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পদকল্পতরু।

সম্পূর্ণ হইয়াছে

মূল্য ৩।০ টাকা।

পরিশিষ্ট যন্ত্রস্থ।

অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য

শ্রীঅদ্বৈত প্রকাশ।

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বাগবাজার, পত্রিকা আফিশে প্রাপ্তব্য।

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শ্রীমনোহরদাস প্রণীত।

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CHARGES AGAINST A JUDICIAL OFFICER.

THE Special Commission appointed to enquire into the charges brought against Raja Chitpal Singh, Joint Magistrate of Ghazipur, resumed its sittings at Allahabad on Wednesday. It will be remembered that the Commission adjourned before Christmas to give the Raja's counsel an opportunity of inspecting records and preparing his defence.

A letter was read from Messrs. Moti Lal Nehru, Baldeo Ram, and Kunwar Parmanand, who had hitherto appeared for the Raja, announcing that they had withdrawn from the case. The Raja was represented by Messrs. Roshan Lal and Ram Gopal, barristers-at-law.

Lala Nanda Pershad, examined on behalf of the Raja, said he was a vakil in the Collector's Gutcherry at Ghazipur, where he had practised for nearly 25 years. He was also a zemindar. He knew Raja Chitpal Singh and used to have criminal and rent cases in his court. He had seen the Raja working in his court. The Raja used to write down evidence and judgments in arrears of rent cases himself. In a big and complicated case there might be an adjournment for a day for delivery of judgment but in ordinary cases the judgments were delivered as soon as the cases concluded. The Raja used himself to write down the statements of the accused in criminal cases. In summary *challan* cases the Raja followed the prescribed procedure.—Cross-examined. He could not—name any *challan* case in which he appeared as vakil which was heard on the day on which it was received, but he was sure the summary *challan* cases were so heard. The Raja wrote down the depositions in all cases, serious and otherwise. The depositions were taken down on witness-sheets. He did not remember the Raja having memorandums before him in taking down the depositions. The Raja had the prescribed forms and slips before him on the table when taking down depositions, but witness could not say whether anything was written on these slips or not. The depositions used to be read to witnesses after they were complete, but he could not say whether they were signed or not. He could not say whether the statements filed in the records were those actually written by the Raja or not.

Raja Ram, a vakil, at Ghazipur, said he had known Raja Chitpal Singh all the time the latter had been at Ghazipur. He had appeared before the Raja several times. He corroborated the previous witness as to the Raja's methods of work.—In cross-examination he admitted that with regard to depositions he could only say that when a witness made any statement the Raja wrote something down. He could not mention any case in which he appeared in which judgment was given as soon as the case was completed. So far as he remembered witnesses' signatures used to be taken on their depositions.

Jaisri Dyal, vakil, of Ghazipur, said he had appeared before the Raja in both criminal and rent cases. The Raja wrote down depositions of complainants and witnesses, and statements of the accused, and if the case was a small one gave his judgment there and then; in big cases he gave judgment in two or three days. The Raja himself wrote judgments in cases.—In cross-examination he said he had seen a judgment which he knew had been written by the Raja, but he could not swear that the Raja ever wrote a judgment ten lines in length in court.—Re-examined he said the Raja had written in his presence judgments extending to one or two pages.

The Commission adjourned to Friday last when the following took place:—

The Raja's counsel having at a previous hearing made an application with regard to the expenses of witnesses, Government was communicated with and replied by telegram that it was prepared to pay the expenses of ten witnesses only, provided the Commission was satisfied that their evidence was material to the defence A written petition was now put in on behalf of Raja Chitpal Singh in regard to this matter, but the Commissioners decided that they had no powers under which they could authorise the examination of witnesses at the cost of Government, and they were not prepared at the present stage of the case to make any representation to Government on the subject. It may be mentioned that about 50 witnesses have been summoned by the Raja, apparently under the impression that the expenses of all witnesses would be defrayed by Government. During the course of the day, Mr. Roshan Lal announced that in view of the Government's decision with regard to payment he did not propose to call 20 of the witnesses who had been summoned, and the Commissioners gave permission to such of these as were in attendance to return to their homes.

Mehmad Ali, a muktear of Ghazipur, said he had had several criminal cases before the Raja, in some of which many witnesses were examined. The Raja, to witness's knowledge, took depositions of witnesses in Court on the proper forms, and had no assistance from other papers while so recording evidence. He followed the same practice with the statements of accused persons. He had known the Raja write judgments of one, two, and three pages in his presence in Court. He had not seen the Raja reading evidence from slips of paper, but he had seen him making notes on slips of paper of contradictions on the evidence, &c. He had seen no illegal practices in the Raja's Court.—In cross-examination he said he could not swear that the Raja did not look at slips of paper with writing on them when he was taking down the evidence of a witness; he could only say that he had never seen him do so.

Lekhraj Chaube, octroi superintendent, said he had to go to the Raja's Court once in a case in which a Mohurrir had embezzled some money. The Raja himself wrote down his deposition on whitish paper. He did not remember whether his deposition was read over to him or not.

Lochan Rae, police constable, said he was present at the search of Babu Satyagyan's house on the complaint of the Raja. The kotwal made a list of all the things taken. He subsequently went to the Raja's house and saw the Raja examine the contents of the boxes taken from Satyagyan's house. The Raja kept back none of the papers which were among Satyagyan's things. The Babu was quite close to the Raja while the latter examined the books and papers, but he said nothing at all.

Kumar Chander Bhattacharji, a pleader, said Raja Chitpal Singh never employed him to write down depositions for him, to write judgments, or to draw up dockets or reports for him. [This evidence was put in because Lalit Mohan had stated when examined as a prosecution witness that Kumar Chander Bhattacharji was one of the men employed by the Raja to do work of this kind.]

Rama Pershad gave similar evidence to that of the last witness.—Cross-examined, he said he was never present at any interview between his father and Babu Satyagyan. He could give no reason for the Babu falsely stating that he was present at such an interview.

Gya Pershad, one of the witnesses to the search of Satyagyan's house, gave evidence as to what took place on that occasion. All those who were present allowed the Babu to search them in order to show that they had concealed no papers or other things on them. Subsequently while the search was proceeding the kotwal came upon some opium tied up in a cloth and put away in a niche in the wall. There was about two tolahs of opium. They took the things they had found to the Raja's house, and the Babu himself opened the boxes. Raja Chitpal Singh selected some books and four pages of paper, which the kotwal took into his possession. The other books and papers were put back into the boxes and sent away to the Babu's house. The Raja did not keep back any of the things.

The commission adjourned.—*Pioneer.*

THE ABODE OF LOVE.

THE death is announced at Spaxton near Bridgewater, at the advanced age of ninety years, of Brother Henry James Prince, well-known as the founder of what is termed the Agapœmone or Abode of Love." Brother Prince was formerly a clergyman in the Church of England, as were also some of his followers, among whom were numerous wealthy ladies and gentlemen. Many of Brother Prince's adherents occupied the singular conventual establishment at Spaxton, a most luxuriously fitted-up retreat of which he had been the head since 1849. The remarkable tenets of the Prancite community and their supposed mode of living were severely commented upon in Hepworth Dixon's "Spiritual Wives," published in 1868, and at one time the sect nearly became extinct. Some windfalls, however, are reported to have recently fallen to their lot, and about four years ago the deceased assisted in the opening of a branch at Clapton, North London, where the Ark of the Covenant, the first church of the community, an elaborate building, seating about 500 people, was erected at a cost of some 20,000. The chequered career of this strange sect, if it may be so described, from time to time, excited much public interest. For example, one of the witnesses in a case heard in the Vice-Chancellor's Court in may 1850, soon after the establishment of the Somersetshire Abode" let in a little daylight upon the mode of life of the occupants. "There are fifty or sixty living in the Agapoemone," he said. "We have horses and carriages, and live in good style; but consider all we do to be for the glory of God. Everyone does as he pleases on the Sunday. We make no difference between that day and any other day. All play at hockey; males as well as females. There was a denial of irreligion and immorality, but the Vice-Chancellor, after commenting severely on the conduct of the whole place, decided in favour of the plaintiff in the case, who wished to iremove her child from the control of her husband, who appears to have been one of Prince's adherents.

A BOOK ON RUSSIAN DESIGNS ON INDIA.

"A PACIFIC Englishman" calls attention in the *Standard* to a review in the *Novoe Vremya* of a work recently published by a M. V. T. Lebedoff, the purpose of which is to advocate the Russian advance into India, and indicate the best means of occupying Herat, Afghanistan, and portions of India. It is stated that the author was furnished with data from the Archives of the Imperial Ministry for Foreign Affairs The title of the book is "In India: a Military, Statistical, and Strategical Sketch." The author sketches the various Russian and English expeditions into Northern Asia and former projects for a Russian advance into India.

The author then gives a statistical and geographical survey of the scene of (future) warlike operations, and finally develops "his favourite idea" of the onward movement of the Russians into Indja. He remarks that in 1885 Russia had established herself at the very gates of Herat, within 120 versts, whereas the outposts of the Anglo-Indian Army had not advanced beyond Chaman—*i. e.*, at a distance of from 650 to 700 versts from that point. M. Lebedeff weites:—"In the north our vanguard stood on the sacred 'Roof of the World' (Pamirs) in view of the snowy parapets of the Hindoo Koosh, and thus the chances in favour of an ulterior advance of the Russians into Afghanistan were greatly increased. *The permanent gravitation of Russia towards India,* manifesting itself, first, in numerous projects of expeditions into that country which have remained unfulfilled from various causes, and secondly, in the agressive movement of the Russians in Northern Asia—which Rawlinson compares to the advancing of parallels against a besieged fortress—has always evoked the apprehensions of England for the preservations of her power in India, has made her our sworn foe, and has caused her perpetually and systematically to aim at checking Russian policy in the East."

The author points out that England disposes of a powerful and almost invulnerable fleet, and that the only point where she has cause to fear Russia is her Indian Empire. "Therefore," he argues, "our task in Northern Asia is to establish ourselves there in a strong and ever stronger position, so as to be able to take advantage of it in case our antagonist should take it into his head to display such animosity against us as he showed, for instance, during the Crimean war and at the time of the Congress of Berlin. The occupation of Herat, then of Candahar and Cabul, and, finally the inclusion of the whole of Afghanistan within the sphere of our influence—these will mark our furthest footsteps in Northern Asia; on these depend the advantage of Russia, and from the pursuit of these she must never turn aside.' The reviewer here quietly observes that it would be folly to dream of accomplishing all these objects at one stroke. "Indeed," he says, 'our author imagines nothing of the kind. He divides their execution into four campaigns, separated from each other by intervals of time, the date of which cannot at present be predicted, and which will depend on circumstances. In the first campaign, beginning on the side of the Transcaspian Provinces, Heart is to be taken possession of, and the troops pushed on to the Transcaspian Railway (Merv). On the Turkestan side they will proceed from Samarcand, through Bokhara, to Mazar-el-Sherif, which also unites with the railway to Samarcand. In the second campaign, Afghanistan is to be occupied, and an effective base of operations established along the line from Candahar to Cabul. This line will serve as a base for the movements in the third campaign, which comprises the taking of Beloochistan and the achievement of an outlet to the Persian Gulf.

And here, having arrived at this point, the author is of opinion that the moment would have arrived for the conclusion of a firm and durable peace between England and Russia, to the mutual advantage of both countries. But M. Lebedeff is not without some pensive misgivings as to our reasonableness, for he adds:—"Should, however, the enemy prove intractable, that would amount to a challenge to carry out the fourth campaign, by an advance to the countries on the west of the Indus, through Lahore to Delhi, where the final blow would have to be struck."

CENTRAL ASIAN NOTES.

ALLEGED TREATY BETWEEN RUSSIA AND THE AMEER.

THE following from the *Morning Post* of Jan. 14 was sent by its Paris correspondent:—

According to news to hand from St. Petersburg, from a source that, as a rule, is very well informed, a treaty of alliance between Russia and the Ameer of Afghanistan was signed on Jan. 3.

A few days previously the Ameer had issued the following significant Proclamation to his subjects:—

In the name of God and Mahomet, salutations to our children, our faithful subjects. By the grace of God and his Prophet there are many Sovereigns in the world. It is the right of every Sovereign to defend and do as he wishes with his territory, and when he has occasion to render service to his neighbours he becomes their benefactor and ally.

The White Czar of Russia is building the Kuschk Railway, which is to traverse a portion of our territory and conduce to its prosperity. Not only does he neither ask for nor lay hands on anything that belongs to us, but he puts within our reach the means of enriching ourselves.

Let us not listen, in consequence, to certain evilly disposed foreigners who are in the habit of uttering calumnies, but let us be friends of the Russians as we are of their Emperor.

The document is signed, "Abdurrahezm, Khan and Ameer, Sovereign of all Afghanistan.

The treaty is, of course, regarded in St. Petersburg as a notable success for Russian diplomacy, which claims to have secured it in the teeth of the most strenuous opposition on the part of Great Britain.

British efforts are said to have been directed for a long time past towards preventing or at any rate delaying, the completion of the Central Trans-Asiatic Railway which will put Russia in communication, on the one hand, with the interior of Afghanistan and, on the other, with China by way of Manchuria. British offers of money and troops are alleged to have been made to the Ameer with a view to inducing him to enter on active hostilities with Russia.

It is claimed in St. Petersburg that the result of this struggle for influence is a treaty of alliance between Russia and Afghanistan.

The proclamation given above has been posted up throughout the country at posts erected where crossways meet and in the mountain villages.

RUSSIA AND THE AFGHAN FRONTIER.

THE Odessa correspondent of the *Daily News* telegraphed on Jan. 17 :—

With the recently opened Murghab section of the Transcaspian Railway extension connecting Merv with the Kuschk posts on the Afghan frontier, there has been created not only an active general traffic over that region, but a very large influx of Russian colonists, who are now founding settlements at various points closely contiguous to the Ameer's boundary. The real author of this wholesale immigration movement to the Kuschk is the War Minister, General Kuropatkin, who, while still military commandant in Central Asia made the necessary arrangements with the immigration committees in Kharkoff and other populous centres in European Russia. The first of the new Kuschk colonies was established on land gratuitously apportioned by General Kuropatkin at Scheikh Djinand, a fertile locality situated about three English miles from the Afghan frontier. The officer appointed by the former commandant to control and direct his colonising enterprise has just planted two new colonies of 218 and 505 families respectively on the Kuschk River. All the colonists now streaming eastward from European Russia are received by the authorities at Ashkabad, and after being furnished by the latter with all necessary appliances free of cost they are forwarded, *via* Merv to the Kuschk. General Kuropatkin's original scheme of planting along the Afghan frontier a chain of future populous Russian towns and settlements now promises to be rapidly accomplished.

It has been decided to abolish the Assistant Commissionership of Kasauli, and to appoint, instead, a full-time Cantonment Magistrate for that and the neighbouring hill cantonments. At the same time Kasauli and Kalka will be transferred from Simla to the Umballa Civil District.

MRS. FRANK MARTIN leaves Peshawar for Kabul some time next week to join her husband who is in the Amir's service. Mrs. Martin recently came out from home and is at present staying with her brother-in-law, Major Morris, R. A. M. C., at Mian Mir. Mr. Frank Martin is a younger brother of C. Acquin Martin,

ON Saturday morning Balkrishna Hari Chapekar was placed before the City Magistrate of Poona and a further remand asked for. An adjournment was granted till the 9th.

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THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, FEBRUARY 9, 1899.

LORD CURZON AT THE ASIATIC SOCIETY.

His Excellency is only a few weeks in this strange land, and he has already made himself the principal subject of talk in every parlour in the country. Viceroys come and go amidst the roar of cannons, no one taking any ardent interest in their movements. But Lord Curzon never lets a day pass without making his presence felt, by his sayings and doings. The presence of a Viceroy at the annual meeting of the learned Society named above, ought to have been a dull affair, but as soon as his Lordship entered the Hall, the members felt that they had got an accession of new blood in their veins. A State chair had been kept ready for him, but he did not like these formalities. He said he had come there not as a pageant but "as a student and as a learner." And he sat there as one of them, forgetting that he was the Viceroy, and making others forget that he was the most important man in this continent.

Responsibility makes a man, who is really very great, humble. On the other hand, greatness thrust upon a man who is not fit for it, makes his head dizzy. In India every Englishman runs the risk of losing his head. He comes from England an obscure man, to find himself here the ruler of millions, whose will is law, and who is more powerful than many sovereign Princes in Europe. He is tempted to lose the balance of his mind. But Lord Curzon is conscious of the fact that if his position is that of a mighty ruler, he has to carry a mighty soul to deserve his position. He cannot afford to be mean, discourteous, or rude, or even vain. Really great men do not rely upon brute force and external forms, for the maintenance of their position. They are too proud and conscious of their inner strength, to be able to do that. Their reliance is in the force of their character and in the greatness of their soul. So, the first thing that Lord Curzon did, on entering the assembly, was to put the members at their ease, and to present himself in their midst, in the character of a student and learner.

Lord Curzon shewed in his speech that if he could talk with merchants on the currency question, he could also give points to archaeologists to ponder over. In going to do it, however, His Excellency unburthened his mind as regards his feeling towards India. Let us quote here a portion of his speech:—

As regarded the work of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, although he knew that it consisted mostly of voluntary effort and that they did not spurn the help of amateurs, he yet did not personally regard its action as the mere academic exercise of students. He looked upon it rather as part of a duty which we owed to India. Planted as we had been by Providence upon the throne of the Indies we were trustees for the world of a literature, an archaeology, a history and an art that were among the priceless treasures of mankind. For nearly 3,000 years there had been a succession of kingdoms, dynasties, races, and religions in India all of them leaving relics of some sort, many of them relics of the highest value, which it was incumbent upon us to examine, to elucidate, and to conserve. It was sometimes said that officials in India had nowadays no time for independent study or research. "No time," was always the excuse of idleness, and the busiest man was usually he who had most time at his disposal. He did not, therefore, accept that plea as an excuse for any relaxation in the efforts which so many distinguished members of the Society had made in the past, and during his term of office he meant to do whatever lay in his power to encourage research, to promote study, and to safe-guard the relics of the past as a part of our imperial obligation to India.

In the above we see Lord Curzon opening to the "greed" of Europeans, a new field for enterprize. India, to most Englishmen, is a place for the provision of the middle-classes of their country,—for failed candidates to find a berth in. India is a place for the training of budding statesmen and soldiers. Lord Curzon pointed out that other priceless treasures could be found in India, besides the tribute of 30 millions sent annually from here.

The fact is, India is an ancient country, inhabited by a race of thinkers and not actors. They have been striving from time immemorial to solve the problem, which affects the dearest interests of humanity, *viz.*, the constitution and capacities of the human soul. While the highest energies of the West were devoted to the discovery of the secrets of the material world, the Hindus directed theirs to the control of the forces that move the external world. Thus, if hypnotism is a new science in Europe, it is one of the oldest in India. Thus the science and art of *yoge* are yet unknown in the West. Lord Curzon, as a lover of arts and science, promises that he will do all that he can to see that these "relics of the highest value" are properly elucidated and conserved. But his Lordship has another interest besides that of being a lover of arts and science. He says that, being in possession of the country, Englishmen are the trustees of these priceless treasures, and that they are in duty bound to see that they are properly preserved and utilized.

If it is "an Imperial obligation" to conserve and elucidate these priceless treasures, another greater obligation is to secure the happiness and contentment of the people, is it not? Lord Curzon will take due care of our literature and sciencet does not that promise shew that His Excellency will also take due care of the people? His Excellency urges on every Englishman to devote time for independent inquiry and research, or, in other words, to take an interest in Indian science and arts They have yet a higher duty, *viz.*, to devote time for inquiring into the condition of the people and devising means for improvement thereof. Alas! officials in India have no time. That is, however, a plea which is founded upon fact. For they have to work day and night. And why? It is because they will do everything themselves, and will not permit the people to help them! Lord Ripon wanted to relieve them of some portion of their responsibilities by introducing his scheme of local self-government. But they would not be relieved. It is this infatuation which leaves them no time, either to study the arts and science of India, or the condition of the people, or to spend an hour in innocent amusements. The Indian official is the hardest-worked in the world.

The kind manner in which His Excellency talks of India and her past glory will, no doubt, deeply touch the hearts of the people of this country. But the difficulty is this. In India, officials are interdicted from acting or talking like men who have any sentiment. They must act and talk like machines. Lord Curzon speaks in a strange manner, talks like one who has all the amiable failings of humanity. Can his Lordship make his countrymen pursuade, that the Queen has no objection to her servants here enjoying all the legitimate joys of life, and that if an official refuses to act like a machine and asserts his humanity, her gracious Majesty will not be offended? If the officials have to lead a dreary life of it here, it is all their own fault. Lord Curzon will do an incalculable service to his own countrymen and the Indians too, if his Lordship can persuade the former to give up their artificial life and frigid manners and live like ordinary men. In India they are alone in the midst of millions.

THE VICEROY AS A PEACE-MAKER.

The other day we expressed a wish that some one would inform the Viceroy, who is a new-comer, the way the affairs of this country are internally administered. While we were writing the paragraph, Mr. Woodroffe was actually describing before the Judges of the High Court a curious feature of Indian administration. A muktear's man had brought a charge of theft against the Sub-divisional Officer of Munshigunj. Before that case had been finished, the authorities of the district instituted proceedings, not only against the complainant but his master also, for making a false complaint. And Mr. Woodroffe moved the High Court to set them aside. Among other things Mr. Woodroffe made an important statement: let us quote from our report:—

Mr. Woodroffe after stating the facts of the case said that the original complaint had not yet been decided; and before that was done the Magistrate had given sanction to prosecute his client. This hurry to prosecute the man was due to the fact that the charge had been brought against a Deputy Magistrate. "Because it is known," said Mr Woodroffe, "that if you raise a finger against even a punkha coolie employed in a Government office, you are sure to have all the officials combined against you."

If this be the normal condition here, where is the protection of Her Majesty's subjects? It may be said that Mr. Woodroffe made an incorrect or exaggerated statement to serve the interests of his client. But the very circumstances of the case will practically prove the contention of Mr. Woodroffe. How can one account for this hurry? And how are we to account for another fact? Why was the Advocate-General engaged on behalf of the officials, against this puny complainant? Here is a point of law to be decided by the highest court in the land, presided over by English Judges not likely to be biased in favour of a native. Why is the big fee paid from the public exchequer to the Advocate-General and another in this case? Why compel the other man to sell everything he has, to be able to secure the services of a leading counsel like Mr. Woodroffe, to pit against the other formidable lawyers?

It is not the British Parliament that rules India; this country is practically under the rule of officials. When the officials, already enjoying liberal salaries, voted higher pay for themselves, in the name of "compensation allowance," at a time when the country was on the verge of bankruptcy, those who paid for the expenses of the State, could excuse this very human arrangement. Yet we remember that there was, at least, one official who objected to the arrangement. It was Mr. Lea who said that the members of the service already enjoyed very high salaries and it was unjust to demand a further increase in the name of "compensation allowance".

But, as we said, there is no man on earth who will not try to increase his pay if he can do it. The officials saw that they could increase their salary, and they did it. But why should the Advocate-General be engaged by the Government to fight a puny man, in a puny case, when the case is in the hands of its own servants, who are all Englishmen, from the top to the bottom? To admit the statement of Mr. Woodroffe that, if a Government coolie is touched all the officials combine against his opponent, is to admit that the Indian has very little protection.

Yet the people found this protection, in days gone by, somehow or other. And that because individually many of these officials were, generally speaking, good and able men. Officials, generally speaking, have no motive to act in a high-handed manner, that is another reason. In those days the officials who ruled the districts were elderly men, sobered down by age and experience. And in those days the chief ruler always protected the people, whenever a case of high-handedness was brought to his notice. But now the District Magistrates are all young men, and the chief is either unwilling or too weak himself to control them. And what is the result? It is something like anarchy that prevails in many of the districts of India. When a Magistrate is sympathetic it is all right; if he is less so, it is hopeless misery to the people.

The people, in despair, seek the protection of the press to be able to bring their sorrows to the notice of the authorities. The press comments upon the vagaries of the local magnates, and the only benefit that they derive is that the temper of the latter is embittered, and they, without mending their conduct, only make things worse for the people. In one word then, if the official is sympathetic, the Indians are in heaven; if he is otherwise they find themselves in the midst of blank despair. Either the Government should find sympathetic rulers for the people, or it must afford protection by other means.

It is simply terrorism in many parts of the moffusil. If the press, to make itself heard, makes strong comments, it is put down as seditious. But it was never the intent of the English people, nor of the Queen, that the people of India should be deprived of the precious blessings that the former enjoy. Those who make British rule unpopular here are the greatest enemies of the English race; those English men who take advantage of their position to lord it over the Indians, are traitors to their country. No Englishman can deny that. The heart-felt wish of every Englishman is that, the Indians should bless and not curse their rule, and that the interests of the Indians should not be sacrificed for the interests of a few officials, whom they send out here to rule the country.

We do not see why there should be such a ceaseless warfare between the ruled and the rulers. The fight is unequal; indeed, it is not a fight at all. The ruled have no desire to intrude upon the rights of the rulers; the rulers, on the other hand, gain nothing by keeping up this unequal and suicidal warfare. There is no reason why the English ruler and the Indian subject should not live in amity and peace. Can Lord Curzon bring about good feelings between the rulers and the ruled? What do the rulers want? We think they have got every thing and perhaps more. And why should any ruler treat an Indian unkindly when he can as well treat him kindly? The ruled on their part want something, and it is protection. Of course, they have got protection from internal dissensions,—protection from dacoits and from foreign invaders, and they are thankful. But they have yet to be protected from those officials who are unruly.

WHERE ARE THE EDUCATED INDIANS TO GO?

In addressing the new Maharajah of Durbhanga on the occasion of His Highness's investiture ceremony, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor feelingly said:—

I should have regarded it as a public calamity, if another great Raj in Behar had passed into a long minority. It is a matter of misfortune that in three of the leading Houses in Behar there is no leader, and, therefore, it is, Maharaja, that I am glad that in Durbhanga, at any rate, there is a successor in the prime of life and energy.

Yes, this long minority is regarded in the light of a national calamity. When such an event takes place, the faces of the educated Indians are blanched with despair, for it means ostracism and starvation to them. The ruler of a Native State dies, leaving a minor or a widow, and the State becomes, to all intents and purposes, a British State. There would be no harm in this arrangement if competent Indians were appointed to manage its affairs. Let it be borne in mind that, the natives of the soil have been practically ostracised from almost all posts of responsibility and emolument in British India. It is native India where they have some chance of satisfying their laudable ambition of holding high appointments and giving evidence of their capacity for statesmanship. In this way, Madhaba Rao, Raghunath Rao, Shashia Shastri, Nilambur Mookerjee, Kanti Chander and others were created.

A retrograde and reactionary policy was, however, introduced some ten or twelve years ago, and Native States were placed in the hands of Europeans when their owners died, leaving minor sons or widows behind. We thus find that Hyderabad, Gwalior, Rewah, etc. were flooded with European officers, all the important posts in those States having been filled by the members of the ruling race. Sometime ago, we published a Parliamentary Return showing that there was scarcely a Native State which had not been invaded by a number of Europeans, enjoying its loaves and fishes at the cost of competent natives of the soil.

But if we gave up the Native States in despair, we had a notion that the Zemindaries were safe from the encroachment of European place-hunters. But just see, As His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor remarks, there are three or four big estates in Behar. Next to Durbhanga the most important estates in that province are Dumraon, Hutwa, and Bettiah. All these estates now lie completely helpless at the mercy of the Government. The Maharajas who owned them are dead; and their widowed Ranees, poor ladies, have practically no hand in the management of their affairs.

It is well-known that the Hutwa estate owes its prosperity to a Bengali gentleman and his relatives. The late Babu Bhubaneswar Dutt managed its affairs with such efficiency that the Maharaja used to regard him in the light of his own father. Babu Bhubaneswar left a worthy successor in a relation of his, Babu Bepin Behari Bose, who also endeared himself to the Maharaja by the satisfactory discharge of his duties. The Maharaja expressed a wish that, after his death, the management of his estates should be left in the hands of Babu Bepin Behari; but he was ousted, and one Mr. Buskin, who served *under* him in the estate, was appointed *over* him as manager on more than double his pay! Mr. Buskin was, however, not acquainted with the affairs of the estate. So while Bepin Babu did the work, Mr. Buskin drew the pay of the Dewan!

Mr. Buskin was at last got rid of; but the estate had to pay a heavy penalty for it. In short, he was paid *sixty-seven thousand Rupees* and then retired, and another European manager, Mr. Markham, was appointed in his place on a princely pay! Is this not an excellent arrangement? Such arrangements are possible only in India. Was ever a Government servant given a bonus of Rs. 67,000 when he retired from his post? May we also enquire, why should a European manager be fastened upon Hutwa when a native was managing its affairs most efficiently, on nearly one-fourth the salary now paid to Mr. Markham?

Economy and industry ought to be the mainstay of a nation which has no political liberty. Paddy and wheat are the only property of the Indians. Even our mines are worked out by others. Yet the products of the field are almost thrown away because of many disadvantages. The growers have no market to sell their produce. When the Malguzardar (rent collector) demands his dues, the ryot has to sell his grains at any price. He has no market where to sell his grains at an advantage to himself. He is not even given the time to make the choice of a purchaser. He has to sell his produce to the first person who offers for it, and sometimes at the latter's price. Magistrates are the sole masters of their districts. Besides keeping the peace, they have other duties towards the people, especially as the latter have no organization of their own by which they can help themselves. Agriculture is the sole means of their existence, and, therefore, agriculture ought to be the chief object of concern with every Magistrate. But these functionaries, generally speaking, have an idea that their chief, and perhaps, only business is to stamp out crime, by sending people to jail. The people, therefore, do not consider the Magistrate to be their friend, and they stand aloof from him. District Magistrates themselves declare that they do not know why they are made to tour in the interior during the cold season. It costs the Government a large sum, while it does not secure to the officials any substantial income. Many of them perform the touring with disgust and conscience ill-satisfied. Let these Magistrates recognize their position and they will see that they can make these tours useful to the Government and the people. Let a Magistrate send for the elders wherever he pitches his tent. Let him have a free talk with them. He will soon see that by this procedure, he will be able to stamp out crime more easily and surely than by criminal proceedings, and at the same time benefit the people and endear the Sarkar to them. What are the Magistrates just now but objects of dread to the people? What is the British Government to them but the Magistrate and the PoliceConstable?

The Munshigunj case which was disposed of by the High Court last Friday, shows how private parties can be harassed, nay, almost ruined, when they happen to incur the displeasure of the local authorities. Babu Kali Prosonno Choudhury is a respectable Mooktear of Munshigunj; his mohurir, Debendra, brought a case of theft against Moulvi Fuzlal Karim, Sub-divisional Officer of Munshigunj. The alleged theft consisted of the disappearance of the timber of a valuable mango tree which belonged to Babu Kali Prosonno and was entrusted to the charge of Debendra. Babu Kali Prosonno threatened to recover the price of the tree from the latter, when Debendra said that it had been appropriated by the Moulvi. We next find Debendra lodging a complaint with the police charging the Sub-divisional Officer with the theft of the timber. This is the genesis of the sensational theft case of Munshigunj. The dispute was thus between Debendra and Moulvi Fuzlal Karim, and Babu Kali Prosonno had apparently nothing to do with it. But he was made a co-complainant with his servant, although he protested that he had no complaint against the Moulvi, and then sought to be prosecuted for making a false statement against the Moulvi. The police, before whom the complaint was laid by the servant of Babu Kali Prosonno, reported the matter to be false. This, of course, meant very little. As Mr. Woodroffe, the eminent counsel, when arguing the case last Friday, remarked, "he never believed the police." When the police sent up their report, the Assistant Magistrate of Dacca, an extremely young officer, made some sort of a roving inquiry, which Mr. Woodroffe characterised as an "inquisition," and held that the charge against the Moulvi had not been proved. On the strength of this inquiry, which was not a judicial trial, the District Magistrate of Dacca at once ordered the prosecution of Babu Kali Prosonno and his mohurir Debendra. The original theft case had not been judicially decided, and yet the District Magistrate felt no hesitation in characterizing it as a false one and directing the prosecution of Debendra and his master for making a false statement!

But the Magistrate did not stop here. Judging from the report before us, we find that a warrant was at once issued for the arrest of Babu Kali Prosonno, and he saved himself from the ignominy of falling into the clutches of the police by running away to Calcutta and seeking the protection of the High Court.

The Hon'ble Judges of the High Court have held that the Magistrate of Dacca was not justified in directing Babu Kali Prosonno to be prosecuted, and that his order should be set aside. This being the case, the question arises who is to compensate the loss which Babu Kali Prosonno has suffered in this connection? And the pecuniary loss, not to mention the excruciating mental turture to which he had been subjected for weeks together, is not a trifling one. He had to pay heavy fees to such a first-class Barrister as Mr. Woodroffe His practice at Munshigunj, which fetched him a handsome income, is also almost gone.

The other question is also an important one. The case was between Debendra and Moulvi Fuzlal Karim—not Fuzlal Karim as Sub-divisional Officer but Fuzlal Karim as a private individual. Debendra and Moulvi Fuzlal Karim should therefore have been left to fight their own battle and spend their own money. What, we see, however, is that, while Babu Kali Prosonno, the master of Debendra, had to engage Mr. Woodroffe at his own expense, the Advocate-General and Mr. Douglas White appeared on behalf of the Moulvi, apparently at the cost of the Government. We cannot say whether we are absolutely correct in our surmise on this point. Mr. Woodroffe wanted to know why the Government Advocate should interest himself in a case which was, to all intents and purposes, a private one. The Judges of the High Court, however, could not give a satisfactory reply. Assuming that the Advocate-General and Mr. Douglas White were paid by the Government, may we enquire whether it is fair that the tax-payers' money, which is in the sacred custody of the rulers of the land, should be allowed to be expended in this way? Why should the money of the tax-payers be spent for an object in which they have not the slighest interest?

The other point which occurs to us is this. When one party brings a theft case against another, the sympathy and support of the officials are always with the former. If it, however, transpires afterwards that the complaint was maliciously false, then the party maligned is left to himself, and if he likes he may institute a case against the traducer of his character. The officials keep aloof and never interest themselves in a matter like this. But why should another procedure be adopted in the Munshigunj case? Why should the sympathy and support of the officials, from the very beginning, be on the other side? Just see. The Police Inspector, who searched the compound of the Moulvi at his request for the alleged stolen timber which, it is said, was found there, was suspended, and is, we believe, still under suspension. Was such a thing ever heard in a theft case? Then, the fight is no longer between Moulvi Fuzlal Karim and Debendra, but between the Government and Kali Prosonno, master of Debendra! And Kali Prosonno is not yet free. The High Court has, no doubt, given him immediate relief, but the District Magistrate of Dacca, if vindictively disposed, may again haul him up and make him suffer all the trouble and pecuniary loss to which he has already been subjected. And, in this way, he may be totally ruined; and the District Magistrate will be within his rights if he orders him to be prosecuted again! For the sake of decency, we hope, the scandal will not be repeated and the feelings of the public further embittered. We hope, the Lieutenant-Governor will step in and put a stop to the scandal. What His Honor, in our humble opinion, has got to do is to hold an open enquiry into the charges brought against the Moulvi by the people of Munshigunj in their petition. If the charges are found to be false, let the signatories be punished. But if the charges are true, do not spare the Moulvi. It is in this way that the prestige of the Government can be maintained for even-handed justice. But the hidden policy, adopted in connection with affair, is unfair both to the public and the Moulvi, and is calculated to do unmitigated harm all round.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE citizens of Calcutta and the Suburbs have done all they could do to show that they do not want the revolutionary change contemplated in the Calcutta Municipal Bill. They have held public meetings attended by all classes of the community, in the north, south, west and the east, protesting both against the principles and the details of the measure, and made it as clear as possible that Government would do an act of grave injustice if they were to force the reform down their unwilling throats. They cannot do more. Just see how this retrograde and reactionary measure has convulsed the city. As soon as the Bill was announced in the Council by Sir Alexander Mackenzie, the citizens, through their newspapers, raised a cry of alarm. Then the first protest meeting was held in Ward No. 1 as early as April last; and but for the plague scare, a series of meetings would have followed it. However, in August or September, when the citizens were relieved of their anxiety about the plague, they brought about ward meetings all over the city, and convened a central meeting at the Town Hall through the Sheriff, who was so impressed with the character of the demonstration that, leaving all conventionalities aside, he expressed the hope that Government would be pleased to take due notice of its deliberations. One can understand that all this meant a good deal of trouble and expense, specially as there was a small section of the Indian community who were pulling the string on the other side. But, to the misfortune of the unhappy rate-payers of Calcutta, some body whispered into the ears of their good Governor that the movement was set on foot by some interested Municipal Commissioners, and Sir John Woodburn actually said so, though not in so many words, in his first public statement before the Council. The citizens were plunged into a sea of despair; for, how could they convince their ruler, after such a distinct declaration, that the interested Commissioners or the so-called political agitators had nothing to do with these protest meetings? Taking courage out of despair, they however commenced holding meetings over again. This time the so-called interested Commissioners were rigorously excluded from the agitation, though, as citizens, they had a perfect right to join in it and do their part of the duty in this connection. However, in order to humour the authorities, the Commissioners were permitted to take no part in the demonstration; and yet protest meetings started up, as we said before, in all parts of Calcutta attended not by school-boys but by the biggest rate-payers, who have the greatest stake in the city. They are also arranging for another Town Hall meeting through the Sheriff, and we doubt not, it will be also a grand success. We humbly submit that after all these genuine expressions of public feeling, no honest and fair-minded ruler can attribute the universal opposition to the Bill to some interested Commissioners or a small body of so-called agitators. We wish, Sir John Woodburn were present at the Bhowanipore meeting held on Sunday last to see with his own eyes and hear with his own ears how the Indian society has been turned *topsy turvy* over a measure, which has been left to him as a legacy by his predecessor.

BUT suppose there was no opposition offered to the Bill. Was the Government yet justified in taking away a valuable boon conferred on the people about a quarter of a century ago? No one, we presume, will seriously contend that the Mackenzie Bill, it passed, will not take away the semblance of local self-government which the citizens are now enjoying and which is an earnest for further blessings. Now, we believe, it is repugnant to the policy of the British Government and to the instincts of the British nation to withdraw a privilege conferred upon a people who are wholly dependent on them. Sir Douglas Straight, lately a Judge of the Allahabad High Court, was no particular friend of the people. Yet he wrote thus to the London *Times* :—

Speaking from fifteen years' residence in India, during which, I hope, I kept neither my eyes not my ears shut, I am firmly convinced of one thing, and it is this—that while innovations and changes there should only be very gradually and cautiously introduced, a concession once made should never be withdrawn except for reasons of the most paramount and pressing emergency.

Now, where are the "reasons of the most paramount and pressing emergency" for the withdrawal of the boon of local self-government from Calcutta? Sir Richard Temple, when conferring the present system of municipal government upon the people of this city, told them that, though Government was slow to make a concession, yet a concession once made was never withdrawn by them. Lord Ripon subsequently reiterated this assurance. His Lordship went further and said that, even if the Indians failed to exercise the right of self-government conferred on them, they would not be deprived of the boon; but the difficulties standing in their way, would be removed, and they would be helped to learn the art of self-government. We venture to hope that, Lord Curzon and Sir John Woodburn will never agree to take the odium of passing the Mackenzie Bill upon their shoulders. The odium is so great that, every honest Governor should shudder at enormity.

THE late District Magistrate of Pubna marked in his annual report, and the Divisional Commissioner supported the view, that the police receive no assistance from Zemindars. This was, no doubt, meant as a fling against the Zemindars. But if the public keep themselves aloof from the police, who is to blame for it? The object of the police is to insure the safety of lives and properties and to maintain order and peace. They should thus evoke the gratitude of the society, and it is the interest of the Zemindars to side with the officers in the detection of crime. But if they do not do it, it only proves that the police do not do their work properly or there is something wanting somewhere.

WE have not much knowledge about Bettiah; but this we know, that after the death of the late Maharaja, his widowed Ranee was driven to distraction about the management of her estate. Her father came to Calcutta for advice; but, we are not aware, to whom he came and what advice he got. In the end, the estate was entrusted to the Court of Wards and a highly-paid European now manages its affairs.

We now come to the history of the Dumraon Raj. When the Maharaja died, attempts were made to place the Raj in the hands of some Government servants. But the old and faithful Dewan, Rai Joyprokash Lal, was then living, and the scandal was averted. As ill luck would have it, Rai Joyprokash Lal followed his master to the grave, and the Raj was sought to be made over to the management of a European planter. The Maharanee, however, protested. She represented to the Board of Revenue that she would never have a European for her manager, as the Raj had always been managed by an Indian, and her earnest desire was that her affairs should be managed by a council. She gave a list of the names of persons who should form this council; and they were all educated gentlemen of high position and unimpeachable character. The authorities had, however, their own ideas; and to the surprise of the Maharanee and the general public, a European planter, Mr. Fox, was thrust upon the estate as the sole arbiter of its destiny!

Mr. Fox, however, could not put faith in the natives, and he must have some members of his own nationality to help him in his arduous task. So another European was indented and appointed as an important officer in the estate. The Raj was divided in three divisions and the number of Europeans appointed in the course of a year and-a-half, will be better shown in the tree given below, which has been supplied to us by a correspondent, who is a resident of Dumraon :—

H. H. Maharani Beni Prosad Koeri,
(Surviving Executrix).
|
Manager—Mr. C. Fox.
|
1. Ghazipur Divn. (N.-W. P.)
(a) *Assistant Manager*—Mr. G. R. Fox, (brother of the Manager).
(b) Mr. Henry Achieson, (Assistant and brother-in-law to Mr. G. R. Fox.)
2. Jagdishpur Divn. (Behar.)
(a) *Assistant Manager*—Mr. E. Mylne, (brother-in-law of the Manager).
(b) *Assistant to Mr. Mylne*—Mr. Neil Fox, (brother of the Manager).
3. Bhojpur Divn (Behar)
Divisional Officer—Mr. Devi Prosad, (under the direct supervision of Mr. C. Fox, Manager)

"Thus," says the same correspondent, "in the course of a year and-a-half five Europeans with handsome salaries have been admitted into the Raj, while nearly half of the old servants have been dismissed for no fault, apparently, of their own". The correspondent goes on to state: "Mr. G. R. Fox is the Assistant Manager of Ghazipore Division having a general power-of-attorney to supervise the collection of nearly four lakhs. Last year, he, after his appointment, dismissed nearly two-thirds of the old servants and appointed others in their place."

We have no complaint, on personal grounds, against the Fox family. On the other hand, they may, all of them, be able and estimable persons. The question is, why should the loaves and fishes of the estate be monopolized by so many Europeans when the Raj had all along been so efficiently managed under native control, and could still be so managed and far more cheaply too? And why should so many old servants of the estate be dismissed without ceremony? Let us note here that the new Maharaja of Durbhanga has not dispensed with the services of a single servant of the Raj which has just come into his possession.

The problem is, if the Anglo-Indian interest should, Octopus-like, extend its tentacles to bring everything within its comprehensive grasp, would the Indians have any chance whatever? If the Elephanta Cave should require a European guard, and the Nuddea rivers a European toll-gatherer; if Sir James Westland should issue circulars to appoint Europeans as clerks on Rs. 60 a month in the Accounts Office without examinations, and the Board of Revenue should thrust European managers upon the estates of deceased Maharajas, surely the natives of the soil have no other alternative before them but to take a halter and hang themselves!

Our good Lieutenant-Governor deplores the fact of so many big estates having passed into long minority. His Honor may, however, neutralise much of its evils by insisting on the Board of Revenue to appoint only competent Indians, to take charge of these estates. This should be done not only in the interests of the educated Indian public, but also in those of the estates themselves.

THERE is no need to take alarm at the utterances of Dr. Welldon. There is not the slightest fear that he will enforce Christianity or do anything which may prove offensive. The reason why he has been assailed on all sides is very clear. He is a friend of the Viceroy; and they have come together to rule India, one as the representative of the Queen, the other as the representative of Jesus Christ. Dr. Welldon declared that the duty of England was to make India Christian and he really obtained a pledge from Lord George Hamilton to be allowed a free hand in regard to the propagation of Christianity. The good Bishop also offended a portion of the Anglo-Indians by telling them that they were not leading Christian lives. But is Dr. Welldon himself a Christian? This raises the question, who is a Christian? A Christian is one who believes in the dogmas. Merely believing in the divinity of Christ would not entitle one to be called a Christian. For, if that were the case, the Hindus, who are bound to accept Christ as a divine being by their own religion, would have been accepted as Christians. Christians are those who believe in some of the dogmas which the clergymen preach, such as, there is no salvation without Jesus Christ, and all who do not admit the this dogma are to be hurled down into hell to be punished for ever and ever. Now, this doctrine, that those who have not been able to accept Christ as the only Messiah, would be damned for ever, is revolting to enlightened notions, and has, therefore, been rejected by the higher classes of Christians. It is now believed that those Christians, who are not thoroughly bigoted, have all rejected the above dogmas. And, therefore, it is believed that Dr. Welldon, a man of so great learning and such powers, is not the likely person to stick to a doctrine which is revolting to the enlightened notion of Godhead and His justice. Thus if a Christian is led to entertain the notion that good men, though not Christians, are also saved, his proselytizing zeal is very much damped. We have, however, proof positive that the views of Dr. Welldon are liberal in the extreme. The other day we pointed out that Lord Curzon was a spiritualist; to-day we can show that Dr. Welldon is also a spiritualist. Thus, in reply to Mr. Stead, when he issued his spiritual quarterly, the *Borderland*, Dr. Welldon wrote :—

You have been good enough to ask my opinion upon your enterprise in starting the new quarterly review called BORDERLAND. It would be wrong for me to pretend that I have made a special study of those phenomena which seem to belong partly to the material and partly to the spiritual world. But I have studied them enough to reach the conclusion that they deserve the careful regard of such people as have imbibed the true spirit of science, which is as broad as all human experience, and that the only observers of them who can do any good are persons who conduct their observations according to the strict laws of scientific inquiry.

Now, a spiritualist is a believer in the fact of a communion between embodied and disembodied spirits. Those who believe in this fact, have to believe also that dead men, who were not Christians when here, are not now in hell, or sleeping to rise again on the day of Judgment. On the other hand, they have to believe that many good men who were not Christians, and who have departed this life, are now living in a very happy state.

IT is a matter of very great regret that the vernacular papers in Bengal, generally speaking, should be not only blind to their own interests but work positive mischief by their short-sightedness. Almost as a rule, they devote their time and energies to the discussion of all sorts of outlandish questions, which have no bearing on the administration of the country at all. Thus, they will speak of Russia, Turkey and Afghanistan, of events in France or America. These articles, when translated, are now and then placed in the category of seditious writings; and the papers receive a wigging at the hands of the authorities. But why should our vernacular contemporaries busy themselves with questions which concern them not and which have, in no way, any bearing on the administration of their country? It is not that the vernacular papers have not enough to do—it is all owing to their indolence. If, instead of frittering away their energies on outlandish politics, they would deal with questions which materially affect the people and prosperity of their own country, they would not only better their own position but prove useful to the rulers of the land. They may, with advantage to themselves, their constituents and the authorities, find out and publish cases of oppression by petty officials, of which we have so many instances now-a-days; they may deal with questions of material improvement and social reforms; they may help in working the vast resources of the empire and improving the agriculture. The mineral wealth of India is by no means insignificant, and it is at present tapped only by foreign enterprise with foreign capital. Is it not a pity that many of the vernacular papers of the country should fail to see the necessity of educating the public mind and interesting the masses in these useful matters? Really there is enough to do here instead of travelling to foreign lands for questions for discussion. Let our vernacular contemporaries be more practical, and they will not only do themselves good but prove a tower of strength to their own communities and the authorities who govern the country. Local needs and local grievances should have certainly a priority of claim to their attention and should have preference to all other questions. Some of the vernacular papers also abuse their position by libelling the important members of their society. This is prostitution of journalism.

WE notice that plague prosecutions are very frequent in Madras, and that more often the delinquents are Europeans and their descendants who come from infected places such as Bangalore. The fine imposed upon them is nominal in spite of the fact that they are all literate and come from the places where the rule are in force. The *Hindu* of Feb. 2, publishes the results of two cases of this kind—a fine of Rs 3 on one who is either a European or Eurasian, but in the other a Hindu of a moffussil town is made to pay Rs 10! Comment is superfluous.

THE Emperor William has lately repeated his determination to do all that he can to maintain peace. This coming in the wake of the Czar's famous rescript, is a singularly fortunate circumstance. Europe is gradually perceiving that the preservation of peace cannot be maintained merely by the expression of a desire for peace. What is needed is that there should be a disarming of mutual suspicion. So long as the armaments of the Powers are kept growing on an indefinite scale, the prolonged maintenance of peace is impossible, because all the conditions make for the disturbance of the peace. The dogs of war cannot be held in leash very long if they are allowed to multiply. History proves beyond cavil or question that an overgrown army is a danger to the State itself and if war is to be avoided, these armies will have to be maintained within reasonable limits.

THE name of Mr. Blake Odgers Q. C. is not unknown in this country. He is the author of a treatise on "Libel"—perhaps the ablest book on the subject. Only lately Mr. Blake gave a delightful lecture to a large audience on "newspaper reports" in the Middle Temple Hall. He confined himself about entirely to reports, not to comments, in newspapers, his object being, as he stated it, to explain how far reports, if they were correct, should be protected. The following is the substance of what Mr. Odgers said :—"Under the old Common Law if a newspaper in good faith reported something derogatory of a man stated by another, then it was as liable as the man who made it, and the aggrieved party had an action against either or both. He thought this was, on the whole, just because it was the republication in a newspaper of a libel, which a speaker at a public meeting might make in the heat of the moment, that did the injury. The spoken words might be forgotten in the morning, but the printed report remained for all time as a record. And, moreover, there were lot of people who believed everything that appeared in print. But there were two exceptions under the Common Law. Judicial proceedings were allowed to be reported and it seemed fit and right that the public should be able to keep an eye on the judges. And, besides the courts were too small to hold many of the public and it was only fair that those who could not get in should be on an equal footing with those who did, by being able to read a report in the newspapers. Then under the Common Law, reports of Parliamentary proceedings were privileged, although this was not discovered until about the middle of the present century and after Lord Campbell's Bill to confer that privilege had twice been defeated." Mr. Odgers, as we have already said, is currently supposed to know more about the law of libel with particular reference to newspapers than any other living man. So we commend these lines to every reader interested in the subject of libel.

LORD AND LADY CURZON.

THE "Review of Reviews" just to hand contains the following about the new Viceroy and Lady Curzon :—

Even Lord Curzon who is certainly free from all accusation of indifference to the affairs of the army, has been expressing his amazement at the wild-cat schemes which find favour in some quarters. Just before his departure he said :—

He had been positively amazed when he heard, as he had heard during the past year, appeals to the Government and Parliament to lend the credit of the country and to scatter the money of our taxpayers in vast and speculative undertakings in foreign countries with effete Governments and tottering institutions at the very moment when India, so rich in her capability, so undeveloped in many of her resources, as well as incomparably more imperious in her claims, is clamouring for more capital.

The fact is that we are on the eve of a great reaction, which it is to be hoped, will have the salutary effect of making us pay more attention to the development of the undeveloped estates which are already under our flag, instead of flinging money and gold away in the attempt to fructify regions which are altogether beyond our control.

The American papers continue to take a keen interest in all that concerns the new Viceroy. The "New York World" for instance, devotes a whole broad sheet of its Art Portfolio to an account of Lady Curzon's wardrobe. The headlines sufficiently explain both the nature of the article and the reason why it is published :—

A QUEEN'S WARDROBE
FOR THE
NEW AMERICAN QUEEN OF INDIA.

First Pictures and Authentic Description of the Gowns which the Beautiful Lady Curzon will Wear.

According to this chronicle, Lady Curzon has spent £7,500 upon her Indian "trousseau" and this, it is added, does not include the jewels, which are fabulously beautiful, or the old lace :—

Father Leiter, of Chicago and Washington, has opened his purse. He must share in the robing of his daughter queen. Mother Leiter has sent dozens of new garments for baby Curzon—the most remarkable slips of sheer muslin covered with point lace. These American baby clothes have so appealed to the Viceroy's wife that she is having others made in London on the same pattern.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

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This is what Colonel Olcott writes in the *Theosophist* says about the book :—

This book, of which only the first volume has ye appeared, gives a very intersting account of the life of Lord Gauranga, or Sir Krishna Chaitanya who lived in India in the fifteenth century. The playful way wardness, the entrancing beauty and sweetness of the child Gauranga, with the occational wise sayings that fell from his lips making those round him wonder if he were Sri Kishna come again to earth, the strange experience at his investitute with the sacred thread, when he was for a time glorified and all present felt that he was indeed Sri Krishna; the change that then came over him causing him to develop into the intellectual giant who showed so little religious devotion his youth spent in the midst of those who flocked to his *tole*, attracted by his great learning and his loving unselfish disposition; all these are described with a simplicity and sympathy that cannot fail to arrect the reader. But the chief interests of the book is centred in the latter part which begins by describing the pilgrimage to Gaya, where his experience when invested with the safred thiread was repeated, leaving him as remarkable for his *bhakti* as he had before been for his intellectual power. The steps by which Sri Krishna gradully gained the control of the personality of Gauranga, are told with an understanding and precision which shew that the author knows something of the working of occult laws; while the descriptions of the various occasions on which Sri Krishna manifested Himself in Gauranga in all His glory, well illustrate the tenderness, love and beauty of the Lord, another marked feature in the book is the description of thet effects of *bhakti* in purifying and ennobling the lives and character of the devotees. The greatness of the theme is sufficient to make any writer feel the uter inadequacy of words; but it has here been treated with reverence, and love, and an evident appreciation of the importance of making the one object of life the finding of Sri Krishna. This, together with the tolerance to other faiths that is expressed throughout, gives the book a pur, healthy tone and it would be impossible for any one who understands what *bhakti* is, to read it with cut being the better for it.

Indian Sketches
BY
Shishir Kumar Ghose
WITH AN INTRODUCTION
BY
W. S. Caine

PRICE—1 RUPEE AND 6 ANNAS.

'I heartily commend to every cultured and earnest Indian, to every Christian Missionary, and also to every European who cares to look beneath the surface of Indian life and thought, the contents of this deeply-interesting volume of miscellaneous articles from the pen of SHISHIR KUMAR GHOSE".—W. S. CAINE in the Introduction.

The sketches are written in excellent English and an attractive style. These sketches are of a miscellaneous character—stories, with a distinctive imaginative faculty on every page; excellent descriptionns of exciting scenes, theological essays, dissertations on Sutteeism; poetry; a spirited and long defence of their political rights ignored by the Government, entitled "The Perpetual Slavery of India" which it would do good to certain of the English people, if they would only take the trouble to read, and many other interesting essays. * * * * * * It is pleasant to find that our friends in India are is capable of writing in such an interesting strain as to befound in this book.—*London Review*.

To be had at the *Patrika* Office.

SIMLA EXODUS.—The Government of India offices will close here on the 25th of March, and reopen in Simla on the 27th.

A JOINT STATION.—The terms for working the Joint Station of the Bengal-Nagpur and East Indian Railway at or near Howrah are under settlement.

A MEMORIAL CEREMONY.—His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will unveil at an early day the bust of Sir Alfred Croft. It will probably be in the last week of this month.

THE BUDGET.—It is now settled that the Budget shall be presented upon the 20th of March. The discussion will take place on the 27th or the 28th; the actual date is not yet decided.

A NEW CHORD LINE.—The survey of the Burdwan-Howrah Chord line is going on vigorously. The projected line will cross the Tarakeswar Railway somewhere between the stations Singur and Nalikul. The survey party after the close of field-work will recess in Calcutta.

INVENTIONS AND DESIGNS.—Application in respect of the undermentioned inventions have been filed: Allibhoi Vallijr and Sons, tin despatch box-manufacturers, Mooltan Cantonment, an improved ladies' air-tight tin hat-box; John Pullman and Edward England Pullman, manufacturers, both of 17, Greek Street, Soho Squre, London, and Ernest Edward Munro Payne, analytical chemist, of Aylesbury, Buckingham, improvements in the process of leather manufacture; James Allen Hill, salesman, of Ravenswood, West Virginia, Alfred Elijah Cole, Allan Davis Cole, and William Throop Cole, lawyers, of 214, Court Street, Maysville, Kentucky, all in the United States of America, and Henry Hamilton Remfry, solicitor, of Calcutta, severing mechanism for aerial torpedoes; the Right Honourable Douglas Mackinnon Baillie Hamilton Cochrane, Earl of Dundonald, of 34, Portman Square, London, improvements in the coupling and traction of bicycles; Walter Mardon Ducat, colonel, late Royal Engineers, of 13, Devonshire Terrace, Hyde Park, London, W., an improvement in the method of, and apparatus for, purifying water, sewage, and other foul liquids; Edward Tyer, engineer, of Ashwin Street, Dalston, London, improvements in railway signals; and John Douglas, head draughtsman, the Nizam's Guaranteed State Railways Company, Limited, Secunderabad, Deccan, an improved railway screw coupling to be called "Douglas" patent screw coupling.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

A NEW BRIDGE.—The Rupnarain Bridge is the most important undertaking on the southern extension of the B.-N. R. The bridge is to have 7 spans of 300 feet, and 4 spans of 100 feet. Its points of special difficulty are, the tidal rise of 18 feet of water, and the immense depth that the wells have to be sunk to secure safe foundations. Some of the wells will have to be sunk over 160 feet.

A RAJKUMAR COLLEGE.—The Maharaja of Dinajpore has prepared a scheme for the establishment of an institution for the education of the sons of Zemindars in these Provinces on the lines of the Rajkumar Colleges in other parts of the country. Lord Curzon has expressed his approval of the project, and promised to lend the services of an officer of the Education Department in order to assist the Maharaja and his colleagues in properly placing their views before His Excellency.

A NEW RAILWAY.—"Indian Engineering" writes:—We are informed that Sir W. B. Hodson, K. C. I. E., of Mozufferpore, who is one of promoters of the proposed broad-gauge line from Bhagulpore to Baidyanath *via* Bansi, is busy in arranging for funds for starting construction of the line under the supervision of the East Indian Railway. This line will, when constructed, open out the Sonthal Pergunnas and give a quicker and far less expensive outlet for the local produce. When he was Magistrate of Bhagulpur, Mr. Skrine collected reliable statistics upon which the Government accorded permission to a Syndicate being formed for the construction of this Railway. The line is divided into two sections, *viz.*—(1) From Bhagulpur to Bansi, nearly 32 miles, at an estimated cost of Rs. 22,23,000, excluding rolling stock; (2) from Bansi to Baidyanath, about 38 miles, at an estimated cost of Rs. 39,41,000, exclusive of rolling-stock. Section No. 1 will, it is proposed, be taken in hand first. One of the most important features of this line is that it will give the people of Bengal and Behar an easy access to a sanitarium hitherto unknown in a place called Bansi, in the District of Bhagulpur, which has now been discovered and highly valued for its sanitary merits.

TRAIN WRECKING.—As already reported on the night of the 25th ultimo, three old wooden sleepers were placed on the line on both ends of the Atrai Bridge, one on the south and two on the north end. The Up Darjeeling mail train struck against them, and fortunately succeeded in dislodging them from the line. The *Daily News* learns that with great ingenuity and detective skill, Inspector M. L. Ganguly, of the Railway Police, has traced the culprit, who is a Mahomedan employe on the Railway, named Sarafdi Mandal. This man has been arrested by the Inspector and sent up for trial. The accused, who is a local man, living only about a mile off the line, a few days prior to this occurrence, attempted to assault his immediate superior, the line *mistry*, as he had an old standing grudge against him. The *mistry* reported this unruly conduct on the part of his subordinate to higher authorities, and got him transferred to a post some 30 miles from his home. He tried his best to remain at his old post, but failed, and this so enraged him that he threatened the *mistry* by saying that he would see how he himself could remain there, and with a view to put him into trouble, he took the serious step alleged to have been taken by him. On the night in question, about 9 P. M., the man was seen prowling about the place of the occurrence, and we understand there is ample evidence to bring home the charge against him.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

MR. W. N. DELEVINGNE, sub pro tem Jt-Magte and Dy Collr, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Jt-Magtes and Dy Collrs, and is appointed to have charge of the Chuadanga sub-division.

Babu Sriram Chunder Bose, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the Kendrapara sub-division during the absence, on leave, of Babu Tara Prassanna Acharya.

Mr. B. Allen, Offg Jt-Magte and Dy Collr, Jhenida, is transferred to Jessore.

Babu Nogendra Nath Dutt, sub pro tem Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Jessore, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Jhenida sub-division.

Mr. Mohammad Yusuf, sub pro tem, Jt-Magte and Dy Collr, on leave, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Magte and Collr of Puri.

Babu Hiralal Banerjee, Dy Magte and Dy Collr., Mymensing, on leave, is confirmed in the fifth grade of Dy Magte and Dy Collr.

Mr. Kedar Nath Roy, Jt-Magte, and Dy Collr, is appointed sub pro tem to the third grade of Magtes and Collrs vice Mr. H. C. Streatfeild, confirmed in that grade.

Mr. Roy will continue to act as Dists and Sess Judge of Bankura until further orders.

Maulvi Mahomed Abbas Ali, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Fenny, is appointed to have charge of the Tangail sub-division.

Babu Prakas Chandra Singha, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Manbhum, is appointed to have charge of the Fenny subdivision.

Mr. T. S. Thomas, Asst Magte and Collrs, Nadia, is transferred to Chittagong.

Babu Girish Chandra Sarkar, Offig Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Rangpur, is transferred to the Faridpur district.

Maulvi Abu Nasr Muhammad Ali, Offig Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Dacca, is transferred to Rangpur.

Mr. St. Quintin Byrne, Dist Supdt of Police, on leave, is posted to Faridpur.

Babu Madhu Shudan Choudhury, Asst Supdt of Police, is posted to Faridpur, on being relieved of his present appointment as Offg Dist Supdt of Police of that district.

Babu Promotha Nath Dutt, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Chuadanga, is appointed to be Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Registration, Bengal.

Babu Debendra Lall Shome, Sub Judge of Rajshahi, is allowed leave for one month. Babu Triguna Prasanna Basu, Munsif of Lakhmipur acting for him.

Babu Nilmani Das, Sub-Judge, Tirhut, is allowed leave for 41 days. Babu Bipin Behari Mukerji, Munsif of Mymensingh, acting for him.

Babu Durga Kant Roy, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif of Mymensingh.

Babu Bhupal Chandra Sen, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif of Gaibanda, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Debendra Prosad Bagchi, or until further orders.

Babu Tara Prasanna Banerjee, Sub-Judge of Cuttack, is allowed leave for thirty days.

Babu Karuna Das Bose, Sub-Judge of Birbhum, on deputation to Bankura, is appointed to be Sub-Judge of the 24-Parganas, *vice* Babu Bulloram Mullick, about to retire.

Babu Mati Lal Haldar, Munsif of Comilla, who is now acting as sub pro tem Addl. Sub-Judge of Tippera, is appointed to act as Sub-Judge of Birbhum, but to be on deputation to Bankura.

Babu Akshoy Kumar Basu, Munsif of Patiya, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Sub-Judge of Faridpur, *vice* Babu Joy Gopal Singha, about to retire.

Babu Kumudini Kant Roy, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif of Patiya, during the absence, on deputation, of Babu Akshoy Kumar Basu, or until further orders.

Babu Girish Chunder Chatterjee, Sub-Judge of Khulna, on furlough, is appointed to be Small Cause Court Judge of Dacca and Munshiganj.

Babu Behari Lall Mallik, Sub-Judge of Dacca, on deputation to the district of Saran, is appointed to be a Sub-Judge of Cuttack.

Babu Tara Prasanna Banerjee, Sub-Judge of Cuttak, is appointed to be Sub-Judge of Dacca, but to be on deputation to the district of Saran as an Addl Sub-Judge.

Babu Jadupati Banerjee, Munsif of Sealdah, is appointed to act as Sub-Judge of Dacca, but to be on deputation to the district of Saran as an Addl. Sub-Judge, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Tara Prasanna Banerjee, or until further orders.

Babu Jogendra Nath Deb, Munsif of Howrah, is appointed to be a Munsif of Sealdah.

Babu Gopal Krishna Ghose, Munsif of Nilphamari, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif of Howrah.

Babu Jadupati Banerjee, Munsif of Sealdah, is appointed to be a Munsif of Nilphamari, but to act as an Addl. Sub-Judge of Saran.

Babu Latu Bihari Bose, Munsif of Magura, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif of Diamond Harbour.

Babu Nritya Gopal Sarkar, Munsif of Diamond Habour, is appointed to be a Munsif of Magura.

Babu Debendra Bijoy Bose, Munsif of Iswarganj, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif of Uluberiah, in place of Babu Nanda Lal Kundu, who is appointed to be a Munsif of Jessore.

Babu Bidhu Bhusan Banerji, Munsif of Jessore, is appointed to be a Munsif of Iswarganj.

Babu Bhuban Mohan Gangooly, Munsif of Bhagalpur, is appointed to be a Munsif of Monghyr.

Babu Upendra Nath Mukherji, Munsif of Monghyr, is appointed to be a Munsif of Bhagulpur.

Mr. W. T. Woods, Lecturer on Dentistry, Medical College, Calcutta, is allowed leave without allowances for nine months.

Mr. G O. Ranger is appointed to act as Lecturer on Dentistry, Medical College, Calcutta, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. W. T. Woods, or until further orders.

The following officers are promoted to class III. of the former Bengal Educational (graded) Service:—Mr. Phani Bhusan Mukerji, and Dr. Jagadis Chandra Bose.

Babu Kumudini Kanta Banerji, Principal, Rajshahi College, is allowed leave for fifteen days.

Babu Gobinda Lal Set, Prof., Rajshahi College, is appointed to act in addition to his own duties as Principal of that College.

Babu Ishan Chunder Ghose, Head Master, Hooghly Training School, is allowed leave for one month.

THE CHARGES AGAINST A JUDICIAL OFFICER.

THE enquiry into the charges against Raja Chitpal Singh, Joint-Magistrate of Ghazipur, was continued by Messrs. Rustomjee and Galbraith at Allahabad on Saturday. Mr. Gill and Mr. Durga Charan appeared for Government, and Mr. Roshan Lal and Mr. Ram Gopal for the Raja.

Gya Pershad was recalled for cross-examination, and then Jamna, a drug-seller, was examined. He was one of the witnesses when Satyagyan's house was searched on the charge made against him by the Raja. His account corresponded in practically all details with that given by Gya Pershad at the previous day's hearing.

Lachman Singh Takur, said he had been employed by the Raja for 23 or 24 years. He knew Lalit Mohan. Lalit Mohan was with the Raja in Gonda, Unao, and Ghazipur districts. Lalit Mohan used to teach the Raja's son, and when at leisure wrote letters and dealt with papers for the Raja connected with Bhalolpur case in which the Raja was engaged. The Raja's son died four or five years ago. Lalit Mohan had nothing whatever to do with the Raja's work as a Government official. Satyagyan also had to do work connected with the Bhalolpur litigation. Witness never made Lalit Mohan do translations of papers or documents connected with the Raja's court work, nor did the Raja ever make witness do any work in connection with his duties as a Government official. Witness never had translations of Court papers made by Cheda Lal, or by Satayagyan. So far as he was aware neither Lalit Mohan nor Satyagyan ever did any Court work for the Raja. Asked why the Raja dismissed Satyagyan, the witness said the Raja told him the Bhalolpur case was coming to an end and he would require his services no longer. Witness was present and heard this. As to the search of the Babu's house the witness said that the Raja missed some books and sent him (witness) to enquire about them. He asked Satyagyan: "Have you any books or papers belonging to the Raja? The Babu replied, "I have nothing." Subsequently a search was made for the missing books and papers. After the search the Raja examined the things brought from Satyagyan's, and those which he claimed were taken charge of by the kotwal. The Raja did not retain any papers or books in his own possession.

A question again arose with regard to the payment of the Raja's witnesses. On the previous day Mr. Roshan Lal had declined to call 20 of those summoned owing to Government's decision not to pay for more than ten. There remained an excess of eleven witnesses, and one of these expressed a wish to go if his evidence was not required. The Commissioners therefore called upon the Raja to say whether all these eleven witnesses were required, and whether he was prepared to pay such expenses for them as the Commissioners deemed reasonable. The Raja replied that he wished these eleven witnesses detained, and he was informed that he must deposit the necessary sum for expenses in each case before the witnesses were sworn.

The Commission then adjourned.

THE Viceroy will probably pay a visit to Lahore before going up to Simla in April next.

A TELEGRAM from Ceylon says that the Khedive has been pleased to permit Toulba Pasha, one of the Egyptian exiles in Ceylon, to return to Egypt. He has been in exile in Ceylon since January, 1883, with Arabi Pasha.

A SLIGHT shock of earthquake is reported to have been felt in the neighbourhood of Rangoon at 3-50 A. M. on the 30th ultimo. Dr. Parakh says the direction of the shock was from east to west and its duration only a very few seconds.

Correspondence.

LORD GAURANGA.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I have carefully read both the volumes of Lord Gauranga and find that the author has placed us, as well as those, who will in future read the books, under a debt of gratitude. I wish him "long life," as persons like Babu Shishir Kumar Ghosh can be of great use to those who wish to know what the real essence of "Bhakti" is. To understand "Lord Gauranga," one must approach it with the spirit of Lord Gauranga Himself; otherwise he will be no better than the metal types with which the books were printed. Lord Gauranga showed in practice what was "Prem and Bhakti" together in one knot and how Radha loved *for love's sake* Sri Krishna. With a few lines here I will conclude:—

Man is His true copy, know!
Who but He can certify so?
To reach His realm, what other guide
Save Lord, can any mortal find?
Time and place, so, cause, effect,
Must meet in Him without defect.
One common centre of this world,
He invisible, yet so bold,
Far from mind, and farther still,
From critics, who, with vanity, reel.
To tally the copy, original find,
When found, comparison lags behind.

SANTARAM NARAYAN DABHOLKAR.

ENGLAND AND INDIA.

THE latest news from Calcutta regarding the Calcutta Municipal Bill is that a public meeting, consisting chiefly of important rate-payers, has protested against the way in which it has been rushed through the Select Committee. This is the third public meeting of Calcutta rate-payers that has been held during the past few days to protest against the measure, but so far as the ordinary channels of information are concerned, the British public has been kept completely in the dark. What is the meaning of this? Is the subject regarded as too insignificant for notice? Or is it thought that the wreckers of local self-government in India will more easily accomplish their purpose if, say the friends of the London County Council know nothing of it? It was Lord George Hamilton and the Earl of Onslow who were most conspicuous in the attack upon the London County Council. Their design were frustrated, because Londoners happen to have votes. But they are also Secretary and Under-Secretary for India, and can overthrow institutions in that unhappy country without hindrance and without remorse. Poona, Madras, and Bombay have already experienced the animosity of the enemies of the popular government, but it is in Calcutta that the trump card is to be played. Here the control of the municipality is to be transferred to an official body, containing an impotent sprinkling of members nominated by the representatives of the rate-payers. The shadow of representations is left while the substance is taken away. The bill was recently referred by the Bengal Legislative Council to a Select Committee, and the haste with which it is being disposed of suggests a desire to get rid of the matter before the opening of Parliament. It is to be hoped that immediately upon the re-assembling of the House of Commons those who desire municipal self-government at home will make a spirited protest against the abolition of it in Calcutta.

How many Englishmen realise that the two Natus, who were imprisoned without trial in the summer 1897, have not yet been set free? They were originally arrested in the belief that they had had something to do with the murder of Lieutenant. Ayerst and Mr. Rand. Lord G. Hamilton stated as much in the House of Commons. When the real murderer was convicted and hanged, and not a jot of evidence could be discovered against the Natus, Lord G. Hamilton produced a revised charge—that they had intimidated a midwife, and hindered the plague measures at Poona. These charges, of course, would not have justified the use of letters de cachet even if they had been proved. But they were promptly demolished. After many months' imprisonment the brothers were released from gaol. But they were still State prisoners, and were confined to Belgaum. When the plague broke out there their prison was further enlarged somewhat. But to this day they are State prisoners, with a grievous charge hanging over their heads. Yet they are not brought to trial, nor confronted with their accusers. Is this British justice and fair play?—N. T. in the "Morning Leader."

THE minister of Hyderabad has informed the Resident that His Highness the Nizam has commanded him to ask that the sanction of the Government of India may be obtained to the employment in His Highness' private service of Mr. James Herman, who will be in charge of His Highness' Kennels. It is proposed to employ Mr. Herman for three years on a salary of Government Rs. 200 a month for the first two years, and Government Rs. 250 during the third year. Should His Highness desire to retain Mr. Herman's services for a longer period he will be given Government Rs. 300 a month at the end of the third year.

CURRENT PRICE REPORT.

	Rs.	As.	P.	Per Mds.
Borax	13	6	0	" "
Flour	4	0	0	" "
Cotton fine	12	10	0	" "
Do fully good	11	10	0	" "
Cutch (Singapore)	9	10	0	" "
Do (Rangoon) No. 1	12	2	0	" "
Ginger (fair Bengal)	8	4	0	" "
Jute Sikdar Naraingunge No. 2	31	0	0	" 400 Lbs.
Do Do No. 3	28	2	0	" "
Do (Rejections ordy.	17	0	0	" "
Castor Oil No. 1 Fine pale	15	8	0	" mds.
Do Thirds yellow	12		10	" "
Rice Table or Seeta	4	12	0	" "
Do Do (inferior)			0	" "
Do Balam No. 1	3	5	6	" "
Do " No. 2	3	4	6	" "
Do " " 3	3	2	0	" "
Do Moongly " 1	3	4	0	" "
Ghee (Buxar) 1	29	0	0	" "
Do Matki	36	0	0	" "
Saltpetre 5% crude	7	2	0	" "
Do 15 Do	5	2	0	" "
Sugar (Dulooah)	7	0	0	" "
Do Chandpur ackra	6	8	0	" "
Wheat club No. 2	3	0	0	" "
Do Hard Red	0	0	0	" "
Do Soft Red	0	0	0	" "
KEROSINE OIL:—				
American Snowflake	5	0	0	per case.
Do Chester	3	11	0	"
Do Tiger	3	11	0	"
Sumatra Crown	3	7	0	Two Tins.
Rangoon Victoria	3	6	0	Per Case.
Mica,—Ruby uncut clear above	36 to 48			Rs. 600 per mds.
Do Do	15 to 23			" 250 "
Do Do	10 to 14¾			" 150 "
Do Do	6 to 9¾			" 60 "

MITRA & Co. AGENTS AND ORDER SUPPLIERS.
No. 2/1, Rajarbagan Junction Road,
Simla P. O., Calcutta.

INDIAN NEWS.

WE are pleased to find that Mr. G. Subramania Iyer, late Editor of the *Hindu*, and at present Editor of the *Swadesamitran*, has published the proceedings of the last Congress in the Tamil language.

THE Nizam's Government have applied to the British authorities in Bombay, through the Resident, for the reward of Rs. 10,000, for disbursement to the Nizam's Police, who effected Balkrishna Chapekar's arrest.

MR. R. B. MICHELL, Chief Judge of the Madras Small Cause Court, has been selected to act for Mr. Justice Shephard in the Madras High Court, when the latter proceeds on furlough. Sir Fredrick Price, retired Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, left Madras on Monday by the S. S. *Rewa* for Australia *via* Colombo. He will return to Ootacamund in a few months.

A NEW and independent line of telegraph is being set up from Simla to Peshawar. It does not go through any stations except Lahore and Rawalpindi, where new batteries have to be connected, the distances being great. The wire is already up to Dinah between Jhelum and Rawalpindi. The object of this special wire is to obviate in future the congestion experienced during frontier operations.

THE Rangoon Police have been trying to discover how the dacoits in the recent Kemmendine conspiracy obtained their revolvers, of which there were five in the possession of the dacoits. A Burman clerk, for some little time in the employ of Messrs. McGregor and Co., has been arrested in connection with the case. This man, Po Shain, was formerly employed under Mr. Crighton of Messrs. Begbie & Co., and during his service Mr. Crighton lost a revolver. One of the revolvers recovered in the conspiracy case turns out to be the one Mr. Crighton lost, and this led to Po Shain's arrest. Po Shain has confessed to stealing the revolver and disposing of it, together with another, to the dacoits.

MUCH alarm has, it is said, been caused among the landlords of Bombay by the proposals of the Improvement Trust to acquire large blocks of property upon either side of certain roads. Several meetings of property owners have been held to protest against the Trust acquiring property not actually required for their schemes, and an Association has been formed for the protection of the interests of dispossessed landlords. At a meeting of the Trustees on Monday afternoon the Chairman, Mr. W. C. Hughes, referred to the agitation, and said all compensation awarded would be paid in cash. Scrupulous care had been taken in laying out new streets to avoid interference with religious edifices. The question of compensation lay not with the Board but with the land acquisition officer from whose decision there was appeal to a special tribunal. The right of the Trustees to acquire land outside the line of "sheets" was undoubted, and had its justification, in fact, in no other way could the task of remedying the present conditions be effectually accomplished. In a great majority of cases the property to be acquired was insanitary and must be rebuilt at the cost of the rate-payers, who, and not owners, were entitled to betterment. Dispossessed owners, however, might be given the right of pre-emption. The Trustees would not commence a wholesale demolition, and would provide accommodation for dispossessed tenants.

THE MIRACLE OF SAN GENNARO.

YEAR by year, at the approach of the day sacred to San Gennaro, the Neapolitan populace is seized with trepidation lest their patron should forget, or decline to perform, his annual miracle for their benefit. From time immemorial the blood of San Gennaro has been in the possession of the Neapolitan clergy. It is kept in an amphora, and for 363 days in the year it remains in a hard, dried-up condition. In May and in September, on the two festivals of the saint, the dried-up blood boils and liquefies. Since the fifth century it has boiled twice a year. More than once the holy relic has been carried to Vesuvius in order to stay an eruption. Sometimes the miracle takes place promptly, but sometimes the priest is obliged to hold the amphora over a lighted candle for more than an hour before the liquefaction takes place. During that anxious hour the immense crowd of Neapolitans waits impatiently in the cathedral. The skull of San Gennaro, which, having been enclosed by Charles of Anjou in a case of silver and gold, presents a somewhat yellow appearance, then comes in for a large share of imprecation, supplication, insult, and cursing, such as—"Get along with you, old yellow face!" "What are you doing this morning, old headcase?" "You are not in a good humour." "San Gennaro, have pity on us!" "Favourite of the Holy Trinity!" "Treasure of the Eternal Father!" Then, if insults and compliments have no effect, the skull is addressed in the choicest Neapolitan Billingsgate. This year San Gennaro was in good humour, for a telegram from Naples states: "The miracle of the liquefaction of the blood took place precisely at 10-22, amid the prayers and the exultations of all. The blood of San Gennaro was found solid in the Chapel of the Treasures, and after an hour and seventeen minutes it became liquid. Cannon were fired and all the bells of the city were rung in honour of the miracle." Until the first Saturday of next May San Gennaro may, therefore, rest in peace, knowing himself to be in the good graces of all the Neapolitans.

BULLION MARKET.

Calcutta, 8th February 1899.

GOLD.—				
English Bar—(100 touch) per tollah Rs.	24	0	6	
Do Small porion " "	24	1	6	
Australian Bar (100 touch) " "	24	1	0	
China Leaf 3 Brand " "	24	8	0	
Do 2 do " "	24	7	0	
China Bar " "	Nominal			
CalcuttaBar (100 touch Mint Assay) " "	24	0	6	
Sovereign Victoria Sheild per piece "	15	0	9	
Do Jubilee " "	15	0	9	
SILVER.				
Englsh (Silver Bar of 17 1-2 dwt, better per 100 tollah	73	7	0	
Do Bsamll portion	73	10	0	

PROSAD DAS BORAL,
BULLION AND STOCK DEALER,
6, Moyrahatta Street (Sonapaty) and
New China Bazar.

Telegrams.

(FOREIGN TELEGRAMES.)

LONDON, FEB. 3.

The Chairman, at a meeting of the London County Council, referred to the deep interest of English bankers in the question of the Indian currency, and he strongly urged the Imperia Government to guarantee the whole of the Indian debt, which it practically guaranteed already, as this would considerably reduc India's payments of interest and would be welcomed by bankers and capitalists at home.

LONDON, FEB. 4.

In consequence of the Soudan Convention between Great Britain and Egypt, the Turkish Ambassador in London has made representations to Lord Salisbury, with a view to the conclusion of an arrangement for safeguarding Turkey's position in Egypt. Lord Salisbury, however, has declined tod iscuss the question.

LONDON, FEB. 4.

Reuter, telegraphing from Pekin, says that the Tsung-li-Yamen has agreed to open a treaty port at Nanningfu, on the Yuklang River. It has also consented to pay thirty thousand dollars as compensation to the relatives of the murdered missionary Fleming.

LONDON, FEB. 3.

The Chinese loan of £2,300,000, guaranteed by the Northern railways, is announced, the issue price being fixed at £97. The list will close on the 7th instant.

LONDON, FEB. 3.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes has arrived at Brussels, where he lunched and conferred with King Leopold.

LONDON, FEB 3.

Sir William Harcourt leaves home to-morrow on a visit to the Riviera.

LONDON, FEB. 4.

No fresh cases of plague have occurred at Port Louis since the 25th ultimo.

LONDON, FEB 4.

Sir William Harcourt's departure for the Continent is taken to indicate his unwillingness to embarass the Liberal party, and his willingness to accept any leader that may be chosen by the party on Monday next.

A Washington despatch says there is small prospect of securing the requisite majority of the Senate in favour of ratifying the peace treaty with Spain.

LONDON, FEB. 4.

The report of the Turkish Ambassador's representations to Lord Salisbury regarding the safeguarding of the Turkish position in Egypt, and the reply attributed to Lord Salisbury prove to be incorrect.

LONDON, FEB. 5.

An outpost conflict between the Americans and the Filipinos at Manila, on Saturday evening, precipitated a general attack on the town by the Filipinos.

Severe fighting continued for fourteen hours.

The American troops carried two of the enemy's positions, and advanced their lines, losing twenty killed, and 125 wounded.

The Filipinos loss was heavy. The American warships in the Bay shelled the enemy; desultory firing was continued on Sunday.

LONDON, FEB. 6.

The committee of the Chamber of Deputies rejected by nine votes against two, the Bill to refer the Dreyfus case to the united sections of the Court of Cassation, on the ground that the report furnished to Government by M. Mazeau, Chief President of the Court of Cassation, is not convincing.

LONDON, FEB. 6.

Sir H. Campbell Bannerman has been elected Liberal leader in the House of Commons.

LONDON, FEB. 6.

The Washington Senate has ratified the Peace Treaty by a majority of three.

LONDON, FEB. 6.

Lord and Lady Elgin and family have arrived at London.

LONDON, FEB. 6.

The Rev. Mr. Foss, Missionary of Kobe, has been consecrated Bishop of Osaka.

LONDON, FEB. 6.

The deaths of Count Caprivi and Prince Alfred of Coburg are announced.

RAHMAT HUSSAIN, Sub-Inspector of Police, Azamgarh, has been committed to the Sessions on charges under Section 118 I.P.C.

AT the close of the Lucknow week Sir Antony MacDonnell proceeds to Allahabad, where he will probably remain for the rest of the winter season.

ON Monday morning, at about two o'clock, a gang of about twenty armed Pathans raided the bazaar at Khairabad, getting off with about Rs. 500. One constable very pluckily followed them, and was shot through the jaw, and another was shot in the arm. The former was taken to Peshawar for treatment by the Civil Surgeon. No clue has been obtained at present of the *budmashes*.

Money Market and Trade.

Calcutta, February 8th, 1899.

Government Loans.

3 per cent	... 88
3½ per cent Loans	... 98 8 to 98 9
One month's sight	... 98 10 to 98 11
Small sums	... 98 12 to 98 13

Calcutta Port Trust Debentures

4½ Per cent of 1881-1883	... Rs.	101-8
5½ Per cent of 1886	... "	115
4 Per cent of 1895	... "	100

Interest and Discount

Bank of England from 14th	Oct. 1898	3½%
Bank of Bengal from 8th	Dec 1898	7%
Bank of Bombay from 28th	Dec 1898	7%
Bank of Madrasfrom 28th	July 1898	6,,

CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.

5 Per cent of 1897	(1908)	...	104
5 Per cent of 1884-85	(1905)	...	103
5 Per cent of 11885-86	(1915)	...	108
5 Per cent of 181886-87	(1916)	...	109
5 Per cent of 18887-88	(1918)	...	110
5 Per cent of 1889-90	(1919)	...	111
5 Per cent of 190-91	(1920)	...	112
4½ Per cent of 18882	(1902)	...	100
41/2 Per cent of 1891-92	(1911)	...	102
4 Per cent of 1895-96	(1910)	...	98
3 1-2 Per cent of 1896	(1911)	...	95

The following transactions were reported to-day:—

Budge Budge (ordinary)	125,
Barranagore (ordinary)	68,
Bank of Bengal	1132-8-0
Derrang Tea	48

Toolsi Das Roy & Brothers.
9, China Bazar, Calcutta.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

INDIA AND ENGLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON JAN. 20.

MUNICIPAL BILL AGITATION.

I am glad that the Calcutta correspondent of *India* telegraphs from time to time particular of the agitation which is being so righteously carried on in Calcutta against the Municipal Bill. I understand that Mr. J. Herbert Roberts M. P, intends to raise the question as an amendment to the Address in reply to the Queen's speech and that he is collaborating with Mr. Romesh Chunder Dutt in the preparation of his indictment. It could not be in better hands. I feel sure that a really strong presentment of the true facts of the case would secure an important vote in the House of Commons and greatly increase the possibility of amendment if not of withdrawal. A division in such a question will no doubt receive the full support of the recognized Liberal Front Bench. Even Sir Henry Fowler would have to vote for such a motion as that; the one question on which he has so far been entirely sound, has been on the rights of municipalities and the importance of full local self-government.

THE AGRA MUNICIPALITY.

The other day the *Times* correspondent cabled a long message giving the particulars of Sir A. P. MacDonnell's attack on the Agra municipality, which appears to have been drifting into bad ways, as municipalites will in Britain and America as well as in India. The *Times* correspondent, of course, uses the censure of the Agra municipality as a dagger with which to stab Calcutta. It is, however, cleverly pointed out by the editor of the *Morning Leader*, a London daily that gives strong backing to the Congress movement, that the suggestion that, as the Agra municipality has so disgracefully fallen short of its duty a stringent measure is justifiable against Calcutta, does not hold water. Under the actual circumstances of the case, its fatuity is almost incredible. For the constitution of the Agra municipality resembles not the existing constitution in Calcutta but the constitution to which the reactionary Municipal Bill proposes to degrade Calcutta! Agra is one of the half-dozen municipalities in India which have an official Chairman. As the official *Pioneer* wrote 2 or 3 months ago in an editorial on the "Municipal Lapses of Agra, "the control of the Municipal administration of Agra has been virtually retained in the hands of the Government." So while the *Times* uses Agra as a stick to beat self-government in Calcutta, it is in reality an awful example of the system for which it is proposed that Calcutta self-government shall be exchanged. If Mr. Roberts will explain to the House of Commons the enormous improvement which has taken place in the sanitary condition of Calcutta under the direction of the existing system of Municipal administration and quote in support of this the frequent official eulogies that have been made upon them, he will render the greatest possible service to the people of Calcutta. How is it that Calcutta has been delivered from the Plague, while it has flourished in Bombay under a municipality in Government leading strings? This is a question put by the *Morning Leader* which still wants an answer.

SOME MEETINGS.

Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji has been holding a series of Congress meetings in and around Manchester, which have been very well attended. Mr. Bepin Chandra Pal has been addressing meetings this week in Glasgow, Paisley, Greenock and Motherwell, arranged for him by Mr. W. S. Caine, who himself gave a lecture on India to 800 people in the borough of Rotherglen last week. The British Committee is becoming more and more convinced of the importance of public meetings, and would hold many more, if funds were available.

COMMERCIAL INVASION OF TIBET.

Nearly every week blows some straw from India, indicating a growing desire on the part of that troublesome and restless element in Indian politics, the Forward party, to extend "British influence over" Tibet. That stormy petrel, the *Times* correspondent, sends home this week a long telegram based upon a report from Captain Trench, Political officer at Ladak, showing a serious decrease in Indian trade, via Cashmere, with Tibet and Chinese and Russian Turkistan, which he cleverly combines with a subsidiary report from the British Agent at Yarkand showing that this decrease is solely due to Russian competition. Captain Trench declares that "it is our duty o look for a fresh field" to take the place of the market we are thus losing. "In my opinion," says the gallant captain, "this is to be found in the direction of Tibet." He goes on to advise what he calls "a commercial invasion" of Tibet with the rich provinces of Western China as the final goal. Why on earth does the Government of India persist in sending military officers as Political Agents to these remote places? No soldier should ever be trusted in the frontier administration of India; a Civilian should invariably be employed. What on earth can Captain Trench know about "commercial invasions." The stink of gunpowder is behind it all. Nothing is more likely to produce a new Frontier trouble worse than anything we have yet experienced, than an attempt to *force* trade on a country like Tibet. Mr. Savage Landor's experiences, which he is imparting just now to the British public in a series of lectures and exhibitions, tell us what sort of a reception a "commercial invasion" would have in that benighted dependency of the Chinese Empire. What sort of trade, anyhow, is India likely to get from a country of 650,000 square miles in area, with only six millions of inhabitants, ten to the square mile! The only trade likely to benefit by a commercial invasion of Tibet, is that of the soldier who appears to me to be keener at driving *his* brutal and barbarous trade, than all the merchants and shopkeepers of Britain combined. This new Tibet craze wants careful watching by every true friend of India, or it will give serious trouble in the future. Is it, I wonder, a recrudescence of that sentiment which seems to underlie all military policy in India, to which Sir Lepel Griffin once gave very frank expression when in August 1897 he said that if frontier wars did not arise naturally, we would have to create them in order to maintain our troops in full efficiency? This damnable sentiment was still more frankly stated by the hero of Chitral, General Gatacre, who made a speech last Monday at Norwich in which he said:—

"He was in favour of supporting any society that would keep fighting going on all over the world, and wherever it ceased to resuscitate it. He did not believe in a nation whose hand only touched the plough, and who turned its swords into ploughshares. He believed it was by its fighting instincts that England had made itself what it was and it was by the sword it must live."

The report does not say that General Gatacre was hooted down by his audience. But the speech was delivered at a public dinner, and it is only charitable to hope that this brutal, degrading and heathenish speech is to be accounted for by the old proverb "in vino veritas." If these, however, are the sentiments which inspire distinguished Generals like the man who uttered these words, it is little wonder that so long as India is under their malign influence we are never free from frontier troubles.

AN AMERICAN EMPIRE IN ASIA.

A GREAT experiment is about to be carried out by the United States of America that must inevitably have a very direct influence upon the political future of India. That free democratic Republic finds herself face to face with the government of an Asiatic people, which her constitution and traditions compel her to so govern, that at the earliest possible moment that Asiatic people shall become self-governing. On New Year's day the United States took over from Spain not only her West Indian possessions, which, though a thorny mouthful, can be readily assimilated, but also the Phillipine islands to which they are bound by honour to bring good government, and by every tradition of their great republican institutions, to bring eventually self-government.

General Merritt, who has been entrusted with the great duty of founding a new government for the Phillipine Islands made a clear statement a week or two ago to the American President. He believes that the Phillipinos who were in armed rebellion against Spain, will presently accept peacefully American control. He thinks all that they want is a fair government but that it will also have to be a *strict* government for some time to come. He emphatically declares that they are now incapable of self-government, but he believes them quite capable of being educated up to it. He advocates liberal measures in the direction of local autonomy, he feels sure that the insurgent leaders are only holding out to get the best terms possible for themselves, and a share in the government and administration, and he evidently thinks this desire ought to be met as fully as wisdom and caution will permit. President McKinley has openly declared that the United States was not guided in the war by a desire to acquire territory, but by principles of humanity, and in dispossessing the Spaniards from the countries they had never professed to govern in the interests of their peoples but only the interest of Spain, the one thing to be kept in view is the establishment of self-government and autonomous administration as quickly as may be consistent with prudence and safety. I think it is no exaggeration to say that the best half of the American people strongly object to the conquest and intend to keep President McKinley and his successors well up to their professions. The Spaniards in the Phillipines are a mere handful of merchant adventurers and ignorant priests who, between them, have exploited the natives of the islands to their heart's content, never attempting any government beyond what was necessary for successful exploitation.

The Phillipine Islands have the same population as Burma, about 7½ millions, and are about the same area in square miles as the Bombay Presidency including Sind. The natives are mostly Malayan with a good sprinkling of Chinese. The condition of things is much the same as the British Government had to face after the defeat and deposition of Theebaw with the subsequent necessity of subduing the Burmese dacoits. America has defeated and deposed Spain and now finds herself face to face with Aguinaldo and those who were in armed rebellion against Spanish rule, before American interference. It is, however, impossible to doubt the power of Admiral Dewey and General Merritt to bring Aguinaldo to reason and that astute Phillipino has no doubt already realized that half a loaf is better than no bread, and will speedily come to terms.

I trust the Congress leaders in India will watch the American experiment very closely indeed. Here is a free Republic of Anglo-Saxon race and traditions, taking over a huge Asiatic possession, with the declared intention, honestly conceived, of beginning forthwith the task of training an Asiatic people in the duties of self-government, with the ultimate intention of establishing an autonomous, if not an independent, native administration. The President of the United States is practically proclaiming the same laudable intentions as those set forth in the Queen's famous Proclamation when she dispossessed the East India Company after the Mutiny. The task to the President of the United States is, in proportion, far more formidable. He has to create a Civil Service, and American Republicanism will not be satisfied unless the Phillipinos get the best show to which they are justly entitled, in all the branches of that Civil Service. That the Americans will succeed, sooner or later, I have no doubt whatever. Whether it is to be sooner or later, depends greatly on the good sense and self-restraint of Aguinaldo and the other Native leaders.

But in the meantime, are we, with our American brethren setting their faces like flints in the direction of freedom and self-government, going to allow the miserable reaction which has set in upon Indian self-government to go on unchecked? Is India to continue to decline upon press gagging, letters-de-cachet, swamped municipalities, while America leads the Phillipinos by the hand to free government and autonomy? No country ever prospers under such a policy as that under which India is governed. Free institutions, self-government from village to state, develop in a generation self-reliant, enterprising citizens, who bring prosperity and good administration as a natural consequence. Bulgaria, Servia and Roumania are recent instances of this in Europe, and Japan is even more notable in Asia, and is more comparable to the case of India.

The Japan, preceding 1868, was an autocratic Government with an aristocratic administration. Only the courtiers and soldier-class enjoyed anything approaching to culture or enjoyment, and nine-tenths of the people were in more squalid misery than the poorest classes in India to-day. It is all very different now. The change has been brought about entirely under American influence. Commodore Perry, Captain Stewart, Captain Coffin, Mr. C. W. King, a Philadelphia merchant, Dr. William Williams and a long list of Americans besides, are the men who, more than any other influence, broke down the aristocratic Government of Japan. By them hundreds of clever young Japanese were brought to the universities of the United States, and sent back to their native land saturated with democratic and republican principles. The efforts of these educational and commercial friends of Japan, spread over the greater part of the century, were nobly supplemented by American Christian missionaries, who realized the Gospel of Christ is good for this world, as well as the world to come, and who, forbidden to preach, remained to teach, founding those first schools of science and languages which have, within the last 30 years, under free and representative institutions and Parliamentary Government, been now superseded by one of the finest State educational systems from the elementary school to the University, possessed by any civilised Government in the world.

The American missionaries began the teaching of western learning and languages and from 1869 to 1879, Mr. Verbeck, United States citizen, personally organised and taught a Government school in which most of the Japanese were trained who have since been eminent in reform and who have designed and established the free Parliamentary Government which Japan now enjoys.

After the revolution of 1868, designed and carried out by Young Japan, trained by American influences and education, Mr. Verbeck was called to the principalship of the Imperial University and became practically the Minister of Education to the reformed Government. This distinguished American not only created the magnificent system of national education which has brought Japan from savagery to the forefront of civilised nations in the brief space of thirty years, but he organised the great embassy which was sent round the world from 1872 to 1874, which was so successful in turning the minds of the leading men of Japan towards western culture and progress. Why should not the Indian National Congress try something of this kind? Why should not an "embassy" be sent from the next Congress consisting of four such men, as the Hon'ble Justice Ranade, Surendra Nath Banerjea, Budruddin Tyabjee, and Sankara Nair—to name four only out of four hundred equally suitable—who should visit 100 great centres of population in the United Kingdom, to convince the British democracy, by four speeches of half-an-hour each, that India is capable of producing men fit to assume self-government, and to undertake the fullest responsibilities of local and national administration. They might afterwards proceed to Canada, the Cape and our Australasian Colonies. Such an "Embassy" would produce better and more practical results than half-a-dozen Congresses, and is, to my mind at any rate, the crying need of the moment in Congress history. It could be carried out for the cost of a single Congress.

THE HOLIDAY STORM.

BY EMILY S. WINDSOR.

I.

RICHARD DALE returned home after a morning spent in a vain search for employment.

As he entered the sitting-room his sister Jessie met him with a troubled face.

"Oh, Richard!" she exclaimed, "isn't this a sad Christmas eve? Mother is so much worse. She has had those pains again, and all that medicine is gone. It is the only thing that helps her. What shall we do?"

"I don't know," "answered her brother. "We've not a cent of money to buy more of it. I went all over to the village this morning, but couldn't get a job of any kind," and Richard threw himself into a chair with an air of utter discouragement.

"But something must be done," said Jessie, desperately. "We can't let her suffer so. I've put a mustard plaster on her, and she's a little easier. If we had some of that medicine it would stop the pain at once."

"Perhaps Mr. Martin would let us have some without the money," suggested her brother.

"I'm afraid not, for he doesn't keep it himself, but has to send to Pemberton for it."

Richard sighed. "I don't see what we can do," he said.

The two children, for they were little more, Richard being but 15 and Jessie 13, were silent for some minutes. Jessie was the first to speak.

"I have an idea, Richard. There's that little gold chain that father gave me the last Christmas he was at home. I think you could sell it in Pemberton," said Jessie. "I know that it's a good long distance to go, but we must do something to help mother. I must see how she is now," and Jessie left the room.

While she was gone Richard went to the window and looked out. The show which had been lightly falling all day was now coming down thick and fast. How could he walk those seven miles to Pemberton in such weather, for he had no means of taking the train? He was so tired now after his morning's tramp around the village. He could not do it. They must think of some other way of getting money.

It was some little time before Jessie came back, and then she looked more troubled than ever.

"I don't know what to do," she said. "The pain is no better. If we only had some of that medicine! Oh, Richard, if mother should die!"

Her brother turned quickly from the window.

"Get me something to eat, and then I'll take the chain to Pemberton and try to sell it."

Jessie gave a cry of dismay when she noticed how hard it was snowing.

"Oh, Richard, I don't believe you can walk in this weather."

"Oh, I'll mannage," replied her brother cheerfully. "It won't hurt me. Just think of mother."

And after eating the bread which Jessie brought him he buttoned his coat up closely about his throat, pulled his cap down over his ears, and set out.

II.

Two years before Richard's father had gone out West to try his fortune in the mining regions, leaving his wife and two children with enough money in hand to maintain them comfortably several months. The small fund had been exhausted long ago, and Mrs. Dale found herself with nothing for the support of herself and the children but what she could earn by sewing and Richard doing odd jobs for various people in the village.

Then had come a letter from their father saying that he had not been successful; that he was sick, and begging them to send him money for his return home.

The worry consequent upon her inability to do this had made Mrs. Dale ill.

As Richard hurried on his mind was so absorbed by painful thought that he was unmindful of his fatigue and the increasing violence of the storm. He had hoped that some farmer's wagon would pass him on the road, which would have taken him in and thus shortened his journey. But no vehicle of any description did he see, nor any person until he was just on the edge of the town.

Then he met a man who stopped and asked him in which direction Banville lay. Richard pointed out the road.

The stranger was so wrapped up in a heavy overcoat and cap drawn down over his face and ears that Richard could see nothing but a pair of kindly grey eyes.

"Pretty rough walking, sonny?" he said in a crisp, cheerful voice.

"Very bad," assented Richard.

"I missed the midday train, and it's too long to wait for the next one, as this is Christmas eve, so I am going to walk it. But I fear this snow will turn out worse than I thought."

"It's only four miles," said Richard encouragingly, and sighed as he thought of the long return walk awaiting him.

"Well, good day, sonny," and the stranger strode on.

There were three jewelers in Pemberton. The first two to whom Richard applied refused to buy the chain, but the third took it, though offering for it a price much less than Richard had hoped to receive. However, it was enough for the medicine and a little sum over.

III.

Richard shrank from the long, hard walk before him. There were some persons living in Pemberton with whom he was acquainted. He thought of applying to them for shelter for the night, but reflected that Jessie would be alarmed if he failed to return, and that his mother ought to have the medicine as soon as possible. This latter thought gave him fresh courage and strength, and he had soon left the town behind him and was once more upon the highway.

Presently the wind went down, the downfall of snow decreased, and the stars came out. The liveliness of the scene and the intense, mysterious silence of the snow-ladden woods on either side of the road oppressed the boy.

He felt tempted to go back to town and seek shelter, but again the thought of his mother spurred him on.

His progress was slow, now wading through great drifts, and now slipping into a deep gully, but he pushed on perseveringly.

He was nearly two miles from Pemberton when he stumbled upon some large, dark object, faintly outlined in the snow. It was a man half reclining against a tree. He groaned faintly as Richard bent over him, but made no other sign of life.

"I wonder if he's dying?" said the boy aloud, and in a tremble of fright. He thought of all the people whom he had heard of as being found dead in some one of these terrible snowstorms.

Then he shook the man as vigorously as he was able, and rubbed snow in his face, but with no result but another moan. Suddenly he thought of his mother's medicine, and, opening the bottle, forced a small quantity into the man's mouth, and again shook him. Finally, whether as a result of the shaking or of the medicine, the stranger gave signs of returning consciousness. His eyes opened; he sat up and looked around in a bewildered way.

"What—where—I—oh—yes—I—remember—it's my ankle," he said, in a halting voice.

Richard recognized him as the man whom he had directed to Banville several hours before.

"What happened to you?" asked Richard. "I've been shaking and rubbing you a good while to wake you up."

The stranger now seemed perfectly aroused.

"I went down a deep gully and sprained my ankle. I couldn't walk, but managed to drag myself over to this tree. Not a soul has passed here since. The snow drifted around me, and I thought at first I would freeze outright, it was so bitterly cold. The wind cut right through me. Then I found myself getting sleepy, but tried to fight against it, for I knew what that meant. You've saved my life, sure, sonny. Aren't you the boy I met this afternoon?"

"Yes. I am on my way home to Bigdon," returned Richard. "I wonder how I can get you on!" Then he remembered that a short distance ahead there was a farmhouse.

"If you'll keep awake, I'll go on as quickly as I can to a house that's not far from here and get help. Try to stand it till I get back. I'll hurry."

"I'll do it, sonny. What was that you put in my mouth—it seemed to warm me up?"

"It's some medicine I was taking home to my mother," explained Richard. "Here let me give you some more."

The stranger swallowed some more of the liquid and Richard hurried off. The distance to the farmhouse was not so great as he had thought, and in a comparatively short time he was back to the stranger with the farmer and his horse and farm sleigh.

IV.

When the hour at which she might reasonably expect her brother had long passed without any sign of his coming, Jessie grew alarmed.

What could keep him? Was he lost in the snow? The clock struck 12; it was Christmas morning.

Her suspense was becoming intense, when at last she heard the tinkle of sleighbells outside and the sound of voices. In another moment Richard burst into the room, looking bright and eager.

"Oh, Richard, I've been so uneasy!" exclaimed Jessie.

"How's mother? I've got the medicine."

"She's asleep, but the pains have been very bad. I'm so glad you have it. And you sold the chain?"

"Yes," and Richard proceeded to give his sister an account of his trip.

"So we took him to the farmhouse," he concluded, "and they have made him comfortable for the night. He says I've saved his life, and all that kind of thing, you know. And he made me tell him all about myself.

"His name is Benton, and he lives in Banville. He's going to get father home for us and give me a place in his warehouse.

"Mr. Smith, the farmer, you know, says that he knows of him, and he's sick. Anyway, he's a nice man.

"You see, Mr. Smith brought me home in this sleigh," and Richard stopped, quite out of breath.

"Oh, Richard, mother will get well as soon as she hears such good news. What a splendid man he must be! How lucky that you went to Pemberton to sell the chain! I'm so glad," and tears of happiness came into Jessie's eyes.

"So am I," said Richard. "Let's go in and see if mother is awake. It's going to be a jolly Christmas after all."—*Inter-Ocean.*

MR. RIBBENTHROP, Inspector General of forests, who is now touring in the Berars, will next visit the Central Provinces and then Dehra Dun.

An Editor's Life Saved by Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

DURING the early part of October, 1896, I contracted a bad cold which settled on my lungs and was neglected until I feared that consumption had appeared in an incipient state. I was constantly coughing and trying to expel something which I could not. I became alarmed and after giving the local doctor a trial bought a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and the result was immediate improvement, and after I had used three bottles my lungs were restored to their healthy state.—B. S. EDWARDS, Publisher of The Review, Wyant, Ill. For sale by*

SMITH STANISTREET & CO. and
B K. PAUL & CO.,

Mofussil News.

RAJSHAHI, JAN. 31.

ON the 28th we had a severe storm here. Many boats are reported to have sunk in the river. The storm suddenly came on at 3 P. M. On that day, when the down steamer was coming here Babu Loharam Chatterjee, a passenger, happily saved 3 men.—The examination of the Sericultural School is over. Out of 14 boys ten have passed in the 1st division and 3 in the 2nd.

DINAJPUR, FEB. 2.

THE Chirirbander rioting case has seen further developments. Another batch of people, twenty-three in number, have lately been hauled up before the senior Deputy Magistrate as having taken part in the riot and obstructed the Police in the discharge of their lawful duties.—Two local kabirajes of repute, Babus Kundal Kant Ray and Kedareswar Kavisekhar, are undergoing trial for manufacturing a kind of medicine called "Sanjibani Rashyan" by the process of distillation without licence.—Lately a leopard measuring 8ft 3in was bagged here. Its mate is still at large and doing great mischief to cattle.

KANKINA, FEB. 5.

YESTERDAY, on the occasion of the 45th Birthday anniversary of Raja Mahima Ranjan Ray Chowdhury of Kakina, a Divine Service was held as usual in the Raja Bahadur's new residence at 9 a. m. The prayer and sermon delivered by the Raja were very instructive. The palace and its extensive grounds were tastefully decorated with buntings, arches and ever-greens. In the evening a garden-party was held in the well laid out grounds of the Raj Kumar Bahadur's residence. Tea, sweetmeats and fruits were served. The whole palace with its gardens were brilliantly illuminated in honour of the occasion. The villagers and the residents of Kakina also illuminated their houses last night. Punctually at 10 P. M., (it being the hour when the Raja was born) 45 guns, corresponding to the number of years the Raja Bahadur has attained, were fired. This closed the ceremonies of the day.

KISSENGUNGE (Purneah), FEB. 3.

BABU RAMONI MOHAN DAS, our young and energetic Sub-divisional Officer, deserves the thanks and gratitude of the people of this Sub-division, for his proposal to establish three charitable dispensaries in the three different police stations. We are also very thankful to our worthy widowed lady-zemindar, Suryamoni Chaudhurani, of Kharoodah, who, we hear, has accepted the proposal of our kind-hearted Sub-divisional Officer, to bear the cost of retaining a female doctor in charge of a female ward to be attached to the Municipal Charitable Dispensary at Bhariadanga. We are glad to note that the Bhariadanga Jubilee School has been raised to the status of a High School, and placed under a managing committee composed of respectable people.—The Khagra fair is going on. This fair was established by the late lamented Nawab Ata Hossien, on the suggestion of Mr. Weeks, the then Collector of the District, to encourage the agriculturists of this Sub-division by prizes for agricultural exhibits. But after the death of the Nawab, since his estate passed under the management of the Court of Wards, the primary object of the fair has altogether been lost sight of and it has become rather a source of income. It is hoped that the attention of the manager will be drawn to this fact.

SYLHET, JAN. 31.

THE principal topic of the week may fairly by said to be the entertainment given by the members of the District Bar to Rai Dulal Chandra Deb Bahadur, Senior Government Pleader of Sylhet, on Sunday evening, at the Municipal Hall. The new municipal building was very tastefully decorated with leaves and flowers, while flags of various colours were planted in different parts of the office compound The two parallel rows of plantain trees standing along the pathway from the entrance to the Hall, were adorned with flags and flowers, and the whole compound assumed a festive appearance. Representatives of all the different sections of the community were invited and there was a decent gathering of men of light and leading in the station. The guests were entertained with music, speeches and light refreshments. Several gentlemen spoke in highly appreciative terms of the singular abilities of the guest of the evening and congratulated him on the distinction that had been conferred upon him. The Rai Bahadur thanked them for the ovation given to him and the enlogistic remarks made about him, in a few well-chosen words.—The Jubilee Hall which was destroyed by the destructive earthquake of June 1897, is likely to be rebuilt on the old site. Babu G. C. Nag, Extra Assistant Commissioner, has undertaken in right earnest the irksome task of collecting subscriptions from the public, and it is gratifying to learn that about three thousand Rupees have already been raised. The local Municipality has made a donation of Rs 300, and we are glad to learn that Mr. Cotton, with his usual magnanimity, has accorded his sanction thereto. It is to be hoped, however, that further subscriptions would be forthcoming as soon as the work of re-construction is formally commenced.—The Companygunj-Jharia Steam Tramway service has been re-opened, the serious damage caused by the earthquake having been partially repaired. But it is apprehended that with the approach of the rainy season there may be a rush of water from the Khasi Hills and the railway lines may be blocked and the earth-work washed away.—The construction of the Tramway line from Jharia to Bholegunj has again been taken in hand, two previous attempts having failed on account of floods.—The Arteslan well sunk at Puran lane by the local Municipality has been a success after all—has been declared by the authorities of the P. W. Department that the perennial spring has been reached and the supply is likely to be abundant. The Commissioners have passed a resolution to the effect that henceforth Artesian wells would be sunk in different parts of the town, instead of he excavation of tanks as the latter have troved a failure in this town.

The Best Medicine For Rheumatism.

"I THINK I would go crazy with pain were it not for Chamberlain's Pain Balm," writes Mr. W. H. Stapleton, Herminie, Pa. "I have been afflicted with rheumatism for several years and have tried remedies without number, but Pain Balm is the best medicine I have got hold of." One application relieves the pain. For sale by*

SMITH STANISTREET & CO. and
B. K. PAUL & CO

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

KEEPING A VOW.

OF the fact that strange phenomena exist which people are obliged to accept without being able to explain them the quaint little town of Marblehead furnishes an instance in the shape of an old clock, or the almost empty case of one, belonging to Mrs. Pitman, who lives on Reeds hill, not far from the railroad station.

Even the most sceptical have been obliged to admit its existence and mysterious workings and to confess their inability to explain the power that controls it or to advance any reasonable theory upon the subject. It has been visited and examined by thousands during the past few years—by clergymen, scientists, and others of learning and experience—and they have all come away satisfied that there was no delusion or trickery in what they witnessed, and filled with wonder at what they had seen and heard.

It is simply the wooden case of an old-fashioned eight-day clock, entirely destitute of works, and containing nothing save the coiled wire that once formed a portion of the striking apparatus. It was the property of Mrs. Pitman's father, and has never, to her recollection, been other than it is now—without pendulum or mechanism.

For some reason unknown to others it was prized very highly by the old gentleman and was kept on the mantel of a seldom-occupied room on the second floor of the house. The family, comprising, besides Mrs. Pitman, her father, children, and brother, were church-going people, and were never known as so-called Spiritualists, and she knew nothing of the mysterious powers possessed by the old clock until one evening when she heard it strike clearly and distinctly, as if in perfect order.

She listened with amazement until the strokes ceased, and then, turning to her father, was about to express her surprise and ask him for an explanation of the wonder, when he said very quickly: "It is striking for me; I am going away."

She laughed in disbelief, and he added: "I mean that I am going—never to return."

"But there are people who say that those who die do come back sometimes," she said, refusing to regard the matter seriously.

But he looked at her intently as he said, slowly and solemnly: "Then, if it is possible, I will return to you, my daughter, and in a way you cannot mistake."

Nothing more was said at the time, and a few days later the old gentleman died—very suddenly.

Mrs. Pitman had given little thought to her father's words, until one day when in the room where the clock was kept, she was startled by hearing it tick, with the same regularity and distinctness as though the missing works were again within the case and moving the long-gone pendulum.

She hastened to call her brother; and as the two stood listening to the montonous "tick-tick" of the invisible pendulum, she told him for the first time of what their father had said to her shortly before his death.

He listened to her with impatience and when her story was finished he asked, angrily, if she believed their dead father would come back to earth and manipulate the old clock. And he warned her to say nothing to the neighbours about the matter, for fear they might "think her crazy."

Several clockmakers were called in, but none of them could find anything to account for the strange ticking within the case, which now began to come quite frequently.

Mrs. Pitman soon found that the clock would reply to questions which could be answered by a simple "Yes" or "No," and that the responses were always sensible, and, when relating to future events, borne out by the subsequent facts. These answers would come not only for her own benefit, but for that of others as well, so that many have consulted it through her "mediumship"—if such it can be called—and always with satisfactory results. At times, and when the visitors are musical, there will be heard a tinkling, as if invisible fingers were picking on the wire; and, upon one occasion, there came to the astonished ears of a lady the opening notes of an air which had been the favourite of a recently deceased relative.—"Boston Transcript."

WORLD'S RICHEST MAN.

THE tax statistics for 1899 just published in New York give some idea of the amazing wealth possessed by Mr. John D. Rockefeller, the Standard Oil King. He has a yearly income of £4,000,000.

Mr. Rockefeller is expected to be a billionaire before he dies. He is worth about a third of a billion already, and his fortune is growing by leaps and bounds. He admitted before some investigators not long ago that he could not tell within ten or a dozen billions how much he was worth.

Mr. Rockefeller is said to be worth more than the combined wealth of the Astors, Vanderbilts and Goulds. Crœsus was poor compared with this man, in whose hands rests the destinies of thousands of men. They are prosperous or penniless, as he dictates.

Here are a few of the forty different kinds of stock held by Mr. Rockefeller:—Standard Oil Trust and Subsidiary companies, 160,000,000 dols.; Northern Pacific bonds, 15,000,000 dols.; Natural Gas Enterprises in Ohio, 15,000,000 dols.; Lake Superior Iron Mines, 15,000,000 dols.; and Ohio Barbed Wire Company, 10,000,000 dols. The aggregate stocks held by Mr. Rockefeller represent the sum of 319,309,000 dols.

His yearly income is 20,000 000,00 dols., which works out at 1,666,666,66 dols. per month; 55,555,55 dols. per day (including Sunday) and 2,316,48 dols. per hour.

John D. Rockefeller began his business career as a book-keeper at a salary of 50 dols a month. It is asserted that O. H. Rockefeller, who claimed to be the coming billionaire's cousin, died of starvation in a wretched lodging-house in Chicago.

Mr. Rockefeller is described as being as hard to approach as the Emperor of China, but a few days ago he was seen riding in a Broadway tramcar. Hardly anybody knew him.

The New York papers in their own novel way are peculating on what Mr. Rockefeller will be able to do when he becomes a billionaire, the first the world has known. He could, if he wished, fight a war like the recent one with Spain, pay all the expenses of both nations, all indemnities, pensions, and damages, replace destroyed ships, and give the widows of the killed 1,000/ each, and remain among the richest men in the world.

There are only half-a-dozen nations in the world whose debts amount to more than a billion dollars. A billion dollars is three times as much as the total revenue of the United States of America during any ordinary year.

Mr. Rockefeller could pay the salaries of all the rulers of the world and yet have left a larger income than any of them. He could give President McKinley his salary of 10,000/ every day, and his remaining income would be 300,000/ a year. He could easily buy a little kingdom of his own and have his own government.

Mr. Rockefeller with his thousand million dollars would be able to exercise a power that would be tremendous for good or otherwise. He could smake labour so abundant and living so cheap that a working man out of employment would be a curiosity and poverty would be well nigh eliminated.

It is interesting to see how a professor of political economy views this immense accumulation of wealth. Mr Richmond Mayo-Smith, who occupies that position at the Columbia University, says:—

"No alarm ought to be felt by the community in this concentration of wealth in the hands of such men as John D. Rockefeller, for these reasons:—

"First, Mr. Rockefeller gains this immense wealth by performing service to the community, and the community gains in incrsased cheapness of commodities, in better service, and in cheaper transportation. However wealthy Mr. Rockefeller may get the advantage to the community is still greater.

"Second, the greater the interests involved in Mr. Rockefeller's enterprises the more sensitive he becomes to competition. Capital is so abundant that there is always danger of rival concerns, even when a man thinks he has a monopoly. In order to prevent rivalry, the monopolist in the loug run will generally keep prices reasonable."

CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.

MEETING OF THE SENATE.

A MEETING of the Senate of the Calcutta University was held at the Senate House on Saturday, the Hon. Sir Francis Maclean, Vice-Chancellor, presiding. The attendance was large, and considerable discussion took place over a motion by Mr. A. Pedler made at the last meeting of the Senate, for the adoption of the report submitted by the "Science Degrees Committee."

B. SC. EXAMINATION.

Dr. A. M. Mookerjee moved the following amendment; (*a*) That English be a compulsory subject of examination for the proposed B. Sc. degree: (*b*) that one paper be set in English containing some subject for original composition, on a scientific topic; (*c*) that the examination in English be conducted mainly as a test in composition than in philology.

Having explained his reasons for the amendment, the speaker said that he would not have troubled the Senate with any explanation if the Committee had not taken a strong view in the matter. It had been unanimously recommended by the Committee that English should not form one of the compulsory subjects for the B. Sc. degree, and he submitted with great confidence that the members of the Senate whether men of science or literary men would accept the amendment.

Mr. Pedler said he had no objection to the first part of the amendment, but he thought clause (b) should be modified to the effect that one paper be set in English requiring short essays to be written on (*a*) physical science or chemistry and (*b*) any one or other of the optional subjects taken up by the student.

Dr. Mookerjee accepted the modification suggested by Mr. Pedler, and after some discussion the amendment was put and carried by a majority.

Rai Yatindro Nath Chowdhury moved the following amendment: That in the place of para. 2 in the report, the following be substituted: I. English, (A limited course in modern English together with original composition). II. Mathematics, (Statics and Dynamics). III. Physics. IV. Chemistry, together with a simple practical examination in III and IV. And any one of the following: V. Physiology. VI. Botany. VII. Zoology. VIII. Geology. IX. Mineralogy X. A further course in Mathematics, (Hydrostatics and Astronomy). XI. Mental Science, and XII. Moral Science. In each subject one paper only shall be set.

Mr. W. C. Bonerjee said they had already passed a Resolution on this subject, and the amendment was out of order.

Dr. Guru Dass Banerjee said, that, no doubt, for an Advocate, especially if he be a foreigner, a knowledge of English must be essential, but he thought there was something more essential than the mere knowledge of English, and that was the power of reasoning. When an Advocate failed to make his agreements clear, it was not often from a deficiency in English, but in power of reasoning and power of thought. In the B. Sc. examination, students should cultivate the power of reasoning.

The Vice-Chancellor said that this amendment had been covered by the one which had already been passed, but as the Mover did not speak on it he gave him the opportunity to do so on his own amendment.

The amendment was then put to the meeting and lost.

Dr. A. Mookerjee next moved: "That the Senate decline to express any opinion as to the value of the proposed B. Sc. degree as a qualification for admission to the B. L. examination, without consulting the Faculty of Law on this subject."

Babu Kali Churn Banerjee supported the amendment as there was no definite idea as to what the B. Sc. degree would involve. At the same time he believed as Senate of the University, it was beyond their province to say that the B. Sc. degree as they defined it, should qualify for Government employment.

After some further discussion the amendment was put to the meeting and lost.

The following amendments moved by Dr. A. Mookerjee were carried: "That a practical examination be held in both physics and chemistry instead of 'in either of the two subjects;' that a simple practical examination be compulsory in each of the optional subjects, namely, physiology, botany, zoology, geology, and mineralogy; that candidates be required to take up only two optional subjects."

Dr. Mookerjee next moved: "That mental science and moral science be encluded from the category of optional subjects for the examination." He said that in the interest of mental and moral science these subjects should be cut out from the B. Sc. degree, and should not be placed in the course. If it was necessary to cultivate mental and moral science they could introduce a degree of philosophy. The Universities of Bombay and London had abandoned these subjects.

After considerable discussion, the amendment was put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

M. A. DEGREE, PRELIMINARY QUALIFICATION FOR D. Sc.

The following amendments moved by Dr. A. Mookerjee were carried: "That the recommendation in paragraph I, page 3 of the Report, namely, that a Bachelor of Science may proceed to the M. A degree in 'mental and moral philosophy' be not adopted; that a candidate who has passed the M. A. examination in two scientific subjects, be exempted from the examination in the 'preliminary qualification for D.Sc.'"

D. Sc. DEGREE.

The following amendment was moved by Dr. Mookerjee and carried: "That the subject of mental and moral science be excluded from the list of subjects for the D. Sc. examination."

The scheme for the science degrees as amended, and the Report of the Committee were then adopted, and the syndicate were requested to draft regulations in accordance with the Resolution of the Senate.

THE British Agent in Kabul had an interview with the Amir about a fortnight ago. His Highness then seemed in his usual health.

THE MUNICIPAL BILL.

ANOTHER PROTEST MEETING.

A VERY crowded and successful meeting of rate-payers was held last evening in the Padmapukur Square at Bhowanipur, to enter a protest against the Calcutta Municipal Bill. The meeting was attended by all sections of the community, and even Hindu Pandits, who are not in the least given to agitation, took part in its delibrations and made impressive speeches. A large number of shop-keepers from the neighbourhood attended. More than 2,000 people were present, representing every section of the community, and great was the interest taken by them all. Dr. Rashbehari Ghose presided.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.

Dr. Rash Behari Ghose, in taking the chair, said that his first duty was a most agreeable one. The duty of thanking those who had done him the honour of electing to preside at the meeting—an honour, which he said, he could only attribute to their kindness. Bhowanipore was a second home to him and he was yet attached to it by indissoluble ties of affection and early associations. On two occasions he had had to address meetings on the subject before, and he might be again called upon to speak at the forthcoming Town Hall meeting. He would not, therefore, detain the audience by his criticisms on the Bill. That duty would be done by the speakers, and he hoped, would be done with considerable ability. His duty was to exhort the citizens of Calcutta to exert to the utmost of their power to oppose the measure. He would invite them most solemnly to protest against the measure, because it condemned the elected Commissioners, unheard; because, if passed, it would practically drive away the poor people from Calcutta, and because it would take away all real control and authority from the representatives of the citizens and vest them in a General Committee of 12, of whom the majority would be Europeans, who were only birds-of-passage. Above all, he could protest against it, because it would be fatal to local self-government. The grave was already open, and the grave-diggers were doing their business daily and weekly in the Council Chamber. It is said that, the Indians were the citizens of an Empire where the sun never set. This was a mere empty sound. It was a cruel mockery, said he, to snatch away the semblance of local self-government conferred on the people of Calcutta, after a trial of almost a quarter of a century.

THE BILL.

Mr. S. P. Sinha, barrister-at-law moved the first resolution which was as follows:

I. That this meeting records its respectful but firm protest against the principles of the Calcutta Municipal Bill now pending before the Council of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, inasmuch as the Bill threatens the privileges of Local Self Government which the rate-payers of Calcutta have hitherto enjoyed, by taking away powers of control from the hands of their representatives and vesting the same in those of the executive.

In moving the resolution Mr. Sinha said that he would briefly state the history of the Calcutta Municipality from its very inception. Before the year 1863 there was no municipality in Calcutta at all. In 1863 they passed an Act vesting the municipal Government in Justices of the Peace for Bengal, Behar and Orissa, who resided in Calcutta, and the Justices of the Peace for Calcutta. The Justices elected their own chairman subject to ratification by the Local Government, and this body continued to administer the municipality down to 1876. There were radical changes made in 1876 in the constitution of the municipality. The changes made in 1876 showed that this body of the Justices were found wanting. The sanitation of the town during the administration of the Justices was so much neglected that Lieutenant-Governor after Lieutenant-Governor thought it best to take away their power. It remained, however, for Sir Richard Temple to sweep away this body in 1876 introducing for the first time the elective system in the municipal government of the town. This system was acted upon till 1884 when some members of the European community having felt that the sanitation of the town was not what it should be, the Government appointed a Commission. The Commission made a report, but Mr. Cotton, who was a member of the Commission, recorded a dissent. Nothing more was, however, done till 1888 when the present Act was passed. When a well-known Calcutta paper, the other day, published a statement that there was a rumour in Calcutta that the Corporation would be vested under the control of a body of twelve gentlemen, Sir Alexander Mackenzie declared it to be a lie. Now, they knew that the *Bengalee* did not lie. In the present Bill it was proposed to retain 75 Commissioners, but that was all. It was only the form, the shell left, and nothing more. The whole work would be done by a body of twelve members—4 to be appointed by Government, 4 by the trades and commerce, and 4 only by the representatives of the ratepayers. It had been said that the claim of commerce was supreme. But Mr. Sinha took it that as ratepayers the commercial people would have some voice and he did not understand why the commercial people should have the privilege of being represented twice—first as ratepayers and then as commercial people. The speaker wanted to know whether any such system did prevail in any other town. All that they asked was that the vested authority from the municipal Commissioners should not be taken away and vested in a body in which the representatives of the ratepayers would always be in a standing minority. In the Bill it was proposed that the membes of the General Committee attending the meetings would get a fee of Rs, 32 each and those of the Sub-Committees Rs. 16 each. That might be an inducement to the great commercial men, but why this charge upon municipal funds when men of intellegence, culture and wealth would not hesitate to come forward and devote their time to the work of the municipality?

Mr. B. Mitter, barrister-at-law, seconded the resolution.

The resolution being supported by Babus Dakhina Mohan Roy, Sasi Bhusan Mookerjee, Bankim Chander Sen and Ram Lal De was adopted unanimously.

THE BUILDING REGULATIONS.

Babu Shama Prosonno Mozumdar moved the second resolution which ran as follows:

II. That this meeting views with alarm the provisions of the Bill relating, amongst others, to the Building Regulations, Land Acquisition and the Regulations regarding Sanitation, and is of opinion that the Bill in its present form should not be passed into law.

Babu Kristo Chandra Chatterjee seconded and Pandit Kaliprasanna Vidyaratna supported it in Bengali. The resolution was carried unanimously.

THE MEMORIAL.

Babu Hemendra Nath Mitter moved the adoption and forwarding to Government of the memorial given below.

Mr. St. I. Desa of Messrs. Harold and Co. seconded the resolution. He said he supported the memorial "in the light and position of a native of India."

Babu Atulya Charan Bose supported the resolution which being put to the vote was carried unanimously.

WORKING COMMITTEE.

On the motion of Babu Issur Chandra Chakrabarti seconded by Babu Beni Madhub Addy and supported by Babu Shiva Prosonno Bhattacharjee a strong committee was formed to raise funds and generally to carry out the object of the meeting.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the proceedings terminated.

HUNT FOR A BIG WILD CAT.

"THE bay lynx, or wlid cat," said Judge Crane of Port Jervis, "is not a striking example of domestic devotion. Unlike the hero of the popular ballad, he loves to wander from his own fireside, and he is more fortunate than most fellows in the ability to indulge his wayward propensity. Most animals of our woods are extremely local in their habits. The wild cat is a tramp. It is costomary for him to have two lairs, a dozen wayside haunts and, perhaps, as many more occasional stopping places. His two homes are frequently ten or a dozen miles apart and mark two points on the circumference of an approximate circle which encloses his stamping ground.

"He starts from one of his habitations on his lonely jaunt, covering in the first twenty-four hours five or six miles on the main line of his route, while his excursions to the right and left through thicket and swamp comprise many more miles. His route seems to be composed of innumerable small circles and eccentric figures. When he reaches his second residence he hunts the adjacent covers until his wayward fancy again asserts itself. Then he strikes off home, which he reaches by an altogether new route, or rather a series of routes. He is not a ceature of habit. Occasionally he curls himself up like a house cat and sleeps on the ground, wunting usually by night, and sometimes two heeks may elapse before he regains his starting point. Without doubt he keeps this roving up all the time, although it is only during the winter months, when the snow holds the record of his wonderings, that we can be sure of his movements. For this reason, too, the winter is the only time we can hunt him scientifically. If he is disturbed by man he will pike off for the more distant bome, perhaps running for eight miles in a perfectly straight line. If you can set a dog upon his hot track he will take to the nearest swamp or patch of biers and wind and twist and turn until he almost unseats the reason of the calmest and most calculating old hound that ever followed a trail. He will not take to water or resort to the other methods of obliterating his trail that a deer adopts. He simply goes around and around in the thickest brush he can find, depending all the time on more strength and grit and endurance to win out and throw off the pestering hound. He is not afraid of the dog, but the latter bores him by his persistency, and he resorts to the same measures adopted by the man who owes you $10. It is very difficult to tree a wildcat. Sometimes, after being hunted for hours in the way I have indicated, a fresh and fast hound might make him climb a tree, but this is rare. The man who shoots a wildcat without understanding these principles is lucky.

"Last week Lew Boyd, the presiding genius of the hunt at Hartwood, telephoned to me that he had found the fresh tracks of a cat.

"'That cat's come back from Eden' was the way Lew put it—Eden was the second place of residence of this particular cat—'and he's on this side of the Monticello road, now.'

"So I telephoned to Miles Sturtevant to come down from Hartwood the next morning to meet me. I met his wagon on the road four miles from town. We bumped our way over the turnpike to the top of Sullivan county, and then turn into the old Texas road, picking up Lew Boyd and his hound on the way. Three miles further on the Gray road strikes out to the east at right angles. Here we dismissed the wagon, chained the hound, and walked on in the direction of Gray Swamp. At the head of Gray Swamp we found the tracks of a big cat pointing toward the swamp, and a few yards further on we came upon a similar track crossing the road in the opposite direction. Lew asserted confidently that the two tracks were made that day, and by the same animal, and the question remained to be decided on which side the road he was at that moment. He was of the opinion that the cat was in Long Swamp. So we trudged through the woods for three miles along the top of a low ridge.

"We passed innumerable deer tracks on the way. As we neared Long Swamp we put up a fine deer that went dashing off toward Port Jervis, and a little later another jumped through the bush close by. Long Swamp is of the shape of an enormous two-fingered hand covering hundreds of acres. After we gained the swamp the sun went under the clouds, and even the instinct of direction possessed by Lew Boyd, trained woodsman as he is, was at fault. We made our way out by the aid of my pocket compass.

"On the west edge of the swamp we came suddenly upon a place where the ground was torn and trampled. Tufts of hair and pieces of pelt lay about on the blood-stained snow, and there was every sign of a terrific struggle. On the edge of the battle-ground lay the paunch of a deer, and a few feet further on we found ihts ead and spine, gnawed clean. The work had been done two nights before, and from all signs this had been no running battle of miles. The tragedy had all been enacted within a few feet, and we both felt a new respect for the animal that could do away with a nearly full-grown deer. Lew cut through to skirt the east end of the swamp in quest of a fresh track, and I went up Henry Hill in the opposite direction to look over a smaller swamp in the vicinity.

"The catiain't here,' Lew announced definitely when we met again. "He's back in Gray Swamp.'

"Gray Swamp is the worst place in Sullivan county. It is almost impenetrable. It is perfectly flat, and in addition to the usual dense underbush it is overgrown with laurel whose branches are interlaced so deftly that it seems impossible for any creature to get through. I would not cross Gray Swamp for money; for a wildcat, I might. Unless he had winded or sighted us the animal was somewhere in the neighbourhood, and we had reduced all likely hiding-places to the depths of this swamp. Lew told me to go in and select as open a position as I could find while he walked round the swamp to look for tracks leading out. I wriggled and twisted and tore my way through the brush until I found a well worn deer path along which I came upon several of their round beds. One of them, a little larger than the others, was surrounded by the tracks not much larger than a copper cent, of two fawns. It was pretty tough work getting inside of that swamp, and long before I had a suitable position I heard the deep bay of the hound. A moment later something heavy bounded through the bush within fifty feet of me. I couldn't see a thing but laurels, and so I kept still and cursed my luck. My only chance was to remain quiet and wait for the dog to bring the animal around again. After the dog passed I hunted around until I found a fallen log, from the top of which I could see for a few yards about me. The sounds of the hunt held on quite to the further edge of the swamp and then gradually turned.

"Suddenly something like and soft and graceful made a curving leap over the bush. I caught another glimpse of the tawny skin a few feet further on, aimed at it quickly and fired. The thing dropped and sank slowly among the bushes. It looked as though it lay among the bushes. It looked as though it lay crouching for a spring when I worked my way to it, its face toward me, and the fire in its eyes not yet dead. A moment later the dog burst through the brush and buried his teeth in the cat's neck without a moment's hesitation. That hound is of the Josh Cole breed, a strain known throughout this region for honesty, gameness, and grit. Many a good dog will flinch from a wildcat, dead or alive. But this one went at it as though he had never known any other kind of business."

The dead wild cat measured four feet five and-a-half inches from tip to tip, and stood twenty-one inches high at the shoulder. The hide is being mounted for Judge Crane.

THE Government of India have sanctioned an additional grant of twenty lakhs for public works in Burma during the ensuing financial year.

IT is understood that the scheme for keeping British regiments in training by marching them about the country in the cold weather, will be given effect to from next winter.

REPORTS of unrest came from the Kuram side, and the troops in the Tochi Valley are said to have been warned.

IF the report is true that His Highness the Gaekwar has reserved the sum of twenty-five lacs for being used to help young Indians to go to England for being educated. His Highness could not make better use of the money than to make it over to Mr Tata for his projected Scientific Research University. The Gaekwar is one of those enlightened Princes, to whom the Directors of Mr. Tata's scheme will have to look for material support.

Two Sub-Inspectors of Police and the Jailor of the District Jail at Muttra were recently prosecuted on charges of bribery and corruption. Khurshaid Ali, the first of the Sub-Inspectors, has been sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 720, under various sections of the Indian Penal Code. The other Sub-Inspector was also convicted. The Jailor was acquitted.

SOME valuable and extensive discoveries of coal are reported from near Quetta, and the necessity will probably be provided for the troops in garrison and other public purposes at cheap rates. "We hope," says the Quetta paper, "it will be possible for a surplus to be available for private consumption also, as the high *tariff* for fuel here, especially in the winter, is one of Quetta's principal drawbacks."

NEWS has been received in Poona of a serious disturbance having occurred at Wadi Junction. From the facts, it appears that a number of native followers, who were passing through the place, got into dispute with some men of the railway staff The row was taken up on both sides, and the parties came to blows. Two of the railway staff, being seriously injured, were removed to hospital.

THE case in which Roshan Mahomed Haji and Inspector Joliffe, both of the Bombay Police, were charged (I) with culpable homicide not amounting to murder of one Pandoo Vitto, and (II) causing evidence to disappear terminated at the Bombay High Court on Monday last, both the accused being acquitted and discharged; the presiding Judge expressing an opinion that the accused were victims of a diabolical conspiracy.

ANOTHER daring robbery was perpetrated early on Monday morning at St. Mary's Church at Poona. The Church was broken into, and two gold crowns from the top of the colors of the 28th Regiment which stand in the centre of the Church, and several valuable vestments, were carried away. The collection boxes were also broken open, and all the cash in them purlioned. Following so fast on the robbery in the Roman Catholic Church in the city, it is believed, that some thieves, who are still at large, are guilty of this sacrilegious theft. Vigorous police enquiries are in progress. The articles stolen from St. Mary's Church are valued at over Rs. 600. A subadar of the 2nd Bombay grenadiers and several sepoys have been arrested. It is said that some of the stolen articles have been found in their possession.

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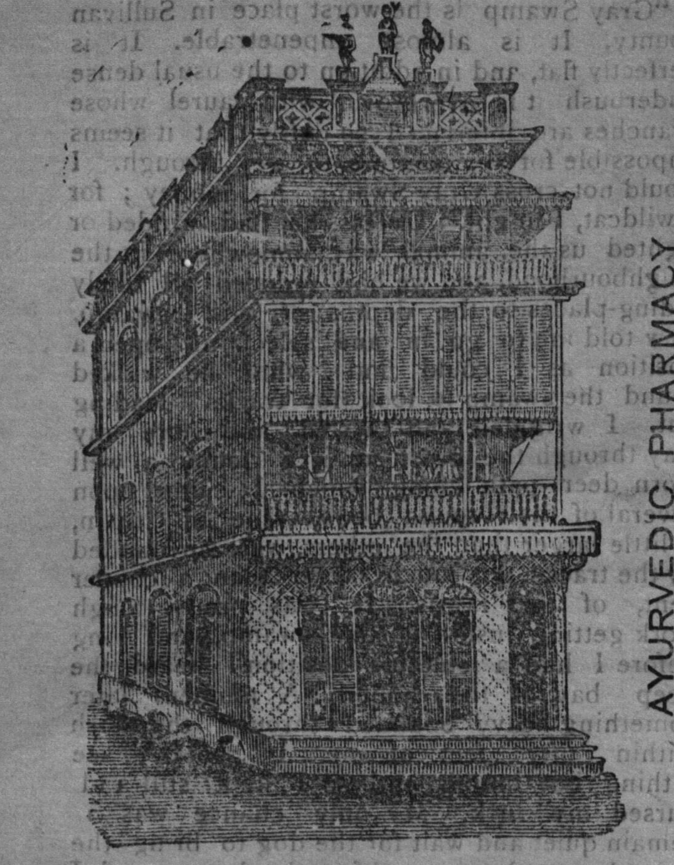

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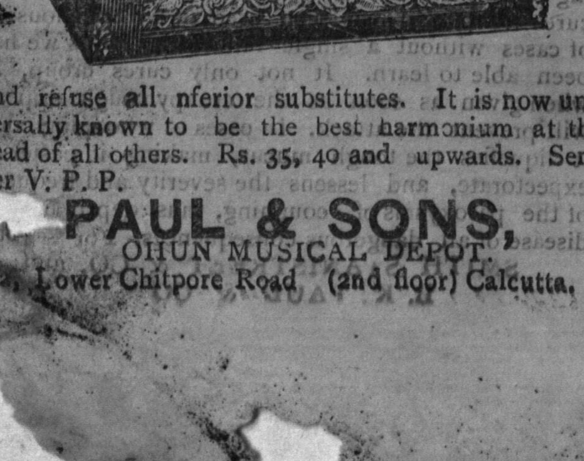

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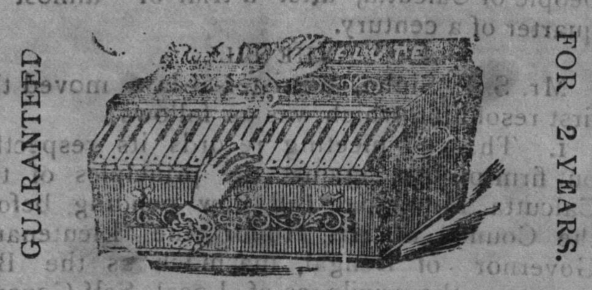

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