annoyed by the Bengalee Press, and referring to the observations of the latter in regard to the conference of the Commissioners at Darjeeling—a procedure which had never been adopted by any of the previous Lieutenant-Governors—he complained:—

"I send for the principal officers of the Province and gather them round me to discuss questions affecting the conduct of Government business; and I am at once stated to be holding "secret conferences," and to be devising measures against the public interest. Surely it is only wise for the head of a large establishment of any kind sometimes to discuss with the most experienced of his co-adjutors the methods of conducting business."

Now it is on two grounds that the public objected to this conference of Commissioners. First, it was an innovation which meant waste of public money; for, if the Lieutenant-Governor wanted to discuss any question with the Commissioners, he might have easily done it in Calcutta. Secondly, the secret manner in which the proceedings were carried on at the meetings of the Conference, was bound to create suspicion in the minds of the public. The Lieutenant-Governor is not quite correct when he says that purely official routine business was discussed at the Conference. On the other hand, the publication of at least two official papers shows that questions affecting the public interest were discussed, and decided in a way wholly detrimental to the welfare of the people. One is the proposal to dismember the district of Midnapur, and the other is the revolutionary circular in regard to which we would say a few words to-day.

Now see the beautiful way in which the Conference was conducted. All the Divisional Commissioners, under the presidentship of a sympathetic Lieutenant-Governor, sat together to devise means by which they could augment their own powers. Other experienced officers or heads of departments, who had interest in the matter, were allowed no access to these deliberations. Fortunately for the members of the Conference, two judicial officers were found to have gone up to Darjeeling at the time for a change. They were practically executive officers, though wearing judicial garb, and were thus agreeable people. They were caught hold of and utilised, that is to say, invited to witness the proceedings of the Conference, of course only as visitors.

The Commissioners next proposed that they should be regarded as the Heads of their respective Divisions, and that both the District Magistrates and the District Judges should obey their authority in all social matters. One Commissioner moved the proposition, another seconded it, and the rest supported it, and the resolution was unanimously carried. And thus we read in the **Circular that "they (the** Conference) were unanimously of opinion that the Commissioner's position, responsibility and authority ought to be maintained, and that in social matters he must be looked upon as the Head of the Division."

The Circular only does not mention the fact that, this "unanimity of opinion" was confined to the Commissioners only, who, being interested parties, were utterly incompetent to pass any impartial opinion on the subject. It is true there were present the two Judicial officers alluded to above; but they were only visitors and could take no part in the proceedings; though the Commissioners, of course, gave out that they were in sympathy with the proposition. And what if hey were? They did not represent the Judicial Department. The Lieutenant-Governor gladly acquiesced in this arrangement; for, it would only help to enhance the dignity of his position, if the Commissioners, whose Chief he was, were constituted the "civil government" of their respective Divisions. Subsequently the Chief Justice was also led to accept the views of the Commissioners; but we shall to-day confine ourselves only to that portion of the Circular which refers to the relation between the Divisional Commissioner and the District Magistrates, and not between the former and the District Judges.

Well, the Circular states that there are many cases affecting the District Magistrates, in which the authority of the Commissioner may be usefully exercised. They are cases in which, we are told, 'the interference of the Lieutenant-Governor is to be deprecated, until it is found that the Commissioner's authority is ignored, questioned, or defied." And the following examples of such cases are cited in the Circular:—

(1) "Cases of personal misconduct."—This may be illustrated by reference to drinking or gambling whereby a man may be ruining himself, proving a source of annoyance and offence to his brother officers and others, and impairing his efficiency as a public servant. It may be also illustrated by graver cases of immorality, contrary to the recognised interests of the service, and constituting a public scandal.

(2) "Cases of undesirable relations between officers."—These may be illustrated by quarrels that lead to friction, discourteous action, and disregard of the interests of other Departments. The duty of co-operation and friendliness between officers should be insisted upon.

(3) "Cases of improper treatment of the people."—This may be illustrated by the discourtesy shown habitually, though often thoughtlessly, by some officers towards Indian gentleman visiting them, and harsh, passionate and ungentlemanly treatment of subordinates and others. It may also be illustrated by the pernicious habit a few officers have of constantly borrowing carriages, horses etc., belonging to wealthy Indians with whom they have official dealings. The very occasional borrowing of such articles temporarily and on an emergency is reasonable. But habitually to be under obligation of this kind, so as practically to appropriate another's property, is unseemly. These are illustrations of cases which may call for the Commissioner's interference. If his interference is resented, and his advice rejected, he should report to the Lieutenant-Governor; and I am to assure you that he will receive the most cordial support.

It is very good of the Lieutenant-Governor to admit the fact, to which the Press has often drawn attention, that there are Magistartes who misconduct themselves by taking to drinking or gambling or resorting to even grosser forms of immorality. His Honour's admission, namely, that there are District Officers who habitually ill-treat their subordinates or show discourtesy to Indian gentlemen, is equally gratifying, though this is no news to the people. There are others again, says the Circular, who use frequently the horses, carriages and elephants of Zemindars. This is also a well-known fact. There are two other kinds of objectionable practices very much prevalent among many Magistrates, which ought to have been prominently noticed by the Lieutenant-Governor. One is the habit of receiving valuable 'dalees" or presents. And the other is the practice of raising subscriptions from well-to-do people in the name of some work of public utility. The latter practice, in fact, is a terrible engine in the hands of the Magistrates, nay sometimes in those of higher officers also, of harassing the zemindars, who are oftentimes driven to run into debts to please the authorities disposed in this way. This practice is a great scandal and ought to be put down with a strong hand.

The Commissioner will no doubt do considerable public service if, by his interference, he can correct a Magistrate whose conduct, in his opinion, is creating or is likely to create a scandal. But, it seems, the other side of the question did not occur to the author or the authors of the Circular. The Lieutenant-Governor promises that if any Magistrate resents the interference of the Commissioner, he will most cordially support the latter. This is, however, an exceedingly rash promise. It will be impossible for His Honour to carry out his promise in all cases. A Commissioner is but an overgrown Magistrate. Oftentimes the subordinate Magistrate is a superior person to his Commissioner. The Commissioner, besides, is not himself an infallible angel. He has his foibles passions and prejudices. Suppose he takes his opportunity of maliciously persecuting a subordinate Magistrate. The latter will naturally resent. Will the Lieutenant-Governor then support the Commissioner because he is Commissioner?

A Commissioner reports against a Magistrate, and the latter appeals to the Lieutenant-Governor for protection, declaring that he has been unjustly and maliciously dealt with by his superior. He furnishes abundant proofs in support of his contention. The Lieutenant-Governor will then be bound to inquire into the case. If he finds that the Magistrate has been unjustly dealt with the Lieutenant-Governor will have no option but to side with him and not the Commissioner. If he does not, the Magistrate will get the sympathy of all his brother officers, and His Honour will eventually have to yield. That the Magistrates now and then resent the interference of the Commissioner is absolutely certain and the Government is aware of it, or else it would never have offered its support to the Commissioner.

So, you see, the Circular, even in its bright side, is fraught with mischief. It will only create friction where none exists now. It will bring discord where harmony prevails. The Commissioner will naturally think, that, as the Head of his Division, it is his duty to control the District Magistrates with a rod in hand. The latter, hitherto as independent as the Commissioner himself, will naturally consider this attitude on the part of the Commissioner as an insult to their position. In this way, the happy relation now existing between the Commissioner and the District Magistrate will be disturbed.

As for the Lieutenant-Governor, he is already over-whelmed with work; and, will, by this Circular, only create a disagreeable duty for himself which, at times, will make him lose his sleep and appetite. In short, he will be constantly drawn into these, let us call, social squabbles among the members of his own service, and, be obliged now and then to meddle with dirty matters. We must say, however, that this part of the Circular affects the members of the Civil Service much more than the people. It is the other part of the document, in which the District Judges have been subordinated to the Commissioners, which is the real plague-spot. Of that hereafter.

THE CARLYLE CIRCULAR CONFERRING NEW AUTHORITY UPON THE COMMISSIONERS.

THE reader is aware that the Carlyle Circular is divided into two parts. In the first the District Magistrates, and in the second, the District Judges are dealt with. It is a cleverly-written document, and a superficial observer is not likely to grasp the real drift of the measure. Nay, he is led to think that at least the first part of the Circular is calculated to benefit the public. Examining it more carefully one, however, discovers many features in it which are far from being pleasant. To him it will appear very clearly that the tendency of the whole Circular is three-fold: (1) to augment the authority of the Divisional Commissioners; (2) to reform such Magistrates as create social scandals; and (3) to convert the District Judges into the Deputies of the Commissioners.

The first benefits the Commissioners; the second the District Magistrates; and the third lowers the position of the District Judges. With reference to the first two, the public have thus very little concern; as regards the third, as the District Judges oftentimes protect the public from executive high-handedness, so if they were brought under the control of the highest executive authority in the Division, that would mean a public calamity.

We must admit, however, that the people have greater confidence in the Commissioner than in the Magistrate; and any increase of power of the former over the latter would be welcomed by them, if it were exercised in their behalf when they have a real grievance against the Magistrate. But the Circular authorises the Commissioner to meddle only with social squables or scandals among the district authorities, and not with matters which relate to the protection of the public.

As a matter of fact, the Government does not pretend that the Circular has been brought into existence for the benefit of the public. There is not a single word in the document to show that it is meant for others than the members of the service. The position seems to be this. The Magistrate misconducts himself. This constitutes a public scandal. Not only does the offending officer thereby ruin himself but bring disgrace upon the service. What is more, the Indian press comments upon it and the position of the Government itself is sought to be lowered. It is therefore in the interest of the service and the Government that these scandals should be privately disposed of by the Commissioner.

The public has thus very little to do with the reform which the Circular contemplates to effect. On the other hand, it would serve their interests better if these scandals were brought to light. For, as it is on the assumption that the members of the Civil Service are "heaven-born" and incapable of committing unworthy acts, that they are invested with powers and responsibilities which even angels would tremble to accept, so, if it is found that they are no better than ordinary mortals, then the fiction at once explodes, and their claims to excessive powers fall to the ground. It is thus purely for the benefit of the Civil Service that the reform of the Magistrates through the Divisional Commissioner is contemplated.

And what a commentary it is on "the best and noblest service in the world" that some of its members gamble, drink, nay, wallow in the mire of "graver cases of immorality"; that they fight amongst themselves and tear each other maliciously, and prove a source of offence to their brother officers! All this is admitted in the Circular. Now, when the "noblest" service has been depicted in this wise by the Government, and when it is so anxious to reform it, why should it lose its temper if the shortcomings of its members are brought to its notice by the Indian papers? The press by disclosing official misdeeds only carries out the object of the Government, which is to reform the officers, and thus deserves thanks and not resentment. We think, it is quite possible for the press and the Government to act in concert with regard to this matter.

From the examples of cases, enumerated in the Circular, one can clearly see that it is purely social, and not official matters, in which the officers, and not the public, are concerned, that will fall within the scope of the Commissioner. Three classes of cases are mentioned. We have already alluded to the first, namely, cases in which the Magistrates are found to gamble, drink, or do worse. Cases in the second class are those in which the officers of one department quarrel with those of the other and behave discourteously with one another. The public have no concern with these two classes of cases. The improper treatment of the people, which falls in the third class, is the only matter in which the people may derive some benefit by the Circular.

But then, when a Magistrate accords an ungentlemanly treatment to an Indian visitor of his, he harms himself as well as the service and the Government much more than his victim. So, even in this matter also, the people have very little concern. That the Government suffers much when a Magistrate treats an Indian gentleman rudely is quite plain from the embarrassing position in which Sir Andrew Fraser finds himself with regard to the doings of Mr. Carey. Indeed, we wonder how the Government will extricate itself from the awkward situation which has been created for it by the alleged discourteous conduct of Mr. Carey towards Babu Peary Mohan Roy, who has formally made a complaint to the Lieutenant-Governor and into which a semi-public enquiry has been made. It will thus be seen that it is the service and the Government, and not the general public which are interested in the Circular.

Then again, special attention has been drawn by the Circular to scandals which are created by "the pernicious habit which few officers have of constantly borrowing carriages, horses etc., belonging to wealthy Indians." Now this habit of borrowing, horses, etc., is not confined to Magistrates only. The Commissioners, the Lieutenant-Governor and even the Viceroy is not free from it. We all know how a number of elephants were borrowed from the Zemindars of East Bengal during the shooting excursion of Lord Curzon in the district of Backergunj, and how some of these animals were said to have died or been disabled. We also know how notices were sent by the Magistrate of Faridpore to many a Zemindar for carriages when Sir Andrew Fraser visited that place in the rainy season. And, hence evidently, is the saving clause in the Circular, namely, "the very occasional borrowing of such articles temporarily and on an emergency is reasonable."

But what if a valuable animal, say an elephant or a horse, dies or is disabled? Is any compensation paid to its owner? To be consistent, it should have been provided that no official, even the highest, should borrow any article from an Indian gentleman; but if he is obliged to do so on an emergency, it should be on the distinct understanding that he would give proper compensation if the article is lost or injured. It is however only a handful of wealthy men who can afford to keep elephants, horses or carriages; the general public have, therefore, nothing to do with this kind of grievance.

To return to the main point in the first part of the Circular. Its object, as we said, is not to benefit the general public but to hush up social scandals, created by the District Magistrates, through the authority of the Commissioner. It would have, however, benefited the people if the Commissioner had power to meddle with other kinds of scandals in which the people are directly and vitally interested. For instance, if the people need help on any occasion, it is when a Magistrate commits gross illegalities, or display passion or vindictiveness, or backs the police in defiance of law and procedure. But the Circular does not empower the Commissioner to interfere in these matters at all, as they are not social but official. So far as the public are concerned, the authority conferred on the Commissioner to control the Magistrates is thus not of the slightest use to them. So much for the first part of the Circular. But when it is considered that the result of the other part of the Circular is the subordination of the District Judges to the executive, it cannot be regarded in any other light than a measure which is fraught with dire and unmitigated mischief.

THE CARLYLE CIRCULAR II.

IT will take some time for the public to comprehend fully the real significance of the document. It begins well, and this is likely to mislead the superficial observer. But the real sting is at the end. The first part of the Circular presents apparently a pleasant feature. The Commissioners are sedate and experienced officers, and the Magistrates young and giddy. These Commissioners are to control the vices of the Magistrates. Such an arrangement must be beneficial to the public. That is the idea which will occur to many minds when going through the opening paragraphs in the Circular.

But there are vices and vices. If an officer is addicted to gambling, the public has nothing to do with his pernicious habit. If, on the other hand, a Magistrate is disposed to carry things with a high hand, trampling law, procedure and decency under foot, he becomes a serious danger to the people of his district. The Commissioners have been empowered to control the Magistrates when they gamble, but the Circular gives them no power to meddle with officers who are tyrannical and oppressive. If the Magistrate tries to ruin himself by hard drinking the Commissioner can come to his rescue; but he is utterly powerless to come to the rescue of a ryot if the latter is sought to be ruined by a Magistrate. And, hence, the authority, conferred on the Commissioners by the Circular, will not benefit the people, but only the members of the service.

Let us enumerate the complaints that the people have against the Magistrates, who are not good. They interfere with the judicial independence of their subordinates. They side with the police against the people. They show a passion for conviction. They betray vindictiveness by pursuing an accused pitilessly. They commit gross illegalities and act in a most arbitrary manner. They use the official powers they possess to serve their private interests. These and several others are the standing grievances of the people against the Magistrates who are unsympathetic and unfriendly. The Circular confers absolutely no power upon the Commissioner to protect the public from these evils.

We shall now cite some concrete examples to illustrate the position described above. Here is a case to show how people are persecuted relentlessly by some Magistrates. Bibhuti Sekhar was a clerk of Mr. Carey, Magistrate of Moorshidabad. He was suspected of having taken illegal gratification in connection with certain official matters. And the Magistrate at once set in motion the whole machinery of the Government to crush the man. In this way, ten criminal cases were instituted against him in succession, all of which broke down, except one in which the man was convicted. Yes, he was convicted in one case, but he was acquitted in nine others. Besides, is it possible for a man, however innocent, to escape unscathed from Government prosecution, considering the way criminal justice is administered here, if ten cases were instituted against him?

The attitude and the proceedings of the Magistrate necessarily created a great public scandal. If the Circular had authorized the Commissioner to stay the hands of the Magistrate when he created this sort of terrorism, it would have been welcomed by the people. But the Commissioner must not poke his nose into such cases—that is the distinct direction in the Circular, but he is entitled to chastise an officer who drinks, gambles or commits a grosser act of immorality. What is it, however, to the general public if a Magistrate, instead of a decorous, leads an immoral, life?

Take then the case of Mr. Shout, a European Dy. Magistrate of Hooghly. A greater scandal than this cannot be conceived. Indeed, here a subordinate Magistrate put an innocent man into immense trouble, apparently to serve his own interest. Yet the Commissioner, who was close at hand, could not stop him. The facts will bear repitition. Mr. Shout was transferred from Dumka to Hooghly. At Dumka tailors are cheap and he employed one, a Moorai Sonthal, to do his household work. He brought the man with him to Hooghly where tailors were very dear. He was thus very much interested in keeping the Dumka tailor in his service.

In February last the tailor went home on leave in consequence of his father's illness and Mr. Shout gave him an advance of Rs. 3 on account of his pay as also a small Durree on which he sat down to work. This Durree was valued at Rs. 2 by Mr. Shout himself. Now tailors being very costly at Hooghly, Mr. Shout was not disposed to engage a local man; so he wrote to the Dumka tailor to come back and resume his work. The man did not reply or return to Hooghly. And Mr. Shout at once charged him under section 381 I. P. C. for theft in respect of the Durree, and under section 417 I. P. C. for cheating in respect of the pay advanced! Be it noted here that Mr. Shout discovered the theft of this Durree only when the man did not come back in spite of his repeated letters! The man of course denied the theft and said it was given to him as "bukshees."

The Joint Magistrate before whom Mr. Shout made the complaint not only entertained it, but did more. He issued a warrant against the tailor at the instance of Mr. Shout, and the man was arrested and brought down to Hooghly from his native village. He was put on his trial, but, on the day of the hearing of the case, Mr. Shout wanted to withdraw it, saying that he had been satisfied with the man's explanation, that he was detained on account of his father's illness and his subsequent death, and that he had no criminal intention. So the case, though non-compoundable, was allowed to be compounded, and the tailor went back to his late master's service.

After serving under his master for a day or two, the tailor left Hooghly and returned home without taking leave. And what did Mr. Shout do? He immediately instituted another criminal case against the man on the same facts! That is to say, the tailor was again charged with theft and cheating, though he was acquitted of the offence by a court of justice, and though Mr. Shout himself had admitted that the man had no criminal intention! So the man was a second time charged with theft and cheating by Mr. Shout, though the latter knew that he was innocent! As before, a second warrant was also secured, which was sent out to the native village of the man for his arrest.

In the meantime, the tailor suddenly turned up at Hooghly and came to the house of Mr. Shout. As soon as he had done it, the District Superintendent of Police, who lived close by Mr. Shout, was informed of it, and the latter came and arrested the tailor, quite against the provisions of the law. The man was sent to hajut (lock-up,) apparently, because, he could not give security for his appearance at the trial. This was Mr. Shout's opportunity; for he proposed, and the man readily agreed, to execute a bond in his favour, agreeing to serve under him for one year. Having thus got what he wanted, Mr. Shout again withdrew the case against the tailor on the ground that he had no witness to substantiate his charge!

When the good Commissioner of Burdwan, Mr. Walsh, heard of this scandal he, under the notion that the Carlyle Circular empowered him to meddle with it, sought to nip it in the bud, by asking Mr. Shout not to proceed with the case, but, under the advice of the Government pleader, who apparently carried the instruction of the District Magistrate, whose subordinate he is, the Deputy Magistrate declined to act up to the suggestion of the Commissioner. The latter thus felt himself quite helpless in the matter. Possibly he will now have to report the matter to the Lieutenant-Governor. This case shows conclusively that the Commissioner is quite powerless to control a District Magistrate, even a Deputy, when the latter creates a scandal in which the people are interested. Those who think that the first part of the Circular will be in any way beneficial to the public should, therefore, see that they labour under a delusion The poison at the end of the Circular is a virulent one. Indeed, it is there that the public interest has been sacrificed in a ruthless manner. We shall discuss this part of the Circular hereafter.

SOMETIME ago, a shooting "accident," resulting in the death of a "native" beater happened in Thar and Parkar (Sind). Here is the official account of the affair just published:—

"About 2 months ago Mr. Griffith, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Thar and Parkar, was shooting in the Jungle near the Jamrao Canal headworks. Mr. Griffith fired at some pig and missed, but the bullet ricochetted and hit one of the beaters, a shurr by caste, in the leg. The man was about 200 yards off and out of sight when Mr. Griffith fired. The man was at once sent off by boat to the nearest dispensary at Sanghar and put under medical treatment. After progressing favourably for some time the case recently took a worse turn and the man died on the 28th ultimo. The Commissioner is satisfied that the affair was a pure accident which could not have been foreseen, and that afterwards everything possible was done by Mr. Griffith for the wounded man."

Of course it is a pure accident, for it is not possible for one human being to shoot another when there was no feeling of enmity between them; but there is no doubt that Mr. Griffith was very careless. As he was handling a deadly weapon, and the beaters were in the vicinity he should have never fired unless he was absolutely sure that there was no human being in the direction of the pig. If he had taken this ordinary care, a poor "native" would not have lost his life in this sad way. It is in India only that English sportsmen fire at a pig or a bear, and a man or a woman is hit, and the matter ends there! When the shots of Mr. Griffith are so erratic that, when fired, they find their way into the body of a man instead of hitting the game, one is justified to infer that he does not know how to handle a gun. He should, therefore, be disarmed to prevent future mischief. By the bye, has Mr. Griffith made any pecuniary compensation to the family of the deceased?

A WAVE of patriotic enthusiasm recently passed through the district of Mymensingh, which has no doubt fertilized the soil of the district. The effect of its Conference will remain in the public mind for some time, but it is bound to evaporate in time. To prevent this the Conference Committee have provided to maintain one or more paid agents who will not permit the people of the district to forget what they owe to their country. The mischief is, the masses do not know that they have their rights, and the higher classes of landholders are under the impression that they cannot carry on political agitation without offending the authorities. That they have no right to entertain such a notion is proved by the Mymensingh Conference itself, in which all the Zamindars took part, directly or indirectly, without incurring any official displeasure. Let the people combine and continue to assert their rights and privileges; and constituted as the British Government is, they are sure to get gradually all they want. But hitherto no attempt in this direction has been made in an earnest and determined manner. Mymensingh has, however, only pointed out the way, but it has yet much to do. It must appoint its agents, depute them into the interior, and commence real work without further loss of time. Let not our friends in Mymensingh think that having brought about a successful Conference they have got the privilege of sleeping all the year round. Then let Barisal follow the example of Mymensingh, and arrange for educating the masses. Half a dozen other districts of Bengal may also be educated in politics, industry, agriculture and sanitation through the agency system. In this way it is quite feasible to gather tens of thousands of men in various parts of the country, and through them ask the authorities to redress their grievances. And it will not be possible for the Government to refuse a demand, if it is sent out by such a mass of human beings. It is said that political agitation has failed in this country. But what we say is, that it has never been properly tried. How the district agents can render themselves useful, we shall show in a future issue.

We have already published the letter of Mr. Sly, Inspector General of Agriculture to all Provincial Directors, suggesting to them to start the experiment of the inoculation of the soil with nitrogen-fixing bacteria. We are told that full information about the new system of enriching the soil is given in Bulletin No. 71, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, "Soil Inoculation for Iegumes." As the Bulletin is not generally available, the following particulars on the subject furnished to us by our American correspondent may prove interesting and instructive to our readers:

"The United States Department of Agriculture is, as I have already informed you, manufacturing artificial bacteria for the restoration of worn out or depleted soils which are being sent out generally to farmers. Package, which is labelled Package No. 2 contains dried culture of the bacteria adopted to red clover. This form of artificially prepared bacteria has given most important results in the effects produced in soils and in the marked increase in the crops produced."

A paper on this subject will be found in another column.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

ANGLO-INDAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

London, April 14.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK.

"Hast thou not felt
The whole high scheme in which we move and melt
With the swift world—that its last secret is
Not Good, nor Immortality,
But Beauty—once to behold the immensities
Filled with one soul, then to make room and die?
Hence the true faith:—to the uttermost to be
Thyself—to follow up that ecstasy
Compelling—to let being take its course,
Rise like a song, and like a dream be free."

—HERBERT TRENCH, on Tolstoi, in the "Independent."

MR. C. J. O'DONNELL'S TRUMPET BLAST.

Before an audience of South London working men—with a sprinkling of women and children—at the Liberal and Radical Association of North Lambeth, Mr. C. J. O'Donnell gave on Tuesday last his forcible lecture on Famines and Taxation in India. Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji presided, and supported the lecturer in his strictures against the enormous burden of taxation which the people of India have to bear. Mr. O'Donnell stands as the Liberal candidate for Walworth, and one of the working men who spoke after the lecture declared that everyone in the room hoped that the two gentlemen on the platform—Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Dadabhai—would be sent to Westminster at the coming general election to represent Indian as well as British interests. Mr. O'Donnell's statement of the case against the crushing taxation of the Indian people appealed very strongly to his hearers. His facts were clear and forcible. "You know what landlordism is in England," he said, "and you also know that you must keep your eye upon it! Well, you must understand that the Government is landlord in India and ought to have an eye kept on it, too!" He told of the old system in vogue in India by which the harvest value was assessed and the Government claimed one-fifth of its value. The payment was also taken in kind, and cultivators and rulers suffered or prospered together according to the bad or good years. Now a fixed amount is settled, payment is only accepted in money, and the Government claim has gone up to 60 per cent. and higher. The request of some dozen retired civil servants, Sir W. Wedderburn, Sir John Jardine, Sir Richard Garth among the number, was that the Government demand should not exceed 50 per cent. The lecturer quoted from Mr. Herbert Compton's recent book the words: 'His masters (referring to the Indian cultivator) have been ever unjust to him; he is ground down till everything is expressed out of him except the marrow of his bones." To prove his statements with regard to the burden of taxation in India Mr. O'Donnell quoted such authorities as Sir William Hunter, Sir Richard Temple, Sir Ashley Eden, Sir Stewart Bayley, Dr. Grierson, Sir George Wingate, the "Pioneer," and others who testified to the extreme poverty due to the revenue demand. He insisted that the recent famines in India were money, not food, famines, and impressed the fact on his hearers. The lecturer declared that British rule had done much good in India, but it was at too great a price; monstrous taxation was necessary to keep up the expensive administration.

Mr. Naoroji explained that in olden times invaders of India went off with booty, but the British Government drains away every year £30,000,000 of wealth, and the people have no chance to live decently. Questions were asked after the lecture with regard to excess of exports over imports, the famine insurance fund, granaries of former days, and other matters which showed how keen an interest had been taken in the lecture.

THE HAPPY BALFOUR-CHAMBERLAIN FAMILY.

Once again, according to speeches, resolutions, and decisions of Tariff Reformers, Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain are marching hand in hand, supporting each other, and neither of them Protectionists. The situation is frankly amusing, but it is also significant. And the great fact that emerges is that Mr. Chamberlain knows that he is beaten. He is, however, making "sacrifices;" he will support the Prime Minister in his policy without wavering; he will not urge the limits of his "raging, tearing" propaganda; there is no hurry; he thought the Empire would be disintegrated unless his policy were at once put into action but really after all, why hustle? His champion hustler, Mr. C. Arthur Pearson, retired from his chairmanship of the Tariff Reform League some time ago. Can it be that Mr. Chamberlain finds it impossible to hustle without Mr. Pearson's active co-operation? 'Chamberlain had a bad cause; England is bound up in Free Trade; he knows that his policy will not be accepted." These are the words of a Liberal candidate for a London constituency, who regards Mr. Balfour, however, as such a clever man that he is quite capable of holding on to office for another year and even of forcing the Septennial Act to its limits and retaining his position until 1907. The compact between the "missionary of the Empire" and the Prime Minister is regarded by many as having one solution, namely, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr. Chamberlain is sacrificing himself for his son, and rumour has it that the son is very glad of the salary which is attached to his exalted position. So Mr. Austen remains Chancellor of the Exchequer, and his father acclaims the Premier's policy as really the same thing as his own. How long this state of affairs will last, time will reveal. The Unionist press, while approving Mr. Chamberlain's self-sacrificing devotion, declares that the opposing wings of the Party are only agreed to act with unity because it would never do to allow the affairs of the nation to fall into the hands of the Opposition who are not to be trusted either for internal or external policy. If the next election should result in a Liberal victory, the compact, says the Unionist press, will be at an end. Therefore, although Mr. Chamberlain for the present has taken down his flag, has abandoned those points which he declared were essential to preserve the empire from imminent danger, is willing to wait even for two elections before the Colonial Conference is to pronounce authoritatively, yet, as Mr. Asquith observed the other day, it behoves Liberals and Free Traders to be on the watch, for it is only too probable that the tactics of the present Government will be to confuse the issue.

PLAIN SPEAKING FROM INDIANS TO THEIR RULERS.

Yesterday a curious sight was witnessed in London; an Indian gentleman addressed some stern remarks to British officials with regard to their neglect of the Indian vernaculars, especially of Hindustani, and the consequent want of touch with the people which results; British ex-officials, one after another, acclaimed the truth of the lecture that had been read to them; said it was deserved; and expressed the hope that the newer generation of Civilians would mend their ways in this respect. The "locale" of this phenomenon was the Caxton Hall, Westminster; its occasion, a meeting of the East India Association; the Indian speaker, Shaikh Abdul Qadir, of Lahore; the repentant British officials, Sir Lepel Griffin, Mr. C. W. Whish, Dr. Pollen and others who applauded but did not speak. Of those gentlemen mentioned it must in fairness be said that it is through their knowledge of Hindustani and other Indian languages that they have come to realise the folly of those who will not trouble to learn more of any vernacular than is required to give orders to servants.

The full report of the lecture will reach you in due course, so I need only indicate here the very able manner in which the learned Shaikh showed how Hindustani was expanding, how it could now be heard north, south, east, and west beyond the frontiers of India, how its literature, poetry, prose, and journalism, was making great progress and had a bright future before it when it would come to be regarded as worthy to rank with the best literatures of the age. The lecturer, I may explain, very much opposed the "unhealthy difference" which has arisen between Hindi and Urdu; he regretted that the one should be considered the "exclusive possession" of the Hindus and the other the "special privilege" of Moslems. The languages, for all practical purposes, he maintained, are identical, and the distinction between the two had a pernicious effect. He spoke with appreciation of the two societies that are in existence, the "Anjuman-i-Taraqqi Urdu" for multiplying books written in the Persian character, and the "Nagri Pracharini Sabha," which facilitates the publication of books in the Nagri script. There is no reason, he added, why these two bodies should not work harmoniously and avoid friction, if both will restrict themselves to their proper sphere. With co-operation they may doing valuable service in the direction of the improvement of the literary and scientific treasures of the language of Hindustan.

As to the plain speaking of the Shaikh to British administrators, I will quote a few sentences from his lecture. He began this part of his subject by a most appreciative and affectionate reference to Queen Victoria's determination to understand the language of so many of her Indian subjects, and advised that others should follow her excellent example. Leisured Englishmen, who are free to follow so many intellectual pursuits, might do well to study India, her people, and her literature. As to the official classes he remarked:

"Reflect for a moment over the idea of governing a people whose language you do not understand, whose literature you do not appreciate, and with whose sentiments you cannot sympathise. No responsible English statesman who has to do with the administration of India should be without a knowledge of the people and their language." The civilian, contended the Shaikh, requires a very thorough knowledge of Hindustani and should have a workable knowledge of a provincial dialect. He criticised the text books for official examinations as obsolete and employing an ornate style of Hindustani that is no longer used. He advocated careful selections from standard works of prose and poetry as the best means for overcoming the "sweet disregard of grammar and idiom which has become proverbial" of the Hindustani of Anglo-Indians. Here are more emphatic and just remarks:

"We often hear of the mysterious undercurrents of Indian thought which the Western rulers of the land cannot penetrate, and which the Oriental is said to carefully hide from them. But the key to that mystery lies before the Western rulers in the literature of the country, if they only take it up and try it."

"Instead of reading the periodical literature through the translations of their subordinates, who have it in their power to suppress whatever they like and set forth whatever they desire, let the officials be able to read it in the original, and they will find themselves immensely well informed on matters that now escape their notice."

"Whenever they hear of a book that has stirred the very soul of the people, let them take hold of it and read it, and try to find out the secret of its strength. They may study some specimens of the works of popular poets, and they will know the bent of the taste of the people. With this never-failing source of information at their service nothing will remain secret, nothing impenetrable."

"The official world in India moves in one direction and the non-official mass of humanity in another."

"Matters that touch most deeply the thoughts of the people pass unheeded by the members of the ruling body, thus creating a gulf between the Government and the people which can never be bridged so long as the present indifference to vernacular literature remains."

"On the contrary it is likely to increase with the increased influence of literature which the future promises to bring with it."

"I have shown that forces both in India and outside are at work in favour of the expansion of the language of Hindustan. I may add that I regard these forces as irresistible, and believe that any efforts to the contrary, whether resulting from racial narrow-mindedness or from the occasional obliqueness to which the official vision in India is prone, may retard for a time the progress of the language, but cannot permanently stop it."

Not only was the lecturer an Indian gentleman of distinction, but he had as chairman one of the most learned Indians of our day, Syed Amir Ali. It is only occasionally that the ex-judge of the Calcutta High Court can be persuaded to leave his rural surroundings in Berkshire and appear on a public platform in London, but whenever he does so he receives a hearty welcome. He, too, emphasised the fact that the future of one of the most important languages of modern India is a factor of the administration frequently overlooked by the officials, and he hoped that facilities would be afforded for the better teaching of Hindustani both in England and in India. He, in agreement with the lecturer, opposed the transliteration of Hindustani into Roman characters. In spite of plain speaking and a frank recognition of by Anglo-Indians, of whom there were many present, of the charge of neglect of the language laid at their door, it required some courage on the part of Mr. Parmeshwar Lall to get up and say that the future of the people was the first important matter, the language would depend on the welfare of those that spoke it, and he maintained that the present form of Government did not allow a bright outlook for the future of the people.

THE AUTHOR OF THE BOER WAR: LORD MILNER.

In the current number of the "Review of Reviews" Mr. W. T. Stead writes a character sketch of Lord Milner which is of special interest, for it deals in a masterly manner with the events that led up to Britain's declaration of war against the Dutch Republics, with Lord Milner's action, with his failure and home-coming, with Lord Selborne's appointment, and with what will be expected of the new Liberal Government. A special interest attaches to the article because Mr. Stead and Lord Milner are old friends and comrades; they worked together on the "Pal Mall Gazette," and this is what the Englishman who stands for all that is just and good towards humanity says of the dictator of South Africa: "No one regards Lord Milner with greater affection and sympathy than the writer of these lines. I write of him and think of him as if he were my own brother. No one ever believed more in him than I did, or than as, in a sense, I do still. But alas! no personal affection, no intensity of conviction as to his public spirit and disinterested patriotism, can blind me to the fact that his proconsulship, no matter how magnificent his ideals, has been, from first to last, an immense Imperial disaster."

It is impossible here to do more than convey a mere outline of the exceedingly able and interesting article written by Mr. Stead, but I do not hesitate to refer to it because it is believed in certain quarters that one day Lord Milner will find himself Viceroy of India. The terrible failure he has proved in South Africa should effectively prevent him from being placed over the destinies of three hundred millions of unrepresented people in India; let us hope that such will be the case, for India does not want a Bismarckian Viceroy.

To one cause Mr. Stead attributes Lord Milner's relentless policy in South Africa, and that is that in temperament, as in birth, he is a German. His father was German, he was born in Germany, in spite of his English training, which followed after the foundations of his education had been laid in Germany, Lord Milner remains essentially German in his ideals, both social and imperial. Not in any sense of reproach does Mr. Stead assert this belief; but he conceives that the Bismarckian policy of Blood and Iron was the inspiration of Lord Milner's action in South Africa. He had not realised that the British Empire is not an empire at all in the German sense; the rights of its component parts are not fixed by strict law emanating from a paternal government. It is "the loosest conceivable association—rather than federation—of absolutely independent self-governed republics." The situation on which Lord Milner found in South Africa led him to the decision, as Bismarck might have decided, that the only means for securing peace in South Africa was to compel the Boers to disarm. That the Jameson Raid had been the cause of the arming of the Boers was not the question; he had to deal with results not causes. Mr. Stead goes on to show that the Milner policy met with serious obstacles; Mr. Chamberlain gave him no support. But Lord Milner set himself to silence the doubters, and the press, he captured Mr. Chamberlain, and got his own way. He asked for a solid front against the Boer Republics, and he got it, Parliament, Ministers, press and public gave him that combined support which he maintained would enable him to answer for peace but the result was an ultimatum and a devastating war. But, while advancing along Bismarckian lines, Lord Milner, says Mr. Stead, was without a General Moltke, that is, he took no steps to secure that adequate military provisions which were taken to support his provocative policy. He even got rid of the one man who saw the true meaning of what the Boers were doing and gauged the necessary force to cope with them. General Sir William Butler had to make room for a more complacent councillor. But after the war which he had urged on but for which he had failed to prepare, Lord Milner's record is one of failure. He attacked the Cape Constitution, but was snubbed for his meddling; the Rand magnates have used him for what he was worth without extending to him any enthusiastic support; the Boers regard him as the author of the devastation of their country, and a strong party among the English in South Africa see in him only the tool of the magnates and the partisan of Chinese labour. "The policy he championed so enthusiastically," says his candid friend, "lies in ruins at his feet. When Lord Milner arrived in Cape Town 5,000 soldiers sufficed to keep South Africa in peace; to-day 20,000 are regarded as none o many. . . ."

As to Lord Selborne, Mr. Stead considers him good enough as a stop-gap; with a Liberal Government in power he will have to be recalled; but meanwhile he observes, it will be interesting to see how he vindicates before his fellow countrymen the pledge of the British Government to make its name respected, and especially, too, the strong words he spoke recently as to the treatment of the Indians in the Transvaal—a treatment which belies the gracious proclamation of Queen Victoria.

One word more. As to the future, I quote Mr. Stead's weighty words: "If the Empire is to be saved in South Africa it will be saved by the advent of the Liberals, who, if they have any of the instinct of statesmanship left in them, will spare no effort to convince the Dutch South Africans that the new Government utterly and with a whole heart detests and abhors the infamies by which its predecessors supplied the British flag during the war!" South Africa is expecting much from the new Government; India is also awaiting liberal treatment and looks to Liberals to mete it out to her. May the Liberals prove themselves worthy representatives of their great inheritance.

FATHER GAPON'S ALLEGORY CONCERNING THE GRAND DUKE SERGIUS.

The American papers do not hesitate to deal with men and matters in a striking manner, and the "New York American" publishes what it calls a stern, yet touching allegory by Father Gapon in condemnation of the murdered Grand Duke Sergius. A picture of the Grand Duke mounting up the steps to Heaven's Gate accompanies the allegory. I give you the substance of the story for what it may be worth. Two Russian soldiers "in the far-away place where heaven meets earth," are discussing their long journey to heaven and the possibilities of admission. They are accompanied by a long procession of men who have been killed on the battlefields of Manchuria. As one who died for the Tsar, is the only plea they can offer to St. Peter to let them in. As they pass along they recognise an imperious man who demands admittance. Peter enquires his name. It is the Grand Duke Sergius. But the name is not on the list which the Guardian of the Portal carefully scans. With indignation the Grand Duke is compelled to give place to the poor soldiers who pass in before him. "When will my turn come?" asked Sergius humiliated at length before the door of Heaven. And this is the reply:

"When the last echo of the sufferings that thou hast caused thy fellow men has died away," said Peter impressively: "when all the wounds inflicted by thee upon the bodies and souls of men; when all the widows that denounce thee for robbing them of loving husbands; when all the women and girls that thou didst cause to be knouted have lived down and forgotten the wrong thou didst them; when every tear shed on account of thy crimes is dried and turned into a rose; when men, women, and children no longer go about shuddering at the name of Serge, then the Lord, in His infinite grace and kindness, will set thy name upon my lists, then thou wilt be permitted to enter the hall of glory; not before."

SCRAPS.

The death of Raja Jai Kissen Das, C.S.I., removes a prominent figure in the United Provinces from the stage of the world's affairs. He was for many years the foremost member of the Subordinate Executive Service of the U. P. His loyal services to the Government were conspicuous and were rewarded, not only by the titles conferred upon him but by substantial grants of land. After his retirement he took a keen interest in education questions, and was a most active member of the local University Senate, of the Board of Trustees of the Agra and Aligarh Collegts, and of the Managing Committee of the local MacDonnell Hindu Boarding house. But the bulwork of his life perhaps was Dayananda Saraswati. The utilitarian tendencies and activities of the Raja gave India Dayananda, who lived the life of solitary wandering on the banks of the Ganges mainly through his influence.

The current number of the "Indian Sociologist" publishes the names of the successful candidates for the Indian Travelling fellowships founded by Pundit Shyamaji Krishna Varma: they are as follows:—

"The Herbert Spencer Indian Fellowship" is awarded to Abdullah Al-Mamun Suravardy, M.A., First Class; Gold Medalist (Calcutta), and M.A., (London.)

"The Swami Dayananda Saraswati Fellowship" is awarded to Sarat Chandra Mukerji, M. A. (First Class; Gold Medallist, Calcutta), formerly on the staff of the Dayananda Anglo-Vedic College, Lahore.

"The Richard Congreve Indian Fellowship is awarded to Parmeshwar Lall, M. A. (Calcutta).

The names of the successful candidates for the other two Special Fellowships are:—Syed Abdul Majid, B.A. (Calcutta), and B.A. (Cantab). Shaikh Abdul Aziz, B.A. (Punjab), and Fellow of the Punjab University.

What pleases us most in this connection is that though the founder of the Fellowships is a Hindu, yet three of the beneficiaries are Mahomedan youths. This unmistakeably shows that the enlightened and patriotic Indian of to-day is far above to stop to recognise any distinction between the two races. And this indeed a happy sign of the time; for racial differences and sectarian jealousies have been the ruin of India and the sooner we get rid of them the better.

Pundit Shyamaji Krishna Varma has undoubtedly done a commendable act and deserves thanks of his countrymen for founding the Richard Congreve Indian Fellowship in honour of the memory of the famous scholar and friend of India. In view of the persecutions and the pecuniary loss Dr. Congreve suffered after the publication of his work on India, it is but meet and proper that India should try to commemorate the memory of the late Dr. Congreve and the establishment of this Fellowship is most opportune. It is nothing but the truth that "those who had the courage to take the first steps towards justice to India ought not to be forgotten" and that it "behoves all on whose behalf such sacrifices have been made to recognise the claims to gratitude such philanthropic services demand. The Fellowship is to be awarded to an Indian graduate of not less than five years' standing.

Babu Shyama Charan Ganguly has issued an ably-written Note on some points in the Government Resolution No. 658, dated the 7th February 1905, on the establishment of Rural Primary schools in Bengal. The writer while admits that the remark in the Government Resolution that the "prescribed text books at present in use in lower primary schools in this Province are not written in simple language used by the people" but "are for the most part written in more or less Sanskritised language," asserts that provincial Bengali does not, at any rate, diverge more from the colloquial Calcutta Bengali than do the English dialects from literary English which is of course based on the English of London. The Bengali dialects can not be said to pass the limits of mutual intelligibility; and thus Babu Shyama Charan rightly observes that all interests will be reconciled if Bengali text-books for the primary stage be written in the current Calcutta or Central Bengali and if the well-marked local divergences, vocabular or grammatical, are given in foot-notes for the benefit of local pupils. It is certain that books written in pure and simple Bengali will be easily understood by the rural population of Bengal. The writer makes one more suggestion. He says the extension of popular education be made the occasion for the inauguration of phonetic writing for Bengali. We invite the attention of the authorities to Babu Shyama Charan's Note.

THE EARTHQUAKE.

AN OFFICIAL REPORT.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Simla, May 2

A. H. Diack, Esq, Chief Secretary to the Government of the Punjab and its depencies addressed the following letter to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Lahore 27th April 1905:—

"Before proceeding on leave Sir Charles Rivaz desires to place before the Government of India a succinet account of the measures taken up to the date of his departure to alleviate the effects of the recent disastrous earthquake in the Kangra district regarding which all the information that has been received from time to time has been reported to you by telegram. It will be impossible for some time to come to ascertain the full extent of the damage done by the earthquake for owing to the mountainous nature and the remoteness of many portions of the tract affected by it and the interruption of communications by the collapse of bridges and built-up roads. Detailed reports regarding many localities in the Kangra district have still to be awaited. It appears certain, however, that the area in which the shock was felt most severly was the portion of the Kangra valley lying between the Beas river on the South and Dhaola Dhar Mountain range on the north and between the fort of Rihlu on the West and the village of Baij Nath with its famous temples on the East. In this area were included the civil station of Dharmsala which was the head-quarters of the district and the adjoining cantonment, the town tahsil and the fort of Kangra, the small station of Palampur which was the centre of the tea industry of the valley and the headquarters of the tahsil of that name, the town and shrine of Jawalamukhi, the large and wealthy village of Magrota and Bhawarna and an immense number of small hamlets. The phenomena connected with the earthquake are now being scientifically investigated by officers of the Geological Survey of India and it will be sufficient to state here that within the area above described which may be estimated to have contained a population of about 250,000 and to be about 700 square miles in extent the sensation experienced shortly after 6 a. m. on the 4th of April appears from the descriptions given by surveyors to have been a preliminary tremour of brief duration followed immediately by first a violent shock from north to south, then an equally violent counter shock in the opposite direction and finally a third shock like a downward sinking. The instant effect in Dharmsala Kangra and Palampur was to reduce every single habitation with the rarest exceptions to a flattened heap of ruins. Most of the hamlets in the above area suffered a similar experience in a greater or less degree. The early hour found most of the population still in their houses, the majority probably asleep. A certain number felt the preliminary tremour and succeeded in effecting their escape from the falling houses before the complete collapse. A very large number were killed outright and the remainder, some wounded and some injured were buried in the ruins, until help came to extricate them. All supplies of food of all description were buried in the same way, and could only be got at by excavation. Medicines and medical appliances met with the same late and the only clothes the survivors had to wear were those in which they were clad at the moment of the earthquake. The nature of the climate in these hills necessitates the cattle and even a certain number of sheep and goats being kept under roofs and consequently in addition to the loss of human life there was very great mortality among domestic animals. It is quite impossible at present to give any accurate estimate of the number even of human lives lost. The first tendency was to exaggerate the loss for all who could not be accounted for were assumed to be dead, whereas it is now known that from Kangra town at any rate a large number fled away panic-stricken to the plains probably, however, within the area dealt with in this paragraph. Not less than 15000 souls were lost eastward of that tract Although the shock appears to have been less severe, it caused great damage both to the Upper Beas Valley which is comprised partly in the Kulu tahsil where the river rises and partly in the Mandi state to the pargana of Lahul which is north of the Kulu tahsil and contains the head water of the Chenab, and to the country between the Beas and the Sutlej including the Saraj Tahsil which is the southern portion of the Kulu sub-division, the state of Suket and the southern half of Mandi. In this large area the only towns are Mandi which is the capital of the state of the same name and Sultanpur in Kulu. In both of these large numbers of houses collapsed but the Destruction was much less complete than in Kangra or Palampur, the rough estimate of deaths being about 200 in each. Similarly in rural areas the deaths are roughly estimated at 750 in Mandi State and at a slightly higher figure in the Kulu sub-division. The mortality in cattle has probably been very great because in the higher hills in this tract the houses are generally three storied and the cattle are kept in the lowest storey. The Kangra district is connected with railway by a cart road which starting from Pathankot, the terminus of the Amritsar-pathankot Railway proceeds by Nurpur (15 miles), Kotla (28 miles) and Shahpur (40 miles) to Palampur (72 miles). About 12 miles from Shahpur it passes within 2 miles of Kangra town from Shahpur, A branch cart road 13 miles long ascends to Dharmasala. The only other cart road leading into the district is that connecting Hoshiarpur on the south with Kangra town on the north. The Road from Palampur eastward through Baij Nath to Mandi and Kulu was formerly a mule road only but had recently been made passable for carts as far as Mandi town. The main road to Kulu which is still a mule Road only leaves this cart road a stage short of Mandi and crossing by the Dulchi pass the main range forming the western boundary of the Kulu Valley descends to the village of Bajaura on the bank of the Beas in Kulu. Thence the main road through Kulu leads northwards through Sultanpur one stage distant and southwards through the Saraj Tahsil over the Jalori Pass and across the Sutlej by the Luri Bridge to Narkanda and Simla. The only remaining road that need be referred to is that which connects Mandi on the north with Suket on the south and then proceeds southward across the Sutlej towards Simla. All these roads cross numerous large streams and torrents by means of substantial bridges and in many cases

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they are built up against the hillside by massive retaining walls. The earthquake shock which was so destructive to life and property simultaneously shattered many of these bridges and retaining walls and caused landslips in places and brought down numerous rocks and boulder and consequently communications were seirously interrupted in all directions. The shock also caused much damage to the water channels called Kuhls which have been laboriously constructed by the people to bring water from the Hill torrents for the irrigation of their fields and which are in many places elaborate pieces of engineering work being carried along steep hillsides and precipices. Unless they can be repaired immedately where they have given way in such places there will be no irrigation available for the rice crop which is the staple of the Kangra valley or for the tea gardens for which the planters are dependent The telegraph officers at Dharmsala Palampur and Kangra shared in the general destruction and the line was also seriously interrupted owing to the damage done to communications. The whole of the Kangra district beyond Nurpur was therefore cut off from the telegraph on Tuesday 4th April as was also Mandi which is served by the wire connecting Palampur and Kulu. Mr. Homan District Superintendent of police at Dharmsala who had a narrow escape of his life despatched a messenger to Nurpur with a telegram as soon as he had after rescuing the survivors of his own family visited of the station and got what information he could. In his telegram he laid stress on the pressing need for medical aid, tents and food for the survivors and he also stated that Kangra town was said to have suffered Colonel Robinson of the 2/1st Gurkha rifles who was in command in Dharmsala Cantonment also despatched a messenger to Pathankot with a telegram announcing the destruction of the station and asking that assistance of every kind might be sent. These telegrams sent off from Nurpur and Pathankot on the night of the 4th were delivered at Lahore very early on the morning of the 5th. They were repeated to several addresses and thus the commander of the Jullunder Division in which the Kangra district lies also received intimation of the disaster on that morning. The Lieutenant-Governor wired to ascertain what action was being taken by the commander but meantime as it was evident that no time was to be lost decided to send aid direct from Lahore. His Honour's first impulse was to proceed to Dharmsala with the relieving party so as to see for himself what was required and to direct operations on the spot but on considerations he decided that he could do more good by directing operations from head quarters on reports received from the local officers. Sir Charles Rivaz was the more satisfied to adopt the latter course because Mr. R. E. Younghusband who had until a few days before been the Deputy Commander of the Kangra district and had a through knowledge of it was then officiating as commander of the Lahore Division and was available to start at once with a relief party the Lieutenant-Governor summoned him and the Chief Engineer and the Inspector General of Civil Hospitals to a consultation to which it was decided to despatch a special train to Pathankot as soon as far as Pathankot. It was easy to send medical officers stores and appliances and also tents and food. Information was received that Tangas could get to within five miles of Dharmsala but beyond that the state of the road was unknown and it was clear that if it was broken local labour would not be available to repair it nor would supervision be possible as the Executing Engineer was among the killed. The number of Tongas was also known to be limited and it was feared that the other means of transport available locally would not be sufficient to meet all demands. It was therefore essential to ascertain how far the military authorities could co-operate in sending relief and accordingly while arrangements were being made to deatch civil medical officers to proceed to Kangra and to collect provisions and to get for entrainment as many of the tents belonging to the Lieutenant-Governor's camp equipment as were likely to be useful. His Honor put himself in communication with the general officer commanding the Lahore Division who had himself that morning received a copy of Col. Robinson's telegram. Col. Dome, Deputy Adjutant-General acting under the orders of Major General Walter Kitchener readily and promptly arranged for the despatch of military medical officers and of nursing sisters with medical comforts and appliances and stores partly by the special train and partly by mail. He also arranged for camels and mules to be ready at Pathankot with the least possible delay and through the G. O. C. at Jullunder for the despatch thence of as many tents as might be required. Two companies of the 34th pioneers were also got in readiness to proceed from Mean Mir in order to repair the Dharmsala road. The special train far Pathankot left Lahore at 1 p.m. on April 5th. The same afternoon Mr. H. A. Anderson Commissioner of Jullunder left that station for Dharmsala after wiring to the Deputy Commissioners of neighbouring districts to send up tents and supplies and after ascertaining that General Pollock had arranged to despatch tents and an English Doctor and a Hospital Assistant. Meantime on the 4th and 5th at Dharmsala the surveyors among the European officers and the troops and police had been working nobly, first at the extrication from the debris of those still alive and later at the exhumation of the dead and disposal of the corpses. This work was completely finished within a week. The admirable behaviour of the survivors among the Gurkha regiments in the Dharmsala Cantonment, officers and men has been brought to the notice of the Government of India through another Channel but Sir Charles Rivaz would beg leave to tender his acknoledgements for the willing aid which they rendered the civil population most trying circumstances during the days succeeding the earthquake. Mr. Younghusband pushed through from Pathankote as rapidly as the road permitted accompanied by the medical officers despatched from Lahore and Mean Mir and reached Dharmsala at mid-day on the 6th. Mr. Anderson knowing that the urgent needs of the station were thus met proceeded more slowly in order to arrange for the collection of supplies from all quarters and the organisation of transport and arriving at Shahpur on the 7th established his headquarters at that place which is suitably situated for communicating with the different parts of the affected area. A branch telegraph office was opened there on the evening of the 6th. On the 7th Mr. Younghusband on receiving reliable information regarding the state of affairs at Kangra town sent Major Meheer Smith I. M. S., there with full powers as a civil and medical officer and also despatched Captain McKechnies to give medical relief at Palampur. At Lahore on the 8th as the need for more military labour became apparent the Lieutenant-Governor arranged with the general officer commanding the Lahore Divn. for the despatch of two more companies of the 34th pioneers from Mian Mir in addition to the first two companies which had started on the morning of the 7th and also for two companies of the 22nd pioneers to be sent from Ambala via Hoshiarpur to Kangra General Kitchener also on that day ordered up two companies of sappers and miners. The O. C. at Jullundur was also directed to prepare to support the civil authorities in preventing looting by sending up a squadron of native cavalry to Kangra on the same date. Orders were issued on receipt of a requisition from Mr. Younghusband for a force of 200 police to proceed at once from the neighbouring districts to Kangra. There casualties among the police had been very numerous and where besides the position was such as to demand the presence of a strong body of constables. A Superintendent of Police was also deputed with them on special duty to support District Superintendent of Police Mr Richardson who relieved Mr. Homan on the 4th. teps had already been taken to replace the officers of the civil staff of whom three out of four were killed outright at Dharmsala while the fourth the day Commissioner Mr. Waring was in camp in the south of the District. In that locality the earthquake was felt only in a small degree and it was nearly two days before news reached Mr. Waring of its terrible effects including the destruction at Kangra of his own wife and children and made him turn his steps to the scene of suffering In the restoration of telegraphic communication the officers of the department worked rigorously as usual and offices were opened at Dharmsala (Lower Kotwali Bazar) on the afternoon of the 8th at Palampur Kangra and Gopalpur on the 10th and at Dharmsala cantonment on the 12th. The first detachment of Pioneers reached Dharmsala on the 9th and immediately set to work on April 13th Ekkas were able to reach Dharmsala and on the 15th the first tonga reached the Kotwali Bazar on April 12th. The Sappers and miners commenced work on the road between Shahpur and Palampur and it has now been made practicable for light wheeled traffic and the bridge over the Buner torrent the breach of which was the most formidable interruption on this Road has been replaced by a temporary trestle bridge by the 13th April 11 gave employment for some days longer The roads north and south of that town are badly damaged and will take same time to repair the military Labour available is also being utilized for the restoration of the irrigation channels as without such assistance it would be impossible for the people to put them in working order in time for the rice planting and sowing. The total number of native ranks of the 32nd and 34th pioneers now at work in the district is 562 and the Lieutenant-Governor estimate that there will be full employment for these and for the next two months. Difficulty is still experienced in procuring labour locally and though steps have been taken to enlist gangs of coolis from outside the district it is necessary to offer them very high rates to induce them to come. The work that has to be done immediately can be best and most promptly carried out by the military labour now available on the spot and Sir Charles Rivaz is grateful to the general officers commanding the northern command and the Lahore division for their having so willingly placed it at his disposal The manner in which the pioneers and the sappers and miners have worked is beyond praise. In most of the hamlets in the affected tract work of exhuming and disposing of corpses was completed by the survivors with in a few days of the earthquake by the 9th. Temporary shops had been erected in a great many divisional commands. In many placesthe chief demand was for tents and on April 11th the Lahore divisional command kindly complied with a further indent by the civil department for 100 shouldaries. On April 12th Mr. Waceing the Deputy Commander arrived at Dharmsala after visiting a number of villages including Nadaun, Jowala Mukhi and the town of Nangra and reported that the people were every where resuming their usual avocations and that in particular the Jowala Mukhi was in full swing. Road supplies had been from the first by all means from all sowrees available from the parts of the districts which had only suffered from the neighbouring districts of Gurdaspur Kangra on the 13th. 2200 of the towns people were being fed from these supplies and the few hundred others who were there were not in want and did not accept food up till that date. Food was distributed in the villages also but the people had then succeeded in their own provisions out of the ruins and the villages were found to have enough in the way of supplies by the grain stores of Kangra town had been opened. Thanks to the continued labour both of the pioneers and of the coolies gangs and shops had begun to be constructed. The police who had helped well in the work of exhumation, now turned their attention to registering unclaimed property and placing it in safe custody throughout the whole country side. Sheds and huts were being constructed with the aid of timber bamboos and slates from the fallen houses and of grass thatching from the forests at Dharmsala. The treasury was opened for regular work on the 18th and salvage operation in respect of government offices and private houses were then well advanced coolies having been enlisted for the purpose. Huts were being erected in Palampur, the treasury was opened on the 15th and by the 19th all public offices there and even the high school were working as usual. The more recent reports show that every where in the affected tract the peoples are settling down to their ordinary pursuits and doing their best to help themselves and that there is no acute distress. Sympathy has been shown to the sufferers by native gentlemen of means both within the district and from without who distributed food and clothes freely and organised private relief parties by which praiseworthy work was done in particular. Raja Narindra Chand of Nadaun gave noble assistance as soon as he heard of the earthquake which was not felt severely in his part of the district to Kulu. Food is being distributed gratuitousiy to the needly from subscriptions collected locally supplemented by Government aid and shops have been opened. The work done by the medicall officers cannot be spoken of too highly. The medical officers who accompanied Mr. Younghusband both the officers in civil employ deputed by the Inspector General of Civil Hospital and the officers sent by the Lahore command cooperated indefatigably to get up their stores and appliances to Dharamsala, and they had everything in working order there early on the 7th. On the day as already noted. Two of the civil medical officer was sent from Dharmsala one to Kangra and the other to Palampur on the 10th merical relief centres being established in Dharmsala civil and in the cantonment and in Palampur Kangra and Jowala Mukhi from the south Dr. Dutta Civil Surgeon of Hoshiarpur on the 8th started from that station with four hospital assistants and with medical stores he arrived at Jowala Mukhi on the 9th and on his assistants coming up set them to in the villages searching for patients and offering help. Welcome assistance was given by a mission medical stall in the Kangra tahsil and also by the Arya Samaj by the 12th. The sanitary commander Lieutenant Colbamber and the Deputy Sanitary Commander Captain Barvey were touring in the affected area on the 13th. A military assistant surgeon was placed at the disposal of the civil authorities. Itinerating work in the villages round Shahpur where a tent hospital was erected by the 19th the hospitals were in full work of which 11 were temporary and 5 were old hosptals re-established as communications between this part of this district and the Kulu Subdivision were interrupted. It was decided to arrange to send medical relief to Kulu and Mandi by despatching an asstt. Surgeon and hospital assistant with stores from Simla direct to Suket where they are believed to have arrived on the 15th and in addition a section of a field hospital kindly lent by the northern command from Ambala via Kalka and later on the 18th when the road from Baijnath to Kulu was reported to have become practicable. Lieutenant McKain of the 34th pioneers with a hospital assistant and a party of pioneers was despatched by the commander by that route and he arrived in Kulu on the 25th inst. from the latest reports received from the Kangra Valley it appears that although the wounded were at first inclined to hold back from treatment and adopt their own remidies the people are more ready now to accept the ministrations of our medical officers for themselves and their families and in Kangra a women's hospital has been opened The injuries sustained have generally been only a contusions bruises abrations and minor scalp wounds with some cases of fracture though only a few of these are serious compound fractures Sir Charles Rivaz has in the preceding paragraphs expressed his approbation of the excellent work done by the military medical telegraphs and police departments and Mr. Younghusband's quick relief of Dharmsala has also been noticed His Honour desires also to acknowledge his indebtedness to Mr. Henry Anderson C.S.I., Commander of Jullundur for his energy in bringing up and distributing supplies and relief of all kinds and for reorganizing the District administration which had been paralyzed for the time by the untimely death by the earthquake of the District Judge Mr. Loxton. The two assistant commanders Messrs. Levi and Young and the Executive Engineer at Dharmsala and the Tasildar and Naib Tasildar Ram Das and Nazir Hussain at Kangra Captain Obr'en officiating Deputy Commander Mr. L. Richardson District Superintendent of Police and the young officers sent up to take the place of those deceased and also to carry on the work of relief and reorganization have performed their duties with indefatigable zeal and energy. The above is a sketch of the steps that have been taken to relieve the immediate necessities of the population of the affected tracts in the Kangra district. It remains to state what the Lieutenant-Governor thinks could be done to put heart in them or rather to help them to maintain the fine spirit they have shown the face of the grevious calamity that has befallen them. Having now visited Dharmsala Kangra and Palampur and had an opportunity of discussing the situation with the local officers and the people Sir Charles Rivaz has come to the conclusion that the following measures are necessary: First, the first and most pressing want is that the irrigation channels which have been seriously damaged throughout the Kangra and Palampur Tahsils should be repaired and put in proper working order and as has been noted above a commencement has been made with this work by the employment of military labour upon at the heavy mortality due to the earthquake has The number of workers available among the people who in any case could not possibly by pursuing their ordinary methods of repairing the channels hope to have them in order in the limited time remaining before the season and his honour is thoroughly convinced of the necessity of carrying out this measure of relief at the expense of Government. Secondly in all the villages which have been seriously affected by the earthquake a total remission should be given of the Rabi instalment of land revenue which falls due in June so that the people may be able to enjoy the harvest now on the ground free of tax. In villages which have suffered but not seriously the commissioner should be empowered to remit such portion of the Rabi instalment as he may consider suitable Thirdly, the towns and villages which have been severely affected, by the earthquake no income-tax should belevied during the current year. Fourthly take advance should be given liberally for the purchase of cattle to replace these which have been destroyed by the fall of buildings in the earthquake such advances should be free of interest and the terms of repayment should be generous the first instalment being deferred till the kharif harvest of 1906. A lakh of rupees will be placed at the disposal of the commander of Jullundur immediately for this purpose from the [illegible]ion which have been made for takavi for the province in the budget for the current year. Fifthly, the rules of the forest settlement should be relaxed so as to permit of the people being able to obtain from the forests wood and other meterials for constructing for themselves proper shelter against the rains which may be expected to commence early in July and also to graze their cattle in areas that would not otherwise be open to grazing but should be thrown open now for a few weeks because the stores of last years hay on which the owners of stock ordinarily rely have been buried in the ruined villages arrangements should also be made later on for the supply of timber to agriculture it at convenient centres either free of Payment or at favourable rates for rebuilding destroyed houses. This report is necessarily incomplete as the plan of action sketched in the last paragraph has still to be carried into effect and supplementary measures may also have to be adopted. The important question of the future location of the Head-quarters of the district which have been established for the present summer at Nurpur must be destermined deliberately after the geologist's reports on the earthquake has been received and all the arguments in favour of and against rebuilding Dharmsala have baen considered. The bill has to be made out of the financial law caused to Government by the destruction of public buildings and communications and by thecost of the relief measures already taken and now in contemplation. But the stage which has now been reached when the first shock of the calamity is over and the immediate wants of the sufferers have been met and the circumstances of the district can therefore be examined thoroughly in detail by the officer on the spot, is one at which progress may conveniently be reported aparat from its being the time when Sir Charles Rivaz hands over temporarily the administration of the Province to Sir Denzil Ibbetson and this preliminary report is therefore submitted for the information of the Government of India."

THE UNIFIED STAMP.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Allahabad, May 2.

The introduction of the unified stamp for postal and revenue purposes will shortly take place in accordance with the official announcement made during the Budget discussion.

HEAVY TAX IN TURKISTAN.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Allahabad, May 2.

News which has been received through Kabul states that the Russians have imposed a house tax in Turkistan at a rate equivalent in Indian money to twelve annas per house. The financial pressure on account of war seems thus to have been felt even in Central Asia.

TRANSMISSION OF WEATHER REPORTS BY WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Allahabad, May 2.

Arrangements have been made for daily transmission by wireless telegraphy of weather reports from Port Blair and the Slipper Island to the north of Andamans. Readings from Port Blair will appear at once in daily weather reports published at Simla Calcutta, Madras and those from the Slipper Island as soon as the Observatory there has been completed. This arrangement especially during monsoon season will enable warnings to be given well in advance of cyclonic storms in the Bay of Bengal.

THE AMIR'S PROCLAMATION.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Allahabad, May 2.

The Amir of Kabul has issued a proclamation to all his Governors of provinces notifying that the British Mission has returned to India and thanking all the officers who were concerned in the arrangements for its return journey. His Highness at the same time has directed that his subjects generally should be informed that the interests of Afghanistan were safeguarded during the negotiations at Kabul and that conclusions arrived at were on the lines laid down by the late Amir for regulating their relations with the British Government.

LORD KITCHENER.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Simla, May 1.

Lord Kitchener, accompanied by his Military Secretary, Colonel Hubert Hamilton, and Captain Wylly, A.-D.-C., has arrived at Simla.

WARSAW FIGHTING.

RETURN OF MAHARAJA SURJA KANT.

(From a Correspondent.)

Mymensing, May 2.

Maharaja Surja Kant and party returned from shooting, he being frequently indisposed. The shoot was not so successful as desired. The party bagged six tigers, four leopards, ten buffaloes and twenty-two pairs of sumbher and swamp deer horns.

THE MAIL FORECAST.

Bombay, May 1.

The "Peninsular" with the Outward mails is expected at 9 a.m. on Friday.

THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT.

Lahore, May 1.

The headquarters offices of the Government of the Punjab will close at Lahore on Wednesday, 10th May, and re-open at Simla on Monday, 15th May.

Mr. Holland, Director of Geological Survey, has arrived at Lahore to confer with the Punjab Government about the earthquake and also regarding the future of Dharmsala and Kangra. A preliminary report on the earthquake from the Punjab Government is already in the hands of the Government of India.

Rainfall during the week was general, and heavy in parts of Bengal Proper. Agricultural operations are being pushed on. Prospects generally good. Cattle-disease is reported from 8 districts. Fodder and water are sufficient. The price of common rice has an upward tendency, but there is nothing abnormal in the figures.

It is not very generally known that for the last two years there has been attached to the School of Arts in Madras a department for experimental weaving, the object being to work out, if possible, improvements in the present method of weaving. Till now, the work of the department has been confined to the manufacture of Madras handkerchiefs. We learn that with skilled weavers and exceptionally good wraps, very satisfactory results have been obtained, but the average rate of production has not been much greater than with the ordinary loom. We further understand that when Mr. Chatterton was in England, he arranged with a well-known firm of textile machinery makers the details of the design of a sizing and wraping plant, the first experiment of which will be made in the Madras School of Arts.

The sacred Shatrunji Hills incident, over which the Jains are so much exercised as to hold a public meeting by way of protest is but a fresh development of the long-standing quarrel between the Pahtana State and the Jains. It originated from the circumstance that the Jains would not allow the State Sepoys to patrol the compound of their premises with shoes on, though the State insisted on doing so. The matter was taken up by the British authorities but with what result it is not known. As regards the action of the distinguished visitors, which has made the smouldering quarrel burst into flame, one must say it betrays a want of good sense on their part. They had no business to insist on entering a place with shoes on, when that was calculated to hurt the religious susceptibilities of the Jains.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE UNREST IN RUSSIA.

London, May 1.

Easter Day passed quite quietly at St. Petersburg. No reports of disorders have been received from the Provinces.

London, May 1.

The Russian toleration decree does not provide for the relaxation of anti-Jewish restrictions.

London, May 1.

The Ukase establishing the practically complete religious freedom of all creeds has been received with enthusiasm throughout Russia, and hailed as the greatest concession to Liberal thought yet granted. It is regarded as the precursor of political freedom.

A telegram from Warsaw, this afternoon, says the cavalry charged and infantry fired on May Day at a procession of workmen carrying red flags. Thirty-one were killed and fifteen wounded and taken to hospital. Others were taken to their homes. Twenty were killed and wounded in another collision.

Two men preparing a bomb at St. Petersburg lodging house were severely injured by a premature explosion.

London, May 2.

The disturbances were renewed at Warsaw at eleven last night in the suburb of Praga. The Hussars fired, killing four and wounding many. At 9-45 in the evening bomb was thrown into the military patrol in the chief street. The troops thereupon fired three volleys. The bomb killed two Cossacks and policemen, and wounded two ladies. Many were killed and wounded by the volleys, but the number is not ascertainable as the troops immediately surrounded the whole district. The crowds stoned the patrols.

At Lodz, the soldiers fired killing two and wounding a boy. Two were killed in a similar encounter with a police patrol. A bomb was thrown at a patrol at Lodz last night with no effect. The patrol fired and killed three and wounded two.

London, May 2.

A bomb exploded yesterday evening at a Police station at Minsk. A detachment of Cossacks was fired on from the crowd and replied. The number of a casualties is not known.

London, May 2.

Reuter's correspondent at Warsaw says that in the fighting yesterday the troops not only fired on the people but used the butts of rifles, their bayonets and swords, breaking heads and limbs of women and children and inflicting terrible injuries. Ten of the wounded died in hospital. The death roll is at least fifty.

The troops at Kalismi in Poland entered the Church where the congregation was singing patriotic songs. A fight ensued in which some women were killed. Warsaw was outwardly quiet to-day but the workmen are going to the factory with a view to compelling men to strike. The strikers at Lodz number 75,000.

A general strike is proclaimed in Poland and Lithuania.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, April 29.

A telegram from Washington states that the British Ambassador sails for home tomorrow and that the German and French Amgassadors follow. It is believed in diplomatic circles that they will unofficially communicate to King Edward, the Kaiser, and President Loubet Mr. Roosevelt's earnest desire to end the war at the earliest opportunity, and it is believed that the impending naval engagement, whatever the result is, will officer an opportunity for initiating peace negotiations.

London, April 29.

The "Times," in an article on Seoul, says that complete and effective control by the Japanese has been established in Korea. Japanese families are pouring into the country, and it is estimated that already sixty thousand have arrived, and there is practically an uninterrupted chain of Japanese settlements from Wusan to the Yalu. Most of the so-called foreign advisers have been succeeded by Japanese whose advice can be enforced. The worthless Korean army of nine thousand has been reduced to a Palace guard of fifteen hundred and Japanese gendarmery have replaced the Korean police. The Emperor and his corrupt court are dismayed, but still hope for Russian success.

London, April 28.

Admiral Rozhdestvensky finally left Kamranh on the evening of the 26th April with two squadrons of eight and seven vessels respectively. A fleet, presumably Niegobatoff's, was sighted last night sixty miles south of Penang, steering in the direction of Singapore. The "Juliette" has sailed from Mauritius for Saigon.—"Englishman."

London, April 30.

Reuter's correspondent at St. Petersburg wires that General Linievitch reports two Russian forces on the night of the 29th instant simultaneously attacked the Japanese near the town of Tunkhusian driving the Japanese from five consecutive positions, and occupied Tunkhusian.

London, May 1.

Reuter wires from Tsingtau that the Baltic Fleet including Niebogatoff's squadron is near Hainan.

London, May 1.

A telegram, dated Saigon to-day, say the Baltic Fleet is lying at Port Dayet and the Bay of Binhkoi forty miles north of Kamranh outside the territorial waters. The transports are still in Saigon river. The French squadron is mobilised to preserve neutrality.

The Tsingtau report about the Baltic Fleet is wholly premature.

London, May 1.

The Japanese loan announced on the 18th April is five times over subscribed.

London, May 2.

Reuter wires from Tokio that it is believed that Rozhdestvensky continues to use ports in Indo-China for coal and supplies and maintaining communication.

The newspapers again are questioning the faith of the assurances given by France. The Government is silent, but it is believed that it is preparing to renew its respresentations.

London, May 2.

Admiral Jonquieres has left Saigon on board the cruiser "Guichen" but his destination is not known.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Calcutta and Mofussial

Suit against a Prince.—At the High Court on Monday, before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sale, the case of Nilmony Banerjee vs Prince Mohamud Bakteyar Shah came on for hearing. Mr. G. D. Seal, instructed by Babu P. C. Law, appeared for the plaintiff. The defendant was unrepresented nor was he present in person. This is a suit for the recovery of Rs. 11576-15-11. The defendant borrowed Rs. 5500 from the plaintiff on three promissory notes the interest of which rose up to 6076-15-11. The present case was for the recovery of the principal and interest. His Lordship decreed the case with costs on scale 1 in favour of the plaintiff.

Murderous Assault.—Mr. R. A. N. Singh, Deputy Magistrate of Sealdah, disposed of the case in which one Moti Lal Sircar was charged with making a murderous attempt on the life of a Hindu widow, named Kheroo Bewah. The accused had been living on terms of intimacy with the complainant, and had left off visiting her. Sometime after he turned up and attempted to revive his friendship with her and on meeting with disappointment, assaulted her with a "dao," inflicting severe bodily injuries, which at one time threatened to terminate fatally. A male inmate of the house on going to her rescue was likewise assaulted by the accused. The Magistrate sentenced prisoner to 18 months' rigorous imprisonment.

Land Records and Agriculture.—The Annual Report of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, for the year 1904, records that survey and settlement operations were in progress during the year in fifteen districts belonging to eight out of the nine Divisions in Bengal. The total area included in these operations was 22,669 square miles contained in 23,038 villages. The area cadastrally surveyed during the year was 5,093 square miles, while preliminary records were written for 5,523 villages. Records were attested in 4,352 villages and finally published in 1,570 villages. The rents of 87,779 tenants were settled. The expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 8,11,511. The total area for which a record-of-rights has now been completed under the control of this Department is 35,231 square miles. Of this 2,749 square miles were completed during the year under report. Progress during the last eighteen years has averaged 1,957 square miles a year.

The Alipore Murder Case.—On Monday, at the Alipore Criminal Sessions, Inspector Ballentyne of the Alipore Thanna charged one Olided Khan, a Constable attached to the Bengal Police Reserve Force before Mr. Coxe, the Additional District and Sessions Judge, with murder. It appeared that one evening while the accused was stationed in guard of the Alipore Treasury he had a quarrel with one Shib Narain Tewarie, another Constable attached to the same Force over some money matter and in the course of which he fired at him. However he missed his aim and hit one Shaik Basir, an old man who came to draw compensation money from the Treasury and a boy who stood near. Shaik Basir died shortly after and the boy recovered with great difficulty. The accused pleaded guilty and prayed for mercy. The Judge, however, sentenced the prisoner to transportation for life.

Shocking Murder.—On Sunday night the house adjoining St. Francis Xavier's Church in Bow Bazar Street, the residence of the priests of the Church, was the scene of a shocking murder. At about 10 p. m., one of the Fathers being disturbed by loud talking downstairs, went down and warned a man who had come on a visit to the durwan not to make a noise. He had occasion to come down a second time, and he put the man out of the gate. Shortly after he heard a loud altercation, and the sound of beating. On coming down with a light he saw the durwan, a man of about 65 years of age, lying in the floor, covered with blood, his head battered and the brain protruding. Near him was seated on a bench a lame man named Fox, who is known to be quite eccentric in his ways. He was asked by the priest what he had done. He answered that the durwan had disobeyed the Father by letting his friend in again, and he therefore punished him. He had his clutch under his arm and a leaden pipe with marks of blood and particles of brain on it. The Reverend Father went off to the thana, and the Inspector and Superintendent came with him to the house. The durwan had in the meantime expired. Shortly after the Deputy Commissioner of Police arrived on the scene. All necessary enquiries were made, the body was removed to the morgue, and Fox was handcuffed and taken away to the lock-up. The coroner with a jury viewed the body on Monday afternoon, preliminary ti the inquest. This case was called on before the Chief Presidency Magistrate on Tuesday and adjourned.

A Defamation Case.—The case under Section 500 I.P.C. instituted by Mr. O. A. Byrne, Proprietor of the Tezpur Saw Mills, against his late Manager Mr. W. B. Flockhart, came on for hearing before the Deputy Commissioner of Darrang on the 17th inst. Mr. E. Keays, Bar-at-law, and Babu Mon Mohon Lahiri appeared for the prosecution and Babus Mohendra Nath Daw and Shyama Charan Moitra for the defence. The gist of the case appears to be that Mr. Flockhart, while acting as Manager of the Mills during Mr. Byrne's absence in England, surreptitiously obtained information that he owed a sum of money to a friend. He then conceived the plan of acquiring a Saw Mills on somewhat advantageous terms and made his arrangements accordingly. He (Flockhart) formed an influential syndicate composed of Mr. William Penny of Shakamato T. E., Mr. C. S. Bivar, late of Ekrajan T. E. and others and after his dismissal lost no time in getting to business. Mr. Flockhart, a few days after he left the mills, approached the individual who had lent Mr. Byrne the money. He affected to be only influenced by philanthropic motives and a desire to save the lender from loss of his "hard earned savings." By spacious arguments and misrepresentation he endeavoured to trade on the lender's fears and induce him to part with the I. O. U. The lender, however, declined to enter into the little plot and incontinently handed Mr. Flockhart's letters, which form very pretty reading, over to Mr. Byrne. These letters contain matter which form the gravamen of the charge and are highly edifying. The case has been postponed to the 20th instant.—"Times of Assam."

High Court.—May 2.

CRIMINAL BENCH.

(Before Justices Pargiter and Woodroffe.)

CASE UNDER SEC 110.

Babu Surendra Nath Ghosal moved on behalf of Murari Mohun Mukerjee who had been ordered by the Sub-divisional Magistrate of Kutwa to be bound down to keep the peace under section 110 Cr. P. Code and which order was affirmed by the District Magistrate of Burdwan on appeal. A theft having occurred in the house of Ashutosh Mukerjee of Dainhat a complaint was lodged against the petitioner with four others including two persons called Bhutnath and Nalin. The two latter were arrested and they confessed implicating the petitioner as having aided the offence. While the said proceeding was going on, a petition by a villager aided by the police was submitted before the Sub-divisional Magistrate. The petitioner was discharged in respect of the former charges and after judgment was delivered against Bhutnath and Nalin convicting both of them, the Magistrate directed the petitioner to be bound down. Subsequently the matter of Bhutnath and Nalin. came upon appeal before the Sessions Judge of Burdwan who acquitted them on the ground that the confessions were illegal and inadmissible and that there was improper identification. The evidence in the present case against the petitioner was based on the above confessions and rumours from the public which were hearsay. The allegations charged against the petitioner were that he was by general reputation a thief and a receiver of stolen property and that he is a desperate character who assaults and intimidates people on the slightest provocation.

Their Lordships issued a rule on the District Magistrate of Burdwan to show cause why the order of the Sub-divisional Officer of Kutwa bindling down the petitioner should not be set aside on the grounds (1) that the requirements of section 110 had not been complied with, (2) that the evidence had been improperly admitted, and (3) that the evidence offered for the defence in respect of some material witnesses should not have been refused.

AN APPEAL ADMITTED.

The criminal appeal of one Rona Ram a constable who was convicted of having caused grievous hurt to a cooly named Nanda with a dangerous weapon under sec. 326 I. P. C. and of committing robbery under sec. 392 I. P. C. and sentenced to 3 years' rigorous imprisonment for each of the said offences at a trial by a jury in the court of the Sessions Judge of the Assam Valley Districts came on to-day for the purpose of being admitted or otherwise before their Lordships. Babu Jadunath Kanjilal Vakeel appeared for the appellant and contended that the appeal should be admitted on the ground that there was misdirection by the Judge to the jury. The appellant with another constable was deputed by a Sub-Inspector of Police to arrest three coolies. The latter resisted, and on the scuffle that ensued the appellant Rona Ram gave a lathi blow to Nanda who died afterwards. The other two coolies ran away but they were arrested, and one of them had some money with him which he was asked to hand over to Rona Ram, who threatened the cooly not to disclose the matter. The Sub-Inspector who deputed the constables denied having authorized them to arrest the coolies, but he did not produce the command certificate. Among the misdirection, in the case the learned Vakil pointed out that there was no summing up of the evidence and the laying down of the law by the Judge to the jury. He pointed out that though the appellant was convicted under sec. 326 I. P. C., the Judge did not explain to the jury as to what amounted to an offence under that section, but simply mentioned the section to the jury. Their Lordships regarded this objection as sufficient and accordingly admitted the appeal.

PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

There were 78 cases and 71 deaths from plague in the city on Monday, the 1st instant, the total mortaliy from all causes being 117 against a quinquennial average of 79. The cases and deaths are detailed below as per Wards as follows:—Shampukur, 3 cases and 3 deaths; Coomartooly, 1 case, Burtolla, 9 and 10; Sukeas Street 9 and 6; Jorabagan 6 and 4; Jorasanko, 1 and 1; Bura Bazar, 2 and 2; Moochepara, 3 and 3; Bow-Bazar 1 and 1; Puddopookur, 5 and 5; Waterloo Street. 1 and 1; Fenwick Bazar, 2 and 2; Taltollah, 10 and 8; Collingah, 2 and 2; Entally, 2 and 3; Baniapooker, 1 and 1; Ballygunge and Tallygunge, 1 and 1; Bhowanipur, 7 and 7; Kidderpur and Ekbalpur, 5 and 4; and Watgunge and Garden Reach, 7 and 7. There were no case or death in Colootolla, Park Street, Bamon Bustee, Hastings and Alipur.

As the experiments with wireless telegraphy on the Lodge-Muirhead system which have lately been carried out between Diamond Island, Slipper Island, and Port Blair have proved successful, it is intended that the installation should be maintained as a permanent arrangement for communication with Port Blair.

Bishop Cardot, Roman Catholic Bishop of Rangoon, has communicated the fact to the "Rangoon Times" that the Missionaries murdered at Batang were Frenchmen belonging to the Society of Foreign Missions, Paris. The Missionary in charge of Batang was Father Mussat and his assistant, Father Assezat, the names of two others being unknown.

The following is the report of C. P. weather and crops:—General remarks for week ending April 25th the weather continues warm and cloudy, with slight rain in most district of the Jubbulpore, Nagpur and Chhattisgarh Divisions. The heaviest fall measuring 64 cents was received in Balaghat. Threshing and winnowing continue. Land is being prepared for autumn sowings. In Jubbulpore the outturn of mahua is slightly below normal, and Balaghat the crop has been damaged by cloudy weather. Insufficiency of fodder and water is reported from Damoh, Amraoti and Wun and of water from Chhindwara, Wardha, Nagpur and Buldana. Prices are generally steady except in Basim, where they show a tendency to rise.

Calcutta Gazette—May 3.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Prasanna Kumar Karfarmah, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Champaran district.

Babu Amarendra Nath Pal Choudhuri, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Murshidabad, is transferred to the Sirajganj subdivision of the Pabna district.

Mr. A. R. Stark, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Muzaffarpur, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Birbhum district.

Sahibzada Walli Mohamed Shah, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Singbhum is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Muzaffarpur district.

Mr. J. Johnston, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Rangpur.

Mr. C. Tindall, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Barh, Patna, is appointed to have charge of the Serampore subdivision of the Hooghly district.

Babu Jyotish Chunder Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Champaran, is appointed to have charge of the Barh subdivision of the Patna district.

Babu Madhab Lal, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Muzaffarpur district.

Mr. H. H. Heard, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is appointed to have charge of the Raniganj subdivision of the Burdwan district.

Mr. J. C. Leighton, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Dinapore subdivision of the Patna district, on being relieved of his present duties as an Assistant Settlement Officer, Ranchi.

Babu Brajendra Nath Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Banka, Bhagalpur, is appointed to have charge of the Aurangabad subdivision of the Gaya district.

Mr. Sakhawat Hossein, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the Banka subdivision of the Bhagalpur district.

Mr. D. C. Patterson, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Manbhum, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Sonthal Parganas district.

Babu Ramesh Chandra Das, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakhali, is transferred to the head quarters station of the Dacca district.

Babu Kanti Bhusan Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Arambagh, Hooghly, is transferred to the head quarters station of the Ranchi district.

Babu Jogendra Kumar Sinha, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Ranchi, is appointed to have charge of the Arambagh sub-division of the Hooghly district.

Mr. R. R. Pope, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, 24-Parganas, is appointed to act, in the first grade of District and Sessions Judges.

The following acting promotions are sanctioned in the grades of Magistrates and Collectors.

To act in the first grade.

Mr. N. D. Beatson Bell, vice Mr. S. L. Maddox, on privilege leave.

Mr. N. Bonham-Carter vice Mr. W. Maude on deputation.

Mr. J. H. Lea, vice Mr. E. B. Harris, resigned.

Mr. F. N. Fischer, vice Mr. F. W. Duke, on deputation.

To act in the second grade.

Mr. B. Foley, vice Mr. W. B. Thompson, on privilege leave.

Mr. J. F. Gruning, vice Mr. A. G. Hallifax, on privilege leave.

Mr. Kiran Chandra De, vice Mr. J. H. Lea

Mr. H. T. S. Forrest, vice Mr. F. N. Fischer.

Mr. Jnanendra Nath Gupta, vice Mr. Purna Chandra Mitter, on privilege leave.

Babu Narendra Kumar Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is allowed leave for six weeks.

Babu Nabin Chandra Kar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is allowed combined leave for six months.

Maulvi Syud Faizuddin Hosain, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sirajganj Pabna, is allowed combined leave for one year.

Babu Baij Nath Saha (II) Sub-Deputy Collector, Sasaram, Shahabad, is allowed leave for two months.

Mr. J. C. K. Peterson, Officiating Joint-Mogistrate and Deputy Collector, Raniganj, Burdwan, is allowed combined leave for six months.

Mr. G J. Monahan, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dinapur, Patna, is allowed combined leave for six months.

Babu Atal Behary Motra, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Aurangabad, Gaya, is allowed leave for three months.

Mr. A. R. Stark, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Muzaffarpur, under orders of transfer to Birbhum, is allowed leave for one month.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Hem Chandra Bose, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Rangpur, to be ordinarily stationed at Kurigaon during the absence, on leave, of Babu Bhubaneswar Banerjee.

Babu Satish Chandra Ghose, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Jessore, to be ordinarily stationed at Magura, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Hemendra Lal Singh.

SUBORDINATE CIVIL SERVICE.

The substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collectors named below are posted to the Dacca Division, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class on being relieved of their settlement duties in the Ranchi district:—Maulvi Amjad Ali and Maulvi A. K. Kaboeruddin Ahmed.

Babu Tarini Prasad Varma, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Bihar, Patna, is allowed leave for three months.

Babu Nishi Kanta Mukherji, Sub-Deputy Collector, Patuakhali, Backergunge is allowed leave for three months.

Babu Bisseswar Das, Sub-Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the Bhagalpur Division.

Babu Banamali Pramanik, Sub-Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the head quarters station of the Birbhum district.

Babu Baij Nath Sahai (II), Sub-Deputy Collector, Sasaram, Shahabad, is allowed leave for two months.

LEAVE.

Babu Mohendra Nath Mookerjee, Subordinate Judge, Jessore, is allowed leave for one month, in extension of the leave already granted to him.

India In England.

AN INDIAN SPEAKER.

On March 7 Mr. J. M. Parikh (a correspondent writes) was kind enough to address a meeting of the members of the Strand Women's Liberal Association on India. Miss Margaret Binney presided, and the prospective Liberal candidate for the Strand division, Mr. F. W. Lawrence, was present. Mr. Parikh described the growth of British rule in India, and pointed out much needed reforms. His lecture was much appreciated.

BRITISH COMMITTEE OF THE CONGRESS.

The British Committee of the Indian National Congress, at its meeting on Wednesday last, adopted the following resolution:—This Committee desires to express, and to place on record, its thanks to the Right Hon. Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, M. P., the Right Hon. Sir Charles Dilke, M. P., and the Right Hon. Sir Edward Grey, M. P., for the efforts they have made during the Army Vote Debate, on Monday, April 3, in opposing and exposing the policy of the War Office in seeking to keep up the Reserve of the British Army on a war footing, under the pretext that additional troops are needed to defend what the Prime Minister has described as "the only land frontier of the British Empire;" and to do this by unfairly adding the cost to the Indian Army charges, already swollen by several millions during the last twenty years.

ENGLISH SYMPATHY FOR INDIA.

At the annual meeting of the Council of the Eastern Division Nottingham Liberal Association, held on April 7, the following resolution was proposed by the chairman, Mr. Alderman Brownsword, J. P., and carried unanimously:—"That this meeting desires to express its profound sympathy with the sufferers in the terrible earthquake on the North-West Frontier of India, and requests Sir Henry Cotton to convey this expression of their sympathy and sorrow to the people of India through the proper channel." The members of the Council listened with the deepest interest to the account Sir Henry gave them of this appaling calamity, and we are sure that the Press in India will be glad to give prominence in their columns to the sympathetic feelings which the citizens of Nottingham have evinced for their suffering fellow subjects in Indit in their trouble.

THE DRAIN ON THE INDIAN REVENUE.

Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, in reply to a correspondent who asks respecting the yearly drain of £30,000,000 from India, sends us a letter too long for insertion. Mr. Naoroji says: "The total exports from India and profits for the last ten years amounted to Rx. 1,438,694,894 and this is the amount equal to which India ought to have imported under normal circumstances like those of the United Kingdom.

But India has not imported this amount, but only a much less amount of Rx. 923,205000 leaving a drain or deprivation of Rx. 515,489, 894 in the ten years. Taking the present exchange of Rs. 15 to £1, this drain in ten years amount to £343, 659, 920, or say, an average of £34,000,000, every year." After referring to the non-representative character of the Indian Government, he continues: "Here then is a strange and sad contrast. The United Kingdom and India are governed by the same Government, with the result of bringing to the United Kingdom an addition to its wealth as profits of its exports in the ten years of £1,267,441,206, and, on the other hand, causing to India in the same ten years a deprivation and loss of £343,659,920 Not only this, the loss to India must be measured by how much more India would have benefited had this enormous drain of the ten years and all drain of previous years been at India's own disposal and fructified in the Indians' pockets."—"Daily News."

INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji has addressed the following letter to the Colonial Secretary:—To the Right Hon. Alfred Lyttelton, M. P., Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Sir,—I beg to forward for your information the following communication from my correspondent in Johannesburg relative to the position of British Indian subjects in the South African colonies. He writes, under date March 20, as follows:—

A reactionary policy is being followed throughout South Africa regarding the British Indians. I commend to your attention the current numbers of the "Indian Opinion," wherein you will find that at the Cape they are trying to introduce a General Dealers' Licenses Bill, which is calculated to do a great deal of harm to the British Indians settled at the Cape. In Natal, as you will see, a Firearms Bill has been published in the "Gazette," which needlessly insults British Indians. There is, too, a reproduction of the Transvaal anti-Asiatic legislation in the district of Vryheid which has been lately annexed to Natal, and the Municipal Corporations Bill contains clauses which are most objectionable. In the Orange River Colony disabilities upon disabilities of bye-laws, and I venture to draw your attention to the fact that while a great deal has been done there regarding the Transvaal legislation, as also the Natal legislation, nothing has been regarding the Orange River Colony. I therefore hope that this matter will also be taken up. The current number of the 'Indian Opinion" deals with the Natal Municipal Bill among other things, and the next number will deal with the other matters referred to in this letter.

I trust you will give the matter your early attention.—Your obedient servant,

Dadabhai Naoroji.

22, Kennington Road, S.E., April 10 1905

Mr. Naoroji has forwarded a letter in like terms to the Secretary of State for India.

THE EARTHQUAKE.

In a laconic note on the recent earthquake the "Morning Leader" writes:—

There are two items of news with regard to the Lahore earthquake which deserve quotation:—(1) The present disaster is the worst in their living memory, and (2) considerable delay may take place before the Home authorities are communicated with, owing to the fact that at this season the Indian Government is moving about Lord Curzon must look at the news before it is fit for English ears. The Indian Government a short time ago was certainly moving about: no one knew whether the Viceroy, or Lord Ampthill, or Mr. Brodrick was responsible. In fact, in any serious crisis, either political or national, the Indian Government is "not at home." The force of imitation can no farther go: the Prime Minister must feel flattered by his subordinate. It took Mr. Brodrick 24 hours to discover that the matter was serious, and up to the moment of going to press he has not discovered more. Plague, famine, and earthquake cannot interrupt officialdom. Does the earth "suffer a syncope and solemn pause?" So does the India Office.

SIR H. COTTON ON EARTHQUAKES IN INDIA.

Sir Henry Cotton, K. C. S. I., delivered a lecture at Nottingham, on April 4, on his personal experience of earthquakes in India and gave his opinion on the probable effects of the recent disaster. He claimed to be an expert on the subject of earthquakes, for he had experienced three or four thousand of them. The most serious disturbance since the great earthquake of Lisbon was that which occurred in the Province of Assam on June 12, 1897, and for at least a week after there were 250 shocks a day. Judging by his own observations, he should say that the recent earthquake had been more disastrous in its results at the hill stations than in Lahore, which was on the plains. In the case of the great Assam earthquake they were cut of for eight days from the rest of the world. On the night of the big shock all the stone buildings in Shillong crumpled to pieces. Rivers forty feet deep silted up, chasms opened in the earth, and for years there was the greatest suffering and loss. He had seen chasms in the earth caused by earthquakes 16 feet deep, 16 feet wide, and three-quarters of a mile long.

MEANS OF FAMINE-PREVENTION.

The following correspondence has passed between Sir W. Wedderburn Bart., and the India Office:—

To the Under Secretary of State for India,
India Office, S. W.

Sir,—With reference to your letter of January 22, 1902, and subsequent correspondence, on the subject of drought-resisting fodder plants, will you allow me to draw your attention to the thornless cactus developed by Mr. Burbank, of California? An account of it will be found in the March number of the "Century Magazine." Whereas the ordinary prickly pear is a noxious growth of mischief, this thronless species appears to be valuable as a food for man and cattle, besides being a means of improving dry waste land,—Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) W. Wedderburn.

84, Palace Chambers, Westminster, S. W.
April 2, 1905.

To Sir W. Wedderburn Bart.,
84 and 85, Palace Chambers,
Westminster, S. W.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge with thanks your letter of April 2, drawing attention to an article in the "Century Magazine," on the edible thornless cactus, and to say that it will be brought to the notice of the Government of India,—I am, Sir your obedient servant.

(Sd.) T. W. Holderness,
Secretary, Revenue and Statistics Department.

India Office, Whitehall, London, S. W., April 4, 1905.

A Palitana (Bombay) correspondent writes under date the 26th:—In the early morning of Saturday, the 22nd, while going out on duty, Mr. Jeevanram and Hill Inspector Krishnalal were detained by the police fouzdar, a naik, and a sepoy. A complaint has been lodged, and counsel engaged. Some Barots have instituted criminal proceedings in the First Class Magistrate's Court against the Jain priest, Dipvijajaji and certain servants of Sheth Anandji Kalyanji. The Barots are in the State Hospital, and the services of two doctors, Captain C. S. Lawson, I.M. S., and Lieutenant B. B. Paymaster, I.M.S., were engaged to examine them. But the Magistrate and the Thakore Sahib, who were petitioned for permission to examine them, have declined to pass orders. The accused priest has applied by wire to the Political Agent, Gohilwad Prant, to interfere in the matter. Counsel is instructed by Messrs. Jeevanram and C. Broker, L. L. B. Mr. Douglas Straight, D. S. P., Allahabad late Superintendent of the Secret Branch assisted by the City Inspector, succeeded the other day in collaring red-handed a gang of coiners. The facts of the case from what has come to light are as follows:—Mr. Straight received information that a gang of coiners would be at work making rupees at a certain hour and at a certain place. In consequence of this information he immediately made the necessary arrangements and so cleverly laid the trap that he succeeded in arresting the whole gang and in laying hold of all the implements and, of a good sum of false money. The case at present occupies the attention of the Joint Magistrate prior to its committal to the Sessions. The case will be an interesting one, and the hearing of which will probably occupy some time. Mr. Straight has for years been known throughout the provinces for his superior Detective abilities and this case only once more shows what an able officer we have the good fortune of having at the head our district police.

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It is the most useful Liniment for females in the tsent of pregnancy. It **relieves** the sympathetic semiting and nausea (morning sickness) in its early ovge, **prevents** miscarriage and at the same time **nesures** safe and easy delivery, etc.

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Telegraphic Address "Dr. Paul," Calcutta.

MEDICAL OPINIONS:—

DR. G. MANOOK, M. B. (EDIN.) Surgeon, Calcutta, writes:—"I have to report favourably of my trials with your **Santan Rakshak.** I have given your specific a fair trial among all classes. The results have been, I am compelled to say, very wonderful in threatened miscarriage and prolonged labour where direct interference was impossible. I have no doubt others will be as grateful to you as I am."

DR. TARINI CHARAN DUTT, Graduate of the Medical College, Bengal (G. M. C. B.) and retired Assistant Surgeon, writes:—"I have much pleasure in testifying to the efficacy of your **"Santan Rakshak"** which is being used by many respectable persons in cases of difficult labour and threatened abortion with satisfactory and unexpected results."

DR. K. P. CHACKRABURTTY, M. B., Late. Superintendent, Lowis Sanitarium, Darjeeling, writes:—"I have tried your specific, **"Santan Rakshak,"** in several cases of tedious labour and threatened abortion. I am glad to tell you that the results have been very satisfactory. I would like to recommend it to all females who are in the state of pregnancy."

DR. J. CHOWDHURY, B. A., L. M. S., Superintendent of Vaccination, Calcutta Corporations writes:—"I have great pleasure in testifying to the efficacy of your **"Santan Rakshak."** The bottle which you gave me for trial was used with most satisfactory and astonishing results in several cases of prolonged labour amongst my friends, and safely recommend it to the public

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

A CASE OF DEFAMATION.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Tangail, April 28.

Babu Jogendra Narain Majumdar alias Hazari Babu, is the landlord of Duajani, a village under the police jurisdiction of Nagorpur. Hazari Babu instituted a rent suit against Srimati Sukhumani Dassi, mother of Babu Jadab Lal Shaha Chowdhury of Nagorpur. Jadab Babu is a Zemindar and a big merchant of the place. In filling the rent suit Hazari Babu applied "bewa" instead of "Chowdhurany" or "Dasya," after the name of Srimati Sukhumani, in his written statement. This the second party took too much to heart and in filing their "Jacob" said that Hazari Babu was not in sound head and mind, and that he was fit to be sent to the Criminal Court. This formed the subject matter of the defamation suit. I append below the judgment in extenso, as it will, I am sure, interest your readers.

Jogendra Narain Majumdar.
Vs.
Sukhumani Dasya
Sec. 500 I. P. C.

JUDGMENT.

The facts of the case, as stated by the complainant, are that in a rent suit instituted by him against the accused, the latter filed a written statement describing the complainant as a man whose brain is in a disordered state, and who is not in his proper senses and that he is fit to be sent up to the criminal court. It is added that this allegation was maliciously made and that it has caused mental pain to the complainant and that the people are mocking at him. Including the complainant and one witness examined on commission, seven witnesses have been examined in support of the prosecution and charge under Sec. 500 I.P.C. has been framed against the accused who through her representative, for she has been allowed to appear by a Muktear, denies to have committed any offence, but admits that the written statement was filed with her knowledge. The evidence for prosecution shows that the defamatory remarks were scored through by the pleader for the accused at the instance of the Munsiff, before whom the statement was filed. It appears that even after the scoring through the remarks are legible and that any one could read them. The evidence shows that there was sufficient publication of the remarks by the presenting of the statement containing them in a public court.

From the certified copy of the Register of rent suits it appears that complainant styled the accused as Sukhi Bewa, but as a female of the position of the latter who has herself property (?) and who is the mother of a Zeminder is not, it is stated, styled as a "Bewa" and so it appeared that she made the remarks contained in the written statement. The evidence for defence shows that the accused should have been styled at least as "Dasya", instead of "Bewa", which is applied to a poor helpless low class widow. The evidence also proves that the complainant is a man of irritable temper and is abusive to others. This facts is corroborated by the abusive cross-questions which he puts to Babu A. C. Chatterjee, late Subdivisional Officer of this place, who has been examined on commission by the defence. The learned pleader for the defence argues that the accused, who is about ninety years old, is not likely to know the contents of the written statement which is the subject matter of the dispute. The accused has however admitted that the written statement was filed with her knowledge. The learned pleader has also argued, the complainant has no character and so it is not likely to be lowered in the estimation of others. So far as the evidence goes the man has not been as characterless. On the contrary it shows that the complainant is a respectable man with shortcomings mentioned above. The learned pleader has also argued that the remarks objected to are not defamatory under the 9th exception to Sec. 499 I. P. C. This exception does not appear to have any application to this case. The remarks do not appear to have been made with due care and attention and they are irrelevant and uncalled for. The unbecoming language which the complainant applied to the accused, his abusive temper and the fact that the remarks subsequently withdrawn by the accused exhonerates the crime of the accused to some extent but not wholly from the evidence on record. The court holds that the charge against the accused has been proved.

The court finds the accused guilty of defaming the complainant under Sec. 500 I.P.C. directs her to pay a fine of Rs. 100 (one hundred) in default to undergo simple imprisonment for two months. Out of the sum, if realised, a sum of Rs. 50 (fifty) shall be paid to the complainant as compensation.

(Sd.,) J. Biswas,

Tangail, March 27, 05:

From the Mysore Police Report for last year we learn that the number of cases under the Infant Marriages Prevention Regulation increased from 17 to 28 during the year. Of these, 17 cases involving 47 persons ended in conviction and one case involving three persons ended in the discharge of the accused. The Government agree with the Inspector-General of Police that the sentences passed by the District Magistrates are not sufficiently deterrent, and they have already remarked on the inadequacy of the sentences in some of the cases that have come under their notice.—"Madras Mail."

A correspondent writes to the "Rangoon Times," under date the 19th ultimo as follows:—A rare Burmese breach of promise suit was decided last week by the District Court, Yamethin. The parties were Burman Buddhists, and the women promised to marry the man if he divorced his wife, as she did not wish to be a lesser wife. The wife was divorced, but the woman married another, and the man brought a suit against her for damages. The Additional Judge of the Pyinmana Township Court dismissed the suit as non-maintainable, and as against public policy, as innocent wives might suffer by unscrupulous husbands seeking rich women on speculation. On appeal the Appellate Court decided that the suit was maintainable, but dismissed the appeal as against public policy for the reason given by the Lower Court.

GIVE CHAMBERLAIN'S PAIN BALM A TRIAL.

No other liniment affords such prompt relief from rheumatic pains. No other is so valuable for deep seated pains like lame back and pains in the chest. Give this liniment a trial and become acquainted with its remarkable qualities and you will never wish to be without it. For sale by *
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NEWS OF THE DAY.

Sir James and Lady Bourdillon have arrived at Ootacamund, and will probably proceed Home before long for private reasons.

An estimate, amounting to Rs. 6,340, for the construction of a travellers' bungalow with outhouses at Gudivada, in the Kistna District, has been sanctioned.

There have recently been two big duck shoots on the Titmutla tank Secunderabad, as many as 25 and 30 guns going out and getting quite a respectable bag of between 70 and 90 duck each time. There is an extraordinary number of duck on the tank considering the time of year.

It will be some time before the new Motor Car Service which the south Indian Railway Company purposes to institute between Ammayanaikanur and the foot of the Kodaikanal Ghaut is started. In the first place, the cars, though they have been selected, have not yet been shipped from London.

The death is announced at the Sassoon Hospital, Poona, of George Campbell Laing, M.B., I.M.S., Officiating Superintendent of the Yerrowda Central Prison. He was a popular member of Poona Society and a well-known sportsman in the Bombay Presidency. Much sympathy is felt for Mrs. Laing, who is left with a little daughter.

Mr. A. Sankariah, B.A., retired Dewan Peishkar of Cochin, has presented to the National High School a hall at a cost of Rs. 1,000, to be utilized for holding the Vedic classes. The opening ceremony was performed on Sunday morning by the Hon'ble Mr. L. A. Govindaragava Aiyar, who delivered an instructive speech on the occasion.

An estimate, amounting to Rs. 46,870, for constructing a first-class taluk office with subsidiary buildings at Bellary, has been sanctioned. On completion of the new building the Superintending Engineer is to submit a report, in consultation with the Collector, in regard to the utilisation or disposal of the present taluk office building.

A Pollibetta (Coorg) correspondent writes:—Owing to the terrible visitation in the North, every little earth tremor has an importance of its own. During the very early hours of Saturday morning, the 15th, there was a subterraneous rumbling, very momentary in duration, in these parts. A similar tremor had been felt about a week earlier.

At the Madras High Court on the motion of Sir V. Bhashyam Iyengar on behalf of the Mahunt of Tirupathi, their Lordships the Officiating Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Benson granted leave to appeal to the Privy Council against the decision of their Lordships Justice Sir S. Subramania Aiyar and Justice Sir James Davies providing for a scheme of management for the Tirupati Temple and the property attached thereto.

We regret to announce the death of Colonel Kaikhoshroo Sorabji Nariman, I.M.S., Civil Surgeon of Nasik, which took place at Nasik, on the 24th instant. Colonel Nariman, who entered the Service in 1878, served with the Madras Light Infantry in the last Burma War, and was specially mentioned by the Commanding Officer. During the outbreak of plague at Surat, he did some excellent work and in recognition thereof he was awarded the Kaiser-i-Hind Medal.

Mr. W. M. Wijeysinghe, a Cingalese who has recently returned from Japan, where he has been for two years, thinks there is a splendid market in Japan for copra, cocoanut fibre, skins and hides, horns, bones, etc. In spite of the large outturn of tea in Japan, there is some demand for Ceylon tea, and Mr. Wijeysinghe seems to think it might be pushed there with some advantage. He has a great opinion of the Japanese as traders, and says they never lose an opportunity of learning anything from foreigners.

An extraordinry issue of the Bhownugger "Darbar Gazette" announces a number of benefactions in honour of the birthday of His Highness the Maharaja. Besides contributing Rs. 2,000 to the Earthquake fund, the Maharajah has set apart a sum of Rs. 500 for the relief of those of his subjects who have suffered through plague, and a sum of Rs. 660 has been given for distributing prizes amongst all the school-going children of the state. A number of new scholerships and life pensions to twenty-two widows have also been announced.

An old Ceylon planter, now resident in British Central Africa, sends to the "Ceylon Observer" an interesting letter on planting and agricultural topics. As regards rubber, he gives a gloomy outlook for the natural rubber industry, when he says that the African output will cease in ten years' time. He instances fine results of the manuring capabilities of "Albizzias" and other nitrogenous crops, but his experience with ground-nuts has been unfortunate. Tea, says the correspondent, is "growing like a weed" in British Central Africa.

A Coorg correspondent writes:—During a recent shooting trip in the eastern jungles Mr. Moss-King, the Assistant Resident Mysore, succeeded in bagging a bull-bison. Game was scarce; but there has been an improvement in this respect since the rigid enforcement of shooting licenses, the safe guarding of close-time, and the prevention of fires. It is interesting to note that at Matagode, near the spot where the Forest Department recently captured some elephants, a coffee estate was opened for a Bombay Company in the old days, when the ghauts were flourishing. It is said to have gone out owing to an ineradicable coarse-grown grass called in Canarese, "dabbeooloo." However Elysian a spot it may prove for sport, in these days it would be considered too far East to grow coffee successfully. Borer by itself would render this impossible.

A SAFE SPECULATION.

If you have an attack of rheumatism and Chamberlain's Pain Balm gets you back to work in a few days, will it not pay for itself several times over? There is no need of suffering from rheumatism for a month or six weeks incurring the expense of a large doctor's bill, when a few applications of this liniment, costing but a small amount will cure you. For sale by
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Death is reported early in April at Cairo, from fever, of Colonel H.M. Temple, late of the Indian Army and of the Indian Political Department. He was the second son of the late Sir Richard Temple, Bart., and had done over 30 years' service in the Staff Corps, and in employ under the Foreign Office, in Baluchistan and Rajputana at Meshed and elsewhere. He had only left India about a year and was spending his first winter in Egypt for the purpose of painting, in which he was already distinguished and promised to become a first class amateur.

Mr. A. P. Goonatillike of Veyangoda says the "Times of Ceylon," on his way back to town through Tirappone, came across a cheetah a little way off the high road, and, seeing no way of escaping, shot it in the head wounding it fatally. In spite of the bullet penetrating through and through it, the animal made a dash at Mr. Goonatillike who thereupon levelled his second barrel, which unfortunately missed fire. The animal sprang at him with all the ferocity of a dying cheetah. But Mr. Goonatillike tackled it, and beat it down, and thereby escaped being severely mauled.

No objection having been received to the applications of the Municipal Council of Calicut and Coonoor for loans of Rs. 36,700 and Rs. 60,880, respectively from Government for the construction of a market in the case of the former and for the water works in the case of the latter Municipality, the applications have now been sanctioned by Government. The Accountant-General has been requested to disburse these sums out of the loan of two lakhs provided for Ootacamund sanitary improvements in the budget estimate of Provincial loans and advances for the current year.

Mr. Albert Williams, I. C. S., who has been appointed to act as Resident in Mysore in the place of Sir James Bourdillon, arrived in India in January, 1886, and has therefore 19 years' service. He was originally posted to the Punjab and in 1894 was appointed Under-Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department. He served subsequently as Political Agent at Hyderabad (Sind) and at Quetta. After another term in the Foreign Office Secretariat he was made Deputy Secretary in the Home Department and from there was promoted to be Revenue and Judicial Commissioner, Baluchistan.

Sometime ago the premises of a Parsee named Pestonji, carrying on business of a watchmaker and Jeweller, in Secunderabad, were broken into and 55 watches, valued at Rs. 2,500 were carried off by some burglar or burglars. The Police have succeeded in capturing a man named Hari, who hailed from Aurangabad, with eight of the stolen watches in his possession. On the accused being brought back to Secunderabad, he pointed out a spot near the Rifle Range, where thirty-seven watches had been buried in the ground, which brings up the number of watches recovered to forty-five, ten being still missing. The accused, it has transpired, acknowledged the theft.

There is a grand waterfall in Coorg which has hitherto remained in obscurity, owing to its being so much off the beaten track. Mr. G. Haller, Superintendent of Land Records, recently took its height and found it to be no less than 434feet, a clear drop. The River Sarat, which takes this plunge, is 100 ft. broad, and even in the dry season has a good quantity of water. The falls are situated about 12 miles from Harthur, and in a direct line about 30 miles from Tellicherry and about 70 miles from Mysore city. Could not this waste of power be utilised? The Sarat falls are among the highest in the world. Where the others score is that they have an immensely larger volume of water.

A Trichinopoly correspondent writes to the "Madras Mail":—A few days ago a festival was being celebrated on the banks of the Cauvery, in commemoration of the miraculous escape of a Temple elephant from the jaws of an alligator some years ago. Ever since then an elephant has been driven into the river once a year and has been taught to howl as if in pain, whereupon the worshippers thank the god for sparing him. This year the elephant was either badly trained, or the mahout was careless, for just at the critical moment it trumpeted, but immediately rushed out of the river amongst the people, scattering them far and wide, trampling some to death and severely injuring a great many.

OIL-ENGINE IRRIGATION.

Mr. Alfred Chatterton (Madras) writes in the "Madras Mail" under date the 28th ultimo:—Your correspondent, "D. A.," raises questions of great interest to landowners and cultivators who are contemplating the irrigation of their lands with oil engines and pumps; and with your permission I should like to be allowed to state that it is part of my duty at the present time to give advice such as he requires. No fees are charged for any work connected with the investigations necessary to form a definite opinion, but security has to be given that the application for assistance is a "bona fide" one, and that whatever the result of the enquiry may be, it will be accepted and acted upon wihout delay. Government consider the extension of irrigation by pumping by private enterprise eminently worthy of all possible encouragement, as there is not the slightest doubt that, in the almost immediate future, there will be hundreds of such pumping plants installed. Arrangements are now being made to train engineers to investigate the feasibility of each proposal, and the details of a scheme for establishing a school for training oil-engine drivers are now being worked out.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY GIVES SATISFACTION EVERYWHERE.

"I have been selling Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in my retail shop of this place for six years," says Adolph Abrahamson of Durbanville, Cape Colony. "I find it to give satisfaction with the people who use it and it is the best seller of any cough remedy I handle." For sale by
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INDIAN NOTES.

SHIKAR ACCIDENT AT KARJAT.

A Shikar accident which might have been attended with much more serious consequences has occurred near Karjat, Bombay. A party consisting of Mr. P. Greensted, Mr. T. Reilly and Mr. H. E. Mallandaine went after the tiger which is at present killing cattle near the village of Karjat. Having heard from the villagers that the tiger had killed a cow on Saturday evening the party proceeded to the kill the following morning, but when about 250 yards from the spot the tiger made its appearance from a thicket. Mr. Mallandaine lifted his gun out of the cart, catching it by the end of the muzzle, but one of the strikers being slack sent the gun off before the triggers were cocked, the bullet passing through Mr. Mallandaine's right hand. Luckily the tiger, on hearing the report, made off. Had the animal charged the party the accident might have had a most serious ending.

LORD AMPTHILL AT COONOOR.

At the opening of the new waterworks at Coonoor on 28th April, by His Excellency Lord Ampthill, the Coonoor Municipality presented an address asking that an Indian Civilian Officer be appointed head of the Municipal Council. Also that the government loan in connection with the new water supply system be converted to a free gift. After the mention of other minor matters, His Excellency replied that no Indian civilian officer is available and he was surprised that they could not find an efficient local Municipal Chairman. He reminded the Municipality that they had asked for a water supply four years ago, and had now got it. They had received a handsome free grant of Rs. 58,000 towards the cost. The idea concerning the Government loan being converted into a free gift could not be entertained.

AN OIL ENGINE AT TANJORE.

Mr. P. Ratnasabhapati writes from Negapatam in the "Madras Mail":—At the first mile on the old road to Vallam from Tanjore close to the city, is Mr. Abraham Pundithar's agricultural farm. The Pundit has on the spot a single block of over 150 acres of dry and rain-fed wet lands. A 7 H. P. oil engine by Crossley Brothers is fitted up to an excellent 35 ft. square well, at the bottom of which a boring is being made to get at the under current. There is also another smaller well which is about to be fitted up with an aermotor. I found jacks, grafted mangoes, plantains, tobacco, and sugarcane from the Samalkot Farm coming up in blooming health, and the whole farm with its plantations was a refreshing sight in the midst of an arid plain. It is a practical illustration of what intelligent methods of agriculture can do for poor India. The cost of working the oil engine is less than half that of the manual labour of lifting water.

PLAGUE IMMUNITY IN THE HIMALAYAS.

With regard to the fears that are being expressed lest plague should attack the hill-stations, it is worth while pointing out, says the Delhi "Morning Post," that the Himalayas have been singularly free from the pest during all the years it has been raging in the plains. It is true that "mahamari," a form of plague, has been stated to be endemic in Garhwal, but Mussoorie, the largest town in both British and Native Garhwal, has never been attacked, and those who have wanted to study the disease have been obliged to make trips into the interior. The fact is that the sanitation of a hill station is an easy matter and local municipalities pay great attention of it. Plague cases that may have occurred at Himalayan stations have generally been traced to recent arrivals from the plains, and no difficulty has been found in preventing the spread of the infection. Hillmen, though insanitary in their habits and accustomed to crowd together, do not resent interference by outside authority.

CONDITIONS IN GUJARAT.

The following press note is a summary of the special reports on the situation in the Gujarat Districts for the week ending 8th April, 1905:—Ahmedabad.—Harvesting of wheat and barley continues in parts of Parantij Taluka. Sowing of jowari in progress in parts of Sanand Taluka and of bajri and maize in parts of Parantij Taluka. One more test work was opened in the Viramgam Taluka on the 1st April, 1905. Price of bajri varying from 24 lbs. at Dhandhuka to 30 lbs. at Modasa and of jowari from 26 lbs. at Dhandhuka to 32 lbs. at Daskroi. Kaira.—Standing crops thriving in Matar Taluka. Harvesting of rabi crops completed in Mehmadabad Taluka, and of tobacco continues in parts of Borsad Taluka. Threshing of wheat and barley continues in parts of Matar Taluka, Jowari and minor and garden crops being irrigated in parts of Anand, Borsad and Nadiad Talukas. Sowing of sundhia jowari completed in Matar Taluka and continues in parts of Mehmadabad Taluka. Fruit crop promising in Thasra Taluka. Fodder-supply scanty in parts of Nadiad Taluka and its importation continues. Measures for the improvement of water-supply in progress in Matar and Kapadvanj Talukas. Field and other miscellaneous labour available in parts of Nadiad and Thasra Talukas. The increase in the number on works is due to contraction of demand for field labour as the harvesting season has come to a close. Price of bajri 27 lbs. per rupee. Panch Mahals.—No change in the agricultural situation. Arrangements are being made for opening more test works in Dohad Taluka and Jhalod petha. Broach.—Standing crop of cotton in fair condition in parts of Jambusar Taluka. Harvesting of rabi crops completed. Picking of cotton in progress in parts of Anklesvar and Jambusar Talukas. Cattle in fair condition except in a few village of Jambusar Taluka and Hansot petha. Prices of food-grains stationary. Condition of cultivators, agricultural labourers and town population fair. Sufficient field and other miscellaneous labour available for the present. One test work was opened at Katpore in the Hansot petha, but did not draw any large numbers. An allotment of Rs. 5,000 has been placed at the disposal of the Collector of Kaira for the improvement of the water-supply of that district. One test work was opened in each of the three talukas of Karmala, Sangola and Malsiras in the Sholapur District, but no one came on to them. Orders have been issued for the grant of extra cash remuneration to inferior village servants in the Karmala Taluka of the district. During the month of March 6 in-door and 216 out-door patients were treated at the hospital attached to the Chanor famine relief work in the Matar Taluka of the Kaira District.

BAGGING A PANTHER.

Camp Trapaj, April 21.—H. H. the Maharajah Saheb of Bhavnagar has been here for a change, as this is his favourite summer resort. A few miles towards the west of this, there is a long range of small detached hills. Two of these hillocks, named Shenigo and Shenigi, form, as it were, the centre of a triangular plot which is marked at the corner points by three villages called Belagam, Bodla and Umardu. In hot weather His Highness the Maharaja Saheb is wont to go out for a ride early morning so that he might return before the sun begins to be felt hot. This morning, while cantering down the cart-road leading to Bodla, the riding party met a Rajput peasant coming from that village. The Rajput made his respectful obeisance to H. H. the Maharaja Saheb and made bold to intimate that two of his comrades, who had been with him some fifteen minutes ago, gave him to learn that they had just seen a panther go up the Shenigo Hills carrying in his jaws a village dog. But the hillocks were not such as the wild animals would choose for a safe lurking place, there being only a few big stones on the top. However His Highness and the Sawars that formed his small suite galloped off towards the hillock to ascertain how far the information was correct. At the same time His Highness's rifle was soon sent for from the royal residence. When they reached the Shenigo Hill, His Highness saw, for himself, the footprints of the animal traced up the hill; in the meanwhile, the animal, suspecting from the noise some disturbance, peeped a little from his small den when one of the Sawars caught sight of him and assured His Highness of the panther being there. The rifle and the beaters came up. The beaters, under the Maharaja Saheb's careful guidance, made the Haka, and the panther darted roaring out of the den and ran towards the adjoining hillock called Shenigi, when a shot, fired from His Highness's only rifle, seriously wounded the wild beast which soon lay dead. The animal measured six feet and a half. This was quite an unexpected game the Maharaja Saheb was fortunate enough to bag.—"Kathiwar Times."

COLLISION ON THE G. I. P. RAILWAY.

Thana April 27.—The trial began, to-day, before Mr. B. N. Kharkar, Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Thana, of Bhogilal Amiram, station-master of Bhandup station on the G. I. P. Railway, sixteen miles distant from Bombay, and Nanabhoy Hormusji, head guard of a goods train, under section 101 of the Rialway Act of 1890, namely, that, being railway servants, they endangered the safety of persons by disregarding the rules of the Company. Mr. J. N. Joglekar District Public Prosecutor, instructed by Mr. C. Dewey, District Traffic Superintendent and Mr. C. R. Jefferies, Inspector, G. I. P. Railway Police, appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Railway Company. Mr. F. S. Taleyarkhan, barrister-at-law instructed by Mr. Cursetjee Jevanji Mistry, pleader, appeared for Nanabhoy Hormusji, while Mr. Thosar, pleader from Thana, defended the first accused. The facts of the case are that on the 30th of March last, at about 7-30 p. m., shunting operations were going on at Bhandup railway station from the down to the up siding across the two main lines. The rear brake of a ballast train had been detached on the up main line in order to attach it to the engine of the same train after the train had put into the siding. This was done to send the brake on to Thana. Before the brake could be taken off the main line an up North-East passenger train, which runs through Thana, and for which signals had been given, while running at a speed of from thirty-five to forty miles an hour, came in and collided with the brake of the goods train, which was standing on the up main line, completely smashing it to fragments. The station-master is alleged to have given line clear signals when the main line was blocked, and the second accused, Nanabhoy Hormusji, it is alleged, had not the lamps on the rear of his brake lighted. Driver R. H. Smith was in charge of the engine of the passenger train and Mr. C. Allen was the guard. The fireman, J. O. Byrne, had a miraculous escape by a portion of the timber of the wrecked brake flying past him at very close quarters. The removal of the debris took five hours, after which the passenger train proceeded on the up journey to Bombay.—"Advocate of India."

ALLAHABAD COINING CASE.

The recent capture of counterfeit coiners at Kuttra, Allahabad, turns out to be an even important affair than it at first appeared. The three accused men, Doman Khan, Kulloo Khan, his son, and Munna, their servant, were brought before Mr. Sherring, the Joint Magistrate at Allahabad, on 29th ultimo, when Mr. Douglas Straight, the District Superintendent of Police, and numerous witnesses for the prosecution, gave evidence of a very interesting character. It was alleged that the gang had been working in conjunction with another gang at Mirzapur, correspondence which had passed between them, being produced; and that together their operation had extended to a wide circle. It was also alleged that the large number of false coins in circulation in Allahabad and the neighbouring districts were entirely the work of this gang. Since these proceedings were instituted, the police have been endeavouring to discover the agents of the gang responsible for uttering the false coins to other districts, and they have been successful in capturing three men at Mirzapur, the correspondents already mentioned. These men, named respectively Salig Ram, Rasul Baksh, and Moti Lal, are known to have circulated counterfeit rupees made at Allahabad, and they are now under demand pending further inquiries.

Mr. Douglas Straight, in his evidence before the Court on Saturday, made a detailed statement explaining the circumstances under which the initial inquiries and the arrests at Allahabad were made. He stated that the police took the matter up in the first place at the instance of Mr. Sharpe, who was deputed on special duty in connection with counterfeit coining. This gentleman handed over to Mr. Straight a number of false coins which had found their way into the Currency Office and elsewhere, with instructions to have inquiries made. After giving a detailed description of the enquiry made by him, Mr. Straight mentioned in conclusion that in the possession of one of the men arrested at Mirzapur were found coining instruments, and that another of them, Moti Lal, had been previously implicated in a coining case, his accomplice being sentenced to six years imprisonment. Moti Lal however was fortunate enough to be acquitted. After the examination of several other witnesses the case was adjourned.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

CANCER CURES.

RADIUM USED IN THREE CASES SUCCESSFULLY.

London, April 13.

While investigating the case of a reported cure of cancer by the application of radium to-day, one of our representatives learned that successful results from the treatment are claimed in two other cases of cancer. All three patients have been treated by Mr. T. J. P. Hartigan, F. R. C. S., the surgeon who has charge of the light department at the Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, Blackfriars—two attending at the hospital, and one receiving private treatment.

The circumstances of the cases are sufficiently striking to merit serious consideration. The patient who is referred to in today's announcement first came under the notice of Mr. Hartigan in March of last year. She is now 66 years of age, and follows the occupation of a caretaker. Her case has been traced back for 6 years. In 1899 she was pronounced to be suffering from scirhus, a form of slow cancer. At various times in the interval she has been seen by experts at several of the London hospitals, and the diagnosis of cancer has been confirmed. The testimony of these doctors is available. Three years ago the part affected began to ulcerate. At a later date she came under the notice of Dr. Sequira, of Old Jewry, who was so impressed by the effects of radium on lupus, "port-wine" naevus, and other similar diseases reported to the Dermatological Society by Mr. Hartigan that he sent the woman to the hospital of which Mr. Hartigan is one of the visiting staff, in Stamford-street.

HOW THE CURE WAS EFFECTED.

The woman was in great pain, due to the ulceration and the bleeding, and it was with the object of alleviating her suffering that Mr. Hartigan decided to apply the radium. An important point in connection with the treatment is that the radium used at the hospital is believed to have a greater radio-activity than that used, for instance in the experiments at the Cancer Hospital at Brompton. It was obtained from Germany, and is declared to have six times more activity than the radium of M. Curie. The quantity used by Mr. Hartigan was 20 milligrammes. After the first application the patient felt relieved, and the bleeding rapidly ceased. By June, three months afterwards, the cancerous accumulation was greatly reduced. A slight relapse occurred in September, but this was attributed to the fact that sufficient care had not been taken to rest the affected part, and with a little further treatment the growth disappeared. The treatment extended altogether over eight hours. Since September the woman has regularly attended the hospital, and although careful investigation is made on each occasion, no signs of a relapse were noticed.

THE OTHER CASE.

Another case, similar in almost every respect, came under Mr. Hartigan's notice at a later date, and the results are equally satisfactory, the cure, as far as can be seen at present, being complete.

The private patient whom Mr. Hartigan treated was a titled gentleman upwards of 80 years of age. The diagnosis showed that he was suffering from cancer in the mouth. It gave rise to acute neuralgia and other pains, and the radium was applied, as in the case of the hospital patient, with the idea of affording temporary relief. Under the influence of the radium the disease gradually disappeared, and recurrence have been detected he was pronounced by authorities to be free of the disease.

Cases of rodent-ulcer, lesion of tongue, and naevus have also, it is claimed, been cured by the radium of the Stamford-street hospital. A young woman whose face was greatly disfigured by naevus was treated, and after thirty-nine applications the disease practically disappeared.

HOW RADIUM ACTS UPON CANCER.

To explain fully how the action of the radium is believed to operate to eradicate cancer would necessitate the use of many medical phrases, but the theory, put as plainly as possible, is that the activity of the radium sets up a prolonged reaction amongst the diseased tissues and cells, and not only arrests their growth, but has a degenerating influence which, with repeated application, is sufficient to make the disease disappear and restore the affected part to its normal condition. The contention that such an effect is produced is held to be strengthened by experiments which have been made in placing the tube with the radium has been placed inside a part of the anatomy afflicted with cancer. When the tube has been removed it has been found that degeneration of the diseased tissues has taken place in the locality in which the tube was placed.—"St. James's Gazette."

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J. T. Peters Esqr., S. T. Corps, Umballa, writes:—

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INOCULATION OF SEED AND THE SOIL.

The following directions are given by the United States Department of Agriculture for preparing packages (No. 2.) of materials for the inoculation of seed and of the soil with nitrogen bearing germs, to supply the needs of the clover and other leguminous plants and soil that are deficient in these germs:

Directions for using inoculating material.

Put one gallon of clean water (preferably rain water) in a clean tub or bucket and add No. 1 of the enclosed package of salts stir occasionally, until all is dissolved.

Carefully open package No. 2 and drop the enclosed cotton into the solution. Cover the tub with a paper to protect from dust, and set aside in a warm place for twenty-four hours. Do not heat the solution or you will kill the bacteria—it should never be warmer than blood heat.

After twenty-four hours add the contents of package No. 3. Within twenty hours more the solution will have a cloudy appearance, and is ready for use.

To Inoculate Seed.

Take just enough of the solution to thoroughly moisten the seed. Stir thoroughly, so that all the seeds are touched by the solution. Spread out the seeds in a shady place until they are perfectly dry, and plant just as you would untreated seed.

If bad weather should prevent planting at once, the inoculated seed, if thoroughly dried, may be kept without deterioration for several weeks. The dry cultures as sent from the laboratory will keep for several months.

Do not prepare the liquid culture more than two or three days previous to the time when the seeds are to be treated, as the solution, once made up, must usually be used at the end of forty-eight hours.

To Inoculate Soil.

Take enough dry earth so that the solution will merely moisten it. Mix thoroughly, so that all the particles of soil are moistened. Thoroughly mix this earth with four or five times as much, say half a wagon load.

Spread this inoculated soil thinly and evenly over the prepared ground, exactly as if spreading fertilizer. The inoculated soil should be harrowed in immediately.

Either of the above methods may be used as may be most convenient.

Now, the modules that are formed on the roots of the soil bean are subjected to a systematic treatment, that is to say, a marvellously interesting process is carried on of extracting and converting the insoluble nitrogen of the atmosphere into a soluble form for the use of plants.

From this inoculation of seeds sown with the artificial bacteria small colonies are set up in the soil, which begin to grow and to increase in activity until large numbers of nodules are built up on the roots of the clover, bean or pea plants, thereby enriching the soil with nitrogen, the most expensive plant food when bought in the commercial form, and this is done by these bacterial colonies stimulated into active growth at a very small initial cost is sufficient material clover. To obtain the best results with this method of inoculation the soil needs to be in good physical condition, which is secured by thorough tillage, either plowing, harrowing, forking or raking.

The reports returned from the use of this new system of soil improvement show that some surprising results have been obtained. From one field, where the soil was not inoculated, a yield of 372 pounds of crimson clover was obtained, while from the same kind of soil inoculated 6,292 pounds was obtained, a nearly eighteenfold increase.

In a field of red clover an inoculated portion showed a growth of six inches higher than the surrounding parts, uninoculated. Wheat following where clover has been grown has given an increase in value of $13 per acre, and for potatoes, $38 per acre. It is proved that $1 expended in clover seed has given as large a return as $4 invested in fertilizers.

The various battalions of Gurkhas outside Dharmsala are sending liberal subscriptions to help the families of the 1st and 7th Gurkhas that suffered from the earthquake.

Some more new and powerful engines of the improved type are being imported from England for the Kalka-Simla Railway and are expected to arrive during the course of next month.

There is a strong belief in Chinese official circles that peace between Russia and Japan is likely to be soon proposed, and already arrangements are being made for a joint Chinese and Japanese Commission to fix the boundaries of Manchuria. It is believed that many delicate questions will arise when the delimitation is entered upon, especially on the eastern frontiers along the Yalu and at certain points in the Liaotung Peninsula.

The Madras Government have sanctioned the distribution of Rs. 33,175 among Taluq Boards and Municipalities in the Ceded Districts as subsidy for the payment of educational grants and results stipends, and have authorised the Director of Public Instruction to utilise an amount of Rs. 8,050 saved in other directions in paying any reasonable claims from Local Boards for additional subsidy. The total allotment for 1904-05 Rs. is 2,39,600.

The following is a summary of crops and weather report in the United Provinces, for week ended 26th ultimo. Rain has fallen in 26 districts. The harvesting of spring crops is nearing completion and threshing and winnowing have commenced. Irrigation and weeding of sugarcane and extra crops are in progress. Relief test works in the Lalitpur sub-division of the Jhansi district have been closed. Fodder is reported scarce in Etawah. Prices are stationary.

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"In my distant village home, and the consequence is, that the baneful effects of Malaria, have reduced my health to the present state. I am shattered, weak, pale, emaciated and uncared for in my own home."—Complaints of above nature come to us every now and then and we would advise the complainants to use our PANCHATIKTA BATIKA, the infallible specific for Malarial and other periodical fevers which will do away with the necessity of calling a doctor and will cure him thoroughly at a nominal charge.

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"My wife suffered from Dyspepsia for a long time, but your SUDHA CHURNA has done her good."

K. G. Kelkar Esqr., B. A., Principal, Poona Training College, writes:—
"I was suffering from Acidity and Colic. Rao Bahadur B. G. Sathe recommended to me your SUDHA CHURNA and got a bottle of it for me from you. I am using it and am glad to say I have got rid of my complaints."

Raghunath Sing Esqr., Post Master, Hoshangabad, writes:—
"Kindly send two bottles of SUDHA CHURNA, as I have derived much benefit by its use or Constipation, as also my friend to whom I gave the Churna."

Babu Umesh Chandra Kotal, Sub-Registrar, Maisadal, writes:—
"I am glad to inform you that SUDHA CHURNA has given much relief to the patient who was suffering from Acidity for the last few months."

Babu Srikrishna Mahanti, Cuttack writes:—
"SUDHA CHURNA is no doubt very efficacious in its effects and clears bowels regularly. Since I have been taking it, I have had no attack of Indigestion and it has done me immense good."

Babu Lakshmi Narayan Ray, Mursidabad, writes:—
"I have been giving the medicine to my wife thrice daily, for the last 5 days, and it has done her good."

Babu Krishna Prosad Maitra, Zemindar and Hon. Magistrate, Malancha, Sonarpur, writes:—
"I am glad to say that I have derived much benefit within a couple of days of its (SUDHA CHURNA'S) use and have every reason to believe that by continuing the medicine for some time I shall be completely cured of the Indigestion from which I have been suffering. I used many other medicines, both Allopathic and Kabiraji, but none of them has given any benefit."

Babu Karunanidhan Mukherjee, Hon. Magistrate, Burdwan, writes:—
"The phial of SUDHA CHURNA which you sent about a week ago, has given much relief to my wife who has been suffering from dyspepsia since last 3 years. Please send 3 large phials without least delay.'

Dr. G. B. Chimaswamy, 1st grade, Hospital Assistant, Koppa, Kadur Dist, says:—
"Kindly send at an early date one large phial of SUDHA CHURNA. The one you sent has done much good to the patient."

Dr. Shrikrishna Chinnaji G., Medical Officer, Shriwardhan, Janjira State, writes:—
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