REG NO. C. 53

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36

VOL XXXV. CALCUTTA SUNDAY, MAY, 8, 1904.

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INTERSTING AND UPTODATE

The INDIAN REVIEWD for February contains amongst others the following interesting articles: Mr. Kipling and his World By Mr. John M. Robertson What's in a Name? By Mr. H. G. Keene, C. I. E., I. C. Mr. G. S. Aiyar on "Some Economic Aspects of British Rule in India" By Prof Ambika Charan Ukil, M. A., Herbert Spencer and his Teachings By Doctor Guglielmio E. Salvadori, Maitreyi: A Vedic Story By Pandit Sitanath Tattvabhushan, The Tariff Problem. By Mr. C. Is Morrison, M. A. The Indian Govt. on Preferential Tariffs. By "An Indian Publicist." Current Event, By Rajduri Tolstory on "Peace and War" The War between Russia and Japan. By 'Britaudicus't The Indian Universities' Bill By the Editor, Herbert Spencer's Advice to Japan, with this number s, issued a war map which is given free to subscribers and another noteworthy feature is that if contains the fertiaits yf the craif Russia, the Empera, of fefar, king Edward, Herbert spence, court Ioiastory, Lord Curzon and the frnble me Gobehal!.

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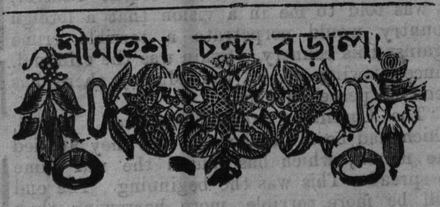

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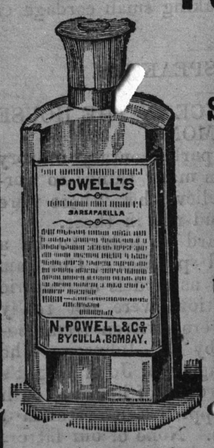

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It improves the system, gives strength and energy after a fortnight's use.

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Efficacy of this invaluable preparation, has been acknowledged by many who have borne testimony in unanimous voice.

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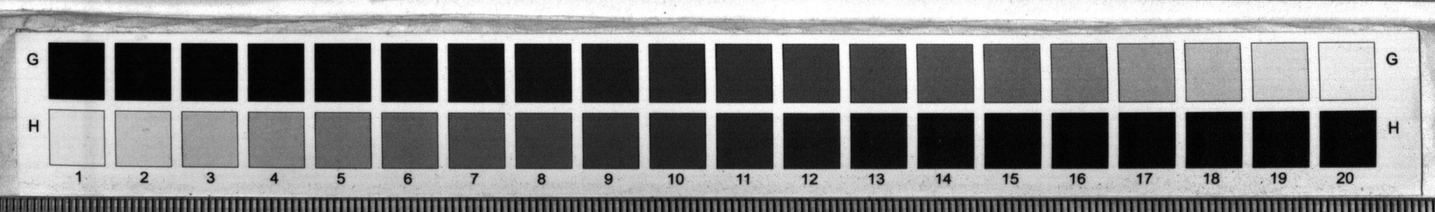
DEAR SIR,—The ornaments which you have supplied to me on order on the occasion of my danghter's marriage, have all been of approved design and of neat workmanship. I cannot but too highly recommend the promptitude with which my order was complied with. Thanking you for the same and wishing you success, I remain (Sd.) Kedar Nath Sanyal, Ex. Asst. Commr. Habiganj, Sylhet. Dated 3rd January 1900.

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

Dated 4-2-00. Sd). Nil Kant Majumde. Professor, Presidency College.



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SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION OF INDIANS.

PUBLIC MEETING.

A public meeting of the residents of the central part of Calcutta was held on Wednesday at the Albert Hall. Babu Norendra Nath Sen opened the meeting by proposing that the Hon. Mr. D. M. Hamilton be voted to the chair.

Mr. Guru Das Bannerji seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman then called on Babu Pepin Chunder Pal to move the first resolution that this meeting expresses its hearty sympathy with the objects of the Association for the Scientific and Industrial Education of Indians.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, shortly after I came out to India over 20 years ago, I heard the founder of this Hall, Keshub Chunder Sen, speak in the Town Hall. The only portion of that speech which I remember, was to this effect.—"When I was young, I wanted Bengal, when I became older, I wanted Asia, now, I want the world." Our meeting here to-day I look upon as an indication that you too, Gentlemen, like your famous countryman, are enlarging your range of vision and casting your eyes beyond the shores of India, to the world outside. Twenty years ago I do not suppose a movement such as this would have stood much chance of success, but the more intelligent among the people of this country are now beginning to see that if India is to play her part in the world, she also must move forward. There can be no such thing as standing still. It must be either development or degeneration, and it is to help on the development of the country that we are here his afternoon.

Now, Gentlemen, what is wanted in the first place is money to set the proposed scheme agoing. The Association aims at an annual collection of Rs. 1,25,000, but if fifty students are to be sent to Europe every year, and, kept there for five years, a good deal more than this will be required. Each student while living in Europe will require at least £100 sterling or Rs. 1,500 per annum for board and education. In five years therefore you will have 250 students to provide for at an annual cost of £25, 000 or Rs. 3,75,000. However, although this sum is not at once forthcoming that is no reason why you should not set about raising the modest lac and a quarter required for a commencement, and even supposing you cannot afford to send more than ten students a year to Europe, you should send them, or who knows but that among these ten may be one man who will some day be of signal service to his country.

Gentlemen, I do not despise the humble annas subscription, for did I not learn in my schooldays that:—

"Little drops of water,
"Little grains of sand,
"Make the mighty ocean,
"And the bounteous land."

but I hope that those who can afford more will not allow us to measure their interest in their country by the modest coin mentioned. To give the Association a good shove on would not be possible to get 50 Indian gentlemen to hold themselves responsible for a student apiece to the extent of £100 or Rs. 1,500 per annum for five years.

Babu Narendra Nath Sen of the "Indian Mirror" holds up to you the example of the enthusiastic Jap who wrote home ordering his wife to cut off and sell her hair for the national cause. I would not dare to go quite so far as , nor would I recommend to you the example of the patriotic American citizen who offered to sacrince all his wife's relations for his country, but joking apart, if every man will give according to his ability, there should be no fear of the result.

As regards the subjects of study and training Baboo Jogendra Nath Ghose, whose memorandum I have read with much interest, suggests among other things higher Philosophical education, but in the final appeal which has been issued by the Committee I notice that Philosophy has been dropped, and I think rightly. India wants something more than Philosophy. She wants men who will do, as well as think. A Philosopher may be described as a man who moves in a circle. What you want is the man who will move straight ahead, you want men who will use their hands as well as their heads, and if this movement is to meet with the success which it deserves the young men who proceed to Europe or America must not be afraid of hard manual labour. When at home last year I called on a young Persee gentleman who is learning Engineering and ship-building in a Glasgow ship-building yard. That young man, when I say him, was not afraid to get up at 5 o'clock on pitch dark cold winter mornings to take his place among the thousands of young Scotch workmen who were there for the same purpose.

The student whom you sent to Europe must therefore be young men of grit and back bone; and you must give your young men the chance of showing that they have those qualities. Do not condemn them before they are born, to the life of a quill driver on either Rs. 20 or Rs. 200 a month. Teach them that their natural gifts may yield results as satisfactory to themselves and to their country if used in pursuits other than clerical. The pen may be mightier than the sword, but for many men the plough would be mightier than either, and in a country whose great industry is, and must always be, agriculture, the man who has been scientifically trained in that branch of industry has chances of wealth and usefulness which the pen does not afford.

I need not detain you longer; the previous speaker have clearly explained the aims and objects of the proposed Association, and I have much pleasure in recommending it to the support of all those interested in the welfare of their country.

Three hearty cheers for the Chairman brought the meeting to a close.

BINES AND SUTS.—Silght injuries of the ccrare of frequent occurrence in almost every hoer hold. While they are not dangerous, except when blood poisoning results from the injury they arr often quite painful and annoying. They can be quickly healed by applying Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It allay's the pain almost instantly and heals the injured parts without matter being from which insures a cure in one-third the time that the usual treatmen' would require. It is the most perfect preparation in use for burns, scads, its bruises and lik injuries. It should be applied with a featheed before the parts becom pill possible For sale by

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NOTES ON THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

SERIOUSNESS OF JAPANESE BLOW.

The seriousness of the blow attack by the Japanese on the Yalu is reflected in the fact that the authorities at St. Petersburg have been in dread of taking the country into their confidence and disclosing the whole truth, though aware that alarming rumours were current in the Russian capital regarding the defeat of the army and the capture of the guns, and though quite alive to the fact that alarming rumours, which gather as they circulate, were calculated to do more harm in the long run than the actual truth. For months Russia has worked strenuous by by means of entrenchments, fortifications, and all her available troops to prevent the Japanese invasion Manchuria. which she knew could only serve to lower her prestige in the eyes of the Powers. Her efforts have been fruitless, she has been severely defeated, driven from position after position, one of her leading generals and several commanders slain, many superior officers and some thousands of men killed and wounded, 300 men and twenty officers taken prisoners, and twenty-eight guns in the hands of the enemy. It was in fact a terrible tale that the wonder they shrank from it when we re-Russian Government had to disclose; no member the wave of indignation that swept over England when it became known that the British had lost eleven guns at Colenso in the Boer War. It was only to be expected that such a signal Japanese success would be extolled alike in England and on the Continent as a great feat of arms of incalculable moral effect; and it is absurd for the pro-Russian papers in France and Germany to assert that the Russian Army on the Yalu was there to be defeated—to do no more, as they contend, than to harass and impodo the Japanese. They did not "harass" the Japanese: their sole object was to prevent the invasion of Manchuria, and, after the naval disasters, their war cry was, "Wait till we meet the Japanese on land." Theyhave met them, and the result has passed into current history as a splendid achievement, adroitly planned and admirably executed. The people of St. Petersburg seem to realise dimly the probable effects of the Japanese victory on the Yalu, even if the Russian Government do not; and it is almost pitiful to read that because a company of 160 Volunteers started for the front "immense crowds" assemble to witness their departure, and that the "enthusiasm was frantic." Meanwhile a cablegram received last evening states that he Japanese have followed up their victory on the Yalu by the capture of Newchwang. If this be true, the Russians have sustained another very severe blow, for it means that Port Arthur and Dalny will be isolated, the railway will fall into the hands of the victors, and the Russian army near the Yalu, unless they immediately abandon their positions, and probably their baggage, artillery, and other impediments and retreat with all speed to Liaoyang, are ligely to be taken front and rear and compelled to surrender at discretion. The Russians are in a terrible plight, and, if General Kuropatkin can extricate them, he will deserve to rank high on the roll of the world's most competent Generals.

RETURN OF LORD CURZON AS VICEROY.

A correspondent in touch with political circles at Home writes:—I see that in India the impression prevails that the return of Lord Curzon as Viceroy depends very much on the fortunes of the Government it a General election takes place this summer, and that the defeat of the Conservatives would involve his retirement. This is a natural but in reality a superficial view to take. It appears to be overlooked that Lord Curzon has actually been granted a definite extension of his term of office as a mark of public appreciation of his past services as Viceroy. The assumption that the transfer of the Liberals to power would involve the cancelling of that extension implies either that they disapprove the general lines of his policy or that Lord Curzon would refuse to resume his office with a Liberal Secretary of State at the India Office. Now apart from the fact that the Liberals as a whole have no quarrel with Lord Curzon's policy—they support his policy on the North-West Frontier and the general tenor of his administrative and internal reforms, while on the delicate Tibetan question the recent debate has shown that they do not, even when in Opposition, venture to condemn—there is no justification whatever for their taking the strong course of revoking a mark of appreciation which when it was conferred elicited the widespread approval of all Parties, more especially as it is definitely limited to one year. Conversely there would be no reason for Lord Curzon declining to serve out his limited extension with a Liberal Ministry in power, the more so if the General Election were fought on the main issue of fiscal policy and preferential tariffs which the Viceroy in Council has repudiated. The truth is that there would be far more likelihood of Lord Curzon remaining at Home if there were a General Election resulting in the confirmation of the present Government but involving some change in Cabinet offices. Were the present Ministry retained in power but with a seriously weakened majority in the Commons the expediency of strengthening it by the inclusion of Lord Curzon, for whom a seat in the Lower House could easily be found, would certainly be considered and a re-shuffle of portfolios would be necessitated. This would put an end to the plan of a return to India, but is a result far less likely in 1904 than last year. The Foreign Office alone would lure Lord Curzon from the Viceroyalty and the completion of his labours, but Lord Lansdowne has immensely raised his reputation as Foreign Secretary by the Agreement with France and by his firm language with regard to Tibet, the Gulf and Manchuria, and he could hardly now be required or induced to make room for Lord Curzon.—"Pioneer."

THE XCRUCIATING PAIN from corns bunio or chilblains may be avoided by a free application of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. For sale by

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PINEAPPLE FIBRE.

The Bureau of Agriculture of the Philippines in a recent report writes of the fibre of the pineapple, which is widely distributed throughout the Philippines, being cultivated in some localities for its fruit and in others for the production of fibre. The plant does not thrive in wet soils, but is best adapted to a porous, well-drained soil and is capable of withstanding protracted drought. It is generally propagated by means of the suckers which arise from the parent plant near the ground but can also be reproduced by means of ships. When the plant is being grown for its fibre, the fruit is removed soon after flowering has taken place in order that the leaves may develop more freely. The fibre is thus extracted The epidermis of the leaves is first removed by means of a blunt iron or wooden scraper. A layer of fibre is thus exposed and is lifted with the fingers or a small spatula. The scraping is then repeated and a second layer of fibre is exposed which is in turn removed. This process is continued until the whole of the fibre of the leaf has been extracted. The fibre is washed with water, and dried and bleached by exposure to the sun. A mature plant usually bears about forty leaves from one and-a-half to three inches broad and from two to five feet long. A ton of these leaves numbering about 22,000, yields from 50 to 65lbs. of dry fibre. Attempts have been made to extract the fibre by machinery, but up to the present the machines tested have not proved commercially successful. Pineapple fibre is white, very fine and, at the present time, is worth about £30 on the London market. It is employed in the Philippines for the manufacture of the fabrics known as "pina" and "rengue," which are valued at from 1s. to 3s. per yard, and are meeting with a growing demand both in Europe and America. The fibre is also used for making small cordage of great strength.

THE BEST SPEAKERS.

RIVALS IN ELOQUENCE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Has the quality of parliamentary oratory declined? We are apt in many things to worship the past, and to believe that "there were giants in those days" and not in these.

Our oratorical standard is liable to be a false one. The recorded speeches of Chatham and his rivals, preserved as models of rhetoric and exercises in elocution, were not really spoken by them, but were written from memory and imagination by Dr. Johnson. The pure Saxon and fine imagery of John Bright's speeches stand on firm ground of historic truth and set an almost unapproachable standard for writters and speakers. None of our latter-day statesmen rival him. No one tries to equal the matchless flow of Mr. Gladstone's speech, or his range of subject. or hopes to equal his magnetic power over an audience.

But Parliament has not entirely lost by the change to a more business-like style. Speeches are much shorter nowadays: no one save Mr. Gerald Balfour ventures to speak more than an hour and a half. The florid style has gone. Latin tags are heard only four or five times a session, and generally from Sir Henry Champbell-Bannerman. Only Mr. Henry Chaplin affects the Johnsonian style and the grand manntr of the past, and one feels that he speaks in perorations. He seldom employs fewer than three.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

By common consent Mr. Chamberlain is the greatest debator among living statesmen. His power of exposition is unrivalled, his replies to criticism are best when the criticism seems most destructive, and his power over an audience is complete. Perfect simplicity, pellucid clearness of thinking arising from absolute mastery of his own case, and the relentless march of logically arranged arguments are the essential features of his style. Quickness of retort, the capacity of thinking on his feet as he speaks, and the art of feeling the pulse of the audience as he goes along, are but minor though invaluable aids to success.

Dangerous as he is in destructive mood, using sledge-hammer strokes, he is even more to be feared in his playful humours. The "jam and pickles" speech. in which he toyed with Mr. Winston Churchill as a cat does with a tiny mouse, was one of the gems of last session.

The Prime Minister in some respects equals Mr. Chamberlain. No one is more alert at seizing on a false note in an opponent's speech or getting his rapier into a chink in the armour. Infinite dexterity and the faculty of throwing his whole soul into a case, his personal force and the power of attracting or rousing the loyalty of followers, give him immense advantage. But in exposition, in platform speaking, and the control of great assemblies, Mr. Balfour's nervous, intermittent style lacks the force which carries Mr. Chamberlain along.

ARTS AND WILES.

What we ar accustomed to call the arts and wiles of the orator are possessed in greatest measure by Lord Rosebery, who in his happiest moods plays upon all the emotions of an audience, moves them to laughter and to tears, and again rouses them to righteous indignation, with the same ease as a conductor rules an orchestra.

Since Sir William Harcourt found the years become heavy, Mr. Asquith is the most agile debater on the Liberal Front Bench, and to him frequently falls the honour of attacking Mr. Chamberlain. Unfortunately the House of Commons agrees with Mr. Balfour that the legal and other opinions of the lawyers on both sides invariably coincide with the views held by the party to which they belong, and there is an inclination to forget the statesman's fervour and look for the advocate's wig. Against that feeling Mr. Asquith struggles manfully. No one can gather the tangled threads of a debate or drive home a charge in sharp, pointed argument better than he. Skilful, adroit, and forceful he is a tower of strength to his friends. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman is too much weighed down by his responsibilities to shine in the war of wits, though his pawky Scotch humour does break forth on occasion. Still, he is dull rather than inspiring.

CONTRASTS.

Mr. John Morley on a platform is quite a different man from Mr. John Morley in the House. Before a great audience he is brisk, electric, epigrammatic, full of quaint conceits. In the House of Commons he seems to be overpowered by his task, speaks with a scrupulous care that becomes timidity, and ends in confusion. A Liberal Front Bencher who will some day get the recognition he deserves is Sir Edward Grey. Fly-fishing is the only obstacle in the way of his advancement. Unstudied, almost careless in manner, rising about half-past four of an afternoon, and resting an elbow on the big, brass-bound box, he will raise a flagging debate to a higher level with fresh ideas, accurate and complete information and suggestive views, all offered with a modest deference but quiet assurance that attract and please.

A slightly younger man, Mr. George Wyndham, made good use of his leader's absence, and by a couple of speeches greatly advanced his reputation as an orator. Ornate, even florid, Mr. Wyndham is nevertheless an adroit and skilful debater, and his handling of the details of the Land Bill in the House and in Committee proved his business talent and the human gift for the management of men.

Under the gangway on the same side are three men of vastly different qualities who have the ear of the whole House. Mr. Lloyd-George won notoriety by attacks on Mr. Chamberlain, just as Lord Randolph Churchill achieved fame by his attacks on Mr. Gladstone. He has lived down the burlesque of his salad days, and the work he did on the Education Bill has solidified to some extent a repute as a serious politician. Clever debating points cleverly put, audacity in assault only occasionally passing the limits of taste, pungent wit, and a pleasing faculty of ridicule, make his speeches an entertainment which no member willingly misses. The only man who excels him in wit is Mr. Tim Healy, who is however, not always so effective. At their backs is Mr. John Redmond, a round orator of the old school, one of the finest speakers in the Chamber, a little inclined to pomposity and the dictatorial manner.

THE PLAIN MEN.

The plain men "who have something to say, and sit down when they have said it," are, after all, the backbone of the debates. A simple manufacturer from Manchester, or a shipowner from Liverpool, or a "shopkeeper" (as Sir J. B. Maple use to call himself) is heard with gladness for the direct, practical sense he brings with him; but he must not presume to disparage the "young aristocrats" as some would do. After all, the young aristocrats do take broad views occasionally. Of the aristocrats, Lord Hugh Cecil is the type and the leader. The ability, independence, integrity, and political sense of the Cecils combine to make him a real force. Equally important to true oratory is the propulsive force of enthusiasm which animates all his speeches and drives him into interruptive scenes during the reply.

There is no mistaking Lord Hugh's sincerity, and that is why the House listens with such interest to all he says. He seems to bottle up his feelings as long as he can to wait in the hope that he may avoid speaking; but as the debate proceeds and "vulgar error" in religion, education, or economics is heaped on error, restraint gives way, and he must speak. Without notes, but with a mind full to bursting with the subject, he pours forth in a rapid, rushing flow of clever, thoughtful, original views and witty sallies, and reaches his conclusion on a plane of lofty morality or a high Imperial idea.

ANDREW CAIRD.

WHOOPING COUGH.—This is a very dangerou ps-ase unless properly treated. Statistics show that there are more deaths from it than from scarlet fever. All danger may be avoided, however, by giving Chamberlain's Cough Remedy It liquifies the tough mucus, making it easier to expectorate, keeps the cough loose, and makes the sp roxysms of coughing less frequent andles ovre. It has been used in many epidemics the di easewith erfect success.Also F bly

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

WOMAN'S BEAUTY DOOMED.

DREADFUL THINGS ABOUT TO HAPPEN.

ACCORDING TO A PROPHET OF YORK, PA.

York, Pa., April 2.—The prophecies of Lee Spangler, a York merchant, who calls himself the last of the prophets and whose hobby for twelve years has been the making of phophecies, are creating a stir here among those who have faith in him.

From time to time during te past twelve years he has issued pamphlets and tracts warning people to prepare for the end of the world in June, 1908. During the war between the British and the Boers in South Africa, he wrote a letter to Queen Victoria, in which he predicted her death within six months if she failed to withdraw the troops from South Africa. In a letter to President Mc Kinley, Spangler warned him against an assassin.

The most recent of his prophecies to be fulfilled were the death of Mark Hanna and the breaking out of the war between Russia and Japan.

Spangler says that his prophecies are revealed to him in visions and by the voice of God. He said to The Sun correspondent last night:

"When the Maine was blown up in Havana harbour, before I had heard of the disaster, it was told to me in a vision that a foreign country would perpetrate a terrible crime against this country. Spain was the criminal. Since blowing up of the Maine, there has been no peace on earth.

"The Castinans aroused the war spirit, which had been slumbering, and they applied the match, which has caused the war name to spread. This was the beginning. The end will be more terrible, more harrowing than it is possible for the human imagination to conceive.

"The war now going on in the East is insignificant in comparison with the wars that are to follow. Complications will arise which will draw many of the European nations into the fighting, and other wars will break out between European nations. Within a year all Europe and most of the Asiatic countries will be warring.

"The United States will be at war with foreign countries, and there will be bloody race wars within her own boundaries.

The Scratch of a pin may cause the look of a limb or even death when blood poisoning results from the injury. All danger of this may be avoided, however, by promptly applying Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It is an antiseptic and nequalled as a quick healing liniment &c. Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., and Abdool Rahaman and Abdool Karim. Calcutta.
cuts burns and burns. For sale by.

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"We have just had a severe winter, but the severity of next winter will be greater. We will have cool summers and rigorous winters until the world is destroyed by fire three and a half years from now.

"Just before the destruction, anarchy will hold sway everywhere. There will be wide spread famine and epidemics in all lands. God will bring about these things to prepare the faithful and discover and expose the insincere.

God's wrath will be especially visited upon women. They will lose their beauty. The Lord will take this method to punish woman for her great sin of vanity which she has been cultivating since the expulsion from Eden.

"President Roosevelt will be reelected as President of the United States, but he will sigh a thousand times for private life again. The cares of his office will be the greatest that any chief magistrate of a Republic has had, and his administration the most tumultuous of any in he history of the United States. He will be living when the end comes.

"King Edward will be the last king of England and will witness the destruction of the world by fire and the coming of Christ."

Spangler has planned to close out his store to visit the large cities of the United States for the purpose of preaching his prophecies and distributing tracts and pamphlets that are now being printed.

VARIETIES.

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REVIVAL OF BLEEDING.

According to an ancient medical man, bleeding is again coming into favour with doctors. "Our ancestors," he said, "were taught to regard bleeding as a remedy for most of our bodily ills, and leeches are recetainly in demand again. "The treatment is most useful in acute illnesses and inflammations. In bad cases of bronchitis, in pneumonia, in threatened cerebral apoplexy, and even in some forms of heart disease it is most valuable." A dealer in leeches told a representative of the "Mail" that he had already been confronted with a better demand in the last few months and he proceeded to display "a little lot" of three thousand leeches confined in a large pan.

A CONVICT'S NEWSPAPER.

In the great Sing-Sing prison on the Hudson River the convicts are permitted to publish a journal of their own. Every part of the work connected with the paper is done by prisoners, the writing, editing, and even the printing. On the editorial page it is stated that "its aims and objects are to be an acceptable home paper, to encourage intellectual and moral improvement among its institutional constituency, to acquaint the public with our correct status, and to aid our condition morally by dispelling that prejudice which has ever been a hindrance to a fallen man's self-redemption." The title of this journal is the "Star of Hope," and the women prisoners of Sing-Sing and two neighbouring convict settlements contribute to it. All the contributors are known by number. The editor is No. 50,940, and the editress is No. 321.

EASTERN ARCHÆOLOGICAL DISCOVERED.

An interesting report has recently been received at Berlin from the valley of the Tigris where an expedition is at work under the auspices of the Germany Orient Society, excavating on the site of the ancient city of Assur, the capital of the Assyrian monarchy. The expedition has partly unearthed several buildings, among them five palaces and a temple, together with numerous bricks covered with inscriptions, and throwing much light on the period from 1900 to 600 before Christ. Of special interest are inscriptions from the reign of Sardanapalus. One of the best finds is a carved basaltic column with a rough portrait of King Balmanassar II., and a somewhat lengthy inscription reciting the deeds of this monarch. The explorers were much astonished to discover a relief of Hercules clad in a lion's skin. The walls of the palaces were decorated with coloured drawings of high artistic value.

UTILISING THE DEAD SEA.

It is believed that before very long the Dead Sea will be exploited for industrial purposes. French engineers are at work on three different projects with this purpose in view. The level of the Dead Sea being more than 1,300 feet below that of the Mediteranean and Red Seas, it is thought by connecting either of these two seas by means of a canal with the Red Sea a stream of water would flow with a velocity calculated to produce some 25,000 horse-power. There is no danger, it is asserted, of an overflowing of the Dead Sea, for the waters there evaporate at so great a rate (6,000,000 tons a day) that the incoming waters would make no appreciable difference in the level. One project the "Daily News" learns is to start the canal from the Bay of Acre, lead it southward past Mount Tabor, and let it join, at Baisan, the waters of the Jordan. Another plan is to build the canal along the railway line from Jaffa to Jerusalem. But this would mean blasting a tunnel of some thirty-seven miles through the mountains of Old Judea. The third project, the cheapest, proposes to start at Akaba, in the Red Sea, and pass through the desert of Wady-el-Jebel. Having obtained power in this manner, it is throught many industrial works would be carried on.

Mr. J. Scott, Registrar, Foreign Department, is about to proceed Home on five months' leave.

Lord Ampthill is now acquainting himself with the system of working in the Government of India Offices.

A series of shocks of earthquake were experienced at Quetta at 9 o'clock on Saturday, the severest known for some years in a land where seismic disturbances are chronic. The shocks continued for 45 seconds, and the wave disturbance was apparently north-east to south-west. No damage was done but some is believed to have happened towards Shelabagh and Chaman.

BETU E YOU START on a journey, procure bottle of Cham berlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarhœa Remedy. This may save you much troub and annoyance as it can not be bought on boa the cars or steamship. For all forms of tom and bowel troubles th remedy has no ereq for sale by

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

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE

Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, MAY 8, 1904.

THE POLICE COMMISSION'S REPORT.

We cull the following paragraph from the "Westminster Gazette" on the Police Commission's Report:—

"Mr. Herbert Roberts, M.P., asked the Secretary of State for India before the Easter recess whether the Report of the Commission on the Indian Police and the resolution thereon of the Governor-General in Council would be placed before Parliament early this Session. Mr. Brodrick's reply was that he did not think it would be possible to lay the Report of the Commission before Parliament early this Session, or to make any statement on the subject, as he had to await the recommendations of the Government of India, in communication with whom the whole matter was being carefully considered. We may refer Mr. Herbert Roberts and other inquiring minds to the "Times" of the 5th inst, which, under the heading of "Police Reform in India," contains a useful summary of the Report submitted by the Police Commission appointed by the Viceroy of India—a Report, by the bye, which appears to have been withheld from publication. The Commisioners express a decided opinion in favour of employing natives of India in the higher grades of the police, though their recommendations in this respect do not go as far as one of their number, the Maharajah of Durbhanga, in Bengal, desired. Europeans intended for long service in India must be youthful to begin with; but the Commission has stronghly condemned the moribund system of selection, by interest or favouritism, from which the service is said to have suffered incalculable injury, and has advocated instead a system of open competition in England, to be followed by a period of probation and training similar to that which answers well for the Indian Civil Serivce."

Referring to the same subject, an esteemed Indian friend writes to us from a distant part of India under date 29th April:—

"I doubt not you have read the summary of the Police Commission's Report. You must admit it is very bold, thorough, and goes to the very root of things. I hope here you will be in agreement with me that Sir A. Fraser has done a great and good work, for which he has earned our thanks. I believe you will not agree with his recommendation to recruit District Police Superintendents by competitive examination in England. But it is a fair compromise. The only way to cut through the present scandalous system of nomination is to recruit the men by open competition. And it required great boldness to denounce the present system in the manner it has been done. You cannot expect all at once to have the examination in India. The recommendation that the District Police Superintendent should be a strong man and independent of the District Magistrate and not his mere assistant can not be given effect to under the existing system unless the men be Englishmen with the same or similar qualifications like the Civil Servants. You can not expect reform all along the line. This must come gradually. At the same time appointments of native D.S.Ps to a reasonable and limited extent is recommended. All these show in what liberal spirit the whole report is conceived. I shall be anxiously expecting to see in what light you view the subject."

It is hardly necessary to assure our friend that, nobody questions for a moment that Sir A. Fraser is a sincere and ardent well-wisher of the Indian nation. It is equally true he has given ample evidence of his practical goodwill to the people among whom he has passed the best part of his life. It was our proud privilege to record in these columns many of his noble deeds in the Central Provinces when he ruled that Province, and where he is regarded with fervent gratitude by all classes. There are, however, positions where it is impossible for even a high-minded official to act with perfect independence.

As we pointed out the other day, Sir Andrew was obliged to accept thankfully the new Provincial Settlement thrust upon the Government of Bengal by the Supreme Government, though, in his heart of hearts, he no doubt protested against an unjust arrangement, which had the effect of depriving the Local Government of the larger shares of all the progressive sources of revenue it had previously enjoyed. Similarly, as President of the Police Commission, his position was delicate. What he sincerely wished was to hold the balance even—to do equal justice both to Indians and Europeans. But this would be doing violence to the established policy of the Government; and hence the Commission had to leave the Indians alone and devise a plan which, if it offended influential Anglo-Indian families by putting a stop to their "failures" being fastened upon the Police Department, would, at the same time, open the door for many English youths to occupy their places.

Indeed, the right of the educated Indians to the District Superintendentships entered very little into the calculation of the Commission; it was taken for granted that they had very little to do with these appointments, and that it would be enough and doing them a great favour if a few bones were thrown at them now and then as, an experimental measure. Now we take strong exception to this view of the question.

We are quite willing to concede that a better class of Englishmen will be recruited by an open competitive examination in England than by the present method which enables "the failures in Anglo-Indian families," to hold the post of the Police District Superintendent in India. But the point is—if the educated Indians are equally fitted to perform the duties of the Police Superintendent, why should they be brought from England at all? That they are so fit was the opinion of every witness who was questioned on the subject by the Comission. That was also the deliberate opinion of the Maharajah of Durbhanga. Of course His Highness could not claim all the District Superintendantships for the Indians without raising a storm of indignation against him. But yet he strongly advocated a fair distribution of the posts among the educated men of this country. But this unanimous voice of the representatives of the people was totally ignored by the Commission and a system recommended which would not only take away the higher appointments for ever from the reach of the Indians but impose a heavy burden upon the starving country.

It was never dreamt of that the Indians would be in this manner ousted from higher grades of a department which, like many other special departments, were reserved mainly for the children of the soil. And fancy the absurdity of the arrangement, namely, English youths, scarcely out of their teens, quite ignorant of the country, its people and languages, to be placed at the head of the District Police, simply because they passed an examination in England!

If an Indian Deputy Magistrate can administer the affairs of a sub-division or a district as efficiently as a European can do, surely he is not likely to fail as a District Police Superintendent. And why did not the Commission recommend the recruiting of the Police Superintendents from the ranks of these Deputy Magistrates? They might have at least recommended the recruiting of a simultaneous Police Service Examinatons in England and India. If the Commission had made these recommendations and also suggested that the Police and the Magistracy must be separated, then their report would have been received with unalloyed joy in India. As it is there is very little in the summary of the report, as published in the "Times," for which the people have any cause for joy.

WAR AND CIVILIZATION.

There is at least one man in Europe who is denouncing these beastly wars, and who makes no secret of the fact that the so-called civilization of the West is only another name for devilization. Need we say he is no other than that Russians philosopher, Count Leo Tolstoy? At one time he was a most prominent figure in his own country. He belonged to a noble family and was one of the most daring of Russian soldiers,—indeed, he showed great bravery in the Crimean war as a Russian Officer. Gradually the true spiritual light dawned upon his mind. He not only came to feel but realize vividly the great truth that the object of human life is not to quarrel like brutes and lord it over others, but nourish higher sentiments like sympathy, mercy and love; and he parted with all his wealth for the benefit of his poorer brethren. He now lives upon the fruits of his own labour, and the lofty ideas he has been dissiminating through his books, pamphlets and papers have produced deep impression even upon the dense materialism of Europe.

It is a solace to know that one man of vital faith and vital genius is still living whose utterances are a reproach to all that is happenning in the world to make us despair of the regeneration of mankind. Count Tolstoy himself has his moments of depression, but he has never lost his belief in the ultimate triumph of humanity over barbarism, or perhaps we should rather say, over civilization, because Count Tolstoy regards modern civilization as only highly artificialized savegery. It is based, according to him, upon greed, and sustained by violence. It is for some undefined material interests that Western nations slaughter with quick-firing guns imperfectly armed Asiatics and Africans, and slaughter them even when in full retreat,—a very brutal and cowardly proceeding even according to the notions of the Westerners themselves. In fact, there is not a single modern war which has not been undertaken from the basest of motives—from unadulterated national selfishness.

M. Georges Bourdon, the special correspondent of the "Figaro" in Russia, has recently made a pilgrimage from St. Petersburg to Iasnaia Poliana to ascertain the views of Count Tolstoy on the Russo-Japanese War. Though he is described as taking the most lively interest in the events in the Far East, and as frequently riding a distace of twenty-eight versts to Toula to obtain the latest telegrams, the Count has remained true to his ideals. War is a scourge and a shame to the human race; and he does not know whether the victory of his own countrymen or that of the Japanese would hasten the moment of its disappearance from the face of the earth. M. Bourdon having pointed out that the present war is not merely an armed conflict between two peoples but a struggle between two races, Count Tolstoi said, "What does it matter? I make no distinction between races. The question is, What advantage will humanity derive from this war."

The "Figaro" correspondent suggested that humanity would profit by the victory of Russia, the civilised Power. Admitting that civilisation contains an active and educational force, Count Tolstoy inquired whether civilisation was on the side of the Russians or of the Japanese.

"Why should I place civilisation in Europe? Is it because the Europeans have created for themselves artificial needs, and because they have invented the railway, the telegraph, the telephone and I do not know what beside? To me all those acquisitions of so-called civilisation seem the inventions of barbarism. They serve and pander to all that is basest in man. I fail to see that they confer on him any sort of moral superiority, while I perceive that, on the other hand, the use he makes of his intelligence is most often for evil and not for good."

The objection that civilisation had not only created instruments of war and of material enjoyment, but had also provided labour-saving machinery, did not embarras Count Tolstoy, who exclaimed "Oh, yes; they save work. But work is good, and healthy, work is excellent, agreeable, and amusing." Reminded that labour in mines, &c., was most arduous and unhealthy, the philosopher's answer was that the proper way to remedy that evil was to restrict one's needs.

"It is not work which must be abolished, but appetites which must be subdued. Modern inventions, by developing appetites, perpetrate labour. No, no; it is not by modern inventions that the development of the human mind must be judged. I am not at all captivated by the railway, the telegraph, and all the so-called conquests by which man pretends i.e., making progress. We are lost in wonder at the Pyramids, and we ask 'Of what use were they?' All the inventions of civilisation are our Pyramids. I believe that in some thousands of years a future generation, finding vestiges of them, will say, 'What strange people they were to imagine that to go rapidly from one point to another was essential in life.' They will be right. For my part, I never understood the use of travelling. Journeys only serve to make men lose their time: they are a hindrance to work."

Bringing the conversation back to the present war, M. Bourdon inquired whether Count Tolstoy did not think that the victory of the Japanese and the establishment of their supremacy in the Far East would be injurious to the cause of peace and progress. In reply, the Count said that he was not at all sure the Japanese were what the correspondent described them to be. It was probable, moreover, that they had imitated Europe in its defects. They were working out their evolution, as were the Russians. China having been pointed to as a proof of the slowness of the evolution of the Yellow race, Count Tolstoy remarked that at least the Chinese and Hindus were not warlike peoples. They despised war and those who waged it.

"That is a real superiority over us, I see that they do not kill. I learn from the narratives of travellers that they are honest in business, keep their word, and do not lie. Such qualities are not common in Europe. Their philosophers, such as Confucious and Buddha, have shaped admirable thoughts. If the Yellow race is cruel, are not the Europeans also cruel?

Count Tolstoy does not know whether the so-called civilised world is advancing or going backwards. "How, then," he asked, "can I decide "a priori" if the triumph of this or that race would be of greater advantage to humanity?" Then, after denouncing the horrors of war and the wickedness of Governments who take men by force and order them to kill, he said: "You must not seek to make out that violence is a fundamental tendency in men, for I know men who hated it, and I can conceive a society from which it would be banished. Men are always talking about liberty. Liberty cannot be established, instituted, or organised. The problem consists in suppressing violence. Banish violence, and liberty will be born."

Tolstoy is no patriot in the vulgar meaning of that term. The world is his country. He is for man, rather than for men, and scorns the idea that any possible good can come out of international strife. "The misfortune is," he says "that the war shows how men can forget the very idea of duty, not, of course duty towards their officers, but duty towards God." When Tolstoy speaks of God he means evidently not the Hebrew Deity, but the sum of the laws of the universe. Love, affection, "the co-ordinating substance of morality," is the strongest of those laws, and it is because war abrogates that law that Tolstoy holds it to be the first duty of thinking beings to abolish war.

The cause of humanity, says Tolstoy, is the supreme cause. "My conscience convinces me that murder, however effected, however disguised, is execrable; that war is a monstrous scourge. If there were any notion of what is a Christian's duty in the conscience of men, it would be absolutely impossible to shoot down their fellows." Tolstoy has just as much affection for the Japs as for his fellow-countrymen. True they are a yellow race but what of that? asks the Muscovite prophet. Our knowledge of the yellow race is, as he says, very imperfect.

What Tolstoy preaches to-day was not only preached thousands of years ago in India but practised by the Hindus. It is quite true that they could not abolish war, but what they succeeded in doing was to divest it of its abominable character. It is for robbing or beggaring a weaker naion that the Westerners tarnish their souls by massacring fellow-beings. A Hindu king who declared war against a neighbour to satisfy his greed was a despicable creature in the eyes of all. Durjadhan was an accursed Prince, because, he brought about the memorable Kurukhetra war by refusing the just rights of his cousins. It was not greed, as now, but glory, or rather, a supreme sense of duty, that led the Hindu warriors into the battle field.

THE INTELLECTUAL EMASCULATION OF THE PEOPLE.

It has been our constant aim to bring prominently before the public the melancholy fact that beneath the superficial veneer of "progress and prosperity" under British rule the people of India are fast losing their manhood, virility and self-respect and all that makes a nation worthy of existence. Only the other day we quoted Mulhall to prove, what scarcely needs proving to publicists here, that the Indians are the most inoffensive, non-criminal and law-abiding people on the face of the earth, and yet they have been subjected to a rigorous police rule, the like of which is unknown in any other civilised country. Here Magistrates and Judges often vie with one another in administering ferocious sentences—a dozen persons being sometimes sent to the gallows for the murder of a single man and even that on mere circumstantial evidence. Recently a Bombay Magistrate sentenced a carter, an old offender, to receive thirty stripes from the effects of which the unfortunate man died; and our new Chief Presidency Magistrate, Mr. Weston, has already given a foretaste of what we are to expect from the Civilian regime by adding stripes as many as thirty, the significant number, to rigorous imprisonment.

Here again the people have been so thoroughly disarmed that they find themselves utterly helpless to defend themselves from dacoits and the ravages of ordinary wild beasts. The Commissioner of the Sunderbans incidentally but naively admits that more wood-cutters are now-a-days devoured by tigers than in the days before the "Arms Act." All that is too well-known and needs no recapitulation. And along with the physical, the intellectual emasculation of our country-men is also proceeding apace.

It is well-known that when once a class of people are given certain privileges at the expense of their brethren, they soon begin to delude themselves into the belief that a kind Providence has ordained that they and their descendants are to go on enjoying those privileges for ever. Thus it was that the ministers of religion uttered their benediction over the institution of slavery in America by quoting Scriptures to prove that the children of Canaan had been foredoomed to slavery by a decree of Jehova. When Lord Cornwallis first laid down that only minor subordinate posts should be given to the children of the soil—posts which it is not worth while for a European to accept—and all high administrative and judicial offices be reserved the sons of the upper and middle classes of his own countrymen, he could scarcely foresee, a righ-minded British statesman as he was, what a fruitful parent of evil and mischief this policy of ostracism would grow to be in course of time.

This unfortunate land since then has been looked upon as an outlet for the surplus youths of Britain, whom their parents and guardians did not know how otherwise to dispose of. Powerful vested and family interests have thus been created and hence it has become an article of faith with the present generation of Anglo-Indian officials that the monopoly which they have enjoyed at the cost of the people of the country should be handed down to their children and children's children. Their creed, which is very simple, may thus be summed up: "As it was, as it has been, so it shall be." Hence, whenever a native of India of approved merit manages to secure a berth hitherto earmarked for an Englishman, a note of alarm is sounded and a systematic attempt is made by the Head of the Department to disparage his abilities. Now to cite one or two concrete instances by way of illustrations.

It so happened that Mr. P. N. Bose, who completed his education in England, reluctant to follow the beaten track, took to the study of Geology for which he had a particular taste and aptitude. In course of time he won his spurs and the Secretary of State for India was pleased to appoint the gifted Bengali to a post in the Geological Survey of India. This unwonted departure in the procedure of the Indian Secretary spread consternation in the camp of the official hierarchy out here. Mr. H. B. Medlicott, the Director of the Survey, was not the man to brook this affront. He had the keen foresight to perceive that if the "open door" policy were adopted in seriousness his own department would by and by be swamped by the unwelcome intruders, and he took the opportunity of fulminating his wrath not only upon the Bengali scientist but also upon the unfortunate race to which he had the misfortune to belong and to this circumstance the world is indebted for the production of what may be regarded as one of the curiosities of literature, which we to-day unearth from the dual report for the year 1886.

Mr. Medlicott is at considerable pains in justifying the exclusion of the Bengali from the sacred precincts of his department. The duties of the survey, he maintains, are strictly of a scientific nature, and require for their performance, constant exercise, upon scanty data of an independent, conscientious and sober judgment. Now, according to this high authority, the Bengalis have yet to prove their fitness for such work and here comes the most remarkable pronouncement with which we shall close our article to-day leaving our readers to ruminate over it.

"In Bengal," says Mr. Medlicott, "the word of knowledge has been preached for the last two generations, but in no single case has it found the needful germ in which it might come to maturity and bear fruit in original scientific work; it seems only to develop a more obnoxous kind of weed—words of science without substance. In the medical and engineering services they have for long had like teaching and opportunities to those from which Darwin, Huxley, Tyndall, and a host of others have arisen, but of like result in Bengal there is no symptom even. For a still longer period the practical results of the new knowledge in the shape of material progress have been displayed with ever increasing energy from the West but neither has this awakened in the Oriental mind desire to do likewise. Of imitation there is no lack, but of creative power there is no sign. If this is not a demonstration on the part of the Bengali of his ineptitude for science, evidence counts for nothing. He would do well to take it to heart if by any means he may correct his failing. Meanwhile even if there were not particular evidence to confirm it, I hold this as sufficient warrant for objecting to the appointment of natives to the slender staff of the Geological Survey."

Mr. C. W. Irvine writes to the "London Daily News" to say that, "for English citizens the Tilak case is most interesting as a revelation of the official animus exhibited by highly-placed Judges and Magistrates. Their incompetence and prejudice indicate how difficult it may be for the Indian to obtain justice." The real situation is this. Here the same official is the Judge and the prosecutor. Nay, more. The promotion of the Magistrates and Judges and their future prospects depend wholly upon the pleasure of Government, and they are therefore not independent. The result is that, those who incur the displeasure of the executive authorities have very little chance of escape; and as, "not one Indian in 10,000 could possibly undertake the immense expenses of appeals from lower to higher Courts," to quote the words of Mr. Irvine, the administration of justice oftentimes is only a farce and a delusion. Take the case of Mr. Tilak. It was an old and experienced Judge like Mr. Aston, and not a youngster, who first started the scandal. He "evinced an extraordinary bias against Mr. Tilak," to quote Mr. Irvine again, from the very beginning. A civil suit relating to the revocation of the probate of the will of her husband was filed in his court by the widowed lady, Tai Maharaj, and though the adoption had no legal bearing on the question whatever, yet Mr. Tilak had to endure the most searching cross-examination from not only the pleaders on behalf of the lady but from Mr. Aston himself, during the fourteen sittings at which he gave evidence. And he was allowed to be cross-examined in this way though he was a witness for the plaintiff herself! A whole flood of documentary and oral evidence against the adoption was also introduced despite Mr. Tilak's protest of their irrelevancy. Mr. Aston had no scruple to go on with the case though he showed bias openly as soon as he took it up; and, in the end, as every body expected, probate was revoked by him, and Mr. Tilak was ordered to pay costs as in a suit.

Mr. Aston was not satisfied with mere revoking the probate; he found that Mr. Tilak had committed a number of offences in his evidence which were summed up under seven heads, including fabrication of false evidence, forgery in connection with this, and perjury; and he directed the charges to be taken to the City Magistrate in order that Mr. Tilak might be dealt with according to law. Mr. Aston also advised the Government to make an investigation concerning certain collateral charges arising from the same transactions—as cheating, giving false information to the police, inciting to riot, etc., etc. As regards the civil case, it may incidentally be remarked that eventually the High Court, on appeal, reversed Mr. Aston's decision in "toto," held that the probate was not liable to revocation, and restored Mr. Tilak to his trusteeship. Mr. Aston thus got a big slap in the face from the High Court. But, this only made the executive authorities more determined. A police inquiry was instituted in accordance with Mr. Aston's suggestions, and 30,000 rupees were granted by Government to undertake it. A special magistrate Mr. Clements, was appointed, and proceedings commenced in September, 1902.

The first charge that Mr. Tilak had made a false complaint of breach of trust against a co-trustee, was speedily quashed, it being proved that the Court was not competent to try it, and eventually, on appeal at the Sessions Court, Mr. Beaman, the Sessions Judge, entirely acquitted Mr. Tilak commending the action he had taken on which the charge was made, as clearly his duty. The co-trustee appealed to the High Court which decided "that every fact in Mr. Tilak's complaint was perfectly true" and dismissed the appeal as groundless. This was the second slap which the High Court administered to Mr. Aston indirectly. As for Mr. Clements, what if one of the charges against Mr. Tilak fell through? Thanks to the foresight of his uncle, Mr. Aston, there were six more. So Mr. Clements went on to another of the remaining six charges. He decided to take the first of the charges that of perjury despite Mr. Tilak's application that the more serious charges of forgery and fabrication of false evidence should be heard first. The next ten months occupied Mr. Clements in the construction of his case. At the end of that time Mr. Tilak was convicted, sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for 18 months and a fine of 1,000 rupees. In his judgment Mr. Clements finds Mr. Tilak and all the witnesses on his side wholly unreliable and false, while the witnesses for the prosecution were reliable and trustworthy. Mr. Clements stated that the evidence before Mr. Aston was overwhelming, and that Mr. Tilak acted for personal profit and not for the "good of the estate." As the reader is aware, Mr. Tilak was dragged from Mr. Clements' Court hand-cuffed to jail, though he was immediately after released on bail by Mr. Sessions Judge, Lucas, who commented adversely on the indecent haste exhibited by the Police in removing Mr. Tilak to prison-house.

And how did Mr. Lucas himself behave when he came to hear the case in appeal as Sessions Judge? The appeal to his Court resulted in a most surprising and self-contradictory judgment. The Sessions Judge found that nearly all the evidence on which Mr. Tilak had been convicted was false or doubtful, that Mr. Tilak was disinterested in his acts as trustee, and that there was apparently no fabrication nor forgery of any kind. But he held that Mr. Tilak had told a falsehood as to the actual adoption. Mr. Irvine thus remarks on the conduct of Mr. Lucas: "This Judge, a Mr. Lusas, gave vent to the highly judicial and expedient statement that 'natives in India tell lies by preference.' No wonder Englishmen are not admired by Indians for their fairmindedness. He reduced the sentence to six months; an immediate appeal to the High Court followed and last month the final judgment was delivered."

We all know that the Chief Justice found that the evidence in the first case on which the charge of perjury and the other six charges were made was wholly irrelevant and was needlessly dragged from Mr. Tilak. He pointed out that in England it is required that a false statement to be made the basis of a charge of perjury must be material to the question in dispute, which this was not. Moreover the statements of Mr. Tilak were not false but true. He next pointed out that the Sessions Judge had accepted the oral evidence of one interested witness, Tai Maharaj, as true, while brushing aside as false the oral evidence of nine disinterested reputable witnesses offered on the other side. The fact is that Mr. Aston influenced Mr. Clements, and Mr. Lucas copied the action of both Mr. Aston and Mr. Clements. Finally, he showed that the whole case had been illegally carried through, with a remarkable ignorance or disregard of law, and acquitted Mr. Tilak completely setting aside the sentence, and ordering the restitution of the fine. As regards the remaining five charges, the Chief Justice inquired what the prosecution intended to do, whereupon the Advocate-General formally announced they were withdrawn!

Thus, we find, two Judges and one Magistrate acted in concert for the purpose of crushing a foremost Indian. And why? Because, Mr. Tilak was an object of hatred to the Government, and the latter was the earthly Providence of the Judges and the Magistrates. What mattered it to Messrs. Aston and Co. if another Dreyfus scandal were perpetrated in India and British rule brought into disrepute so long they were sure of the support of the Government? The amount of zeal shown by the Government may be judged by the fact that it freely allowed Rs. 60,000 or so, and two and a half years of Judges' time, to be wasted on a wanton and wholly unwarranted prosecution! And Mr. Tilak would have by this time died or been rotting in jail if the Sessions Judge was the final appellate court. Because there was a High Court and Mr. Tilak had the means of going up to it, that he escaped. Even the High Court might have not proved his saviour if it were not presided over by such a high-souled British Judge as Sir Lawrence Jenkins. For, the same High Court, when its Sessions was presided over by the late Mr. Justice Strachey, sentenced the same gentleman to eighteen months' rigorous imprisonment for so-called sedition, which he never committed. Indeed, even many of the High Court Judges are not above the influence of the Government, though they are not dependent upon it in any way; and thus a pure-minded British Judge in this country is getting a very rare commodity. Need any body wonder why people are gradually losing all confidence in the administration of justice in India?

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ALL the recent unpopular measures of Lord Curzon are mainly directed against the Bengalees. He felt that they were getting "formidable". He had an idea that the higher "native" was an intelligent and cultured creature; but he could never believe that he was capable of proving himself a rival to an Englishman. Lord Curzon expected some opposition to his project of the partition of Bengal and said so. The manner in which the leaders in Bengal opposed this measure, however, showed that the agitation was of a far more serious and universal character than he expected. The idea then occurred to him of breaking up this opposition to pieces by his irresistible personality. He, therefore, flung himself into the midst of the fray. He was fully conscious of his strength in his threefold capacity, namely, as a Viceroy, as a superior "person," and as an orator possessing great eloquence and persuasive powers. But what was the result? He came back from East Bengal completely discomfitted. His speeches made no impression, and his personality could not persuade even Maharajah Surja Kanta to think in his own way, though His Excellency had done him the honour of being his guest. This discomfiture did not, of course, soften his feelings of jealousy towards the Bengalees; on the other hand, it was fomented by many of his subordinates. The fact is, the Bengalees, that is to say, the Bengalee papers have tired the patience of the rulers of India; hence the conspiracy was formed for putting down the educated classes in Bengal. What is very serious is, that many of our good and sympathetic rulers were led to join this unholy alliance. Regarding the genesis of the Universities Bill, the Calcutta correspondent of the "Star" says:—

"The reason for this tone of despair is that the leaders of the Indian people now know the genesis of the Bill—how the Government of India circularised the provincial governmentson the subject of higher education, stating that in their view it was a serious menace to the State and asking for their opinion. Madras it is said, replied that its University turned out only as many graduates as were needed. The Punjab retorted that higher education was not a menace with them for they hadn't any. The Bengal officials agreed that it was a menace and recommended that it should be stopped. That, obstrved the Spreme Government, is impossible, but we will do our best. Hence the Universities Commission, the Bill."

We sincerely trust there is no foundation for the above charge. The accusation however has not beem contradicted, though it was made long ago. Taking the information to be correct, it is clear, the source from which the Bengalees obtained their powers is to be gradually and cleverly stopped. The Official Secrets Bill is aimed at the independence of the press which has made the lives of the officials miserable by exposing their unjustifiable doings. And as for the partition of Bengal, "divide and rule" is a policy the results of which are well-known in this country. The real fact, however, is, that the officials have nothing to fear from the educated Indians, for the latter have realized they have no future. But, the authorities cannot bear even a hiss or a snort from the emasculated Indians, whose back-bone is broken completely.

"WE," said Sir H. Cambell-Bannerman in the House of Commons, "disapprove of the whole (Thibetan) Expedition." He further suggested this Resolution, that "This House asserts to the charges for the armed escort accompanying the mission being defrayed from the revenues of India," provided that it does not go further than the Government has promised. Here is an expedition undertaken without the consent of the people of India, properly speaking, against their wishes. The Liberals confess that they disapprove of the whole thing, yet they agree to the expense being defrayed by India. Is this the sense of justice of Englishmen, nay of the most liberal-minded among them? In the above we find the opinion of an Englishman holding so-called liberal principles. We think, however, an honest Englishman should hold a quite different view. He should say that "as this mission was undertaken against the wishes of the Indians for our interest, it is we that should pay for it and not the helpless people of India"! And it is English philosophers who say that "it is righteousness that makes a nation."

LORD G. HAMILTON said, "there was room in Asia alike for Great Britain and Russia," and the sanctimonious statesman Sir H. Fowler agreed in that view. But pray, did God create Asia for the benefit of Russia and England? Let us not quarrel over our spoils in Asia, say the above two statesmen, but, like wise men, divide them amongst us; for we have enough for two. This is all right. But what of Thibet? Has that country any right? And what of India? Has that country any right too? What are your grounds for making India, a starving country, pay for your disagreement with Russia? Because Russia and Great Britain cannot agree over their spoils in Asia, India must pay for the settlement of their quarrels. This is what the British Parliament, the most honorable House in the world, decides!

THE following conversation took place between an Indian gentleman and a high Government official, who has the confidence of Lord Curzon, a few days before his departure for England:—

Indian.—Is His Excellency really coming back?

Official.—Certainly he is coming back; he cannot do otherwise.

Indian.—Why?

Official.—Why? His head is full of India; he cannot think of anything else.

Indian.—But if the Liberals come into power?

Official.—Even then he will stay.

Indian.—How?

Official.—Well, as Lord Curzon has got an extension of service, the new Ministry, at least for courtesy's sake, will ask him to stay, and he will stay.

Indian.—But, will it be agreeable for him to serve under the Liberals?

Official.—Of course, not; but, as His Excellency is unable to divest his mind of India, he has no option but to put up with such inconvenience.

Indian.—The Indians are tired of him; is not His Excellency, after a reign of 5½ years, tired of them?

Official.—He loves India ardently, and hence he will not leave it, until he has completed his programme of "reforms."

Indian.—And, one of the "reforms" is no doubt the partition of Bengal?

Official.—Well, you do him injustice there. He has always kept his mind open upon this point.

Indian.—What do you mean?

Official.—He was at first entirely at one with Mr. Risley and advocated the transfer of Dacca and Mymensingh to Assam. But when he came to see that, it would be doing an injustice to the people of East Bengal if they were made over to the backward administration of a Chief Commissioner, he at once threw Mr. Risley over-board, and proposed a Lieutenant-Governorship. He has yet kept his mind open.

Indian.—That is to say, the Government has no fixed policy. It is groping in the dark, and therefore shifting its ground every now and then.

Official.—You may say that; but, we call it keeping the mind open.

Indian.—But is the Government really going to carry the measure?

Official.—I don't know; but, this much I can say, the cost of creating a new Lieutenant-Governorship may be a serious stumbling-block is the way of the Government. Besides, Lord Curzon is very much impressed with the agitation carried by the educated Bengalee.

THE Hon'ble Mr. D. M. Hamilton of Messrs Mackinon Mackenzie & Co., is just now to the front. He has laid the Indian community under great obligation by identifying himself with the newly-started movement for promoting scientific and industrial education. He presided over the meeting in this connection held at the Albert Hall the other day, and his speech, which has already appeared in these columns, will no doubt be read with interest and profit. How we wish we had a few more non-official Europeans like him in our midst! In the Supreme Council he made a speech which was not only full of practical suggestions for the regeneration of India, but which did not spare the Government for the remissness of its duty towards the people of this country. This speech is so good that it will bear reproduction; so it will be found elsewhere. Mr. Hamilton justly remarks that, it is by developing agriculture that India can be saved. And, yet, as he shows by facts and figures, how little is spent by the Government for this great purpose! If the empire rests on the sword, says Mr. Hamilton, so does it upon the ryat. "The claims of agriculture, therefore," observes Mr. Hamilton "must have a first place in the Budget." Words like these,—and they are absolutely true,—were never before uttered in the Council Chamber. The eloquent manner in which Mr. Hamilton expresses his ardent sympathy for the poor and down-trodden Indian ryots gladdens the heart, and shows the nobility of his soul. Says Mr. Hamilton: "The ryot pays the land-revenue and the bulk of the salt tax. * * * The ryot grows the jute and fills th gunny bags; the ryot sows cotton and wears the manufactured cloth. In short, to quote the ancient sage, 'the profit of the earth is for all, the king himself is served by the field.' My Lord, while the empire rests as much on the ryot as it does on the sword, the claims of agriculture must have a first place in the Budget. I might go even further and base these claims on military as well as on agricultural grounds; for, in an empire like India, which is subject to fears within as well as to fightings without, what better protection against both could there be than a great army of well-fed and contented peasantry? With the Himalayas in front of him, and an army composed of millions of the peasantry of Northern India at his back, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief might safely hang the trumpet in the hall and study war no more." There is yet a greater enemy than internal convulsion and external invasion, namely, the monster famine. If there is a succession of famines, the stench of the dead bodies of the starved millions itself will compel the rulers to leave this country. A well-fed and contented peasantry alone can protect the empire from this great danger.

MOST novel indeed are the ways in which Mr. V. C. Ramsay, Sub-divisional Officer of Hajipur in the district of Muzaffarpur disposes of the criminal cases, that come before him. As an instance, here are the particulars of a case, of Emperor vs. Banki Misra and others, recently decided by him, furnished to us by a correspondent. The story for the prosecution is as follows: On the 21st of September last, at day break, the accused boy was grazing three buffaloes in a garden, which had around it breast-high embankment and two ditches. The complainant at that time went into the garden to ease himself, when he saw the cattle grazing there and drove them towards the pound. After he had driven them 25 Lagis, the boy requested him to refrase the cattle which he refused to do. Thereupon the boy shouted, and in the time the complainant took to drive the cattle at least 7 Lagis (23 yards), the seven other accused came armed with lathies. One of them told the complainant to release the cattle which he refused to do. Thereupon the men jointly inflicted grievous hurt upon the complainant. Complainant's full brother and two other men, who were also brothers, came one after the other and simply remonstrated with the agressors, but they too were beaten hard. Information of the occurrence was then lodged with the Police, and warrants were issued for the arrest of the accused, who surrendered on the 26th October. The Examination-in-chief of the 7 principal prosecution witnesses were finished on the 29th October. On the 4th December, only the complainant was cross-examined and none else, as the court had no time to devote to the case on that day. Next day; (5th December), only two prosecution witnesses could anyhow be cross-examined and on the 8th, the pleader for the defence was obliged to finish the cross-examination of the remaining four prosecution witnesses. A pleader from Muzafferpur had to come thrice to conduct the cross-examination of the prosecution witnesses, which was not lengthy except that of the complainant, whose cross-examination covered only 6½ folios. The cross-examination of the remaining 6 prosecution witnesses covered 11 folios. Still three days were taken,—the reason being the cross-examination of the prosecution witnesses was taken up at almost candle light in winter season and that too in a village where the trying Magistrate was then encamping. For this reason the pleader for the defence was obliged to cut short the cross-examination. Nor was this all. This Sub-divisional Officer does not generally hear "Viva Voce" argument and therefore the parties in this suit were required to submit written arguments! Arguments of the prosecution were filed after the filing of those of the defence. The prosecution got copy of the defence argument but the defence could not know anything of the prosecution arguments being filed. On the 13th April 1904, (after full 5½ months from the date of the surrender of the accused) judgment was delivered sentencing all the 8 accused to various terms of imprisonment ranging from 3 to 6 months. Accused had to dance attendance before the Court in this suit for no fewer thtn 17 or 18 times and there were as many adjournments.

WE are sincerely grieved to hear of the sudden and unexpected death of the father of our Lieutenant-Governor, the Rev. Dr. A. Gordon Fraser, who was found dead in his deb at Belvyeber on Webnesbay morning. The hills did not suit Dr. Fraser; hence he was left in Calcutta when Sir Andrew Fraser went up to Darjeeling. The public, needless to say, will feel the greatest sympathy for His Honour; for, Sir Andrew was deeply attached to his father; indeed, he could not live without him, and hence the father and the son, as a rule, stayed together in the same house. One of the reasons which have endeared Sir Andrew so much to the Hindus is the reverential feeling with which he regarded his father—a feeling which is so strong with the Orientals but which has a very weak hold upon the Westerners. Though the ruler of the Province, Sir Andrew did not consider it derogatory on his part to stop near the carriage of his father and make him alight with his own hands, though a number of menial servants were ready to do the work for him. Such filial devotion, so rare among the Europeans in this country, could not but make Sir Andrew Fraser an object of sincere respect to the people of this country. We can very well imagine His Honour's grief for his inability to attend on his father in his last moments; yet, the manner in which he departed this life ought to be a source of much gratification to him. For, not only has he died at an age which very few men are destined to reach, but he had always been in good and vigorous health —nay, nobody, suspected, even a few hours before his death, that his end was so near. He, in short, breathed his last without a struggle and without putting his dear ones to any trouble. It was a happy death, indeed! Dr. Fraser was emphatically a good man. This we can testify to from our own personal experience of the deceased gentleman. "I was no doubt born in Scotland, but India is my country," —he was often heard to say. "I don't know, why," said he in one of his conversations with us "I have a deep and natural affection for your people." In the Central Provinces, he always befriended the oppressed. We first came to hear of him from the unfortunate Prince of Patna, who, goaded to madness by the alleged ill-treatment of some officials, real or fancied, shot himself and his wife to death. This Prince paid us a visit at our office, and shed tears over the kind treatment he had received at the hands of Dr. Fraser. "He was my only friend" said the Prince to us. We subsequently came across him and he always impressed us with his lofty sentiments and high character. His views on the partition question of Bengal were as strong as those of the Bengalees. "I don't know what the views of your Lieutenant-Governor are, but I am decidely against the dismembtrment of Bengal, when the people are so opposed to the scheme." These remarks he made to several gentlemen who had the honour of calling on him. There is no doubt he is more happy now in a better world than he could possibly be here. This fact surely will greatly console His Honour.

THE House of Commons has decreed that India should pay the cost of the Thibet mission. Mr. Brodrick now says that the cost of the Seistan Boundary Commission would devolve on Indian revenues. Who will after this deny that India is governed by the English people in the interests of the Indians?

ONE feature, which characterises the rule of Lord Curzon, is the creation of new berths for Europeans everywhere, even in Native States. The "Native States" of Madras cites the appointment of Mr. H. Wilkinson, 2nd Assistant Resident of the Residency Bazar, Hyderabad, as tutor to H.H. the Maharaja of Krishnagur in Central India as the latest instance in the direction. Why should an Assistant Resident of all men be appointed as a tutor? A Resibent can teach row a Native Prince is to be bullied or humiliated, but the function of a tutor is different. Then, Lord Curzon cannot bear the de-nationalization of "native" Princes,—indeed he said so in plain terms in one of his speeches. Yet, he would have an European instead of an Indian as the tutor of a Prince, though such an arrangement is bound to de-nationalize him.

An electric light and water supply scheme, costing 6½ lakhs, has been adopted by the Mussoorie Municipality.

Thursday morning last at 11-30 on the arrival of the special mixed train at Jubbulpur from Bhopal with the guests of the Raja Gokuldass and horse carriages, two waggons were seen to be in flames. One phaeton, one barouche, one drag, one cart and a quantity of harness were burnt The station staff with the fire appliances were burnt. The station staff with the fire appliances prevented the fire from spreading and succeeded in averting a panic. A quantity of valuable propery was saved owing to the exertions of the railway staff.

The Madras Government have published a circular in all the District "Gazettes" regarding the systematic sprvey of wells in the Presidency their sole object being to obtain an adequate amount of information regarding the capacity of wells, so that steps may be taken to devise arrangements for improving them.

A severe storm passed over the railway between Rangoon and Pegu Monday evening, doing considerable damge to t village at Dabein. At the railway station the home signal was felled and portions of the station building were blown away. A whole train of vehicles wts blown out of Hamon station and an engine had to be despatched to bring them back.

SCRAPS.

Lord Curzon has consented to preside at the annual dinner of the Indian Civil Service, which will be held as usual in London next June. A larger attendance than usual is expected on this occasion.

The Somaliland Field Force will be concentrated ready for embarkation by the end of next week, when the trooping should begin. This is advisable in view of a possible early break of the monsoon.

It is probable that the scheme for an electric railway from Abbottabad into Kashmir may shortly come to the front. The details have, however, yet to be worked out as to the water-power available for generating the electricity.

Lord Ampthill's assumption of office at Simla on Saturday afternoon was a very short and simple affair. The members of the Executive Council had merely to attend at Viceregal Lodge and take their places in the Council Chamber, while the lesser dignitaries, in the shape of Secretaries to Government and heads of departments supported them in strictly official fashion. The chamber is a small room and there was no space for more than a score or so of persons after the Councillors had taken their seats. Lord Amptbill entered at four o'clock with his personal st. took the President's Chair, for by that time Lord Curzon had left Bombay "with the intention of returning to Europe" and the senior Governor had become Viceroy by virtue of the Statute. Thus it was the new Vicercy, who called upon the Home Secretary to read the Proclamation announcing His Excellency's appointment, and the laboured legal phraseology of the document only stated in what mannor the "said appointment" had been made. Simla at large knew a quarter of an hour later that the ceremony had concludel for the salute of 31 guns was fired without the least delay.

The war news, says the "I. D. News," other than the supplementary details of the big battle on the Yalu is of a very conflicting nature. The Russian and Japanese accounts of the latest attempt to block Port Arthur on Monday last are diametrically opposite, the Japanese stating that they believe their attempt to have been successful the Russians that it was not so, and that, although the eight hulks were sunk, they did not reach the points at which it was desired to place them. Reading between the lines of the two accounts it is probable that although the intrepid Japanese who manned these ships and the torpedo boat escort were badly knocked about, they must have penetrated sufficiently far into the narrow fairway of the port to make the passage even more difficult of navigation than it is at present. The Russians have themselves told us that their heavy ships cannot come out of the port entirely under their own steam, but require the assistance of tugs, and if the navigation was as difficult as this before the latest "bottling" enterprise of the Japs, it is a fair presumption that the admitted sinking of eight hulks is not likely to improve it. The balance of probability, we think, rests with the Japanese version, as St. Petersburgh dispatches have not been remarkable for their accuracy during the course of the present operations. As to the other important item of information in the telegram, namely, the reported capture of Niuchwang by the Japanese, although it is more than likely that it is true, it is perhaps the wiser course to await some corroboration of the "Daily Chronicle's" intelligence before discussing the probable consequences of such an achievement. In any case even the "Chronicle's" intelligence is not correct, it will, we are certain, turn out to be merely an intelligent anticipation of events: for Japan has not only the power to accomplish it, but everything has pointed to its being part of her forward movement. The capture of the town would be immediately followed by the cutting of the Port Arthur communications, and a strong force athwart the railway would put the Port Arthur garrison completely out of action, and be but the prelude to the fall of the town itself.

"Water—water and water" is the burden of everybody's song now in the mofussil. In the schorching rays of the summer sun severe scarcity of water is now being very sorely felt in the interior of Bengal. Unbearable thirst parches the throat of the poor villager, but there is scarcely any water in the village ponds tanks and wells, and the small natural reservoirs, where they exist, have almost dried up The poor, simple peasantry does not know how to represent their grievances to the authorities and hence they suffer the scourge silently though sadly. Naught but tears are then only comfort in this sore strait. The burning heat of the day has made the fields and meadowns in the villages almost bare and barren and a loo-like wind blows there night and day. Besides, now and then dense clouds of dust overshadow the atmosphere. And the scalding rays of the sun falling slantingly on the bare fields given rise to deceitful mirages. In such hot days it is not a rare spectacle to witness many a poor, poverty-stricken peasant woman perspiring from head to foot and with almost tottering legs passing through the fields with earthen jars on their waist to fetch water from distant tanks and rivulets—at places miles off from their native villages. May be, her darling child (or children), is tossing about on the straw bed in her hut under an attack of high fever or cholera and crying feebly for a drop of water to quench the burning thirst the disease has brought on. In some cases there may be none close by the sick bed to look after or minister, to the needs of the patient or even to console him by mere kind words. But it is a very gloomy picture and such cases are this is a very gloomy picture and then such cases may not be too frequent or numerous. Nevertheless, the position is very pitiful. The rich and the towns people do not and can not conceive, much less feel, in the least the sufferings the villagers now-a-days labour under. Thousands of people die of malaria and cholera every year by drinking filthy and muddy stagnant water. In the year 1902 alone one lakh, fifty thousand, nine hundred and seventy-one people died of cholera, and that scarcity of drinking water is the ra in Bengal; and that scarcity of drinking water is the prime cause of this heavy mortality no one can doubt or deny. We therefore again appeal to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on behalf of the "vocieless million" in the interior to do the needful in the matter.

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

—:o:—

[*From our own Correspondent.*]

London, April 15.

ENGLISH IGNORANCE OF INDIA "THE SAFEGUARD OF THE EMPIRE."

Sir Walter Lawrence has got into hot water. He is being boiled alive in the columns of the "Morning Post" by one who believes that all Englishmen should strive to remain ignorant of India and leave everything to experts. By experts, this profound pundit means, no doubt, such men as Mr. Ashton, ex-Sessions Judge, and Mr. Ernest Clements, First Class Magistrate in Bombay. What has led to Sir Walter Lawrence being dealt with as though he were a naughty child who must be severely shaken, if not whipped? It was his temerity, if not, indeed, his stupidity, in writing the following two sentences in his recent "National Review" article:

1. "It is a matter for great regret that the British public takes so little interest in India."

2. "One almost despairs of India ever becoming an object of familiar knowledge to the British public."

These two remarks do not seem very terrible, do they? But they are really more mischievous than a ton of dynamite, and if you cannot see this you must be very ignorant indeed. The Englishman, it is quite true, does not know anything of India save a little superficial knowledge obtained from Macaulay's Essays on Indian men and affairs. *"This is the salvation of India."* Sir Walter Lawrence's critic literally riots in his delight at this ignorance. In his glee, he shouts:

> "I rejoice at it; I think it just what it should be; I would not for anything have it changed."

Then follows an illuminating observation which must be quoted in full. Says this very superior man:

> "I cannot imagine anything more fatal than that India should become a topic on which every man felt bound to have an opinion. There was a good deal of truth in Froude's epigram that 'free peoples cannot govern subject races.' He meant, I take it, that the conscience of a democracy forbids it to be liberal at home and autocratic abroad. Modern democracies are just as keen on proselytising, on getting, even forcing, everybody they come in contact with to look at things through their spectacles as were the old absolutisms. They have grown up and thrived on certain notions and institutions, and nothing will ever persuade them that other nations would not do equally well on the same regimen."

It is to this Madrassi Thackery of the Twentieth Century, who would make and keep you all helots to a few Ashton-Clements experts, that the belief must be attributed that "the natural instincts of our people would be to govern India as though the great dependency were a larger Yorkshire." In this remark, intended to be the very essence of scornfulness, the critic has uttered a very profound and noble truth. This is what, if properly informed and thoroughly aroused, "our people" would do. They would act towards India and the Indians as they do towards Indians who may be in England—that is on a platform of equality, treating each Indian according to his character and not as to the muchness or littleness of the brown pigment in his skin. This, however, would be awful, disastrous, too dreadful for contemplation. Our "wholesome national apathy" is all to the good, and its chief manifestation, the empty Benches of the House of Commons when the Indian Budget is being discussed, is a grand proof of our fitness to rule India. I am not exaggerating in paraphrasing what this wiseacre says. These are his own words:

> "The empty benches of the House of Commons when Indian subjects are up, are, in a way, the safeguard of the Empire."

To be logical, therefore, it would follow that if the Secretary of State for India had no one to listen to his prosings on Indian finance, India would be made more secure than would be the case if the white army were doubled. What is wanted for the Englishman are these guiding principles:

1. Judicious ignorance.
2. A racial prejudice: "Russia is trying to get India, and it is our business to prevent her."

If "we" act on this principle and make it "our" business, with Indian money, to prevent Russia taking India, we show that 'we possess the true secret of Empire." I think I had better stop here and express regret that Sir Walter Lawrence has been the innocent occasion for calling forth most obscurantist and prejudiced comments of which the above are samples. And, yet, it is well that the "secret of Empire" should be told and there are many Englishmen of the Jingo-Imperial faith, who would take from India every vestige of freedom she possesses, and make the Ashtons and Clements autocratic rulers against whose wise edicts there should be no appeal.

As a contrast to the philosopher of the "Morning Post" I must here refer to the strongly expressed opinions of such distinguished administrators as Lord Reay, Sir Raymond West, Dr. Grierson, and others who, at this week's meeting of the Royal Asiatic Society discussed the question of Oriental teaching in England. They stated emphatically what more, and not less, knowledge of the language, the history, and the philosophy, of the various peoples of India among whom their lots might be cast, was the necessary equipment of the young Civil Servant. It was not enough, they maintained, to give him a University education, and the training which I.C.S. examination entails; he should know something of the ideas and beliefs of the people of India, of their history, and of the results of archæological research. It would be a good thing for him, too, if he could dispense with the services of an interpreter soon after his arrival, instead of being compelled to "pick up" as he could the language by which he could understand the people among whom he had to live, and make himself understood by them. It was considered a disgrace to England that no Oriental Institute existed in London or elsewhere, not for the sake only of Civil Servants, but for scholars; such an Institute would be of inestimable value to the Empire.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

"EMPIRE DAY" ALREADY BECOMING A DANGER.

Among the second rate or third rate matters which occupied attention in London during the Coronation period was the proposal of the Earl of Meath for what he called the institution of an Empire Day throughout the British Dominions. A particular day in the year was to be made a holiday for all school children who were then, in the most pleasant and striking way possible, to be instructed concerning the greatness of the British Empire and how it became great. With reasonable deductions in some countries and ample variations in the mode of doing what was suggested there was much in the idea of value, and those who supported the proposal at the outset have no need to be ashamed of what they did. But, to-day, the matter wears another aspect. What, in the guise of instruction on historical matters, was wholly commendable, in the new form which is given to it, is becoming a religion. A devotion which differs in no respect from that which is paid to the deity whom one worships is now to mark Empire Day Celebrations. The Flag of Britain is to be exalted as the Holy of Holies was exalted before the early Jews, as The Host is now exalted in Roman Catholic and other processions. Hymns are to be sung to the emblem of British prowess and British perfection, and obeisance of the most ritualistic character is to be observed. Referring to the celebration on May 24th next, Lord Meath, in a letter which lies before me, hopes it will be sung on that day throughout the Dominions of King Edward VIIth. This is plain, but his lordship grows enigmatical. He wishes that "greater stress, than in the past, will in future be laid in all schools on the training of children in regard to the duties and responsibilities attachng to British Citizenship, and on the necessity of the King-Emperor being more fully acquainted with such knowledge as may tend to draw closer together the four hundred millions of people who owe a common allegiance to the Sovereign of the British Empire". This is puzzling. One cannot see where the King-Emperor rightly comes in. Perhaps, however, Lord Meath does. With that one must rest satisfied. Reference, however, must again be made to this hymn, and the ritual to be adopted in worshipping the flag. At the end of each short verse these lines come as chorus:

"We salute thee, and pray
Bless, O God, our Land to-day."

These instructions are accompanied with the following explanation:—

At the words "we salute thee", the hand should be raised in the attitude of salute. At the words "and we pray", the head should be bowed, still retaining the hand at salute. It is desirable that a large Standard should be raised during the singing of the song.

It all becomes very spectacular and very sham devotional. One verse, it seems to me, could not be sung in India with much sincerity or at all honestly. We are told of the flag of Britain that wheresoever its bright colours are outspread,

"Slavery must cease for ever,
Light and freedom reign instead."

"Light and freedom" reign in India! Why, during the past five years every honest gleam of patriotic light which the Government could put out—for ever, it has hoped—it has put out, while, as for freedom, let the gag of the official Secrets Act and the fetters of the Breaking-Up Measure for Bengal, tell how much of freedom there is under the flag of Britain in some parts of India. The Chief Justice of Bombay and Mr. Justice Batty could give some further examples. Again, in view of the sound maxims before which the flower of the Tibetan people were knocked over like ninepins by an expert player, the singing of this verse would, surely, be a bit risky if one wishes to keep a serious face and salute and bow with fitting solemnity:—

"Flag of Britain! 'mid the nations
May it ever speak of peace.
And proclaim, to farthest nations,
All unworthy strife must cease."

The flag is to "ever speak of peace". The moment is propitious. Let the flag speak to Lord Curzon of peace for Tibet. If it convert His Excellency from the error of his ways so that his "unworthy strife must cease", then the flag will receive some of the homage which such a miracle-working instrument will deserve. There are other verses in which the flag is regarded with sacred awe as the emblem of the Predominent Anglo-Saxon Idea. To those who believe in that Idea as profoundly as, if not more thoroughly than, they believe in the Lord who purchased them with a great price, the singing of this hymn may bring comfort. To most others it savours of grotesqueness, of the perversion of a good and great emotion to illegitimate purposes.

Definite orders have now reached Simla for the breaking up of the Somaliland Field Force, and arrangements are being made for the return of the troops from Somaliland by the 15th of May. Arrangements are also being made to send the Hampshire Regiment Home as early as possible, without waiting for the "Assaye."

Paddy has risen in price in Rangoon in the last few days. It is said that the Chetties hold large stocks in the districts, as well as Burmese traders who are indebted to the Chetties. The present outlook does not make the prospect very brilliant for those with large stocks, looking to the high interest charged in Burma which, with wastage, largely increases the price of grain held over for five or six months.

A Dinapur correspondent writes:—A very disastrous fire broke out on the 2nd instant in the neighbouring village of Gurgaon whereby the whole village was reduced to ashes and the villagers have been rendered homeless and penniless. It appears that a man after having his smoke left the "chilum" by a heap of straw whence the fire originated. Nearly four hundred huts were down and only a few huts are now standing to tell the sad tale.

A Lahore correspondent writes under date May 3:—A Hindu priest, under the inuuence of some drug, knocked a young lady off her bicycle tnd tried to strangle her at Lahore. A gentleman riding past, hearing her cries, dismounted and closed with the assailant. The lady was picked up in a half-unconscious state, but beyond a severe shock and slight bruises, she is doing well. The man wts taken to the civil surgeon, as the police belive him to be mad.

Calcutta and Mofossil

Bank of Bengal.—The Directors of the Bank of Bengal made no change in the rate of interest or discount at their last meeting.

Thursday's Storm.—The storm which passed over Calcutta on Thursday evening, was severely felt on the river. Two dinghees capsized and two dandies got drowned.

Plague Statistics.—The plague diary recorded 26 cases and 28 deaths in Calcutta on Thursday, the 5th instant. The total mortality from all causes was 85 i.e., 9 more than the average of the previous five years.

Letters of Administration.—At the High Court, on Friday before Mr. Justice Sale, an application was made on behalf of Mr. Walker for Letters of Administration in the goods of Allen Thomas Boyle, deceased, of Midnapore. His Lordship granted the application.

Suit for Damages.—Babu Anant Prosad Marwari of Shujaganj, writes the "Behar News," has brought a suit for damages against the local Municipality. The case has been going on in the Court of the First Munsiff and is conducted on behalf of the plaintiff by Mr. S. Wasi Ahmad, Bar-at-Law. The result is watched with keen interest.

Suit for Damages.—At the High Court on Thursday before Mr. Justice Sale Babu A.K. Guha, Attorney-at-law, applied for permission to file a plaint, on behalf of Nimadhab Saha for the recovery of Rs. 10,000 being the price of goods, against the River Steam Navigation Company. The plaintiff had a boat, laden with cargo, anchored in a river in the District of Khulna, which sank by collision with a steamer belonging to the defendant Company. His Lords[illegible]mitted the plaint Company. His Lordship admitted the plaint and ordered written statements to be filed.

The Boriahat Murder Case.—The case in which one Radha Nath Sirdar and two other of Canning Town were charged with rioting and causing the death of one Chander Nath Pradhan, a shop-keeper of Boriahat with a shovel under circumstances already reported, was on Thursday concluded at the Alipore Criminal Sessions before Mr. Harward, additional District and Sessions Judge. The accused pleaded not guilty. Tht jury returned an unanimous verdict of "not guilty" and the Judge accordingly acquitted the prisoners.

Lawlessness in Rajbari Sub-Division.—A harrowing tale of murder reaches us from the Rajbari sub-division, Goulundo. A man of the village Bhar Ramdeo, who appears to have been a servant of Sarkar family of that village was attacked and brutally beaten to death by a number of ruffians, apparently from a neighbouring village, whilst the man was returning from the nearest bazar. We have no doubt the local Police will leave no stone unturned to detect and bring the culprits to justice. The attention of the sub-divisional officer is also invited to this matter.

Trial of Gang Case.—On Thursday there was quite a scene at the court of the Joint Magistrate of Alipore. Under the orders of the Commissioner of Police, Inspector Daly of the Alipore Thana with ten constables in addition to a large number of Bengal Police constables appeared within the court compound escorting one Jawala Prasad Bramin and twelve other up-country ruffians, closely secured with chains and hand cuffs and handed them up before the court for trial of charges of theft, dacoity and robbery etc. The case for the prosecution was that during the recent investigation of big robbery case at Bhowanipore, one of the accused in that case had made a confession to the effect that he had been concerned in company with twenty five others, in a series of robberies committed in Calcutta and its suburbs and Howrah within the past few months; whereupon the Commissioner of Police Calcutta deputed Inspector Frizonie and some able Police Officers to trace out the culprits by conducting an investigation upon the information thus obtained, and as a result of the enquiry the present accused were arrested with great difficulty and stolen properties valued over a lack of rupees comprising jewellery, shawls and silk clothings, etc., recovered from their possession. The trial is proceeding.

Alleged Theft from the person of a woman.—On Friday before Mr. W. A. Bonnaud, the second Presidency Magistrate, the case in which a young man named Bipin stood charged with the theft of two silver "mulls" from the person of a young woman named Kiron Shoshi living in Mooktaram Babu's Street, was called on for hearing. The case for the prosecution was that the young woman was sleeping in her room with her legs towards the window, the panels of which were left open, on acocunt of heat. Some body came and, from outside the window, snatched away the two "mulls" from her legs and ran away. She raised an alarm, and her husband chased the man and caught hold of the defendant with the articles in his possession. Babu Gonesh Chander Mukherjee and Babu Suresh Chander Mitter who appeared for the defence urged that the defendant had been living in the same house with the complainant woman from a long time. The defendant had a mistress living under his protection. The charms of his mistress having gone, the youth of Kiron captivated the heart of the defendant, who it was alleged, fell in love with her. Four days before the theft was committed, the mother of Kiron, saw the defendant coming out of her room and she picked up a row. Her husband was not in the house at the time and so the man escaped. For four days, the defendant did not turn up. At last, the husband of the woman found him out and made him a good beating and after this, the man was gave over to the police on a charge of theft of "mulls" as mentioned above. The case was partly gone into and was adjourned to the 12th instant.

Messrs. Raman Menon and Krishna Menon, Vakil and Barrister, respectively, who are being prosecuted at Palghaut, Madras, for forgery, etc., have been committed to the Sessions on a charge in connection with a land dispute in Malabar in which it is alleged that the accused sought to establish a claim to the land that was being acquired for Government by means of a forged title deed. This case is only one stage in a complicated piece of litigation between two wealthy factions in Malabar. he Magistrate refused bail, and the accused have been remand[illegible] to jail.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, May 3.

It is generally believed that the Japanese will utilize the favourable impression produced by the victory on the Yalu to issue an external loan about which there are strong rumours in London and Paris this afternoon.

Telegrams from Port Arthur received at St. Petersburg describe a fresh Japanese attempt to block the harbour last evening, and assert that eight hulks were sunk, and two Japanese torpedo boats badly damaged.

London, May, 4

General Kuropatkin in his despatch further said that the transport of the wounded to Fengwengcheng by Chinese bearers was most difficult, and many arrived on foot assisted by comrades.

The Japanese Cavalry has been sighted to the south-east of Fengwengcheng.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says that the attempt to block Port Arthur on Monday evening is believed to have been successful.

Reuter's correspondent at St. Petersburg says that Admiral Alexeieff, who personally directed the defence, reports that the attempt was repelled. The fireships armed with Hotchkiss guns maintained a hot fire. When sunk the crews took to boats, and the majority were killed by the Russian fire. The Russian saved thirty clinging to wreckage.

Reuter learns that the fighting mentioned on the 26th ultimo has improved the Mullah's position, the friendly Mijirtains failing to check him as anticipated. His power has by no means gone, and he still has 1,500 rifles.

The British troops are withdrawing to the coast owing to the breakdown of transport.

London, May 5.

A despatch has been received at St. Petersburg from General Kashtalinsky, which disposes of the statement of his death. He reports that the 11th Regiment held their ground for two hours, and finally cut their way through with the colours. The Regiment lost a Colonel and forty officers and about two thousand non-commissioned officers and men.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says that the reported successful blocking of Port Arthur led to a great popular demonstration at Tokio yesterday.

A "Daily Telegraph" despatch from Tokio states that the transport conveying the Foreign Attaches, including General Sir Ian Hamilton struck on a rock and the Attaches were transferred to another steamer.

It is rumoured at St. Petersburg that at the Battle of Chinghialien the Russians lost 7,000 and the Japanese 10,000.—Englishman."

Port Arthur is bottled up and a bombardment is proceeding.—"Englishman."

At a dinner given by the Japan Society in London last night, at which Baron Hayashi presided, M. Suyematsu declared that the Japanese would never surrender before their blood was exhausted. Many thought he had said that Japan would be unable to carry on the war for economical reasons. He admitted Japan's wealth was limited, but not so limited as outsiders supposed. Baron Hayashi said that the Emperor and the people of Japan would be much rejoiced at the warm manner in which England had shown her sympathy.

Reuter wires from St. Petersburg that the Japanese fleet appeared behind the Liaotishan promontory, Port Arthur, to-day. Transports and troops have arrived at Pitsewo with the object of landing.

Admiral Alexeieff by an Imperial ukase has left Port Arthur to rejoin the active army. The command of the Port Arthur fleet will temporarily be entrusted to Admiral Vitgert.

The Japanese loan will be ten millions sterling, whereof five millions will be issued in London and five millions in New York.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says that General Kuroki reports that a careful search over Sunday's battlefield has revealed 200 additional dead and wounded Russians.

London, May 6.

General Kuropatkin has asked the Red Cross Society for two thousand more beds for military hospitals at the front.

A Daily Chronicle despatch from Shanhaikwan says that much uneasiness exists there owing to the report that Russia intends to despatch troops to the neighbourhood of Shanhaikwan in order to get behind the Japanese approaching Newchwang. The Chinese are trengthening their garrisons and moving four thousand troops near to the Great Wall.

The Japanese have landed on the Liaotung Peninsula opposite the Elliott islands.

Reuter wires from Tokio to-day that it is officially announced that a force of Japanese began landing on the Liaotung Penins la yesterday, but the place and numbers are withheld.

Reuter from Tokio states that General Kuroki reports that during the panic in the Russian retreat on Sunday a large body of Russians mistook a smaller body for the Japanese and killed and wounded eighty of their own men. An officer who participated in Sunday's battle states that only five or six Russian battalions and two batteries were able to retire in order, the others ran in a most complete confusion, and that the Russian carts stampeded abondoning their loads of stores.

GENERAL.

London, May 3.

Mr. Brodrick in the Commons said that the cost of the Seistan Boundary Commission was estimated at five thousand sterling monthly, which would devolve on the Indian revenue.

London, May 4.

A meeting of those interested in the Ceylon and Indian tea trade to protest against the extra tax came off to-day. A large number was present.

Sir West Ridgeway, who presided, protested against the tax as injurious to the Ceylon and Assam planters, who never wished to escape the burdens of Empire, but the new burden was more than they could bear and many would be ruined.

Mr. Macleod, President of the Indian Tea Association and Mr. Rutherford, President of the Ceylon Tea Assiciation, respectively, moved and seconded resolution strongly protesting against the increase and urging Government to take steps to exclude teas, which had been rejected by the Customs authorities in other countries.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

Mr. Alexander Muir and other influential persons adressed the meeting, which adopted the resolutions unanimously.

London, May 5.

The British Cotton-growing Association has decided to apply for a Royal Charter. The capital is to be five hundred thousand pounds in shares of one pound each. There will be no profits for the first seven years.

Lord Lansdowne, replying to Lord Spencer, confessed that the progress of reforms in the Balkans was disappointing, and trat if not accelerated, we might be confronted with a situation of the gravest anxiety.

London, May 6.

The following is the latest berting in the Kempton Park Great JubileeStakes:—13 to 2 Liglon and Dean Swift, 7 to 1 Templemore, 8 to 1 General Cronjee 10 to 1 Fermoyle, 100 to 8 Cerisier.

The death is announced of Maurus Jokai the Hungarian novelist.

London. May, 6.

Colonel Swayne, Consul-General for Somaliland, is now in London and returns to Berbera immediately with full political, military and civil power.

General Egorton and 4,000 troops leave as soon as transport is available.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

Bombay, May 3.

The Consul for Japan in Bombay sends the following telegram received yesterday evening from the Japanese Government:—Captain Maya reports that a detachment, consisting of the "Maya" and "Uji" torpedo boats, ascended the Yalu on the 1st, bombarding the enemy. While they were returning, the enemy's artillery suddenly attacked the torpedo boats, which silenced the enemy after a 30 minutes' severe engagement. The detachment all returned to Yongampo without casualties.

Our armed launches reached Antung the same morning and repulsed the enemy's infantry and artillery after 30 minutes' sharp fighting.

A fire has been seen rising from the town. The natives say that the enemy fled from Antung after setting fire to it.

Colombo, May 3.

News from Tokyo states that the Minister of Marine has arranged for ten more battleships to be placed at the disposal of Admiral Togo, to give him a larger radius of action.

The American war correspondent from Yokohama has returned from the seat of war in disgust. He states there is absolutely no news to be obtained, and correspondents are spending their time playing billiards.

The Russian military authorities have sent to the Yalu a secret patent apparatus for obstructing the Japanese crossing, by creating a wall of fire in mid-stream.

Japan is negotiating to purchase a greater part of the fleet, consisting of nineteen vessels, belonging to the Fratelli Cosulach Company, Trieste.

Russia is trying to purchase the famous Deutschland Hamburg-American line.

News from Peking states that 60,000 Russians have entered Manchuria since the outbreak of hostilities.

The strength of the garrison at Mukden is 4,500, at Liaoyang 10,000, at Taschichan 12,000 and at Niuchwang 3,000.

A general Japanese advance will be made early this month.

General Remnekemp's Cossack Division of 10,000 has arrived at the upeer Yalu. The Army Corps has reached Harbin. Vladivostok is held by 13,000 rifles.

Russia has demanded that the Chinese Government shall dismiss the Japanese officers with General Mas's army. Russia regards their continued presence with the Chinese as a most serious threat, possibly endangering Kuropatkin's communications. Failure to comply with Russian demands would be considered a violation of Chinese neutrality.

The Grand Duke Cyril, who was seriously wounded, by being badly burned and breaking his leg, is reported to be still in a precarious condition.

His father, Vladimir, is sending Count Grabbe, A.-D.-C., to Mukden. The Duchess Vladimir will also probably go to Mukden if the Duke's condition becomes worse.

Colombo, May 4.

Australian telegrams from London, dated the 19th April, state that 45,000 Japanese are advancing on the Yalu and 15,000 reservists hold the lines of communication.

War dogs have been trained to track the wounded, each carrying a basket with medicaments and brandy.

The "Times'" correspondent declares that if he operates on the high seas or in neutral waters, his cipher will not be recoverable on the Russian and Japanese wireless instruments. The "Times" trusts that Russia's threats are confined to Russian waters.

Owing to the Chinese forbidding food to enter Manchuria, Russia prohibits exports therefrom.

The Captain of the gunboat "Mandjur" sank abroad the "Petropavlovsk."

The Japanese have destroyed three contact mines which were adrift thirty miles from Shantung.

The Chinese General Ina reports that it is difficult to restrain the troops from attacking the Russians west of Las.

Duke Cyril stated to a "Daily Mail" interviewer at Harbin that after the explosion he got aft and dived through a port-hole. When he rose the vessel had disappeared, surviving 100 seconds only.

The Tsar is said to have informed Admiral Alexeieff that the disaster would have been impossible if the Russian officers had not shown criminal lack of vigilance.

It is semi-officially stated at St. Petersburg that the cruiser "Pallada" has been finally disabled.

The Russian War Office officials declare that there are 311,000 troops at the front, and it is not intended to send more owing to the shortage of supplies.

Admiral Skrydloff, in an interview, declared that it was his intention to reserve the fleet

TELEGRAMS.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

for a great occasion, and that he was surrounding himself with young officers.

The Russian Minister at Constantinople is pressing Turkey for £93,000 on the 1878 indemnity. The demand is interpreted to mean that Russia will shortly ask permission for the fleet to pass the Dardanelles.

Cossacks are capturing thousands of Tartar cattle without payment.

Three hundred girls from the higher schools at St. Petersburg are partaking in the seditious demonstration.

Australian telegrams from London dated the 18th April say that in Japan during a procession at Nagoya white lanterns were carried in memory of the Russian leader, with banners on which were inscribed "We mourn the brave Admiral Makaroff."

The "Times'" correspondent reports wirelessly that Commander Odas, on the torpedo depot ship "Koryo Maru," under four concentrated searchlights and a merciless fire from the forts, laid torpedo mines at the mouth of Port Arthur.

The Tibet Mission.

Gyantse, May 2.

The force is leaving here to-morrow to dislodge the Tibetan army on the further side of Karola, both because the army threatens our line of communications and are daily growing stronger and it is important to prevent it assuming menacing proportions. It appears that the Lhassa officials are straining every nerve to levy men, and orders have even reached this valley for more recruits. The garrison which evacuated Gyantse Fort has been detained at Karola. The two Tibetan generals who led the forces at the red gorge action have been dismissed. Although the Amban is reported as leaving Lhassa tomorrow there is nothing authenticate about his being accompanied by a competent Tibetan official, altogether it is safe to assert that the attitude of the Lhassa officials continues defiant.

It appears a booby trap to be let down on the reconnoitring party at Karola has been constructed on most ingenious principles, and was concealed behind the Sangars. The party was not aware of its existence till they heard a tremendous availanche of rocks crashing down the hill side. Fortunately the trap discharged was not on the main body, but on the six advanced scouts who were extended to twenty paces and able to take cover.

Kalatso, May 5.

A despatch dated May 3rd from the Amban, received to-day, states that he wrote to the Dalai Lama regarding the militant action of the Gyangtse monks, and also asking for transport and accredited representatives to accompany him to Gyangtse on May 3rd. The Dalai Lama replied disclaiming knowledge or responsibility for the action of the Gyangtse monks, but nothing concerning transport of the negotiations. The Amban has written again urgently to the Dalai Lama regarding the matter, and when the reply is received he will communicate with the British Commissioner.

A party comprising three companies of Indian Infantry, one company of Mounted Infantry, maxims and seven-pounders, left

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Colonel Younghusband was attacked early on the morning of the 5th instant at Gyantse by 800 Tibetans from the Shigatse direction. The attack was repulsed with heavy loss at 6 30 a.m. The British casualties were two wounded of the 32nd Pioneers. All are well at Gyangtse whence the Tibetans have fled.

The cocoanut trees in North Travancore are being seriously affected by birds which commit great havoc. The ryots have resolved to take joint action to put down the evil.

The following is from the "Singapore Free Press":—With regard to the quotation from a Ceylon paper giving 5s. as a record price for Ceylon rubber, a friend who takes an interest in such matters writes to say that Malayan rubber has touched that figure for a good while. One planter has been getting 5s. a pound regularly for some time past.

It is perfectly evident that admiral Togo is determined to "bottle up" Port Arthur before the Baltic Fleet sets out on its hazardous voyange to the Far East, and it is not all unlikely that he will succeded, despite the Russian searchlights and torpedo-boat patrols, in which case the posiion of the reinforcing Fleet, without coalig faculties, or even a harbour of refuge, and exposed to attack by the whole force of the Japanese Navy, would b as hopeless as can well b imagined. The Baltic Fleet, owing to coaling and other difficulties, is never likely to reach its destination, but, even if it did succeed in reaching the Yellow Sea, in evading the Japanese Fleet, and i finding the Port Arthur channel still open, its position would not be much improved for it is not nearly strong enough to fight the Japanese Fleet unaided, and the hel pit could receive from the Russian ships in Port Arthur is almost a negligible quantity, and certainl ynot sufficient to turn the balance of sea power in favour of Russia; while it must be patent to the most casual observer that, as long as Japan holds the seas, Russia cannot land a single soldiers on Japanese territory and consequently cannot win in the present struggle, even though the Japanese troops in Manchuria are defeated at all points, which, however, as they have already shown by their splendid display on the Yalu, they are not likely to be—at present, at all events.

The usual hot weather is setting in in Upper India and according to the latest Meteorological Report the heat is much greater than usual at all Western hill stations, where both by day and night the temperature is between 5 and 9 degrees higher than the average day temperatures, which now exceeds 110 degrees over the greater part of North-Western and Central India, the highest recorded readings having been 115.1 degrees at Jacobabad and Deesa, 114.7 degrees at Chanda, and 114 degrees at Akola.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

A SENSATIONAL CASE.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Tangail, May 5.

One Ganga Dhor Kaibarta Das of Danya in Police station Tangail has brought a case under section 354 I. P. C. against one Abisvas Kaibarta Das of the said village which has created quite a stir in the locality. The following copy of the plaint, which embodies the facts of the case.

"Kuki Maijhani vs. Abisvas Kaibarta under sec. 354 I. P. C.

"On the day of occurrence (12th) April) while I was going to fetch water the defendant, in my way, attempted to take undue liberty with me. I cried aloud and this attracted the notice of some passers-by, who rushed thither, and the defendant ran away. It is therefore my prayer that your worship will please do me justice. Be it also known that my husband having been away from home, I could not lodge my plaint so long."

The Sub-Divisional Officer, ordered police enquiry and it was entrusted to Eklasuddin Mea, Sub-Inspector, who, it is siad, held a local enquiry and has submitted his report in "C" Form. This report is far from satisfactory. I hope, the Sub-Divisional Officer, considering the tender age of the complainant and the interest at stake take the trouble of holding a personal enquiry in the matter, the locality being only three miles away from the Sub-Divisional head-quarters.

A TRUE CASE OF SUTTEE.

Joydebpore, May 4.

The following case of Suttee took place at village Rayed, Bhawal (Dacca) during my stay there on inspection tour:—

One Sheikh Akali, aged about 50 years came to live with has relatives in the above village a few months ago with his wife, aged about 40, and a son, aged some 12 years. A fortnight ago, Akali fell ill, and practically had no medical treatment worth the name, as generally happens to every poor man in the interior. His case grew more serious day by day, and on the 1st instant he showed worse symptoms, which convinced his assembled relatives, and friends that his end was not far off. The wife of Akali was till then perfectly healthy and free from any kind of disease. On the date mentioned above, she did not leave the side of her husband for a moment except for half an hour at about 10 a.m. to have a hasty breakfast at the utmost importunity of her relatives, and to feed her boy. A couple of hours later, she complained of sudden giddiness and then of deafness. Rustics as they are, nobody paid and special heed to her representation, everyone was watching Akali who was lying perfectly unconscious. Then she was caught by cramps all over her body, expecially at the extremities. She had acute spasm and then laid prostrate. A little before dusk she, who was unable to utter a word so long, uttered aloud "Allah" and closed her eyes for ever. The poor boy of Akali then realized the gravity of the situation and went a-crying to his father and reported the death of his mother. The father so long motionless and speechless, simply uttered a deep moan and died a few hours after. The husband and wife were the next morning buried side by side. God bless the soul of the happy couple!

S. C. Bhattacharjee.

THE HON'BLE MR. HAMILTON'S SPEECH IN THE SUPREME COUNCIL.

The Hon'ble Mr. Hamilton, said:—"My Lord, in the first place let me congratulate Your Excellency's Government, and the Hon'ble Sir Edward Law in particular, on the Budget. The fact that such excellent results have been achieved while still within sight of the recent famines, shows that the finances of the Empire are in very capable hands.

"To one like myself who takes a general interest in the problems connected with agriculture it is gratifying to find the Finance Minister devoting so large a portion of his Statement to the claims of this all-important branch of the business of the Empire, and as Your Excellency and the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Revenue and Agriculture Department are equally interested in the same subject, it may be taken for granted that we shall soon be able to record as marked a development in agricultural affairs as is possible in a country where progress must inevitably be slow.

"From the tone of his remarks, I take it that the Finance Minister is eager to devote all the money he possibly can to the cause of agriculture, and the recent Government Resolutions on Education and the Pusa Farm may be taken as assurances to the same effect. As a guide to what is required in this direction I may here refer to what is considered necessary in the United States of America my authority being the Official Agricultural Year Book for 1900 which traces the history of agriculture in that country during the previous century. The annual income of the land grant colleges and other institutions in which agriculture is taught is 6¾ millions dollars or Rs. 2,01,00,000. On the 54 Agricultural experiment stations the sum annually spent by the National Government is $720,000 or Rs. 21,60,000, beside an additional Rs. 9,00,000 contributed by the Provincial State Funds. The number of agricultural colleges and other institutions in which agriculture is taught is 64, including the 54 experiment stations referred to. The staff of all the experiment stations numbers 685, of whom 308 are scientific teachers. In this connection it would be interesting, for purposes of comparison, to know what the staff consists of which is now engaged in supervising and encouraging agricultural operations in India, and what are the qualifications of that staff for the work of supervision.

"The Hon'ble Sir Edward Law has mentioned the fact that in the Central Provinces there are now 1,800 subscribers to a monthly agricultural magazine, and that 1,800 copies of a pamphlet in the vernacular have lately been sold to cultivators. The number of publications issued annually by the American Board of Agriculture is 6 millions, besides numerous bulletins issued by the various States.

"While on the subject of agricultural education, might I, in view of the recent debate in this Council, quote the following words of the Director of the American Experiment Stations, viz:—

"Along with the improvement of the college courses in agriculture has come the realization of the true function of these courses. It is understood that they are for the training of the leaders in agricultural progress, and not for the general education of the agricultural masses. For this purpose they are to be made as thorough and complete internally and externally as the manifold needs of American agriculture for well-trained and intelligent leadership may require. Their success is to be judged by the same standard that is applied to other college courses, and the number of students is not of so much importance as their quality."

"My Lord, the figures I have quoted may send a shiver of despair through the Hon'ble Members in charge of the Finance and Agricultural Departments, but a Finance Minister who can spend 15 crores on a famine and shortly after come forward with handsome surpluses may be trusted to find the money.

"Rs. 30,60,000 is the sum annually required to run 54 agricultural experiment stations on the American scale, but four or five such institutions, or the equivalent of Rs. 3 lakhs, will, for some years to come, suffice for India, and the paltry sum named will not upset either the Finance Minister or his Budget. It need not even come out of the taxpayer, for less than one million of the ten and-a-half million sovereigns now lying fallow in the gold reserve, if invested in three-half per cent. paper, would yield sufficent to run half a dozen experiment institutions, and would at the same time reduce the national debt.

"My Lord, is it too much to ask that the farms which it is proposed to attach to the experimental institutions should be large enough to serve as commercial object lessons? Your Excellency has on several occasions expressed surprise that capital does not flow more freely from Europe into India; the reason, my Lord, is simple; capital does not see the dividends. Surrounding the American experiment stations are a great body of intelligent farmers with some capital at their command who eagerly co-operate with the stations and give practical effect to their teaching. In this country there is no such medium, and a bridge is therefore necessary to cross the gulf which separate the proposed institutions from the practice of the people; and it is here that a great opening may be found for European capital and enterprise. My Lord, when the institutions believe they have got hold of a good thing, let them plant out 500 acres and publish the financial results; if these are satisfactory, Government will be in pocket by the experiment, and capital will at once begin to flow.

"In a recent memorandum Mr. Mollison pointed to theft of the crops grown, as a difficulty in the way of European enterprise in agriculture. To meet that difficulty he suggested some sort of share system with the native cultivator. Difficulties of this kind can, I have no doubt, be surmounted; perhaps as good a share system as any would be for the European, or the Indian capitalist working on Western lines, to become the landholder, and take his share by way of rent. If the 100 million acres of cultivable waste-land which are still available in India and the millions of landles labourers who are the first to go down in famine could be brought together under a system of this kind, some interesting problems might be solved. Only the other day I heard of a large European zamindari in Eastern Bengal in which the proprietor had had only one law-suit for rent in thirty years. My Lord, these are the zamindaris which are wanted throughout the country, and which Government should do their best to foster. What India wants is fair dealing and cheap capital. What the raiyat wants is a place in which he and not another shall reap the fruits of his labours, and legislation like the Punjab Land Alienation Act and the Co-operative Societies Act may, I hope, be taken as an earnest of the fact that Government has decided to clear the path of progress of the pests which now suck the life of the people.

"The Hon'ble Sir Edward Law describes the additional Army expenditure as 'regrettable' but 'inevitable.' My Lord, if Indian agriculture is to hold its own, further expenditure in that Department is also inevitable and would not be regrettable, for the welfare of India is inseparably bound up with agriculture. The raiyat pays the land-revenue and the bulk of the salt-tax, the raiyat's labour yields the opium-revenues. The raiyat pays the best part of the excise-income, and all the other branches of revenue are more or less dependent on his labours. The raiyat fills the railway waggons and loads the steamers; the raiyat grows the jute and fills the gunny bags; the raiyat grows the cotton and wears the manufactured cloth. In short, to quote the ancient sage, 'the profit of the earth is for all, the king himself is served by the field.' My Lord, while the empire rests as much on the raiyat as it does on the sword, the claims of agriculture must have a first place in the Budget. I might go even further and base these claims on military as well as on agricultural grounds, for in an empire like India, which is subject to fears within as well as to fightings without, what better protection against both could there be than a great army of well-fed and contented peasantry? With the Himalayas in front of him and an army composed of millions of the peasantry of Northern India at his back, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief might safely 'hang the trumpt in the hall and study war no more.'

"I am glad to find £8,107,600 budgeted for capital expenditure on Railways. The amount budgeted for Major Irrigation Works, namely, £833,300, seems comparatively small, but we may hope for an increase next year, when, if approved, a commencement may be made with the programme sketched out by the Irrigation Commission. That programme, involving, as it does, a capital expenditure of Rs. 44 crores, will require a capital outlay of over Rs. 2 crores per annum for a period of twenty years, and the Irrigation Commission wisely suggests that it should be carried out in a regular and systematic fashion by loans, irrespectively of the exigencies of the Budget. As the expenditure taken as a whole is not likely to prove remunerative, provision will have to be made from revenue for a possible loss in working, and the Hon'ble Finance Minister is perhaps wise in not holding out hopes of wholesale reductions in taxation. I should certainly like to see a reduction made in the salt-tax, salt being a necessity for man and beast, but I should deprecate anything in the shape of permanent remissions in the land-revenue, that being the soundest form of taxation; while the remissions are apt to find their way into the pockets of men for whom they are not intended. I would again congratulate Your Excellencys' Government on the extremely satisfactory condition of the Empire's finances."

A SHIKAR PARTY.

(*Special for the Patrika.*)

The month of Baisakh is come and come with all its concomitant scourges. Plague and pestilence have already began their usual havoc and scarcity of drinking water and food grains are being very keenly felt in the interior of Bengal. This again is the season for the frivolous frolics of Master Stripes and his brethren. It was therefore being hitherto looked forward to by the people with a feeling of dread and dismay; but now that it is come there is no other alternative but to face it manly. And so did the young Nimrod, I am just going to introduce to the readers of the "Patrika."

For over a week reports of mischief have been rife around the neighbouring villages, and Babu Kishori Mohan Bagchi, the reputed young Zemindar of Jamsherpur, who was awarded with a free pass by the Government, for his services last year, had been only too eager to be out on his expedition. 'Khuber' reached him, however, yesterday morning of a colt having been preyed upon by a leopard the night preceding and Kishori Babu inspired by his keen instincts as a good Shikari armed himself cap-a-pie, mounted his young tusker "Kali Prosad," bought mainly for the purpose, and sallied out on his so ardently wished-for excursion. After a careful and diligent search of several jungles of Natua, the seat of operation, the party got at their desired destination and as good luck would have it, it found an animal beside a dead pond covered with interwoven brambles with his half finished victim lying before him. Quite content with the flesh and blood it was fattening upon and wrapt up as it were in a deep reverie the fellow took little heed of the cortege that arrived there and yawned and glared upon the daring intruders, who all along kept drawing themselves to closer the convenient quarter. No sooner did they draw sufficiently close by, than the sly brute assumed its own hostile attitude and hurried himself on his bound. But hardly had it rose up to its full to make towards the aggressor than a ready shot went out whistling through the air and hit off the lower extremity of the back bone, which well nigh smashed up. Anon it fell back with a horrible shriek and rolled upon the ground. The groans was so dreadfud and loud that it somewhat frightened the elephant which for a minute kept back from advancing onward. Presently however, it drew nearer, but the enemy was not to be found out soon as it had somehow managed its cunning retreat to some safe corner. After about half an hour's anxious and watchful search which was effected by the help of the blood-drops left on its track, it was again found out lying within a close-matted bush, furiously lying round about him; and ere the elephant was close enough, it quickly sprung up and made a bold dash, which, however, proved ineffectual, owing to the severe wound, it had already received. Couple of shots came off directly hitting the animal right through the chest and it sent forth its death-howls long and loud so much so, that none could face it for a while although it was pretty near to death's door. The animal, measuring about 8ft. was carried home amidst a noise of grateful rejoicings of the poor peasant and other crowding inhabitants.

Jamsherpur. BHOLANATH SIRCAR,
4-5-04. Teacher, H. E. School.

PRINCIPAL ROBSON AND BLAZERS.

The "Tribune" of Lahore is responsible for the following:—

Too late for any lengthy comment we received the following copy of an order communicated on the 3rd May to the students of the local Government College:

At a meeting of the Council of the Government College, at which all the members of the staff were present, it was resolved:

That students who object to wearing the College blazer for games will be excused from purchasing it.

In arriving at this decision the Council was influenced by the following considerations:—

1. That both the action and the motives of the Council have been entirely misrepresented, and, in consequence of these misrepresentations, are likely to be entirely misunderstood by those who are not acquainted with the facts.

2. That these misrepresentations have led to an acrimonious controversy which is likely to do more harm than the proposed measure would do good, and which it is desirable to end.

3. That the attacks made on the College have called forth in the students such a strong feeling of resentment of "esprit de corps," of loyalty to their Professors, that the end at which they aimed has been practically gained, and that the matter may well be left to the "esprit de corps" of the students themselves.

The misrepresentations above referred to are the following:—

It has been represented that the Principal had made compulsory the wearing of a uniform dress of English material and English make, which was to be worn both in the class-rooms and elsewhere, and that this was part of a deliberate scheme to Europeanise and denationalise the students, and that it was to be enforced in the case of those few students who had pledged themselves to wear only articles made in India. The measure in question was unanimously adopted by all the members of the College Staff; it related only to a "blazer" (or coat of the College colours) to be used only for games; it was adopted in ignorance of the fact that there were in the College four students pledged to the "Swadeshi" movement, and as soon as this fact was made known such students were ordered to submit the matter to their College tutors in order to secure exemption. Further, every cloth-manufacturer in India, so far as known, in Dhariwal, Cawnpore, Bombay, and elsewhere, was asked whether he had or could make a cloth of the required colour and quality and in every case the answer was "No."

From other published statements the obvious inference is that the Principal systematically induces statements to break caste rules and outrages their caste prejudices. Nothing could be further from the truth. If a student has ever accepted any refreshment not allowed by his religion, he acted not in accordance with, but entirely contrary to, the views and wishes of the Principal.

Again it has been stated that the Principal entered a certain kitchen on a certain day. It was not stated that the College was then closed, that the kitchen was being altered and enlarged, that it was supposed to be empty, and that it was necessary for the Principal to visit the kitchen with the Engineer in charge of the building operations in order to determine the alterations to be made for the comfort and convenience of the students.

To those who are acquainted with the facts it is well known that the Government College is the only College in the Province which is entirely free from sectarianism, the only College in which no attempt, direct or indirect, is made to influence or change the religious beliefs of its students, in which students are advised and encouraged to conform to the religion of their fathers, although, as much as elsewhere, both by precept and example an endeavour is made to inculcate the essence of all religion, a high and pure morality.

SCIENCE FOR LAY READERS.

ACTION OF ANÆSTHETICS ON PLANT LIFE.

"It not infrequently happens," says a writer in 'Nature,' "that the passer-by in the autumn is stratled to find horse-chestnuts and other spring-flowering trees producing a second crop of flowers. A similar occurrence is not infrequent in pear or apple trees and in the common laburnum. This autumnal flowering is due to one of two causes. In some cases after the flowers have been produced on the 'old wood' or on short 'spurs,' the Kurztriebe of the Germans,, formed in the previous autumn, other flowers are produced on the long shoots of the present year. The difference in the general appearance of a tree producing its flowers on the 'spurs' and of one where the blossoms are produced on the 'extension shoots' is often greater than that observable between distinct species, and yet, of course, there is no specific differnc between them. The autumnal production of flowers on the yearling shoots is generally assigned but in a vague, indeterminable fashion, to changes in external conditions. Be that as it may, there are some varieties, such as the Napoleon pear, which every year behave on this fashion. The operations of pruning are regulated by the way in which the buds are produced on the old or on the new wood of the year, so that the gardener has to take cognizance of appearances which might be, and indeed are, generally ignored by the systematic botanist.

"Another cause of autumnal flowering is due to precocity or anticipation. This is the matter which in particular has suggested this note. The flower buds are formed in their usual place, but, for some reason or other, growth and development are hastened, and the flowers which in ordinary circumstances should unfold in the following spring are seen to expand in autumn. In one of the squares in Paris last autumn the whole or the greater part of the horse-chestnut trees were in bloom, young foliage beeing interspersed among the flowers. On closer examination it was seen that the older leaves had almost all fallen prematurely or were shrivelled up as if the roots had been deprived in some way of their necessary supplies of water. Similar instances of autumn flowering are familiar to observers, and they seem generally to be due to summer drought, to removal at an unpropitious period, or to any cause which interferes with the normal coarse of nutrition. Allusion is made to these phenomena because they throw light on the experiments of Johannsen of Copenhagen, who was the first to show the effect of either vapor in hastening the flowering period of varius shrubs. The action of the vapor of chloroform and that of either in arresting the movements of the leaflets of the sensitive plant (mimosa) have long been known, but the action has been considered to be purely local.

"Matters were in this state when Johannsen pushed his experiments further, and in a different direction, and proved that the flowering of lilacs could be hastened by exposure to the vapor of ether. He thought that if he shortened the resting stage of the shurbs durin gwhich their activity is dormant he would be enabled to induce the earlier and more rapid production of flowers. Exposure to the vapor of ether he found arrested the growth of the plant and secured its earlier and more complete 'rest.' Johannsen's experiments have been repeated on a large scale in Germany and in France, the general method of procedure being the following: In the case, as nearly air-tight as possible, the lilac bushes are placed at a temperature of about 65 degrees F. Light is excluded. From the top of the case is suspended a small cup into which the ether is proud by means of a funnel through an aperture, made for the purpose and immediately closed. Owing to the explosive nature of the vopor the greatest care must be taken to avoid the presence of any flame. Thirty or forty grammes of ether are enough for a hundred cubic litres of air. The plants are subjected to the influence of the vopor for forty-eight hours. On their removal from the ether chamber the leaves fall, if they have not already done so. The plants are then removed to a cool house and gradually subjected to forcing in the ordinary manner.

"By these means the expansion of the blooms is hastened, the etherized plants producing their blooms several days before those treated in the ordinary manner. The gain of a few days is a matter of great importance to the grower for market in the winter season, as he gets so much better a price for his goods. Moreover, the cost of fuel is reduced, for the same amount of heat is not required is diminished. Not only lilacs, but many other flowering shrubs have been experimented upon, with such good results that the process has been adopted on a large scale, and in our own country Mr. Jannoch has, we learn, adopted the plan with most successful results. One experimenter exposed plants of lilacs to the vapor of ether in the manner above described on December 7, removed them to the greenhouse on December 9, and on January 1 the flowers were sufficiently expanded for use in the decoration of his apartments. Other varieties followed at a few days' interval."

SPECIMENS OF RARE COLORADO ORE.

Dr. Herman Fleck returned to the Colorado School of Mines last week after a trip through the southern part of the State collecting specimens of rare ores for the St. Louis Exposition. In speaking of his journey, he said: "Last December, the Bureau of Mining, realizing that deposits of rare metals should be given a boost, and knowing that I have had a large experience in the work, asked that the school detail me to investigate the deposts of rare metals in Colorado. Dr. Alderson accompanined me as far as Telluride, where arrangements were made to ship two tons of vanadium ore from the Placerville and Bear Creek districts, which ore runs about 3½ per cent. vanadium. We also discovered about two tons of the same metal in Denver, about which we had no knowledge at the time. All this ore is to be shipped to St. Louis in a few days. Further than this we secured the exhibit of Messrs. Adams and Vanatta, who have been getting uranium, vanadium, and radium from carnotite, which occurs so abundantly in Montrose and San Miguel Counties. The Adams and Vanatta display will be exceptionally beautiful, although not bulky, consisting of the rarest specimens of carnotite, and also the worked-up products from good sized samples of 3 per cent. ore, and these include six tubes or radium and polonium products of exceptional purity.

"At Telluride Dr. Alderson left me and I continued to Rico, Dolores, and Durango. On the remainder of the trip I got six sacks of Montrose County ore and some high-gnade uranium and vanadium products, and high-grade gold specimens, one of which weighs 175 pounds, and runs $11.85 per pound in gold. The rare metals exhibit has been augmented by many contributions from points outside of this trip, and the bulk and high-grade of the specimens obtained will lend an agreeable commercial air to this part of the exhibit."

DESTRUCTION OF RATS AND MICE.

United States Consul-General J. K. Gowdy at Paris writes to the Depantment of Commerce and Labor, saying that the Pasteur Institute claims to have discovered a means of destroying the rats and mice which have committed such depredations on vines and growing crops that the losses arising therefrom have amounted to little less than a plague. "There appears to be no doubt," says Mr. Gowdy, "that the claims of the Institute can be established by facts, as far as the destruction of rats and mice is concerned; it does not yet appear to be proved clearly and unmistakably that the means employed for destroying animals mentioned is not hurtful to other forms of animal life to be found in agricultural and vine districts. However, the results so far obtained have been so satisfactory to the French Government that the minister of agriculture (M. Mougeot) has bestowed upon the manager of the Pasteur Institute the high and much-prized decoration of Commandeur du Merit Agricole,' while the 'Rosette d'Officier' has been bestowed upon the manager's assistant. On the 28th day of last Januamy Drs. Roux and Chamberland, in company with a general inspector of agriculture (M. de Lapparent), proceeded to the Departments of the Charente which district has suffered the most severely. The preparation of microbes by the Pasteur Institute in a sort of soup (bouillon) is so well known in the United States in connection with the cure of rabies, diphtheria, etc., that no further allusion will be made here in the preliminary work of the laboratory. Dr. Roux brought with him to the scene of operations a large quantity of this 'bouillon' swarming with the rat microbes.

"The ground selected by Dr. Roux for his battle with the rats covered a space of 2,965 acres and extended over the communes of Aigre, Oradour, and Mons. Here various kinds of cereals, vines and trees abound; and here, also, the sowing of various kinds of grain last autumn had been completely destroyed by these rodents. This meant also the destruction of fodder for cattle—such as lucern—hence butter and milk production was seriously affected. The ground throughout the district was literally perforated with holes, which seemed to be connected underground by little passages. Such was the condition of the scene of operation of Dr. Roux, which certainly seemed to offer a severe test for the efficacy of his discovery. Dr. Roux succeeded in interesting the farmers of the district in these very important experiments, and very soon the celebrated scientist had organized a corps of assistants on the spot. These assistants, under the direction of Dr. Roux, dipped quantities of wheat, oats, and small pieces of bread, about 0.3937 inch square, into the bouillon referred to and which consequently became immediately impregnated with the microbas which the bouillon, or soup, contained. Then the poisoned wheat, etc., was placed in and about the holes where the rats and mice were known to be. The quantity of poisoned 'paste' disturbed amounted in all to 4.2 metric tons of bread and 9.3 metric tons of oats, while the quantity of bouillon, or soup, used was 1,190 bottles. The total area of these experiments as above indicated, was 2,965 acres. The time employed by the farmers, who, under Dr. Roux's instructions, distributed this paste represented about 1,200 half-days—from one to five o'clock in the afternoon.

"To determine the effect of this poisoned paste on these destructive little animals Dr. Roux had the fields that had been microbe treated ploughed up in order to see the condition of the rodents after they had eaten the paste and to fix approximately the number of rats and mice that had succumbed to the poison. The results obtained surpassed all expectations on the part of the simple farmer. Rats and mice were dead in almost alarming quantities and became quite as much of a pest when dead and putrefying as when they had been alive, but happily in another sense of the word. Dr. Roux estimates that he destroyed no less than 95 per cent. of the rodents by these experiments. As many as fifteen to twenty rats were sometimes found in one hole. Not satisfied with this ocular demonstration of the success of his paste, Dr. Roux proceeded to a field of an area of about two and one-half arces and surrounded by vines. Here he had a number of rat holes counted, this number being fixed at 12,484, which were carefully closed. Two days later the holes were again visited and it was found that 1,304 had been reopened by the rats. The poisoned paste was again brought into requisition. Eight days afterwards the field was visited, and the holes which had been opened counted, the process being again repeated two days later; the holes that had been opened by the rats were found to be thirty-seven.

"The minister of agriculture, on being satisfied with the results thus obtained by Dr. Roux, and acting on the advice of the eminent scientist, proposes to introduce into the Chamber of Deputies a bill for the purpose of compelling farmers in rat-infested districts to cooperate in using the above-described paste. In this way it is hoped that a field, for instance, which has been rid of rats will not be visited by rats from surrounding fields which have not been treated with the poison. The cost of this paste, including its application, is estimated at about 5 francs (96 cents.) per hectare (2.471 acres)."

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

NOTES ON THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

THE LOST LEADER.

A PERSONAL SKETCH OF ADMIRAL MAKAROFF.

Admiral Makaroff has met gallantly in action the fate which overtook his honoured and admired example, Nelson, in the moment of victory. Of all the Russian seamen, he had most of Nelson in him, and it is a singular and perhaps a touching fact that his study of the Nelson tactics and of the glorious leadership which won for this nation the battle of Trafalgar is the best existing, betted in many technical points than that in Captain Mahan's more generally known life of the great British admiral.

In outward appearance Makaroff showed signs of the spiritual force which moved within him. Tall, handsome, imposing, there was an indescribable charm about his bearing. His eye was piercing, and seemed to read the inmost thoughts of those with whom he spoke. In some degree he resembled that giant among Russian soldiers, Skobeleff, the nero of Plevna, and he was proud and pleased when the resemblance was recalled.

A JUST AND UPRIGHT MAN.

The man was swayed by a deep and sincere devotion to his country. He was too just, too upright, too free from the all-pervading corruption of Russia ever to be really popular with the bureaucrats, yet he was admired and beloved by the rank and file of his service.

His record was a signally fine one. In 1877 he commanded the small and weak Russian torpedo flotilla on the Black Sea, and won the coveted St. George's Cross; in 1882 he was given command of the Vitiaz in the Pacific; in 1890, promoted Rear-Admiral, he became Inspector-General of the Naval Artillery, and reintroduced a British invention, the capped shell, which is now universally used outside the British Navy. In 1894-95 he commanded the Mediteranean Squadron, and proceeded with it to the Far East, when war with Japan seemed probable because of Russia's refusal to permit the Japanese to retain Port Arthur. In 1896 he returned to the Baltic fleet, which he commanded, and from that position passed to the responsible post of Naval Prefect at Kronstadt, which he held on the outbreak of the present war.

While holding this office he published several works, the best known "A Discussion of Questions in Naval Tactics," which seemed to reveal great professional insight. But in British opinion he made a mistake when, in his work on "Fighting Qualities of Men of War," he asserted that ships of 3,000 tons were preferable to battleships, and advocated the building of light unarmoured ships, not of heavy armoured ones.

He was also the designer of the well-known icebreaker, Ermak. His death is a great loss to his country and to the Russian navy, as even in the brief period of his present command, which only began early in March, he had done very much to restore the spirit of the Far Eastern fleet, completely demoralised as it seemed to be by the Japanese attacks at Port Arthur.

IRREPARABLE LOSS.

Now everything has to be begun over again, and a new commander to be found; while the loss of the flagship and the commander-in-chief in this swift and appalling manner must have a disastrous effect on the spirit of the Russian officers and seamen.

It is an interesting fact that he had considered the question of saving lives on board a torpedoed ship and had urged the advisability of giving each ship a supply of "cork or metal buoys, capable of supporting one man, so that he may throw the buoy overboard and support himself by it. . . . Would it not be possible to place on board warships floating bridges, which in the moment of need could easily be thrown into the water by the simple movement of a lever?"

He used to quote with pleasure a saying of Dragomirov's, "He who wishes to gain a victory should determine that he will either conquer or die, as he can only anticipate a full victory under these conditions. In the moment of exaltation, man not only willingly sacrifices his life, but the idea of fighting to the death many seem pleasant to him."

WHO WILL FINALLY SUCCEED?

The question will be mooted as to who will succeed Admiral Makaroff. There is no one quite his equal in reputation among the Russian admirals, but the officers who come nearest to him are Admirale Skrydloff and Roydestvenski. Both distinguished themselves in the Russo-Turkish war. Skrydloff in 1901 commanded the Russian fleet in the Far East, and was then transferred to the Black Sea. He is now stated to have been chosen for the command of the fleet which Russia will attempt to send to the Far East in the summer, though, according to other well-informed authorities, Admiral Roydestvenski has been chosen for this same command.

Admiral Roydestvenski is known to have a very high opinion of the Japanese, and does not make the error common on the Continent of underrating their fighting capacity. He is a dashing leader, though he is now getting on in years, and, as Admiral Alexeieff has remarked, young admirals are what Russia really needs.

If so, she might make a worse choice than Captain Viren, of the Bayan, an officer who has a brilliant reputation, and who, if given a chance, might do something to drag the Russian navy from the abyss into which it has fallen. But routine and prejudice would be dead against the promotion to high command of a mere captain.

Our ("Daily Mail") Newcastle correspondent telegraphs:—

Admiral Makaroff was well known and greatly esteemed on Tyneside, where he resided while the ice-breaker Ermak was being built under his direction by Messrs. Armstrong, Whitworth, and Co. His interest in shipbuilding and his uniform courtesy towards all with whom he came in contact in business and social life made him very popular.

Admiral Makaroff spoke English well, and once or twice addressed gatherings of a scientific character in Newcastle.

LOSSES OF THE RUSSIAN NAVY.

KNOWN TO BE COMPLETELY DISABLED OR SUNK—9 SHIPS.

Petropavlovsk. battleship, sunk at Port Arthur, April 13.

Tsarevitch, battleship, torpedoed at Port Arthur, February 8-9.

Retvisan, battleship, torpedoed at Port Arthur, February 8-9.

Pallada, protected cruiser, torpedoed at Port Arthur, February 8-9.

Variag, protected cruiser, sunk at Chemulpho, February 9.

Korietz, gunboat, sunk at Chemulpho February 9.

Yenesei, mine transport, blown up at Dalny, February 11.

Vnushitelni, destroyer, driven ashore, in Pigeon Bay, February 24.

Stregutschi destroyer, sunk off Port Arthur, March 10.

Total—3 battleships, 2 protected cruisers, 1 mining ship, 1 gunboat, 2 destroyers.

REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN DISABLED—1 SHIP.

Boyarin, protected cruiser, wrecked in Dalny Bay, February 12.

INJURED AND KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN REPAIRED—4 SHIPS.

Novik, protected cruiser, struck by shell at Port Arthur, February 9.

Askold, protected cruiser, struck by shell at Port Arthur, February 9.

Poltava, battleship, struck by shell at Port Arthur, February 9.

Diana, protected cruiser, struck by shell at Port Arthur, February 9.

DESCRIBED HIS DEATH.

SURGEON SEIZED WHILE OPERATING. DRAMATIC HOSPITAL SCENE.

Partioulars have been received of the remarkable closing scene in the life of Dr. Stephen Paul Truex of New York, one of the most noted gynæcologists of America, who attacked by a mortal heart seizure in the midst of a difficult operation, expired almost at the bedside of his patient, after calmly describing his dying sensations to those around him.

Dr. Truex, who lived in Madison-street New York, had been summoned to a hospital from his home to operate upon a patient whose life was despaired of. The doctor complained of being greatly fatigued and of suffering from influenza. He asked for and obtained some spirits, and then, apparently revived, entered the operating room and, knife in hand, began his task.

His work was of the most delicate nature known to surgical science, and required not only a steady hand but intense concentration. For thirty minutes he worked, and suddenly, while in the act of successfully finishing the operation, gave a groan of agony, and crying out: "It's come. My God, it's come!" he reeled from the operating-table, and as the knife fell from his nerveless hand he sank into the arms of Dr. Herman Herriman.

FINISHING THE OPERATION.

At the moment that Dr. Truex sustained the heart shock, Dr. George Everson, one of the other physicians in attendance at the operation, realising that quick and certain work was necessary to save the life of the patient who was under chloroform, picked up the knife that had fallen from Dr. Truex's hand.

Without a tremor he proceeded to finish the operation, as Dr. Herriman and one of the nurses carried the now senseless form of Dr. Truex out of the operating room into the bedroom of Dr. Herriman. There he was undressed and placed upon the bed.

Stimulants were administered through the nose and mouth, and within five minutes, says the "American," Dr. Truex opened his eyes and whispered: "There is no use trying to save me. I am dying, my friends, from acute dilation of the heart. Listen, Dr. Herriman, and I will give you my sensations."

HIS LAST SENSATIONS.

Then, as Dr. Herriman and Miss Ellingson, a friend of his patient, listened to the dying man, he said:

"My body feels like a wave upon the ocean. It seems to be rising and pitching about. The agony is indescribable. My heart seems pounding aganist its walls. My heart is bursting. My lungs feel as if they were being pressed together by an enormous vice.

"The action of the heart is now not so intense. I seem to be losing the faculty of sensation. My heart is barely moving. I am dying, my friends. Give my love to my wife and children. It is the end."

Shortly after Dr. Truex's dying words, his distracted wife and son-in-law arrived at the hospital in a motor-car from his home, but by that time all was over.

"Dr. Truex died as a brave man can," said Dr. Herriman after the heroic surgeon had breathed his last. "I attribute his death to intense application to his profession, to overwork and an immoderate use of tobacco. He has been working sixteen and twenty hours per day recently, and his system was simply overtaxed and worn out."

ALLEGED BREACH OF TRUST.

—:o:—

The trial of Mr. Bernard Hawkins, late Agent of the Commercial Bank of India branch at Bangalore, on charges of criminal breach of trust, has commenced before Mr. Moore, District Magistrate. Advocate Lawrence prosecuted on behalf of complainant. Advocate Evers defended the accused who was allowed a seat outside the dock. D. Lindley, complainant, retired railway servant, examined by his advocate, spoke to matters stated in his complaint. He said he gave Mr. Hawkins a cheque for Rs. 10,000 to purchase Government paper in his capacity as Agent of the Commercial Bank, not as a private individual. He could not say how Mr. Hawkins had signed the receipt as it has been stolen or mislaid. The cheque was drawn in favour of C. Hawkins. Mr. Oakley's cheque for £350 sterling on Parr's Bank had since been honoured. The advocate for the defence cross-examined witness at length but, beyond the above statements' elicited nothing of importance. He had informed the Commercial Bank, Calcutta, of having given Mr. Hawkins Rs. 10,000 to purchase Government paper, but did not hold them responsible. He was not paying Mr. Hawkins remuneration for buying the paper. Mr. Hawkins promised to procure it for him at 93 or 94. He did not know at what rate Mr. Hawkins was buying. He understood Mr. Hawkins was buying in England and 44 days time was allowed. The case was adjourned to the 11th instant, Mr. Hawkins being released on the same bail.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

SUN-SPOTS AND STORMS.

Astronomers are very far from unanimous in admitting a connection between earth weather and solar weather; but there is a good deal more agreement in associating sun-spot activity with magnetic storms on the earth. In communications made by Mr. and Mrs. E. Walter Maunder to the Royal Astronomical Society the relation between sun-spots areas and the nineteen "great" magnetic storms which have occurred in the twenty-nine years from 1875 to 1903 inclusive have recently been analysed. From these analyses the most important coincidences which emerge are: (1) that in every case a "great storm" was synchronous with the passage of a large spot or its return, and that the very greatest storms have taken place when the very greatest spots have been visible; (2) there is a real but only rough connection between the size of the spot and the intensity of the storm; (3) the area of the spot group is not by any means an exact index of the degree or intensity of the magnet ic disturbance; (4) the "great" storms did not begin indifferently at any time of the passage of a great spot across the dic of the sun, but in a five-day period which covered the crossing ot the central meridian of the sun by the spot. This period begins thirty-four hours before the central line is reached and ends eighty-six hours after it has been passed; the mean time is a day after the spot has reached the sun's meridian. Nevertheless, in some of the greatest storms disturbance began as soon as the spot appeared on the edge of the sun's disc ended only when it disappeared on the other side.

EXPLANATION OF DENEHOLES.

Among the recreations of the archæologist is the attempt to explain Deneholes. Deneholes are found in the chalk of Essex and with certain reservations resemble chalk mines. But it is important to make these reservations, for to attempt to explain a Denehole on the assumption that it is, or was, a chalk mine is merely to invite the hostile criticism of unrefuted theorists who have found other explanations of its origin. It has been supposed, for example, to have been connected with some form of worship: to have been digged as a refuge from the pirate Danes who ravaged the Thames estuary; to have been made by the Romans; or to have been digged by the artistic Celt. The pits are connected by passages, and are often symmetrically arranged one with regard to the others, and—though here we tread on thin ice—are possibly the work of successive ages, and have been used for different purposes by successive peoples. An elaborate survey of the Deneholes and caves near Chislehurst has recently been submitted to the British Archæological Association, and it is said to have evoked, as we can well believe, "an interesting discussion." Twenty acres cover the underground area of the chalk workings, if chalk workings they are, and a resemblance in their general plan to old coal workings near Newcastle was remarked, together with the suggestion that Deneholes in general supplied the connecting link between what is known as the bell pit and the galleried mine. This will not be accepted by many archæologists as sufficient explanation, but if the Deneholes do bear any close resemblance to the coal workings at Newcastle, then the Newcastle excavations furnish a remarkable instance of the survival of a method of mining, for they are known to be not more than two hundred years old, while chalk has been derived, or so it is believed, from the Deneholes since Roman times at least.

THE NIAGARA FALLS.

First of the discoveries that is made by the visitor to the Falls of Niagara is that he is expected to pay for looking at them. Hardly a coign of vantage from which he can survey their immortal activity but costs him half a dollar to stand on. But the last discovery he makes before fleeing from the exploited show is that the most impressive view of all, from the American side of the Falls, i, free, and has been preserved from the blight of the concessionaire in what is called the "State Reservation." This reservation is directed by a Board of Commissioners, the president of whom, Mr. Charles Dow, has lately been protesting against the Bills which are being put forward in great numbers to increase the water rights of the companies that are taking water for power from Niagara. In his protest he has pointed out that owing to the greater declivity of the river-bed on the Canadian side as well as the wider expanse of the Canadian Horse Shoe Fall only one-fifth of the whole volume of water passes over the more concentrated leap on the American side. Moreover, owing to the difference of level any subtraction of water is more immediately felt by the American Fall than by the Canadian. There is only a depth of four feet of water at the lip of the Fall, and nature has shown that owing to the greater height of the American Fall conditions could exist under which this side could run dry and all the water be diverted to the Canadian side. This happened actually in 1848,, when an ice blockade in Lake Erie very much reduced the flow of water; and Mr. Dow contends that a subtraction of 20 percent. of the water now flowing would suffice to bring about the same result artificially. In that case, says he, the American fall would be as dry as the stream that once ran down the falls of Lodore. But already one power company at Niagara is empowered to raise its horse-power to 200,000 at a cost of 6 per cent. of the water; and if all the demands of all the companies are complied with and fulfilled the fatal 20 per cent. will be reached.

Bubonic plague is officially declared to exist at Lima, Peru. The authorities are taking the greatest precautions to prevent it from spreading. In the lazaretto there are about 40 persons, including convalescents. So far the cases are principally among the lower class of the population, a fact which is due to the filthy condition of their dwellings. Steamers leaving Peruvian ports are submitted to quarantine at Panama for 24 hours, and are not permitted to enter Ecuador ports.

THE CURZON RAID.

—:o:—

Except for preventing or repelling actual invasion of Her Majesty's Indian possessions or under other sudden or urgent necessity, the revenues of India shall not, without the sanction of both Houses of Parliament, be applicable to defray the expenses of any military operation carried on beyond the external frontiers of such possessions by Her Majesty's forces charged upon such revenues.

Government of India Act, 1858.

The pretence can no longer be kept up—perhaps Ministers think it is no longer necessary to be kept up. We are at war with Thibet, and that is the main thing. It has been difficult to bring about because it takes two to make a quarrel. The Thibetans, with characteristic obstinacy, and out of sheer cussedness, have offered a resolute resistance to being dragged into war with their powerful neighbour. They have turned their cheek to the smiter with insolent pertinacity. Colonel Younghusband's "Commercial Mission" of 2,000 soldiers, with Maxim guns, mountain batteries, and bayonets, was more embarrassed by this "passive resistance," as it was officially described, than it could possibly have been by any display of force. But at last an ingenious device was thought of. The Thibetans were surrounded in their camp with a ring of "peaceful commercial" British bayonets pointing over the wall, and our "Commercial Agents" proceeded to disarm them of their swords and antiquated matchlocks by force. Surely this would provoke them to some display of a better spirit. It did. The pasisve became active resistance. Some stones were flung, and a pistol was fired. At last the "Commercial Mission" was in touch with realities. These Thibetans must now be taught a sharp lesson. Three hundred of them were butchered where they stood and another 300 maimed and wounded. The only British casualty of any consequence was one newspaper correspondent "severely wounded."

The war correspondent has the satisfaction of knowing that he was not sacrified in vain. At least it is possible to put this so-called "Commercial Mission" upon a legal basis. Hitherto all its operations, its very existence even, had been a gross violation, both of the British Constitution and of Treaty obligations. According to the Government of India Act of 1858, "no military operations beyond the frontiers of India shall be undertaken without the consent of both Houses of Parliament." This "Commercial Mission" was in truth a "military operation," but it was impossible to acknowledge it as such until Thibet gave us some excuse. So all this expenditure was going on without the consent of Parliament. But now we are at war, and the awkward Treaty which Thibet so wilfully refused to break is torn up, so the sanction of Parliament can be obtained. This afternoon (Apl. 23) Mr. Brodrick will move the following resolution in the House of Commons:—

"That this House consents to the revenue of India being applied to defray the expenses of any military operations which may become necessary beyond the frontiers of His Majesty's Indian possessions for the purpose of protecting the political mission which has been despatched to the Thibetan Government."

The "Standard," which deals with the subject very gingerly this morning—we are afraid it is not enthusiastic about the merits of Government policy—makes one suggestion which we trust will not have weight with many Members of Parliament. It suggests that attention be confined to the question of protecting the personnel of the Mission, and that the larger issue of the merits of the policy of sending the Mission at all he not discussed. "Can any patriotic statesman," it asks, "suggest that such protection will be with held?" On the contrary the merits of the policy form the vital issue, and we trust that his is the basis upon which the discussion will proceed. The "Mission" is neither more nor less than a high-handed and unprovoked piece of aggression, a wanton breach of good faith. Let us repair the wrong. Let us withdraw the offence. The best protection that can be givn to the "Mission" is its recall to British teritory.—"Echo."

BOXING IN RANGOON.

A boxing exhibition by McAuliffe and Delaney, which was put off on Thursday for want of patronage, came off Sunday night at the Jubilee Hall before a meagre gathering. In the boxing contest between McAuliffe and Delaney, Delaney repeatedly held his oppenent, in spite of warnings from the judge, who at length threatened to award one victory to McAuliffe if he again fouled. At the commencement of the second round Delaney twice held his rival, and the judge accordingly declared the match off.

THE BANANA "BOOM."

There has been something like a "boom" of late in the banana as a food product. Banana flour, the use of which has been vigorously recommended by vegetarian enthusiasts, has now been followed by "banana coffee." This latest imitation of coffee is made of dried Mexican and South American bananas, the process of preparation being similar to that of the coffee bean. In flavour it has little resemblance to coffee, and although its use is being promoted in the United States by a stock company, no trade effect whatever need be anticipated.

HOW TO DEAL WITH THE LOCUST PLAGUE.

Locusts have recently been spreading devastation in various parts of India. They have swept over the country like a plague, leaving desolation behind them. Egypt is also suffering from this plague, but the authorities are taking active steps to fight it. The coast-guards have been ordered to patrol the desert and locate the places where any swarm may settle for the purpose of egg laying, so that the young locusts may be destroyed before the flying stage is reached. It is proposed also that all land-holders should be compelled to help to get rid of the eggs. If the locusts should have reached the hopper stage they are driven into wells and trenches and destroyed. Once they are able to fly it is hopeless to contend with them. Besides devouring crops and grass, locusts cause sickness to sheep and cattle, as the grass they have partially eaten is unwholesome. Egypt has learned to its grief the danger of not at once fighting the locust plague. If on their first appearance a resolute effort is not made to get rid of them, they return in increasing numbers each season, until they develop into a real danger.

In connection with a question put by His Highness the Agha Khan in Council regarding Turkish quarantine, the Government of India have received the following intimation from Constantinople:—Arrivals from different parts of the Arabian coast between Aden and Kalif both excluded,as also arrivals from Gwetter, and to Bahrein Islands are reduced to forty-eight hours observation and disinfection. Free pratique is granted to arrivals from ports between Kalif and Fao, both included.

Reference was recently made to the generous donation of Rs. 30,000 given by the Raja of Nanpara for the new building of the Aligarh School in response to the appeal made by Nawab Mohson-ul-Mulk and Mr. Moris u. It is now said that the Hon. Raja Tasadduq Rasul Khan has contributed Rs. 5,000 towards it. This, added to the promised gift of Rs. 20,000 by the local Government and increased by other equally liberal donations which are likely to follow, will place a handsome amount at the disposal of Nawab Mohson-ul-Mulk to provide a spacious building in place of the inconvenient and inadequate rooms which at present house the school.

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MEDICAL OPINION:—

Dr. Hem Chandra Dutta, L. M. S., Medical Officer, Bhagawat Doyal Singh's Charitable Dispensary, Chainpur, Daltongunge, Palamow, writes:—"I have tried your 'Phthisis Inhalation' in several cases of consumption with satisfactory results, and I have found that before the formation of cavities in the lungs the 'Inhalation' is highly efficacious. I heartily recommend it to the public. Our professional brethren would do well to give this remedy a fair trial in their practice. Please send me again a bottle of your 'Inhalation' per V. P. P. for another patient of mine and thereby oblige."

Dr. A. N. Roy Chowdhury, M. B., Calcutta, writes:—"I have tried your 'Phthisis Inhalation' in several cases of consumption and, I am glad to say, the results have been highly satisfactory in the first stage of the disease. I always recommend it to my patients. Please supply a bottle of your 'Inhalation' to the bearer whose brother has been suffering from consumption for the last five months and oblige."

Dr. Eduljee Cowasjee, L. M. S., Sir Jamsetjee's Sanitarium, Khandalla, Bombay Presidency, writes:—"As I have found your 'Phthisis Inhalation' beneficial, I always recommend it to my patients. Please send me per V. P. P. one bottle of your 'Inhalation' or my wife who has been suffering from the symptoms of the first stage of consumption."

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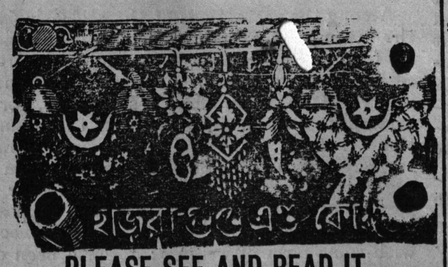

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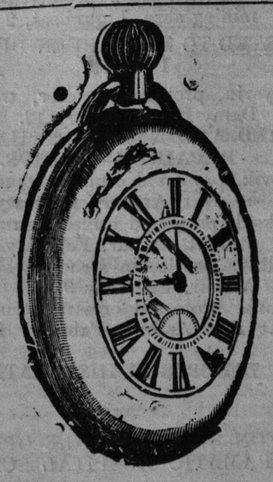

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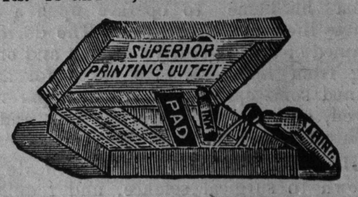

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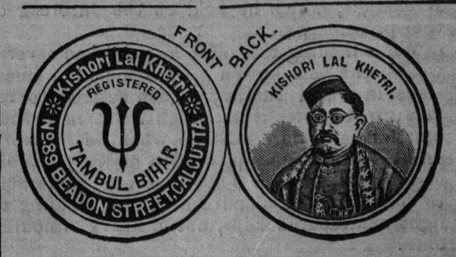

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TIBET MISSION.

Our correspondent with the Tibetan Mission reports that the people in the neighbourhood of Gyantse are bringing in plentiful supplies, and even the monks are only too ready to make money by bartering relics, sacred books, etc. He further states that the people profess to understand the objects of the Mission, and to be anxious that more satisfactory trade relations should be established with India. No further news has been received from Lhassa, and it is still uncertain when, if ever, the Chinese Amban will arrive at Gyantse.—"Pioneer."

A FIND OF A DIAMOND.

A Bellary correspondent writes:—A village woman went to the village of Wajvakarur, known as the village of diamonds, with the express purpose of looking for diamonds. After searching for some days she came across a large rough stone. Rumours having got abroad of the find. Mr. Henry Abraham, who is the owner of over 300 acres of this land, made enquiries and found out that the diamond, which weights about 50 carats was found on one of his fields. His late father having entered into an agreement with the Secretary of State for India for the right of finding precious stones and paying Government a royalty thereon, his son is now claiming the diamond. It has been ascertained that the villager sold the stone for Rs. 2,700 to a wealthy merchant who in turn sold it for Rs. 5,000. It is at present in the hands of a merchant at Hyderabad.

HE WHISTLED AND FOLLOWED HER.

Before Mr. C. H. Setalwad, Sub-Inspector Jebb charged Gujanand Bapuji, a clerk in the B. I. S. N. Company, Bombay, with being drunk and disorderly. The evidence showed that Miss Goodall, a nurse in the Arthur Road Hospital, was returning to the hospital from Church the other evening and while she was walking along the Arthur Road, the accused whistled and followed her. She turned round and asked the accused what he meant by whistling and following her. The accused did not reply, but continued his strange behaviour, when Miss Goodall caught him by his hand and said she would hand him over to the police. The accused struggled and tried to free himself, when a Parsee gentleman came up and with his assistance the accused was handed over to the police. The accused pleaded that he was drunk, and His worship sentenced the accused to four days' rigorous imprisonment.

WILL LORD CURZON RETURN?

The "Bombay Gazette" writes: When Lord Curzon reaches England, one of the first visits he will pay will, we imagine, be to the Foreign Office where, with Lord Lansdowne, he will discuss the recent developments in the Persian Gulf. From a well-informed correspondent we learn that our playful Persian neighbours have been amusing themselves lately. For instance, the other day the Protectorate flag which floated over Tamb Island and Abu Masa was hauled down, one of the flagstaffs being plucked out of the ground, and the Persian flag hoisted in its stead. Some notice will doubtless be taken of this. H. M. S. "Sphinx" when last heard of was at Henjam, and will perhaps by this time have made remarks about it. It is satisfactory to learn that Major Cox has gone up to Bushire from Muscat. The correspondent further tells us that cable laying is proceeding briskly in the Gulf, and that a branch of the Imperial Persian Bank under the management of a British subject, will shortly be opened at Bahrein.

MURDERS IN BOMBAY.

A Hindu carpentar, named Dugdoo Kachiram, residing in a hut of Clarke Road gave information to the police on Saturdayl last that his wife, Junee, had been killed and was lying dead in the hut. The police, on investigating the affair, found that Dugdoo had been living with Junee in the hut for the last two months. He had suspected his wife of illegal intimacy with a neighbour, named Sukhia. This led to frequent quarrels between the couple. On Friday last Dugdoo's mother, on entering the hut, found Junee lying dead on the ground, in a pool of blood. She asked Dugdoo what he had done, but the latter gave no answer. The next day Dugdoo went to the police and gave information. A hammer belonging to Dugdoo was found lying near the body. An enquiry was opened by the Coroner, when Dugdoo's mother gave evidence corroborating the above facts. Dugdoo, on being questioned by the Coroner, said his wife was killed by Sukhia. Dugdoo has been arrested, and further enquiry has been adjourned. Mr. P. Byrne concluded the enquiry at the Morgue touching the death of Banoobai, a Mahomedan woman, who was found murdered in her room at Sankli Street on Tuesday morning last. The circumstances under which the murder was committed have already been reported. The jury returned a verdict of murder against Sherali, who was committed by the Coroner to the next Criminal Sessions of the High Court.

NOVEL EXTORTION.

At the Mazagon Bombay Police Court recently Inspector Bartley charged Mahadoo Rama, Succaram Sonoo, Ragoo Pandoo and Ravji Vithu with cheating one Krishna Genoo in respect of Rs. 56 in cash. The evidence showed that the complainant resided in Coppersmith Lane Mazagon. In March last, as some notorious characters were found to be hanging about the locality, the complainant thought of removing elsewhere. The first accused, who was acquainted with complainant's mistress, Bheema, advised her not to shift, and said that he would bring persons who can make "jadoo, i.e.," magic, to subjugate the bad characters. Complainant consented to try this remedy, and the following day the first accused took the second to complainant's house and introduced him as "decrushi" or spiritual preceptor. The latter required Rs. 2-8 to buy materials for performing the "jadoo." Complainant was further asked to deposit with him Rs. 14 for the trouble. The complainant did so and accompanied the 1st and the 2nd accused to Worli where the 2nd accused sat down in a field to perform the magic. While he was thus engaged the third accused came up and said that he was a police sepoy and threatened them, because, he said, they were performing magic to kill someone. The psuedo-policeman arrested them all and while taking them to the chowkie asked for Rs. 10 from the complainant, the latttr sent the first accused to Bheema to fetch the money The first accused brought the money which was paid to the third accused, who then let them all go. A few days afterwards the accused successfully repeated the performance and extorted another Rs. 30 from the complainant. On the 7th instant the fourth accused met the complainant at Pydownie and took him to his house, where he again tried to extort money from him. It then occurred to the complainant that he had been duped, and he reported the matter to the police, who arrested the accused. The first accused was sentenced to one year, and the second and the third to eight months, and the fourth to four months' rigorous imprisonment.

High Court.—May 5.

CRIMINAL BENCH

Before Justices Pratt and Handley.)

GIVING FALSE INFORMATION.

In this case it would be remembered that one Mr. A. M. Cohen, was convicted under section 182 I.P.C. with having given false information to a Magistrate, by the Joint Magistrate of Bhagalpur and was sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 200. Against the conviction and sentence, this Hon'ble Court was moved. A rule was issued which came on for hearing to-day. Babu Dasarathi Sanyal appeared in support of the rule and no one appeared to show cause. Their Lordships delivered the following judgment: We think that under the circumstances of the case to which the accused did not intend to injure anybody to obtain the adjournment of the case which was pending and as he acted apparently with very little premeditation, a fine of Rs. 200 is somewhat too severe a penalty. We direct that the fine be reduced to Rs. 100 and the balance of the advance fine, if paid, be refunded.

USING CRIMINAL FORCE TO A PUBLIC SERVANT.

The petitioner Baikanta Kapali was found guilty of using criminal force to a public servant in the discharge of his duties and sentenced by the Sub-Deputy Magistrate of Bagerhat, in the District of Khulna, to undergo rigorous imprisonment for six months. The circumstances out of which the case arose appeared to be rather peculiar. The prosecution story was that the complainant Kshettra Mohan Ganguli, Sub-Inspector of Police, went to investigate a paddy theft case at a village called Sannyasi. After making necessary investigation the Sub-Inspector ordered the accused in that case to be hand-cuffed, and in order to recover the stolen paddy, the Sub-Inspector with his followers went to the house of one Rashmony, a woman of the Kapali caste and a relative of the petitioner. The complainant wanted to take her statement but she appeared to have been very much offended with a certain term which the Sub-Inspector used to her, as the term was usually used to one's own wife. The SubInspector then ordered all men except accused and one Prossonno, who were related to her, to go out of the house. When the Sub-Inspector attempted to take her statement she all on a sudden seized the Sub-Inspector's hairs and pulled him inside the house. On this the petitioner pushed him from behind and shut him up in a room. The Constables and other followers of the Sub-Inspector then rescued him. The defence was that the Sub-Inspector was drunk all the time and tried to outrage the modesty of Rashmony and that the petitioner only pushed him from behind to save the woman. On these facts the petitioner was placed on his trial with the result stated above.

Mr. C. R. Dass on behalf of the petitioner submitted that if the case for the prosecution were true the sentence of six months' rigorous imprisonment was no doubt severe.

Their Lordships issued a rule on the question of sentence.

A RULE GRANTED.

Mr. K. N. Sen Gupta with Mr. E. P. Ghose and Babu Jnanendra Nath Sircar moved on behalf of one Samiruddin who had been convicted under section 408 I.P.C. and sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment by the Deputy Magistrate of Rungpur and which said conviction and sentence were affirmed on appeal by the Sessions Judge. The facts of the case were as follow. Samiruddin was the collecting sircar of Bagpur Mahal of Babu Bepin Chunder Roy Chowdhury. The former is alleged to have collected Rs. 104-14-4 from two tenants and credited the sstate with only Rs. 36-9-6, misappropriating the balance.

Mr. Sen Gupta contended that the whole trial had been vitiated by 22 items having been included in the charge, each item formed a distinct offence of criminal misappropriation and the alleged offences having been committed within a year, the petitioner could have been charged only with three of these items. section 537 could not cure the irregularity, as has been distinctly laid down in the case of Subramania Iyer vs. King-Emperor reported in 5 C.W.N. pp. 866, neither would section 222 cl. (2) Cr. P. Code cover a case of this kind, as it provided against cases where distinct acts of misappropriation committed within the period of one year were not traceable, but only a gross sum was found to have been misappropriated within the period. Counsel further contended that as each payment was spoken to only by the tenant who is alleged to have made the payment and as the petitioner denied the entries for larger sums made in the receipts filed by the tenants, the Sessions Judge should have considered whether he would believe in this uncorroborated testimony.

Their Lordships after hearing the learned Counsel granted a rule on the grounds stated above and pending the hearing of the rule ordered the petitioner to be released on bail.

APPLICATION FOR FURTHER ENQIRY.

Mr. P. L. Roy with Babu Hemendra Nath Sen moved on behalf of one Ramapada Mukerjee, an officer in the service of the Moharaja of Cossimbazar, for further enquiry in a case instituted by the complainant against Surja Narain Roy and others alleging that they had taken away "arhar" crop grown and cultivated on the land of the Moharaja, the case having been dismissed under section 203 Cr. P.C. b. the Joint Magistrate of Murshidabad. The complaint was dismissed principally on the ground that the complainant, while under examination on oath, did not give direct and satisfactory answer to questions put to him. Learned Counsel contended that there was no reason why the complaint should be dismissed and having regard to the police report to the effect that the "evidence on behalf of the complainant was to be believed," the trying Magistrate was wrong in dismissing the complaint. It was further contended that the mere assertion of right was not sufficient to oust the jurisdiction of the Criminal Court and that the Magistrate was wrong in not issuing processes for the witnesses.

Their Lordships issued a rule on the Magistrate and the opposite party to show cause why further enquiry should not be ordered. Their Lordships further ordered that the complainant should be present in person at the time of the hearing of this revision case. Counsel undertook to keep the complainant present.

A RULE ISSUED.

Babu Dasarathi Sanyal obtained a rule on behalf of one Bama Charan Ghosal calling upon the district Magistrate of Howrah to shows cause why the conviction and sentence passed upon the petitioner should not be set aside.

Upon the complaint of one Sriram Chundra Bose, Bama Charan Ghosal, the petitioner was summoned to answer charges under sections 341 and 426 I.P.C. in the Court of a Deputy Magistrate of Howrah. The trial was under the summary procedure and the trying Magistrate by his order convicted the petitioner under sections 379 and 143 I.P.C. and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 28.

Second Crimnal Sessions.

Before Mr. Justice Geidt and a Common Jury.

THE JHAJHA SHOOTING CASE.

ATTEMPT AT MURDER.

Emperor vs. Robert Stuart.

Mr. S. P. Sinha, Standing Counsel, appointed for the Crown and Mr. H. H. Remfry appeared for the defence.

The accused is a youngman of about 19 years of age. He is rather thin, and is of fair complexion. He was decently dressed with high double colour on. Just at 11 o'clock, the accused entered the Court room, which was crowded with lookers on. A European lady, a relative of the accused, was one of the spectators.

At two or three minutes passed eleven, His Lordship Mr. Justice Geidt, accompanied by the Sheriff on his right and the Deputy Sherin on the left entered the Court room. The accused was then taken to the dock where he stood by the side of a European Constable with calm and apparently undisturbed and indifferent attitude.

Usual ceremonies of administering oaths, etc., being over, Mr. Remfry on behalf of the prisoner applied for a short adjournment on the grounds that the documents of the case were still with the pleader at Bankipur and so the defence was not ready. In fact he was not aware that the case was coming on at the present Sessions until last evening. He prayed for an adjournment till Monday next.

Mr. Sinha said that he had no objection to giving the prisoner every scope to defend himself. He would, however, mention that the accused had already taken out subpoenas for witnesses for the present Sessions.

Mr. J. G. Apcar, Clerk of the Crown, then told the accused that he was charged with attempt at murder and voluntarily causing grievous hurt. The prisoners, however, pleaded not guilty to both the charges.

This was followed by the ceremony of empanelling jury. Several Indian and Eurasian gentlemen were called but they were challenged. At last the following gentlemen were empanelled and sworn: Messrs. R. D. Urquhart, J. Goodman, E. J. Oakley, G. Neame, C. F. Jordon, C P. Last, F. Lane, F. H. Day and Babu Kshetra Mohon Banerjee.

His Lordship adjourned the hearing to Monday next at 11 a.m. The prisoner was released on the previous bail.

TWO NEW ELEMENTS.

WONDERFUL LIGHTS THAT SHINE THROUGH METAL.

New York, Sunday, April 10.

As a result of ten years' experimenting, Dr. Charles Baskerville, Professor of Chemistry at the University of North Carolina, has discovered that thorium hitherto known as one of the chemical elements, is complex in its nature.

Thorium has never been obtained except as an oxide, found in monazite sand existing in Norway, Brazil, and North Carolina. From this white powder Dr. Baskerville has taken two new elements—one a pink powder, which he has named "carolinium," in honour of his native State, and the other a green powder, named "berzelium," in honour of Berzelius, the Swedish chemist who discovered thorium. The elimination of these two elements still leaves an oxide of pure white.

The two elements owe their development partly to the use of thorium dioxide, and have a higher power of luminosity.

Dr. Baskerville at present enjoys a monopoly of the new elements, having five grammes of "carolinium" and two and a half grammes of "berzelium." He admits that no commercial use can yet be suggested, but he believes that they will have a great value for illuminating purposes.

Leading chemists here say it is the greatest discovery of recent years, with the exception of radium, and will open to the scientific world new fields of research in regard to illumination.

In a lecture at the Chemists' Club last night Dr. Baskerville exhibited the two elements in a darkened room, each shedding an illumination through tubes of copper, brass, iron, and glass, all covered with cloth.

Dr. Baskerville is thirty-four years old, and one of the foremost chemists in the United States. He has received messages of congratulation from Sir William Crookes and other scientists, several requesting samples of the new elements.

He intends to continue his experiments assisted by Professor Zerban, of the University of Berlin.

THE CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES BILL.

PASSED INTO LAW.

A long Resolution has been issued upon the Bill to provide for the constitution and control of Co-operative Credit Societies in India, which has now been passed into law as Act A of 1904, and the Government of India desire to explain, for the information of their officers and the public at large, the consideration by which they have been influenced in framing its provisions, and to indicate the principles in accordance with which they desire that the Act should be worked. One of the most difficult problems with which the small agriculturist is everywhere confronted is to obtain the money which is necessary for his operations at a reasonable rate of interest. This is a state of affairs by no means peculiar to India. The petty agriculturist of Europe is for the most part financed by borrowed capital, and there, too, the money-lender takes advantage of the exigencies of the cultivator to demand exorbitant terms. In India, however, the problem is aggravated by the fact that Indian rates of interest are to some extent survivals from times when the security which the agriculturist had to offer was of far smaller value than at present, and also by the fact that the money-lender has been slow to take advantage of the unwillingness of the Civil Courts to go behind the terms of a written bond. The desirability of providing the peasant with some means of obtaining the capital required for agricultural operations, otherwise than at usurious rates of interest, has at various times engaged the attention of the Government of India and of all who are interested in promoting the welfare of the agricultural classes. In 1882 and 1883, a scheme for an agricultural bank in the Poona district was propounded by Sir William Wedderburn, then a member of the Bombay Civil Service, and by several intelligent and public-spirited residents of that Presidency, but the scheme, after careful examination, was for various reasons eventually abandoned. The Resolution further traces in detail the history of the schemes, when in 1892 Sir F. Nicholson was placed on special duty, and subsequently a Committee was appointed, under the presidency of Sir Edward Law, to draft a scheme, which was circulated among Local Governments for opinions, and was finally passed into law during the Calcutta season. There were two cardinal objects which the Government of India kept in view in framing the present Act. The first is the simplicity. Some of the schemes which were laid before them were far too elaborate for the comprehension of the classes for whom they were intended, but who certainly could never have complied with their provisions The second is its elasticty. The aim has been to lay down merely the general outlines, and to leave the details to be filled in gradually on lines which the experience of failure or success and the natural development of the institutions many indicate as best suited to the country. The present legislation is especially designed to assist agricultural credit, which presents a far more important and more difficult problem than does industrial credit, though it is recognised that societies may probably be started in towns also, by non-agriculturalists, and it is even possible that in some places the establishment of town banks may usefully precede and even assist the starting of purely agricultural societies. If in any town people start a society on a co-operative basis on their own accord, it will be possible to encourage and help them, and to give them the benefit of official advice; but in the opinion of the Government of India it should be left to them to move in such cases, and local officers should be instructed that rural societies are to be their first care. The agricultural problem is more serious and far more difficult to deal with than the industrial problem, and it is necessary that efforts should be concentrated. It is proposed to allow urban societies a free choice in the matter of liability for rural societies. Unlimited liability has been prescribed as being most suitable as a general rule, seeing that the real co-operation, which it is desired to encourage, is the utilization of the combined credit for the benefit of the individual members. Under the Bill, as originally framed, rural societies were to be limited to agriculturists, a term which, it was explained, was not meant to include wealthy men, while urban societies were to consist of only men of small means, hence the Local Governments are warned that the object of this Act is to assist small people. The residential clause for membership is insisted upon, and great stress is also laid upon the election of members. The Government of India attach much importance to the appointment of a Special Officer in each province to guide and control the societies, especially in the early days of the movement, and it has been provided that each Local Government may appoint a Registrar, who should be selected for his special qualifications, and should, for the first ten years at least, be constantly visiting societies and watching their progress, rather as a friendly adviser than as an inspecting officer. The Bill, as introduced, forbids a rural society to borrow, save with the approval of the Regstrar and Collector. This provision was much criticised. The Government of India recognise the justice of the criticism, but they still think that an unfettered power to borrow might prove dangerous to a society. The prohibition has now been removed, but power has been given to Local Government to regulate borrowing in such a manner as experience may show to be desirable. Section 10 of the Act provides that loans should be admissible to members only, and the Government of India consider that this is a most essential restriction. The only exception allowed is in the case of societies lending, with the approval of the Registrar, to rural societies. It is desired to encourage thrift, and the most efficacious encourage thrift, and the most efficacious encouragement to the accumulation of savings is to insist that no advances shall be made except to those who have become members and have made a payment to the funds of the Society. The original Bill included certain provisions regarding loans, on the security of agricultural produce, which were very generally misunderstood. It was never intended to allow of advances against standing crops, nan which no form of security could be more unsuitable for these societies. No provisions of the original Bill were more severely criticised by some and more stoutly supported by others than those which relate to loans upon the security of jewellery and upon mortgage of land. Power has, therefore, been given to the Registrar to allow any Society, which he thinks can safely be trusted, to advance money upon jewellery, when he will be able to feel his way in the matter. The question of mortgage was still more difficult. The final conclusion was that loans upon mortgage should be allowed in the first instance, but that the Local Government should have the power to prohibit or restrict them, either generally or in any particular case, if it is found that interference is necessary. The matter is one which should be very carefully watched. The provisions of Sections 12 and 13, regarding shares, should be strictly adhered to, and also an official audit should be compulsory in all cases. Separate notifications will issue, under Section 25 to grant certain exemptions by Executive order. An institution like a Dharmsala, though deserving of encouragement, has not been brought under the Act, but can be dealt with by the Local Government.

Of matters that are left to be dealt with by Executive order, the most important has reference to the grant of financial assistance by Government to societies. The Government of India recognise that there is a danger of obscuring the co-operative principle by lending them State funds, and that no societies, wholly or mainly financed by Government, can ever attain the objects in view; but such advances will have a value beyond their mere use as capital, since they will be in earnest of the reality of the interest taken by Government in the movement, and will, under the conditions to which it is intended to subject them, stimulate thrift and self-help, which should be a condition precedent to their grant, and they doubt whether any substantial progress will be made by rural societies, in many parts of the country unless such assistance is given. They, therefore, sanction advances to such societies to be made in fifties of rupees, which will be free of interest during the first three years after registration of any society, but no advance should be made to any society so as to cause the total amount advanced to and due by it to exceed the total amount of money subscribed and deposited, or of the share capital paid up by the members, or to exceed Rs. 2,000.

Government, in conclusion, recognises that it is essential to start cautiously and to progress gradually. The immediate charge of the infant Societies when once started, should, in the opinion of the Government of India, devolve upon the Registrar ,rather than upon the District Officer, but it is the latter who must give the first impulse; he must select the places in which the experiment is most likely to succeed, and he must suggest to the people that they should try it, putting it to them as the action to be taken not by Government but by themselves, and explaining how far and in what way Government is ready to help them even after the society is launched. This active sympathy and support will always be essential, and the Registrar will work in constant consultation with him.

INDIGESTION

POISONS THE BLOOD.

The vigour of health depends on good digestion. Undigested food poisons the blood, which clogs up the skin, the liver and the kidneys. Food properly digested makes new strength, new blood, new flesh, new life. Relish for food and power to digest it comes with Mother Seigel's Syrup. Compounded of fruits, roots and herbs, it tones and cleanses the liver and kidneys, and clears the stomach of the decayed products of indigestion—the fruitful cause of headaches, languor, brain fag, constipation and anæmia.

MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP

Mr. Charles Zoti, writing from Buffalo Café, Oxford Street, East London, Cape Colony, on Dec. 4th, 1903, says: "Two years ago, whilst in England, I suffered agonies from indigestion. After other medicines had failed, I was persuaded to try Mother Seigel's Syrup. One bottle effected a decided improvement, and today my digestion is all I could wish."

BUILDS HEALTH ON Good Digestion.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

ITS FINANCIAL POSITION.

From—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

To—The Chairman of the Corporation of Calcutta.

Dated Calcutta, the 10th February, 1904.

With reference to the correspondence ending with Government letter No. 1709-T. M., dated the 13th July, 1903, regarding the application from the Corporation for permission to raise a loan of Rs. 71 lakhs during the year 1903-04, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Corporation, a copy of a letter from the Government of India in the Home Department on the subject, and to request that the information asked for in paras. 5 to 8 of the letter may be supplied in a complete form at an early date.

2. I am also to request that the procedure prescribed in paragraph 4 of the letter may be strictly adhered to in respect of all loans which the Corporation may, in future, propose to raise.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department.

Dated Calcutta, the 4th February, 1904.

I am directed to refer to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 1768-T. M. dated 14th July, 1903, relating to the request preferred by the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta for permission to raise, during 1903-04, a loan amounting Rs. 71 lakhs.

2. I am to explain, with reference to the remarks in paragraph 2 of your letter under reply, that, in commenting on the insufficiency of the information supplied them, the Government of India did not intend to imply that the procedure followed, in the case of ordinary loans, had not been observed. Their remarks had reference to the special necessity for furnishing full and recent information in view of the increased burden which would probably be laid on the Municipality in the near future by the obligation to contribute towards the Calcutta Improvement Scheme.

3. In paragraph 6 of your letter it is stated that the procedure hitherto followed in such cases renders it possible for the Corporation to be deeply committed to expenditure which is to be met for loans before the loans have been sanctioned or the necessity for them even considered by the Government of India, and His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor suggests that, in future, before the close of each year, the Corporation should submit an estimate for the information of the Government of India showing the loans which will be required in the following year, and that no loan for any work should be included in the estimate unless administrative sanction to the work has already been obtained.

4. The Government of India cannot but regard the state of things described with grave dissatisfaction, nor do they consider that the proposals of the late Lieutenant-Governor are sufficient to prevent its recurrence. I am to request that in the future whenever a work, any part of which is to be carried out from borrowed funds, is in contemplation, the following procedure may be observed:—

(1) An estimate of the cost of the entire work should be prepared and submitted for such sanction as is required by law; (2) a programme of construction should be drawn up showing the sums likely to be required for the work year by year until completion; (3) the application for the loan should cover the entire cost of the project (or so much of it as is to be carried out from borrowed funds) and should show the year in which each instalment is to be raised; (4) no expenditure should be incurred on the work until the loan or loans for the entire project have been duly sanctioned.

5. I am now to turn to the proposal that the Corporation should be permitted to raise the further loan of Rs. 26 lokhs required to make up the total of 71 lakhs which they proposed to raise during 1903-04. The Revenue and expenditure of the Municipality for the last five years, excluding debt transactions, but including interest and Sinking Fund charges, were as follows omitting thousands:—

	1899-00. Rs.	1900-01. Rs.	1901-02. Rs.
Revenue Receipts ...	5,243	5,461	5,934
„ expenditure ...	5,239	5,270	5,562
Surplus +or	+4	+191	+372

	1902-03. Rs.	1903-04. Rs.	Budget estimates.
Revenue Receipts ...	5,931	6,283	
„ expenditure ...	6,224	6,714	
Deficit —or	—293	—431	

It is observed that the last figure includes Interest and Sinking Fund charges for the whole loan of 71 lakhs, which it is proposed to raise it 1903-04, and of which 45 lakhs have already been sanctioned; but the Government of India are not aware whether provision has been made to meet these charges for the whole year or for a part only, and what additional charge, if any, will accrue on this account. I am to request that, with the permission of His Honour, information may now be furnished on these points.

6. It is evident that the foregoing figures, as they stand, do not justify any further present borrowing by the Municipality unless, by enhancement of the rates, the Corporation trenches upon the margin of taxation which it is the desire of the Government of India to reserve for the purposes of the Calcutta Improvement Scheme. It may be, however, that the true position of the Municipality is stronger than it would "prima facie" appear to be. The Corporation has had, during the last two years, large cash balances, and it is possible that they have been and are spending these upon important improvements, the cost of which it would otherwise have been necessary to meet from Capital or to leave undone.

7. I am to request that, with His Honour's permission, the details of the Corporation's expenditure may be examined in the light of these remarks, and that any items of non-recurring expenditure which should properly be omitted in ascertaining the true surplus or deficit of the year may be indicated.

8. Lastly, I am to request that it may be explained more exactly to what improvements it is proposed to devote the further loan of 26 lakhs, if sanctioned.

9. In conclusion, I am to express regret at the delay (due to the misconduct of an office subordinate) which has occurred in replying to your letter.

THE BAHAMA ISLANDS.

The Annual Report of the Bahama Island has been issued. The revenue for the financial year 1902-03 amounted to £72,442 which was £5,337 less than that of last year. The principal item in which a decrease was shown was the Customs, the diminution being ascribed to the ordinary vicissitudes of trade. The expenditure for the year amounted to £74,613 as against £81,135 in the previous period. It is pointed out that while the figures for 1902-03 are the lowest during the past five years, they amount to £10,000 more than the total of 1897. By way of comparison it is shown that from 1877 the inclusive revenue did not reach £40,000. The assets of the colony on the 31st March, 1903, were £45,433, and the liabilities £18,827. The imports for 1902 were valued at £306,098, and the exports amounted to £207,601, of which £203,916 is accounted for as colonial produce, consisting principally of sponge and fruit, both of these articles having increased. The population of the islands in 1902 was estimated at 55,190. The Governor, Sir G. T. Carter, expresses the opinion that the islands are handicapped in their development by the scanty soil and absence of natural water supply, by the lack of an enterprising population, and by the absence of harbours capable of accommodating large craft. He suggests that portions of the island would be admirably suited to form sanatoria for consumptive patients. Agriculture is neglected, but if systematically undertaken well repays effort. The sponge industry, however, will continue to be a valuable means of support The interest of the account of the Archipelago is augmented by a summary of the report of Governor Rawson made in 1866 and by a number of excellent photographs of the scenery of the islands.

A CASE OF RIOTING.

Mr. S. Roy moved before Justice Pratt and Handley on Monday last on behalf of two persons' Ram Pirit Tewari and another who have been convicted with others for rioting and hurt and sentenced to 3 months' rigorous imprisonment with a fine of Rs. 75 by the Deputy Magistrate of Arrah. On appeal to the Sessions Judge their conviction for rioting has been set aside but the conviction under section 323 I.P.C. has been maintained and a sentence of one month and a fine of Rs. 25 have been avoided and also the order under section 106 Cr. P. C. made to the Deputy Magistrate has been confirmed.

The complainant's story is that while he was sowing in his land which was within a tract of 994 bighas, the defendants in a body appeared on the land and assaulted him. The defence was that they did not go upon the land which was within the tract of 994 bighas nor did they assault the complainant or his party; but that the complainant and his party came upon a piece of land which was within a tract of 224 bighas which was in defendant's possession, and while the defendants were at work there the complainant's party interfered and assaulted the defendant Rampirit Tewari.

The Deputy Magistrate before whom the complainant was lodged examined and cross-examined all the prosecution witnesses and framed charge against the petitioners under secs. 147 and 323 I. P. C., and then he was succeeded by another Deputy Magistrate who took up the case from the stage where his predecessor left it viz. he only examined the defence witnesses and then convicted the petitioner finding the prosecution story true. On appeal the Sessions Judge found the complainant's story as false and held that the "marpit" took place in the land within the tract of 224 bighas which was in the possession of the defendant Rampirit and that the defendant did not go up on complainant's land and thus he set aside the conviction of rioting as he held the common object had failed. But he said the charge of hurt was sufficiently proved and the defendants did not prove that they caused hurt in the exercise of their right of private defence or that they did not exceed it. And so the Sessions Judge has confirmed the conviction under sec. 323 I. P. C.

The learned counsel submitted (1) that in as much as the conviction of the petitioners was based upon evidence not wholly recorded by the Deputy Magistrate who convicted the petitioners and as the pttitioners thereby have been materially prejudiced, their conviction ought to be set aside; (2) that the Sessions Judge was worng in throwing the burden of proving rigth of private defence on thepetitioners. The learned counsel cited some cases and argued that inasmuch as the Sessions Judge found the prosecution story wholly false, and believed in the story of the defence viz., that the assault took place in the land belonging to the defendant and the defendant did not go upon the land where the complainant alleged the occurrence to have taken place, the Sessions Judge ought to have held that what the petitioner did was done in the exercise of their right of private defence and considering the nature of the injury, which according to the Sessions Judge's own finding, was slight, he (the Sessions Judge) ought to have held that the petitioners did not exceed their right of private defence.

The learned counsel further submitted that as the hurt or the criminal force is an element of rioting the Sessions Judge should not have convicted the petitioner for hurt, he having set aside the conviction and sentence under the rioting section.

Their Lordships after hearing the learned counsel at a considerable length declined to interfere.

At the Esplanade Police Court, Mr. J. Sanders-Slater committed to the Bombay High Court the case in which superintendent Stanford charged Abdul Hajee Hussen with the murder of Jiwaji Nocra, a Borah, on last quotations of leopards the last few days. Taboot day. Mr. Bowen, acting Public Prosecutor, prosecuted, while Mr. Velinker, pleader, appeared for the accused. The accused reserved his defence until his trial at the High Court.

AMERICAN DIVORCES.

HALF A MILLION IN TWENTY YEARS.

"An American Lady" writing in the "Telegraph," says:—

The game of progressive husbands is entangling the American woman in a labyrinthine coil of social relations. So recklessly have a large number of American women made use of the various and obliging divorce courts of their country, and the liberal privileges of remarriage, that they find themselves no longer asked to solve the simpler problems of the etiquette of divorce. They have passed from the class where "how to treat the divorced wife of one's own husband on the occasion of a first meeting," is considered a difficulty. Neither does "the correct method of entertaining one's former spouse at dinner," cause them great anxiety. They have now to consider more complicated situations such as "the possible basis on which a friendship with a lady, who has been one's husband's wife between his first and second marriage to one's self, may be maintained."

The American woman, represented by sufficient numbers to give the clergy a great deal of anxiety, has declared that she will not—no, she will not—abide by the old tradition which narrowed a woman's career after marriage to the home. She must have a broader existence. She is altogether too clever a creature to be kept at home, to be deprived of stimulating adventure. Being a woman she doesn't seek her broader adventure on the gold fields or on the western ranch. Those are too strenuous tasks for her physical delicacy.

Instead she adventures anew upon the sea of matrimony, that quest alone upon which her feminity enters with true ardour. Such is the hardihood of her soul that she comes out of this order of adventure a little seared, perhaps, but fresh and eager for a second and a third experience, until inexorable time steps in and rules her from the list, for even in America there is a limit, though only a time limit, to the divorce diversion which custom permits a woman to enjoy. No case is on record where a woman past three score and ten has obtained a divorce with the object of remarrying.

Divorce is, in reality, no longer an adventure in the United States. It has become merely a convention in which thirty thousand evotees take part annually. Each divorce continues to think hers an unusual case, a romantic episode, fit them for some great novelist. In truth, even when a divorce is followed by a marriage to another person, and in turn by a second divorce and the remarriage of the first couple, it has come to be regarded as too common a matrimonial lightning-change to be talked about.

The American woman who wishes a divorce probably can enjoy herself more in the getting of it than any woman in the world. In the first place, she may "choose her State." That is, she may select from among the forty-five States of the union the one whose divorce laws seem to her most considerate and agreeable. Her choice may range from Ohio, where "gross neglect of duty" on the part of her husband cut the matrimonial bonds, to Kentucky, where "an ungovernable temper" possessed by a husband or wife will free the other party to the marriage tie. Very often she chooses Rhode Island where the provision granting divorce for "gross misbehavious" give such elasticity to the law that almost any grievance manufactured or otherwise, affords relief from undesirable yoke-fellows. Persons suing under these admirably broad-minded, though somewhat vague, laws have been known to secure divorces because their husbands or wives called them unpleasant names, were extravagant in their dress or failed to provide a physician when the aggrieved person suffered with the chicken-pox.

Various as are the divorce laws of the different States, South Dakota has been generally settled upon as the most kindly of all in its provisions for divorce. In that State divorce may be obtained for causes ranging from marital infidelity to "mental cruelty," a peculiar kind of torture not to be defined under any more exact provision of law. Not only has South Dakota furnished this marvellous loophole for all who were not afflicted by their matrimonial partners with ills that might be more definitely itemised, but it has generously offered to permit divorces to be issued to the matrimonially troubled from all parts of the country who will take up their residence there for six months. The divorce colony of South Dakota, and especially of Sioux Falls, which might be called for the capital of the State Divorce Industry, is considered the most flourishing in America. The divorce colony of Newport, Rhode Island, is possibly more exclusive than that of Sioux Falls, and many of the socially elect prefer to go there to take up the residence which is necessary for obtaining a divorce in that State; but Sioux Falls is without a rival as regards the number of divorces turned out, even if the quality is not so superior as in the Rhode Island variety.

Sioux Falls is a strange place, where half of the shifting population change their names in residence. The lady whose luggage was marked "Mrs. Smith" when she arrived, goes away, looking as girlish as possible, with her luggage marked "Miss Brown." Thegentlemen who are sorrowful Benedicks when they register at the hotels all depart jolly bachelors. It is the very antithesis of the altar and the registry office.

Not only are the six months, visitors to Sioux Falls waiting to be unmarried. They are in the majority of cases looking forward to being married again and that as soon as they are at liberty. The lady who arrived as Mrs. Smith and left as Miss Brown will stop off in her trip across the continent and become Mrs. Jones. The Benedicks will scarcely have regained their bachelorhood before they again take to themselves wives. And so Sioux Falls is the home not alone of those in matrimonial difficulties but of lovers. Its post-office is freighted with sentimental epistles for its transient resident undergoing banishment. For love and the world well lost, though the banishment be, luxuries and diversions of all sorts have found their way to the town from the great cities in order that these martyrs of romance may not suffer too severely in exile.

Usually the American woman foregoes an elaborate ceremony in he rmarriage after divorce. The rapidity with which divorced persons have been remarried has excited wonder in other parts of the world but not in America. In the most exclusive circles one of the persons in a divorce suit is frequently remarried again in as short a time as will suffice to reach the office of a magistrate. Sometimes a friend is posted at the telephone to announce to the persons in readiness at a clergyman's home or magistrate's office the moment of the granting of the divorce, so that the ceremony of marriage may proceed on the instant. The complete lack of a prescribed form of dress for the bride is another indication of this lack of formality in marriage after divorce. The bridal dress of maids and widows has been severely arranged for by fashion, whose behests in these matters must be implicitly obeyed by the well-gowned. But whether the divorced woman who remarries shall wear bridal white or the pale grey of widowhood, no dictator of fashion has ever ventured to prescribe. Tan colour has been suggested as an appropriate shade for the divorced bride, as being both more serviceable and considerably warmer in tone than white or grey.

It is estimated that more than 500,000 divorces have been granted in the United States in the last twenty years during which time in all Europe less than half that number have been granted. All sorts of movements are on foot to stem this tide of divorce, which has been characterised by one of America's foremost clergymen as "progressive polygamy." "The Daughters of the Faith," an organisation of Roman Catholic women of the highest social standing in New York City, has been recently incorporated, having as one of its chief tenets the pledge not to accept or extend invitations to a divorced woman who has remarried during the life time of her husband. But, alas! many of the most prominent members were obliged to withdraw when they found that this pledge must be taken seriously, for, as they explained they couldn't be rude to their relatives and their life-long friends even if they were divorced."

An organisation of clergymen was formed a year ago with the object of obtaining a uniform divorce law and uniform action on the part of the clergymen in remarrying. So far the movement has not come to anything. The American woman is deep in her game of progressive husbands, and she is loath to give it up.

THE LATE DR. FRASER.

THE FUNERAL.

On Wewnesday morning the moral hemain of the late Rev. Dr. Fraser were intered in the Lower Circular Road after the simple Church of England Cemetry. The cortege left Belvedere at 7-15 a.m. and arrived at the Burial Ground by 8-a.m. The casket was of solid oak with brass mountings and was borne in a full Glass Hearse supplied by Messrs. Llewelyn and Oompany. A large collection of floral wreath and crosses gifts of various friends were arranged on the casket.

The procession was met at the entrance of the cemetry by Archdeacon Kitchen who conducted the service. Sir Andrew Fraser was the chief mourner and among the processionists who were small in number owing to the time being changed unexpectedly from the evening to the morning at a late hour were Mr. Stephenson, Private Secretary, Captain Maidaw, A. D. C., Brigadier-General Leach, Mr. Casperz, Mr. Allen, Mr. Bignell and Mr. D M. Hamilton. The Rev. Browbridge of the Cathedral, Rev. R. Lee, of Bishop's College, Rev. C. R. T. Winckley, of St. John's Church, Rev. J. Smith, of St. James, Rev. Evanghan and Mr. Cossehat of St. Paul's Mission, Rev. Stuart Clarke, of the Old Church, Rev. Ghose and Rev. Wann and Walt of the Church of Scotland. A large number of condolences were received. Great sympathy was felt by all with His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in this his sad bereavement.

DEATH OF THE REVD. A. GORDON FRASER, D. D.

On Wednesday morning as soon as Mr. Bonnaud took his seat, he in the absense of Mr. D. Weston, the Chief Presidency Magistrate, addressed the pleaders thus:—

"Gentlemen, I am sure that you will all deeply sympathise with His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal at the sad and sudden loss which he has suffered by the death of his much loved and respected father, the Revd. A. Gordon Frased, D.D.

"As a mark of sympathy and respect for His Honor I propose to take urgent business for the day and then adjourne the Courts."

Babu Kali Churn Palit, Vakil, one of the senior members of the Bar, replied in the following terms:—

"We are deeply sorry to hear of the sudden death of the father of our popular Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Andrew Fraser, and we sympathise with him for the loss he has sustained Although the deceased gentleman attained the ripe old age of 92, yet it could not lessen the feelings of sorrow of children at the bereavement sustained by the loss of parents. The deceased gentleman came out to India for the noble work of preaching the Gospel of truth and to lead men to the path of dutp and righteousness. And though his field of work was generally in the Presidency of Bombay, his good work and noble actions have been felt and appreciated here as elsewhere. We request you to convey to His Honor the deep sense of sorrow felt by every member of the Bar at this melancholy event. We offer our condolence to His Honor and his family on the occasion and we trust that his deep faith in Providence who is ll kind and benevolent will enable him to bear this loss with sufficient strength. May his father's soul rest in peace in the bosom of God."

A Bill to amend the Indian Paper Cuhrency Act and a Bill to amned the Indian Coinage Act have been drafted, and are about to be sent Home for the sanction of the Secretary of State.

On the 8th ultimo the eastern part of the Wynaad was visited by one of the worst hail-storms recorded on the plateau since 1890. Though the actual quantity of rain measured did not exceed 1.65 inch, the size of the hail-stone was unprecedented, some having been gathered approaching the dimensions of a fowl's egg, though shaped like an acidulated drop. No damage was suffered by the coffee bushes, which, as a rule, are so effectually shaded as to be shielded from vicarious injury of this description. The precipitation during the current month is 7.75 in., that for March having aggregated 1.75 inch.

The red locusts have paid Secunderabad another visit, and have been doing great damage in the District amongst the paddy crops. The general Parade Ground on Friday morning (22nd instant) looked as if it had been covered with a red rug. St. Jame's Street, and the road running along the side of the Hussain Saugar tank of Hyderabad were covered with the swarms and very few horses would face them The public gardens in Chudderghaut have been visited by them and much damage has been done there.

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