REG NO

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NOTES ON THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

—o—

KUROKI'S DOUBLE BATTLE NEAR LIAO-YANG.

The current Mail papers contain General Kuroki's reports of the two battles which he fought near Liao-yang at the end of last month (July). The first is as follows:—

"In the battles of Yang-tsu-ling and Yu-shu-ling we capture two guns, 600 rifles, 400 tents, 700 tools and utensils, and an enormous quantity of ammunition. Our prisoners number eight officers, including a Lieute.-colonel and 149 men.

"Our casualties were forty officers and 906 men killed and wounded."

The second report says:—"The enemy in front of us had gradually increased his force since the middle of July, and towards the end of the month his strength had reached four divisions, and showed signs of still further increasing. His main force, which was placed on the Liao-yang road, gradually moved towards An-ping, and after the 28th July the enemy in front of the division forming out right at Yu-shu-lin-tse became active.

RUSSIA'S PLAN FAILED.

"The enemy's vanguard, consisting of several columns, occupied the heights situated between 2,000 and 3,000 metres in front and to the left of our right, and adopted an offensive attitude.

"Such a state of affairs being very hazardous to us we decided to drive him out before his preparations were completed, and thereby impair his plan. With this determination our army commenced its movement on the night of the 30th July.

"At dawn on the 31st July our right column attacked the enemy in the direction of Yu-shu-ling-tse, while our left assailed the enemy in the direction of the neighbourhood of Yang-tsu-ling. A detachment on our left moved against the left flank of the enemy in the direction of Yu-shu-ling-tse, in order to co-operate with our right column.

"The features of the ground in the neighbourhood of Yu-shu-lin-tse and Yang-tsu-ling, with its steep hills and deep valleys, offered great difficulties to our movements. The enemy, utilising the nature of the ground, had erected parapets, and at the important points had constructed closed works, so as to be able to pour into us a hot fire of shells from sheltered positions.

"In the fighting on the Yu-shu-lin-tse side our right wing placed three battalions of infantry in the vicinity of Lao-mu-ling to secure the direction of Pen-si-hu, while the rest, tion. Its light at dawn on the 31st July, forming two columns, moved on the 31st July, attacked the enemy's van on this front and flank, occupying an eminence 2,000 metres from his main position, located to the westward of the heights of Yu-shu-lin-tse.

DRIVING BACK THE ENEMY.

"After furious fighting we drove back the enemy and occupied his position at 8.50 a.m. The right wing subsequently operated against the main body of the enemy, but meanwhile awaited the appearance of our left wing.

"During this time the enemy made several counter-attacks upon us, but was repulsed.

"Our left wing encountered the enemy's infantry, consisting of two regiments at Pien-ling, located five miles to the south-west of Chang-kia-putse, and at 6-35 a. m. opened fire and drove him in, after heavy fighting.

"A detachment despatched from our left column started from Hsiamatang at one a.m. on the 31st July for Pien-ling, and after eight a.m. attacked and defeated a battalion of the enemy's infantry, which was occupying Chou-bai-lei, which is 2,000 metres south of Pien-ling.

"While pursuing him towards Pien-ling our detachment came across the flank of his large column, consisting of three regiments of infantry, with four guns, which was retreating from the Pien-ling direction. We at once poured a hot fire into the enemy from front to rear at a distance ranging from 200 to 1,000 metres, and put him to flight with the infliction of heavy damage.

"Subsequently our detachment tried to push on to the right on the enemy's position in the neighbourhood of Yu-shu-lin-tse, but the topographical features of the country rendered this movement impossible to carry out during the night.

RETREAT AND PURSUIT.

"The enemy at Yu-shu-lin-tse commenced to retreat at dawn on the 1st August. Our right wing was immediately pushed forward, pursued the enemy, and occupied La-gou-lin by 9-40 a.m.

"Our left wing observed the enemy's infantry and artillery retreating, but was prevented from nearing him owing to the nature of the ground, and it, therefore, occupied a position southward of La-gou-lin and parallel to the right wing.

"Our co-operating detachment routed the enemy posted on an eminence to the southwards of Liupuh on the morning of the 1st August, and occupied the heights westward of Liupuh at one p.m.

"In the battle on the Yang-tsu-ling side our left column, which was scheduled to attack the enemy at Yang-tsu-ling, routed him at three a.m. on the 31st July, and with part of its infantry occupied the heights eastward of Tawan. The rest of the troops, with exception of the artillery, occupied positions previously determined on. The artillery, however, not only did not progress as previously planned, but the rugged nature of the ground made its forward movement utterly impossible. By eleven a.m. it had hardly taken up position, and then only by the physical strength of its men. Only two batteries were able to occupy their positions before dawn.

MOVEMENT OF THE LEFT WING.

"The left wing of our left column opened its operations at dawn on the 31st July with with its main force against the enemy in the direction of Mukumenza and its detachment moved forward on steep ground in several columns to turn the enemy's right flank. His large body of artillery on the ridge of Yang-tsu-ling and the neighbourhood of the heights fired on us with dexterity, but we silenced one of his forts, containing four guns, after seven o'clock.

"The enemy's artillery on an elevated point northward of the eminence of Tawan sent a sweeping fire upon the heights of Tawan. Our artillery belonging to the left wing were unable to use more than twenty guns owing to the topographical nature of the ground, and, moreover, at that long range their full strength could not be displayed. Under such circumstances the attack upon the enemy's front made no progress.

"A detachment sent to turn the enemy's right flank reached an eminence 3,000 metres westward of Chu-ja-putza, after great hardships in passing the defiles and valleys. After two p.m. the artillery belonging to our right sent a sweeping fire against the enemy's position at Tayan and its northward positions.

"A part of our infantry advanced for the purposes of reconnoitring, and as a result of this the enemy's artillery concealed on the eminences, 3,000 metres north-west of Tawan, fired heavily upon us. An artillery duel ensued.

THE FINAL ASSAULT.

"After four o'clock in the afternoon, the infantry of our right wing, from the vicinity of Tawan, and the infantry of our left wing, from the vicinity of Nakumenza, despite the enemy's heavy fire, advanced gradually towards Yang-tsu-ling.

"Fighting took place in all directions, and our artillery covered the advance of the infantry, but the steep slope of the hill rendered its movements difficult. The enemy opposed a stubborn resistance to our troops, and compelled us to pass the night in battle formation.

"At dawn on the 1st August our left and right wings renewed their attack, and occupied all the heights at Yang-tsu-ling between seven and eight a.m.

"In the afternoon of the 31st July one of the enemy's bearer companies appeared before our detachment co-operating with the right wing, hoisted the Red Cross flags, and commenced to pick up their dead and wounded, whereupon we suspended our firing to allow them to do so.

THE HAI-CHENG OPERATIONS.

The following official despatch has been received at Tokio from General Oku:

"At four o'clock on the morning of the 1st August our army moved on from its positions in the neighbourhood of Ta-shi-chao, and at nine a.m. the second column occupied, without meeting with any resistance, a position in the vicinity of Nan-chen-shan.

"Our first column attacked the enemy at one p. m. before it occupied the highlands in the neighbourhood of Liang-kiam-puts.

"The third column occupied the highlands in the neighbourhood of Kin-shan-ling at five a.m., and its artillery made a reconnaissance against the enemy occupying the highlands to the east of Tu-tai-tse. He appeared to have retreated, whereupon we moved on, and at 9-30 a.m. occupied an eminence north-west of Ta-shan-po, when two batteries of the enemy's artillery appeared on the heights north-east of Hu-lu-yu, and opened a hot fire upon the infantry of our second and third columns.

"Shortly afterwards the artillery of our second column took up a position on the highlands north-east of Tung-kia-kou, and the artillery of our third column reached the vicinity of Wen-kia-kou, and replied to the enemy.

"At 11-30 a.m. one battery of the enemy's artillery appeared on the south extremity of Hsia-chia-ho, and fired on the infantry of our third column. After twelve o'clock all his forces retired in the direction of Hai-cheng.

"Our fourth column, repelling a small body of infantry and cavalry, reached at ten a.m. a line extending from the left of our third column to Chan-kia-tun. In front of this column the enemy had five or six squadrons, with a battery of horse artillery, in the vicinity of Hung-wa-sai, which fired upon us, but at noon he retreated toward Hai-cheng, and, our fifth column having driven in his infantry and cavalry posted at Liu-kia-putse and Lien-san-tun, took the place of the enemy. The latter's main body, which confronted us, about one division strong, retreated at ten a.m. towards Hai-cheng, via the western foot of Tung-wang-shan. Thus our army, receiving no great resistance, reached Paliso on the 2nd August, and occupied at noon on the 3rd August, a line extending from Hai-cheng to Newchwangcheng.

"This day about two divisions of the enemy retired from Hai-cheng towards the north-east."

JUBBULPUR BENGALI LIBRARY.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Jubbulpur, Aug. 29.

The first anniversary of the Jubbulpur Bengali Library took place yesterday evening under the auspices of Babu Brojendra Nath Chundra, Vakil, in the Hitcarini Sabha High School premises with the kind permission of the President of the School, Rai Bahadur Behari Lall Khazanchi. The meeting commenced with a song, Mr. A. C. Dutt, Professor in the local Government College and President of the Library, then read the annual Report, which was short but very impressive, explaining the aim and object of the institution and its importance in a place like his where the mother-tongue of the Bengalis is considered by some of them as a foreign tongue, and expressing the sincerest thanks of the Executive Committee of the Library to His Highness the Maharajadhiraj of Burdwan for the donation he so kindly gave when His Highness paid a visit to this place some days ago. Then followed the recitations which were performed with credit and to the delight of all present by Babus Diveswar Mukherjee, First Assistant Master of a local High School and Abinash Chunder Dutt, a matriculate student. Mr. T. K. Buxy M.A., F.C.S., at the request of his friends read a "probandha" by Babu Rabindra Nath Tagore. The President then spoke briefly remarking on the wonderfully rapid progress the library had made in so short a time so as to merit the support and sympathy of all the members of the community here; and congratulated the earnest workers on the success achieved by them.

There was a fairly large attendance and almost all the leading members of the community were present. Those present were garlanded and entertained with tea, sweets, phonograph and magic-lantern shows. With the usual vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting despersed.

While noticing yesterday Babu K. C. Bose's Steam Biscuit and Barley Factory, we made a slight mistake as regards its locality. It is situated not at Shampukar but at No. 2, Kalachand Sanyal's Lane, Shambazar, just opposite the old Tramway depot. The factory works from 10 to 5 p.m. and those who want to see the process of biscuit-making on the modern improved method by machinery may communicate themselves to Babu K. C. Bose to the above address.

WITH THE TIBET MISSION.

THE PEOPLE OF LHASSA.

Lhassa, Aug. 12.

For the life of me I cannot induce within myself that feeling of resentment against the Tibetans which so many fellows in the force exhibit. There are times, of course, when, shivering in the cold or shivering in the wet, one gets awfully annoyed at the stupidity and folly which has brought us here. Again in the excitement of a battle one may feel genuinely anxious that a certain number of persons who are pelting one with bullets should be killed or wounded or put out of the way by some means or other. But I cannot understand why anyone should be bitter and hostile against the Tibetans in general. The most objectionable point about the mass of the peasantry is that they are very dirty, but so are, I think, many village folk in India who have not the excuse of the cold. The hamlets are not more filthy than thousands to be seen in the Punjab, and Lhassa, itself is not worse than many parts of Calcutta. It is quite as clean as Pekin. The fact is that in the matter of cleanliness the Tibetans must be judged by an Oriental standard. The better classes look carefully after themselves and their habitations. At the present moment the mission people are living in a house of which the rooms are cleaner than those of an English hotel. Shapes, secretaries, Abbots and the people of that kind do not wear dirty clothes, whereas on the other frontier I have met many chiefs and boss mullahs who could not possibly be admitted into drawing rooms.

The Lamas are the folk against whom I have heard the severest strictures. It is stated that they form the backbone of Tibetan resistance. But the priest militant is not an unknown figure in other countries. Again it is said they live fat, easy lives, feeding on the husbandry of others. That is a complaint, I have have reason to believe, which also may be heard about Brahmins, Bonzes and the priests of a hundred religions. As for the Lamas forcing food and clothing out of the people, that is quite incorrect. One may see Lamas at the plough and with the spinning wheel. Besides every family is bound to train one member as a monk. It is proud of the fact, and only too glad to contribute towards his living.

For my own part I cannot see a crowd of bare-headed monks standing in the gateway of some great monastery without my imagination ranging back to old times—times such as our England herself knew—when these same monks were supreme in Europe and cajoled and coerced and ruled the people. There were amongst them as now in Tibet—devout and learned men, intriguing and political men, cruel and lascivious men, men dull of understanding, like the beasts of the field. All these types may be seen in any of the monasteries round Lhassa. In the hands of the Tibetan monks is all the art and learning of the country. They comment on the sacred texts and write new ones. Every monastery is also a library. The monks carve and paint. They mould the Buddhas and the strange and fanciful Hindu and Chinese gods which adorn every shrine are cast from their designs.

Three old Lhassa monks frequently attend Colonel Younghusband's darbars. In strong contrast to the gorgeous garments and fanciful headgear of the Councillors they are bare-headed and wear plain robes of brownish red. They represent the three great monasteries, and it would be difficult to find men of nobler and more dignified manners and countenance. They may not be absolutely typical of the Lhassa monks but an organisation which can produce such men and place them in positions of responsibility cannot be so degraded and futile as Lamaism is said to be.

The citizens of Lhassa itself—so far as one can judge from the glimpses we have had—are for the most part foreigners engaged in trade and manufacture, Chinese Mohamedans from Yunan, Nepalese, a few Bhutanese, and a queer contingent of people wearing the burnous, who call themselves and are called Kashmiris, but who have never heard of Leh or Srinagar. They look like Persians. Anxious to find out something regarding the route between here and Leh I have often spoken to these men, who have a fluent knowledge of Hindustani, but they insist that they have entered the country through the Nepal passes.

All the foreigners it ought to be known have Tibetan wives. They are not allowed to bring their women with them, and their offspring, whether boys or girls, are known to the law only as Tibetans. These bastard Tibetans are not allowed to become monks, but for the rest no difference is made in the treatment of them and of the pure-blooded inhabitants of the country.

The Lhassa plain, except to the west where the marsh lies, is at present a sea of waving crops, amongst which the real people of Lhassa work and live. Their mud huts are planted in the midst of groves of poplar and willow. The men seem stupid and dull—peasants. It would appear that two-thirds of the population of Lhassa and the vicinity consists of women. Most of the trading in the camp is done by the latter. They are as light-hearted as the Japanese. To them apparently our arrival in Lhassa is a great joke. But the majority are very ugly and they have no manners. Some speak Hindustani, and these naturally do the biggest trade.

It would be easy enough—from books—to write an account of the manners and customs of the Lhassa people, but few members of this force have had an opportunity of gaining any personal knowledge. We see the folk who come into the market or who bring the commissariat supplies, and we get an impression of curious crowds when we enter the city under escort in the wake of the Commissioner or General on their way to pay an official visit. But of the home or even public life of the people we know nothing.—Henry Newman, in the "Englishman."

Nothing Like Experience.—"One truth learned by actual experience does more good than ten experiences one hears about." Tell a man that Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy will cure cholera morbus, and he will most likely forget it before the end of the day. Let him have a severe attack of that disease, feel that he is about to die, use this remedy, and earn from his own experience how quickly it gives relief, and he will remember it all his life. For sale by

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

THE POWERS OF THE POLICE.

At the Madras High Court before Justices Davies and Sankaran Nair Dr. Swaminadhan argued a criminal revision petition against the order of Mr. L. C. Miller, I.C.S. Sessions Judge, South Malabar, confirming the conviction by Mr. L. Tottenham, I.C.S., Special Assistant Magistrate, Malapuram, of one Kunhikatbiri and seven others of offences under Sections 143 and 186 of the Indian Penal Code. The facts were these: A Head Constable and certain Constables attached to the Nilambur station took charge of some timber (in a private forest) in respect of which a complaint of theft had been lodged by the "Kariasthan" of the Nilambur Kovilagam, against the servants of a neighbouring landowner. A party of some forty men turned up and obstructed the Police, who handed back the timber they had seized. The accused were among the party and they were charged with offences under Section 143, 186 and 506 of the Indian Penal Code. Mr. Tottenham convicted the accused of offence under Sections 143 and 186, and sentenced the first to six months' and the others to four months' rigorous imprisonment each. In the course of his judgment, Mr. Tottenham remarked that "all sorts of lawlessness are perpetrated by Moplahs and others in these out of the way jungly places in connection with timber, and such offences when brought home, which they seldom are, should be severely punished." On appeal to the Sessions Judge, the conviction was confirmed.

Dr. Swaminadhan submitted that the charge under Section 186 was clearly unsustainable. The accused had been acquitted by the Magistrate in the connected case of theft, and therefore there was no property which could have formed the subject of theft.

The Public Prosecutor submitted that the Police presumably acted under Section 55 of the C.P.C. under which any Police Officer may seize any property which may be alleged or suspected to have been stolen, or which may be found under circumstances which create suspicion of the commission of any offence.

Sankaran Nair, J., remarked that if that was so, there was no use of sections 94 to 98 and 165 of the Code.

The Public Prosecutor submitted that the Code gave express powers to the Police to seize property on suspicion. Counsel referred to the report of the Select Committee on the last Procedure Code Amendment Bill which stated that the power giving Police Officers express power to seize property, provided for in the new Code, was assumed in Section 53.

Sankaran Nair, J. said that, under the Section the Police would not enter private premises, and seize, say, jewels, because an allegation was made by somebody that they were stolen property.

The Public Prosecutor submitted that the Section made no limitation as to the power of the Police.

Davies, J., remarked that if that were so the Police would not mind Section 165 of the Code.

Sankaran Nair, J., observed that if the Public Prosecutor was right, under Section 550, it was enough for the Police if any allegation was made that property was stolen, that they could go and seize property anywhere.

Davies, J.—Then we may all go under martial law!

The Public Prosecutor submitted that the Select Committee said that what is provided for in Section 550 was assumed in Section 523.

Sankaran Nair, J., remarked that Section 523 did not give any right of entry into a private place. As in the Madura case which came up the other day the Police may arrest if stolen property was being carried away; otherwise, they must arrest on a search warrant and subject to the precaution of a search list being prepared in the presence of respectable persons.

Their Lordships in the course of their order remarked that the Police were not acting under Section 550 which was subject to the provisions of Sections 98 and 165 of the Code. The conviction on the charge of obstructing the Police in the discharge of their duty must fail, as the Police were not shown to have acted under authority, or to have been discharging their functions when they acted as they did. The Police had no right to enter the forest in question. Their Lordships accordingly set aside the conviction of the accused under Section 186, but confirmed the conviction under Section 143 (read with Section 141), reduced the sentence to the period already suffered by the accused (ten weeks).

The Inspector-General has taken great pains in inquiring into the grievances of the students, some of which, according to the official, are based on fact. The Inspector-General should have taken note of the fact that the students are gentlemen and the Durwan a menial and the insult was very great, otherwise the entire body of students would not have marred their future prospects by leaving the school in a body.

A dastardly murder in broad daylight took place in Nana's Peth, in the City, at about 11 a. m. to-day, writes a Poona correspondent on the 24th, when a Mahomedan butcher, named Abdul Hassan cut his wife's throat with his butcher's knife. In order to accomplish his purpose without hinderance the man sent his mother and sister-in-law, who were in the house at the time, out on an errand, and then fastening the door on the inside cut his wife's throat. The woman's screams attracted people to the spot but they were unable to interfere to prevent the crime. The murderer was arrested by the police and taken to the Farashkana where he is being detained.

Could Scarcely Walk.—Mr. G. S. Purton, a resident of Kyneton, Victoria, Australia, says: "Some time ago I was attacked with severe pains and stiffness in my legs, which affected me so that I could scarcely walk, when I was recommended to try a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm by our local chemist, Mr. Stredwick. I have used it once a day since, and have experienced wonderful relief. I am indeed grateful for the good it has done me and shall be happy to recommend Chamberlain's Pain Balm to anyone suffering from a similar complaint." For sale by

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

POONA MURDER CASE.

Abdul Hussainbhai, the mutton-butcher who murdered his wife in Rastia's Peth, Poona, on Wednesday last, was on Saturday last, placed before Mr. H.F. Carvalho, City Magistrate, Poona, charged with the commission of the crime. The accused admitted his guilt, and took matters rather stolidly; in fact saying that he believed he would be hanged for the crime. The Magistrate committed the murderer to take his trial at the Sessions.

A PANTHER ABROAD.

A Yercand correspondent writes:—I have not heard that any cattle have been killed here lately by wild beasts, but a panther was seen in broad daylight a few days ago on a coffee estate about five miles away which had killed several pigs in the village of Pillaree. He trotted leisurely along close to where the coolies were working and within a few yards of the gentleman in charge of the estate. The panther did not attemp to molest anyone and nobody molested it.

DESPERATE ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE.

At the Bombay Police Court, before Mr. Kursondas Chubildas, Third Presidency Magistrate, Jabboo Annoo, a Mahomedan labourer, was charged with attempting to commit suicide. It appeared that on Saturday evening, at 5 o'clock, accused went to the railway crossing near Church-gate station and laid himself flat on the lines. Just then an up-train had left Church gate station, and the driver, P. Maneckjee, luckily managed to pull up within five paces from where the man lay. Accused pleaded that he was under the influence of "chilum" and did not remember the occurrence. The Magistrate sentenced him to ten days' simple imprisonment.

THE BOMBAY BUDGET.

The Bombay Legislative Council met on Wednesday when Sir James Monteath presented the Budget which was framed on an assumption of a normal monsoon and opened with a balance of thirty-two lakhs which was expected to be reduced to twenty lakhs, the total revenue and expenditure being estimated at 46,240 and 47,527, respectively, in tens of rupees. In introducing the Budget, Sir James said that though the Budget provided for a normal season the chances of the new season were rapidly becoming esmaller. He pointed out the alarming state of some portions of the Presidency where there had been nothing but a few local showers and these few and far between except in the Northern Konkan. Food crops were already withering and it was feared that most of rice in Gujerat was past recovery, but cotton as yet was generally healthy. Fodder was becoming scarce. He points to swarms of locusts as another danger and detailed what had been done to destroy them; but, although 130 tons were destroyed but little impression had been made. At present the week's rain might alter the situation, but if famine came again the Government were prepared to meet it in an organised manner. The tools were ready and work could be resumed on the lines which were left off two years ago, but he hoped that famine would be averted.

REMOVAL OF HEAD QUARTERS. A PROTEST MEETING.

Sibsagar, Aug. 31.

A very crowded and influential representative public meeting or residents or the town and Sadar division of Sibsagar, Assam, was held on the 28th August last. People assembled from all corners and remotest parts, among whom there were many Gossains, Mohontos and village elders. The respectable old residents attended the meeting and took active pats and lively interest in the discussions. Great enthusiasm prevailed throughou Many of them made speeches and spoke against the proposal for removal of the Sibsagar district head-quarters, from the town Sibsagar, a well-known healthy place in the province and in whole of India, to Jorhat which is a notoriously unhealthy place in the province. It was clearly shown that beyond some sentimental grounds no case of actual necessity whatever for upsetting all existing state of things to the great detriment of the people was made out. After due deliberation it was reasonably concluded that this proposal if carried into effect would involve the unnecessary expenditure or waste of several lakhs of public money which may be otherwise usefully employed to remove some of the crying wants of the people. It was further concluded that although the initial cost of constructing a new town at Jorhat may be shown as only one or two lakhs, to make it a decent and habitable head-quarters the Government shall have to spend several lakhs more in a few years. It was unanimously resolved to submit a memorial to His Excellency the Viceroy against the harmful proposal.

Arrangement are notified for the institution of courses of intruction in Bacteriology lasting two months each at Muktesar Laboratory for the benefit of officers of the Army Veterinary Department.

In India great activity is displayed by the police in hunting down bad livelihood cases. In the Central Provinces an important feature of police work was the watching of bad characters coming from outside the Provinces. Formerly almost all attention was concentrated on the local budmash, but it has latterly been discovered that the Provinces were being exploited by criminals from up-country. It is suggested in the report on the working of the police in the Central Provinces that as there is apparently an organised body of professional criminals it would be a wise reform if "a Criminal Investigation Department for the whole of India were established." The police were empowered to institute proceedings without first obtaining the sanction of Magistrates. The Report says that the complaint of the police is that Magistrate do not sufficiently back up the police in insisting that all suspected persons give a good account of themselves—thus protecting the public from possible criminals. Now in a police-ridden country like India if Magistrates implicitly obey the police—as was the case at Trichinopoly—then the life and liberty of the Indians would be at the mercy of the all-powerful police.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE

Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, SEPTEMBER 4 1904.

A COLONY FOR THE INDIANS.

MEN in Europe, having been moved by hunger, oppression, ambition or a spirit of enterprise, ran to America, and made it their home. In India there are many who would like to go somewhere else and settle there, never to return. There are people who are very unhappy here. India has apparently no future; the higher classes have no prospects and are disappearing fast; famines are frequent and wide spread; and some people here would thus like to find a place where there is no police rule and better prospect of enjoying a quiet and more peaceful life. They can go as coolies to Demarara which is French; they cannot go at all in Australia or Natal which is English.

To such people we beg to remind that there is such a place where they are free to go; where they as well as others are bound to go, at one time of their lives—a place where they can, if they wish, live happily. We mean the world after death.

The after life is the hope of the poor and the humble, stricken-down innocent slave. Annihilation, on the other hand, is the hope of the rich and lordly guilty.

If there is an existence after death, the most miserable man in the world has no reason to despond. He has to live in this world, on an average, for thirty or forty years. After that he has to go to a place to live for ever, where there is neither disease, nor hunger, nor slavery, nor oppression.

But is there an after-world at all? A good many men in India must have read Mr. Leadbeater's book," "The other-side of death." It is a book partly Hindu, partly European. Its subject matter is based upon Hindu Philosophy, and it is written by an Englishman. Theosophy has given the preciseness of the West to the inspiration of the East. What Mr. Leadbeater has done is to follow the inductive method for the purpose of proving his two points which are of most vital interest to humanity. The two points are:

(1) There is an after-life; (2) There are joys for the good, and punishment for the wicked in that life.

From the above two propositions it can be deduced that ordinary men, who are neither good nor bad have neither joys nor sorrows in the other world. But they have yet one great sorrow,—they have to suffer from ennui, their life is very dreary in that world. They suffer because they never utilised the opportunities here which God had granted them, for the good of their species.

The two propositions laid down above have been proved very easily by Mr. Leadbeater. Of course he appeals to Shastras, philosophy and the opinions of saints; but he also bases his conclusions upon more solid grounds. He has collected a good many real ghost stories that are to be round in the books of Messrs Stead, Lee and others, the author includes. These stories are founded upon testimony which is of an unimpeachable character, and they give an idea of the life that the so-called dead lead in the other world, as told by the ghosts themselves.

Of course it may be contended that these ghost stories are all false. But it is impossible to doubt them. It is Mr. Sedgewick we believe, who found that every eight man in ten have some experience of the existence of occult force. Indeed it is difficult to find one who has not come across a case which would suggest the existence of a spiritual world. If he himself has not come across a case like this a member of his family, or a friend has. So the probabilities are that there is such a thing as a spiritual world.

But the ghost stories, collected by Mr. Stead and others, stand on very solid ground. Their genuineness is testified to by honorable men. No story was accepted as true which was not proved to be genuine upon unimpeachable testimony. Why should you not believe a fact witnessed by others, though you have not witnessed it yourself? Very few people here have been in London, but yet there is no doubt that there is such a city in the world.

Just take the following incident which is true to the letter. A report is circulated that a house is haunted. Three men of the highest position and culture go there to see the thing with their own eyes. They see that the house is situated in the middle of a field where the practice of trickery is impossible, and they also find that a girl of about twelve sweeping the yard, and none else was present. They go there, say about eight in the morning, and seeing nothing they jokingly ask the ghost to show them something if he is really there. They say coaxingly, "Dear ghost, we have come so far to see whether you really are here—do oblige us by shewing yourself." No sooner was this said than stones began to fall. First one, then two, then hundreds and then innumerable. The news got abroad. People flocked to see the fun, and in this manner, hundreds gathered on the spot. But the ghost did not cease its mad pranks: the stone falling began at about eight in the morning and ceased at about 2 p.m. The stones collected there in the house required several carts to be carried away. There was a big stone about a maund in weight, in the well adjoining the house. And the ghost actually flung it up from beneath the well, and it fell in the midst of the crowd with a loud thud. No one was hurt however.

Now, one cannot disbelieve his own senses, and those who saw this ghostly procedure went away with the knowledge that they do exist, and it is impossible for "unconscious cerebration," or "subliminal self" to accomplish the feat that was done before them, in an open field and broad day light.

There is no doubt that ghosts exist—that is to say, men live after death; and what is more they can manifest themselves to people on earth. Mr. Leadbeater has his own stories, based upon his personal experience, and he has collected others from other investigators and observers. We too have our own stories and well-authenticated ones. Let us see what these ghosts say when they find opportunities of expressing their thought to men of this world. They generally manifest themselves when they have a mission either selfish, philanthrophical, or kindly. Now let us see what they say. These declarations were made by the ghosts to men in this world. One ghost declared that he owed a small sum to a person, whom he named and that unpaid debt had made his life miserable. He requested the man to kindly pay the debt for him and secure his release from the bondage in which he finds himself. Another declared that he was a drunkard and he suffers from intense longing for drink which he does not get there.

A man who has committed murder is ceaselessly pursued in the other world by his victim. Of course the victim himself is not doing it, he is only pursued by a phantom of his own imagination; all the same, it is to him as real as a live thing. The master who had tormented his slaves is himself tormented by those whom he had tormented in this life.

The condition of Czar Nicholas is pitiful. His will was law here, but in the other world, he is the object of laughter to millions who had implicitly obeyed him here. Being thus insulted, he finds himself overcome by an ungovernable fury. But his victims only abuse and jeer at him.

A man had defrauded his employer and enriched himself. He finds in the other world that he had been obliged to leave his ill-gotten riches behind him, while he had brought with him only the punishment of his deed, and a severe punishment it was. Another was a hero and patriot in this world. He had by his ability extended the empire of his country. He, however, finds that the vast territory that he had conquered for his country is on the other side where he has no access; and that on his side is the punishment due to him for having outraged moral laws. He had massacred thousands as a conqueror and he finds that he owes a penalty to every one of his victims.

A Frenchman said that in ghost-land he had two friends—an Arab and an American Indian. He made it clear that he had ceased to be a Frenchman; for in his present place of residence people live together not on the principle of nationality but that of similar tastes and sentiments. In short, a Hindu ceases to be a Hindu and an Englishman ceases to be an Englishman in the other world. An Englishman is not necessarily master there as he is here, and a Hindu is not necessarily a subject there which he is here.

We have the choice of accepting or rejecting what Prophets have preached to mankind. But the ghosts do not offer opinions but state actual facts. Let us then summarize what they teach us. Generally then, the highest here may occupy the lowest position in the other world, and vice-versa. A man is judged according to his merit in the land of the spirits where it is impossible to hide the truth. Every man carries with him a machine which accurately records his "karma;" and he has to give, in the other world, the minutest account of the life he leads here. Therefore, those whom worldly prosperity leads to commit injustice are unfortunate beings, who are object of the profoundest pity to their brethren.

As for those who are anxious to find a colony, let them rest assured that in a few short months or years, they will be carried to one, free of cost, from where they will not have to return here, to be in the position of either a master or a slave.

THE SIMS' CASE.

WHENEVER an official, enjoying excessive powers here, shews signs of aberation, the Indian press, as a rule, brings the fact to the notice of Government. The ruler of the Province is urged to take note of the doings of the offending official and protect the people, under his care, from his vagaries. It seems the newspapers, without obliging the authorities by their zeal rather offend them. It should, however, be never forgotten that the Government is more interested in the purity of the administration than the people. A District Magistrate, disposed to trample law under foot, may, no doubt, cause immense misery to good many helpless people of the country; but, such a Magistrate is a greater danger to the Government.

A Magistrate who defies law and procedure and resents the control of the High Court or the superior authorities does infinite harm to the administration. He undermines the very constitution of the Government itself, and demoralizes his brethren. Thus, take, for instance, the case of a Magistrate, Mr. A. He acts as a dictator. The High Court is apathetic and the head of the Government is nervous to interfere with him, lest he disturbs a hornets' nest, that is to say, lest the brethren of Mr. A. take the latter's side and seek to humiliate the Governor himself. The inevitable outcome of such an arrangement is this. B. sees that A. has successfully acted the part of a dictator, and he is naturally tempted to follow suit. For, the role of a dictator has a charm for many. In this manner C. and B. are led to act in the same way, and thus the country is filled with dictators, each trampling law under foot or interpreting it at his sweet will, and the necessity of a Governor or a High Court is done away with.

The purity of administration, in which, as we said, the Government is more vitally interested than the people can be destroyed in another way. It is by humiliating the Indian Magistrates. The moment the Trichinopoly Magistrate was humiliated by the Police through the help of the District Magistrate, he ceased to be an independent officer. Other Sub-Magistrates took note of the humiliation, and they too naturally thought it safer to surrender themselves absolutely to the Sub-Inspectors of Police than to assert their authority. And thus the corrupt Police officers were encouraged to have everything in their way and become the practical rulers of the country, which means the undermining of the administration and the cessation of the Government itself. And why? Because, when we arrive at this stage, that is to say, when the administration is brought into utter contempt, people cease to seek redress at a law court and prefer to take the law in their own hands. Why do people resort to law-courts? It is, because, they expect to get justice there. They will, however, not go there if justice is denied to them.

The Anglo-Indian community would humiliate the Bengal Deputy Magistrate who dared to bind down Mr. Sims, a European to keep the peace. Suppose he is humiliated. What follows? The number of European offenders is bound to increase by leaps and bounds, and the Government will, in the end, find itself unable to afford protection to the people; and either the aggrieved parties will be compelled to take the law in their own hands, or lawlessness will prevail in the land, the real powers slipping from the hands of responsible authorities to violent irresponsible non-official Europeans. So, you see, if the people are interested in having a pure administration, the Government, for its very existence, has to see that its purity is preserved in entirety.

A little consideration will show how mischievous is the contention of the Anglo-Indian Defence Association. An Indian Deputy Magistrate can try an Indian, but not a European, offender. Why? Is he incompetent or biassed? No, he is both able and unprejudiced. Why do they then object? It is simply from a feeling of so-called racial superiority. Surely, the Government should be the last party to encourage such a foolish and dangerous prejudice. And then, do not those Europeans, who refuse to be tried by an Indian Magistrate, cast a slur upon the Government itself? The Europeans will have one law and procedure for themselves and another for the natives of the soil. They have compelled the Government to confess that it is weak and unjust, and that it dares not hold the balance even when a European is a party to a case. Was ever a Government so humiliated before? They humiliate the Government also by refusing to be tried by a Magistrate appointed by it. Do they not by such an attitude proclaim to the world that the Government is so lost to its sense of responsibility as not to realize the immorality of entrusting men with the administration of justice in whom they have no confidence?

Just see how the Anglo-Indians are gaining ascendancy over the Government. When the Ilbert Bill was introduced, they succeeded in coercing the Government to yield to their clamour and give them a law to the effect that, when a European accused claimed his right as a British-born subject, no Indian Magistrate would have any jurisdiction over him. In short, the enlightened Government of India, whose boast was that it made no distinction between a European and an Indian, was compelled to pass a piece of legislation in deference to the unreasonable prejudice of the European community, which has destroyed its noble character as the impartial dispenser of justice, irrespective of caste, creed and colour!

The Government, however, suffered in a still more serious way. It made the fact quite plain to the Indian public that, the non-official Anglo-Indians were more powerful than the authorities themselves. What the people saw was that, it was by the threat of a "White Mutiny," that the Government was compelled to pass the disgraceful law, referred to above. If the Government had then stood firm and protected the Indian Magistrates, the Anglo-Indian Defence Association would have not now ventured to come forward with the demand that a further disability should be imposed upon the Indian Magistrates. In short, it is a monstrous proposal that an Indian Magistrate should have not the privilege of even binding down a European, when he threatens to break the public peace. We must say, however, by refusing the prayer of the Defence Association, Sir Andrew Fraser has served the interests of the Government much more than those of the people; for, if he had yielded to their clamour, they would have come forward with further unreasonable requests and made it impossible for the responsible authorities to rule the country peacefully and in the interests of justice.

Here is the reply of the Lieutenant-Governor to the memorial of the Anglo-Indian Defence Association:—

"In reply, I am to say that, after perusing the records of the case the Lieutenant-Governor sees no need, on the merits of this case, for taking any action. The order of the Native Deputy Magistrate was upheld not only by the District Magistrate, but also by the High Court. There is no reason to doubt for a moment that it was a just and proper order. Nor is there any reason for pressing for the immediate consideration of the general question of law raised in this case. The Lieutenant-Governor has ascertained that no case of imprisonment of a European, in connection with such an order for the preservation of the public peace, has occurred. While, therefore, His Honor has thought it right to submit the views of your Association to the Government of India for consideration at any suitable opportunity, he has not asked that the question be immediately raised."

There is one part of the reply which, we think, might very well have been omitted, namely, that no European has ever been sent to jail by an Indian Magistrate, in connection with peace-binding cases. Suppose, an Indian Magistrate, in the discharge of his duties, had found it necessary to sentence a European to imprisonment. Would His Honour then have acceded to the prayer of the Defence Association and deprived the Indian Magistrates of the privilege of trying peace-binding cases in which Europeans were concerned? Certainly, not; then why was such a sentiment given expression to? It is bound to produce one demoralizing effect, namely, that no Indian Magistrate, after such a declaration from the ruler of the Province, will venture to imprison a European offender even when it is his bounden duty to do so. Or, if a conscientious and independent Indian Magistrate ever does it, the Anglo-Indians will not be satisfied till he is hanged and quartered.

A PROOF OF UNEXAMPLED ILLIBERALITY.

THE SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

IN our last article on the above subject, we said, that Radha Nath Sikdar was one of the foremost men in the country, perhaps in the world. We had good grounds for making this extravagant statement. When he died the following notice appeared in the "Friend of India" of the 24th June 1876 under the signature of Colonel MacDonald, Deputy Surveyor General:—

"We feel quite certain that we shall command the sympathy of every highly educated native in India for our determination to rescue the name of one of the *greatest Mathematicians* which has adorned the honorable list of those who measured and computed the great Indian arc, from neglect, by those who owe so much to his memory."

Be it remembered that the words were italicised by the writer of the notice. Radha Nath got no public recognition from his countrymen; why, we cannot tell. Perhaps it was due to the mode of life that he led. Intensely patriotic though he was, he had cut off all connection with Hindu society. He never married and lived like a European; and in those days, such a man was considered an outcaste. Stories are current about the extraordinary "physical" and "intellectual" feats of Radha Nath. He always returned blow for blow, when he received one from a European; and as he was a very strong man, he generally floored his antagonist. As for his intellectual vigour, the most difficult of mathematical problems was solved by him, when every one in his department had failed to do it. It was for this reason that though he returned the blows of his European colleagues, and even of his superiors, he was never dismissed, degraded or punished in any way.

We said in our last that four years after the appointment of Babu Radha Nath another native of India was appointed in the Survey Department. But, being a man ignorant of English and mathematics, he was taken in the Survey, and not Computing, Department. He was a Mahomedan of Arcot by name Syad Moshin. If Radha Nath acquired world-wide celebrity, so did this Mahomedan.

This gentleman won the gratitude of Col. Everest in this way. When the Azimuth circle came to his hands, there were many defects in that instrument which required to be remedied. But Col. Everest could never make any use of it. This Mahomedan, ignorant of English, volunteered his help, and actually rectified them, to the delight and wonder of his master the Colonel.

Colonel Everest has the reputation of being the inventor of many instruments necessary for his department. These he owed all to the genius of Syad Moshin. And this is the way the Colonel acknowledges his debt:—

"All these arrangements which I have just mentioned, whether as regards the large Theodolite, Sight Vanes, or lamps, were made whilst the measurement of the base-line was in progress; and it is to my native artist Syad Moshin, that I am chiefly indebted for the felicitous issue of my plans. I consulted all books in the libraries of myself or my friends and sought for information in all likely quarters to which I had access, but in vain; for I could nowhere obtain data to guide me regarding friction rollers or Argand's lamps, so that I was left entirely to my own resources, and unless I had a person like Syad Moshin at hand as alive to enter into my ideas, as willing to co-operate with me and give efficiency to my schemes, it is hardly to be expected that amidst so many calls on my time to distract me I should ever have been able to give them a fair trial."

Syad Moshin, as we said before, was a native of Arcot. Col. Everest picked him up in Calcutta in 1830, and he says that "perceiving that he was a person of great talent I took him by the hand and did all in my power to develop his natural genius." After giving him a trial for five years, he was made to succeed Mr. Barrow. How many Europeans are there now in India who will condescend to take a native of India by the hand, because of his talent? That the talent of Syad Moshin was of an extraordinary kind was acknowledged by Col. Everest in many places whenever he found opportunities to do so. Here is a quotation from his writings:—

"And I must do that artist the justice to say that for excellence of workmanship, accuracy of division, steadiness, regularity, and glibness of motion, and general neatness, elegance and nice fitting of all its parts, not only were my expectations exceeded, but I really think it is, as a whole, as unrivalled in the world as it is unique."

So it is not only "unique" but "unrivalled" in the world! Such was the commendation that this native of India received at the hands of his illustrious and generous master. Syad Moshin was subsequently appointed to the glorious position of Mathematical Instrument-maker to the Government of India. In short, in those days, the mathematical instruments, needed by Government, were prepared here.

Syad Moshin was the last of the Indians in the Survey Department. To the question why are not the Indians more largely appointed when they had proved their absolute fitness in this exemplary manner, have no answer to give. Neither could the department itself give a satisfactory reply to the above question. In the Survey Establishment G. T. Survey of India, we find the following:—

"Educated natives had been appointed to some of the grades of subordinate officers, and they had subsequently risen to higher positions, but of late years their employment in the field of operation and observation has been discontinued."

Why discontinued, it is not stated. Perhaps they proved too successful, and that is the only reason that occurs to us. If they had not, by their talents, risen to higher positions, the practice of employing natives of the soil would not have perhaps been discontinued.

Will some member of the Supreme Council be pleased to ask the Government to lay on the table Lord Ripon's minute on the subject of the employment of Indians in the Survey Department?

WE shall in a future issue discuss in detail the scheme which the Lieutenant-Governor has prepared for the selection of candidates to Dy. Collectorships in future. All we need say to-day is that it shows unexampled disinterestedness on the part of His Honour. Would it be believed that he has divided the entire patronage among his subordinates, keeping only one appointment for himself, which he proposes to make over to some deserving person at his own will? The manner in which His Honor intends to fill up the vacancies is as follows:—There are nineteen Dy. Collectors to be appointed annually. Of these nineteen appointments, nine are to be made by nine Commissioners of Divisions in consultation with the Collectors of the Districts in their jurisdiction. The Commissioner and his Collectors will meet and select two candidates; and, in this way the nine Commissioners will send up the names of eighteen to the Lieutenant-Governor. Out of these 18 candidates the Lieutenant-Governor will choose nine. All these nine appointments will be made over to non-official graduates of the Calcutta University.

OF the remaining ten appointments, six are to be made from among officers in Government service, that is to say, one by the head of the Education Department, one by the head of the Police Department; and four Sub-Deputy Collectors will be recommended by the Board. Then one appointment will be made from the Sibpur College, and the remaining three by the Syndicate of the University. As stated above, the Lieutenant-Governor will keep one for himself. This will be taken from the nine appointments to be placed at the disposal of the Divisional Commissioners. But then, His Honour is likely to create two or three appointments more. In that case, the nine Commissioners will have every year their nine appointments, and His Honour will make over the remaining one or ,two appointments to the Sub-Deputy Collectors. We need hardly say that the scheme has its many defects; but, as His Honour is sincerely anxious to make it as acceptable to the public as is possible under the circumstance, we expect a better one when it has been finally matured in consultation with the leading men of the Province.

THE official papers in connection with what is known as the Sims' case has been published. The Lieutenant-Governor has very properly refused to take any action in the matter, and thus nipped a rising scandal in the bud. What has surprised us most is the leading article of the "Englishman" on the subject, in its Tuesday's issue. Our contemporary would have the poor Dy. Magistrate hanged. And why? Because he is a "Native." Of course the "Englishman" does not say so in so many words; but, he has absolutely no other ground than this to urge the Government to punish the "Native" official. What the Dy. Magistrate did was to bind down Mr. Sims who claimed to be a European British subject. But, if he was wrong in his interpretation of the law which, according to the "Englishman" he was, his action was supported by the District Magistrate who was not a "Native" but a European. Nay more. The Criminal Bench of the High Court also took the same view of the law as the Dy. Magistrate did; and at least one of the Judges composing the Bench was an Englishman. The "Englishman" has not, however, a word against the District Magistrate or the European Judge of the High Court, but pours out the vial of his wrath upon the devoted head of the Babu Dy. Magistrate. Are we not therefore justified in holding that the "Englishman" asks the Government to punish the Dy. Magistrate, not that he committed any fault but because he was a "Native?"

THE "Englishman" has another article on the Sims case. The Anglo-Indian Defence Association in their memorial to the Lieutenant-Governor quoted the opinions of some Barristers in support of their contention, namely, that it is only a European, and not an Indian, Magistrate who can bind down a European British subject to keep the peace and asked His Honour to promulgate an order to that effect. The "Englishman" in its article takes the same view of the law. From the exposition of the law, it will, however, be seen that an Indian Magistrate is perfectly within the legal rights to take proceedings under section 107 of the Cr. P. Code, when the party concerned is a European:—

The law depriving a native Magistrate of jurisdiction in the case of European British subjects is contained in section 443 Cr. C. P. That section lays down:—'No Magistrate unless he is a Justice of the Peace etc. etc. shall enquire into or try, and charge against a European British subject.'

Thus it is clear that the question whether the aforesaid section includes proceedings under section 107 depends entirely upon the meaning which the word 'charge' bears in the Code.

In the former Code, ie., the Code before that of 1898 (Act X of 1882) there was nothing like an interpretation of the word 'charge.'

It was in this state of things that certain quandom Advocate Generals were inclined to give their opinions in favour of deprivation of jurisdicton of native Magistrates in cases of proceedings under section 107. Even under the old Code, however, there were clear indications of the meaning of the word 'charge' Chap. XIX of the Code was headed with the word of the 'Charge.' Section 221 of that chap. laid down what a 'charge' was to contain. And the following sections of that chap. dealt with other particulars regarding a 'charge.'

These provisions clearly showed that the word 'charge' meant the statement of an offence for which a man might be tried under chap. XX (summons cases) under chap. XXI (warrant case) under chap. XXII (summary trials) and chap. XXIII (trials before Courts of Sessions) and in respect of which preliminary enquiries might be made.

Unfortunately, however, the provision regarding 'charge' contained in chap. XIX are hardly discussed in the opinions given.

The new Code while it reproduces the provisions of the old Code regarding 'charge' contains additionally a clause of interpretation of the word 'charge' in section 4 clause (c), which runs as follows:—'Charge' includes any head of charge when the charge contains more heads than one.

The above interpretation clearly shows that the word 'charge' means one or more formal statements of offence with which a trial is to begin.

Section 107 contemplates no such statement or 'head of charge' or 'heads of charge'.

All that the Magistrate is required to do is to make an order in writing setting forth 'the substance of the information received, the amount of the bond to be executed, the terms for which it is to be in force, and the number, character and class of sureties (if any) required.'

This provision is contained in section 112 of the Code.

This order can in no way be treated as charge looking to the provision of chap. XIX which treats of the charge and of the interpretation clause, section 4 clause (c).

JUST see the elegant style in which the writer of the article in the "Englishman" speaks of the Dy. Magistrate in question and also of other Bengali Dy. Magistrates. Says the writer:—

"The situation quite unnecessarily created for the Bengal Government by the Bengali Dy. Magistrate to bound down a European British subject in January last to keep the peace, when he had a circular order of the Government before him,

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telling him that he was not legally empowered to do so, is by no means an agreeable one."

Again:—

"Some of our best Bengali Magistrates sometimes seem wanting in "savoir faire' and that higher common sense which is developed in real public life; but they may be supposed to be endowed with an intelligence enough to know the difference between an unsupported expression of editorial opinion and authoritative legal opinion, either accepted confirmed by the Governmeint, or affirmed by a judicial decision after full arguments."

Our contemporary is wrong from the beginning to the end. The embarrassing situation for the Government has been created, not by the Bengali Dy. Magistrate but the Anglo-Indian Defence Association. The latter had no business to take up the matter with the evident object of reviving an old racial question which has happily been now set at rest. We think, the Defence Association has a higher function than that. Instead of preaching the doctrine that it is a humiliating position for a European to be tried by an Indian Magistrate, let it make a common cause with the people of this country. For, there is no doubt that, as regards political disabilities, the Indians and the non-official Europeans are exactly in the same boat in several matters. For instance trial by jury is as much a farce to the one as it is to the other. Then again, if a European is ever sent to jail, it will be done by an English Magistrate, and never by an Indian. As the guardian of public morals, the "Englishman" should never encourage racial feelings and hold a premium to crime by upholding cause of those of his offending countrymen who are justly punished, either by Indians or Europeans.

In our issue of the 27th ultimo, we published the full text of a petition submitted by the zemindars, land-lords, merchants and other residents of Bhadreshwar, Telinipara and Mankundu to the Bengal Government against the proposed acquisition of the Maniknagore Ghat and the road leading to it. We understand that the other day the Sub-divisional Officer of Serampore went to Bhadreswar to enquire into the matter, when about 300 influential residents were present at the spot, who were opposed to the proposed measure. On the other side, there was a Bara Babu of the Mill Company with a darwan and two or three gentlemen who are supporting the cause of the Mill Company. It was clearly explained to the Sub-divisional Officer that the Hindu residents of the locality, including most of the zemindars of Telinipara, the Khan Babus of Mankundu and Dey and Kundu Babus of Baraset had strongest objection to part with the Ghat and the road on account of the special sanctity attached thereto, and if their prayer were not listened to it would seriously wound the religious feelings of the Hindus. The Telinipara zemindars within whose zemindary the road and the Ghat stand had also some documentary evidence to shew that it was prohibited by their ancestors to allow any consecrated Aswatha tree to be destroyed within this zemindary. We understand that they have also filed a petition before the Land Acquisition Dy. Collector, taking objection to the acquisition of the road and the Ghat on religious grounds. Under the above circumstances, we doubt not His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor will be pleased to reconsider his decision in regard to this matter.

Who is K. C. B., a law student (we supress the name for obvious reasons) "the son of a former Professor at an Indian University," who was hauled up at the Lambeth Ponce Court on a charge of theft? As the property was produced and the crime was committed under the influence of drink, he was let off on furnishing a security for £10. And was it for this that the father of this wretch ruined himself to give him a European education? The guardian of a student who proceed to England should always keep the former under the control of a trusty Governor or Superintendent. This B. has taken to drink, and it seems that is the only thing that he has learnt in London.

Is it not a shame that our people should purchase foreign-made barley and biscuits when, enough of them, manufactured here, of equal quality, can be had in the market? There is a mistaken notion that, everything coming from Europe or America, is superior to what can be got in this country. This is one of the main reasons why Indian manufacturers cannot compete with their confreres in other parts of the world. Several of these Indian manufacturers are developing the resources of the country in their own way. Indeed, they are practically doing what our patriots are preaching. They thus deserve every support and encouragement. One such is Babu K.C. Bose, proprietor of the Shampukur Barley and Biscuit Steam Factory. Distinguished medical authorities like Dr. Mohendra Lal Sarkar, Dr. Surja Kumar Sarvadhicary, Dr. Nilratan Sarkar and others have spoken highly of his barley as the best food for infants and invalids. At the Exhibition of the Industrial Association in 1896 Sir C. Stevens gave an excellent certificate to him as the best manufacturer of barley and biscuits. Indeed, Babu K. C. Bose's biscuits and barley have already made a name not only in Bengal but in other quarters of India. He has just brought the latest machinery from Europe for manufacturing first class biscuits and barley, and set them up at Shampuker. It is a sight worth-seeing when biscuits and barley are turned out at his steam factory on a thoroughly improved method and absolutely untouched by hand. The factory is open to the public; and Babu K. C. Bose would be glad to show the process of barley and biscuit-making to such gentlemen and students of colleges and schools as would like to see it. As we said, the articles produced by him are equal in quality to the best imported varieties, and much cheaper. Why should not then our people prefer his barley and biscuits to those imported from foreign lands? Babu K.C. Bose deserves public support for another reason. He is, we believe, the first Indian who has ventured to introduce the European method of manufacturing these articles in this country at a considerable sacrifice. Good barley and biscuits are very much needed among a sickly people like the Indians. From this point of view Babu K.C. Bose has done a good service to his country by establishing his factory.

A discussion has been started in the Madras papers as to why was the Sub-Magistrate of Trichinopoly punished. One party declares, to which we belong, that he was punished because he had abjectly apologized to a petty Police official. The other party, to which the police belongs, is of opinion that the Sub-Magistrate was degraded because he had made some strong remarks against the Police. The Government order, we must say, is not clear on the point. But one thing is certain. The Government would have never ventured, in a public manner, to punish a Magistrate in the performance of his judicial functions for offering remarks against the police, especially in this case, when the Police Superintendent was not only the principal offender in the incident but was himself the prosecutor. If the view of the first party be correct, then the Government has acted in a proper manner. If the view of the other party be accepted, then the action of the Government cannot be too strongly condemned. For, not only would the Government in that case have supported the unjustifiable proceedings of the Police, but defeated the very object of its order, which is to protect the prestige and independence of judicial officers from the attacks of the police, when commenting adversely upon the conduct of the latter.

Rampurhat was lately the scene of a trial of strength between the executive and the judicial, in which, as was to be expected, the former came out victorious. Here are the particulars as furnished to us by our correspondent: One Bahu Ballav, Chowkidar of village Dangal, within thanna Maureswar, lodged a complaint against one Karuna Sindhu Roy of the same village under sec. 457 I. P. C., for having trespassed into his house at night and taken away some Rs. 46 contained in a box. The accused was sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment as also to pay a fine of Rs. 100, out of which when realized, the complainant was to get Rs. 32 for his costs and troubles as also the aforesaid amount of Rs. 46, which, the complainant Chowkidar alleged, belonged to the Collecting Punchayet of the village and was kept in deposit with him.

When the aforesaid fine was realized, the Collecting Punchayet applied to the Sub-Divisional Officer praying for payment of Rs. 46 out of the same but to no effect, though the S.D.O. had allowed Rs. 78 as compensation to the Chowkidar. Elated with the order of the Sub-divisional officer the Chowkidar refused to pay to the Punchayet his dues out of Court. Thereupon the Punchayet instituted a civil suit in the local 1st. Munsiff's Court praying for attachment before judgment a portion of the amount remaining in deposit in the local criminal Court in favour of the Chowkidar under the circumstances noted above. The 1st. Munsiff, being satisfied about the truth of the Punchayet's claim and other matters as required under the law, issued a conditional order of attachment in accordance with the procedure laid down under secs. 484 and 272 C. P. C.

Upon the receipt of this order from the Civil Court, the S. D. O. adopted a most extraordinary step. He sent a requisition to the Munsiff—(Babu Aditya Ch. Chukerbutty)—to withdraw his order of attachment! The Munsiff Babu possessing sufficient strength and independence of mind befitting the occasion,—returned the requisition refusing withdrawal of attachment and saying that such an unusual request should not have come from the Sub-divisional Officer. The Munsiff also suggested in his reply that it was the business of the defendant Chowkidar and it was quite open to him to move the Civil Court to withdraw the attachment on showing sufficient reasons.

The Sub-divisional officer however was not satisfied. He ordered the amount to be paid at once in defiance of the order of attachment. The Criminal Court Accountant objected to this illegal order of the Sub-divisional officer but was chastised. The District Magistrate Mr. S. C. Mukherjee happened to be there at that time. The Sub-divisional officer, it is reported, had consulted him upon the matter and was advised to detain the money until further orders issued by the attaching Civil Court. For the time he was silenced but afterwards again he passed an order to pay the amount at once to the Chowkidar, and thus the whole of the amount was paid to the Chowkidar although the latter prayed to the Court for a payment of the amount less Rs. 46 to be paid to the Collecting Punchayet.

No wonder that the extraordinary conduct of the Sub-Divisional Officer of Rampurhat should lower the prestige of the judicial and bring it into public contempt. Everybody, who has some knowledge of the law, knows that in such matters the executive officers are not only to obey but execute the orders of the Civil Courts. Indeed, the former have no right to question their legality. But we find that the Sub-divisional officer of Rampurhat has not only disobeyed the Civil Court and his official superior but he has set at naught the express provisions of the law.

When young Zemindars, instead of frittering away their time in frivolities, utilize their opportunities for self-improvement and the benefit of others, they deserve to be encouraged in every way. Maharaj-Kumar Prodoyat Kumar is following in the footsteps of his illustrious father, and trying to infuse life and vigour into the British Indian Association, with the help of such trusty and experienced leaders as Rajah Peary Mohan and others, as Honorary Secretary of that public body. There is then Kumar Manomotha Nath Roy Chowdry of Sontosh who is an intelligent and well-informed young Zemindar of public-spirit and who, we hope, will prove useful to his country, which is in a very bad way. The young Maharaja of Burdwan, however, is so peculiarly placed that he cannot take part in any movement which has for its object the political regeneration of the country. His Highness, it seems, is developing his intellectual powers, for he has just appeared before the public as the author of a nicely-printed book, called "Studies", a copy of which has been kindly presented to us. In this work the Maharaja has discussed such important subjects as the Bramhoes of Bengal, the Religion of Bengal, Early Marriage in Bengal, Defects of Modern Education and others of a like nature. One can see at a glance that His Highness has taken up for discussion problems, which are not only very difficult but which have been dealt with by men of the highest intellect and most mature experience. The Maharajah has not only given his opinion freely on the subjects noted above, but expressed himself most vigorously. Of course he can never expect that every body will agree with every one of his opinions. Nay, we think, there is a good chance of the Maharajah himself changing some of his views as he grows older and acquires more knowledge and experience. When Lord Beaconsfield wrote his first novel he was about twenty. He subsequently occupied a most eminent position in the world. And, in his last days, he bitterly repented having written a novel when he was so young. So, it is quite possible, that His Highness may feel in the same way when he attains to his maturity. Instead of taking up contentions subjects, the Maharajah would do well, now that he is so young, to devote his attention to only such subjects as involve accepted principles. His Highness should remember that his position is peculiar. His instructors are all Europeans, and their opinions on Indian subjects are not worth much. His own position is such that he cannot expect to come across many men who are independent, and who would give him advice freely. So he has to rely entirely upon himself for the solution of important problems that are now exercising Indian minds. Every one of his ciuntrymen wishes him well; for, very few are so blessed as he is, and he is thus a great hope of the country. We are glad to see that he finds such pleasure in intellectual pursuits. Young as he is he writes vigorous English. The Maharajah should associate himself as often as possible with such distinguished leaders of the country as Maharajah Sir Jotindra Mohun, H. H. Maharajah of Durbhanga, Rajah Peary Mohun and others.

It is not the wish of the Hon'ble Rai Tarini Pershad Bahadoor that the following incident should be published in the newspapers, but we are sorry we cannot oblige him. The reason which led the Babu to bring the matter to the notice of the higher authorities also leads us to publish it. He was returning to Bhagulpur from Rohinee on the first of August. He was suffering at the time from bad toe owing to an injury from an accident. He alighted at Kiul Junction to catch the Loop mail. He was then so ill that he felt something like a faintness coming over him while sitting in the waiting-room. Thereupon he sent the waiting room Khansama to the Assistant Station Master, requesting the latter to permit him the use of a waiting-room chair, so that he might be carried in it by coolies to the platform which was on the other side. The Assistant Station Master not only refused this petty request of the loan of a chair, and that only for a few minutes, but sent a rude reply to the effect that, "why did the Babu travel at all if he had a bad toe? There was no order to supply the invalids with chair, and he was not going to oblige the Babu." Babu Tarini Persad was carried with great difficulty to the other side of the platform by a medical attendant and one of his servants. In the interests of the public, Babu Tarini Persad reported the matter to the higher authorities, and he got the following reply from Mr. Offg. Traffic Supdt. F. C. Legge:—

"In further reply to your letter, dated, Bhagulpur, the 6th instant, complaining of a want of courtesy displayed towards you by the Assistant Station Master on duty, I beg to say that I have enquired into the matter and have to express my extreme regret that you should have been treated with such gross discourtesy, and to inform you that I have taken up very seriously with the party in fault."

Nothing further is needed to be said on the subject. The Assistant Station Master was not only discourteous, but inhuman. Luskily, Babu Tarini Persad had the means of reaching the platform on the other side, otherwise his life might have been endangered if he had missed the train and had to remain in the station for the next train under the protection of such a kind-hearted Station Master. Fancy that when one in the position of the Hon'ble Rai Tarini Persad could be treated in this fashion by a responsible railway official, how do lower classes of people often fare at the hands of such men.

Here is an extraordinary story, which a gentleman who has recenty returned from Jhansi and upon whose veracity we can rely, has related to us. Our informant says: The incident happened a few months ago at that historic town. Babu Kama Nath Ghose is a well-known pleader of Jhansi. He has a son aged about 18. The local memorial Garden is a few yards off from his house and the young man used to go there for a walk. One afternoon, while there, a mischievous tendency suddenly took possession of him. He threw some objectionable articles to spite as it were the souls of the deceased persons buried there. On another occasion, he marked out a cross on a piece of paper, and trampled it under foot under the influence of some invisible force. From that time he developed extraordinary symptoms. He began behaving like those who are possessed. His father at first chastised the youth for what he considered his own deliberate acts. He however soon became convinced that his son was possessed. He put several questions to the latter while in the trance state; and from the replies he gathered, that the young man was possessed by three spirits, one being that of an English Captain, who was killed at Jhansi during the mutiny. The spirit of the Captain gave the assurance that he was protecting the youth against the evil intentions of the other two. The Captain spoke very highly of the Rani of Jhansi, who, according to him, was innocent about the massacre. He also described the circumstances under which the youth came to be possessed. Under his advice, Babu Rama Nath took his son to a church in Allahabad; and strange to say, since then he has been rid of the spirits. The Jhansi gentleman will try to procure for us the dialogue which passed between Babu Rama Nath and the spirit of the Captain and which, we are assured, will prove interesting reading.

Scraps.

The trial of the accused in the sensational Faridkot murder case has come to an end. Gopi, the murderer of Pundit Tulsi Ram, Station Master of Faridkot, has been sentenced to transportation for life.

With a view to improve and extend the cotton-growing industry in India we understand that it is the intention of the Government of India to spend a lakh of rupees this year on the distribution of sound cotton seeds.

In India our enlightened rulers, after a peaceful rule of nearly two hundred years, thought fit to abolish competitive examination for recruiting officers in the public services; but the Amir of Kabul, the ruler of a semi-civilised country, is bent upon introducing reforms in appointing qualified men in the government service. It is stated that the ruler of Afghanistan has issued an order insisting upon educational qualification as the only passport to the service of his State. The Ameer has drawn the attention of his nobility to the advantages of having duly qualified men in the Government service and the benefits likely to be derived therefrom. Let the foremost country in the world, England, take lessons from Afghanistan, a backward country in the East!

There has been some correspondence, says a Cochin correspondent, between the Police and the Devastanam Superintendent in regard to the presence of a Police Officer in a temple. The custom hitherto was that no Police officer, of course a Hindu, was allowed to wear his uniform while on duty within the precincts of a Hindu temple. There was a difference of opinion lately between these two Superintendents on this question, and, the same having been referred to His Highness, it has just been decided, as a departure from a time-honoured customs, that Police Officers on duty within the enclosure of a temple can wear their uniform, provided it is very clean and has not been used previously; but they will not be allowed access into the inner buildings, leather boots, which superior Police Officers wear, being a source of pollution.

A few days before Parliament was prorogued a Bill for the prevention of juvenile smoking was introduced into the House of Commons. The object of the Bill may be briefly summarized as follows:—(1). To prohibit smoking by all persons under the age of sixteen, and (2) to prohibit the sale of tobacco to presons under that age. It is pointed out that regulations of this character are already in force in the United States and that the Commission on Physical Deterioration which recently reported laid stress on the necessity of some means being adopted to remedy this evil. The state of affairs in India in this respect is not satisfactory and Bengal is worse than other province. Our good Lieutenant-Governor, who is taking keen interest in the welfare of our youths, may do something in this direction and stop an evil practice which is spreading fast among the juveniles of Bengal.

Eucaine, a local anaesthetic of the cocaine order which has recently been discovered and about which we said the other day, will enable the carrying out of those operations otherwise impossible with chloroform, owing to heart weakness of the patient. It will also enable the surgeon to take more time over his work. Although scarcely adaptable for amputations, it will be useful for treatment of the thyroid glands. The eucaine is injected by means of a hypodermic needle under the skin at the place where the incision is to be made. After a few moments the skin may be cut without the patient feeling anything. As different and independent parts are exposed, the drug is dropped at intervals of a few minutes. A highly successful operation with this anaesthetic was recently carried out in a London hospital, the operation lasting one and a half hours.

The following incident, reported by our Arrah correspondent, goes to show to what extent even the menials of the executive department can dare abuse the authority, small though it is, with which they are empowered. The Collector of Ballia issued a warrant, for the realisation of Government dues, against Sultan Tunurhal Hussain, the head of the royal family of Tipu Sultan, who has settled there. Armed with the warrant the peons invaded the house of the Sultan. It so happened that the Sultan was not at Arrah at that time; but the peons were determined to action. So they arrested a lad under 12 years, the minor son of the Sultan, and dragged him before the Magistrate of the district. The Magistrate at once saw the illegality of the action of the peons in arresting the boy and ordered his immediate release. Now this insult offered to a royal family by some peons has created the greatest sensation in the locality. We are told that a petition of complaint has been lodged against the peons on behalf of the minor and is pending enquiry.

In Europe and America Tibet has been regarded for many centuries as a seat of occult learning. Theosophists in Europe also believe in the existence of Mahatmas there. "Household Words" has an interesting article on the subject from which we take the following:—"Thibetan pedlars have affirmed over and over again that, living in the mountains near the city of Lhassa, there are men possessing extraordinary powers distinct from and far higher than the ordinary Lamas of the country. These men cure the sick by giving them to eat rice which they crush out of the paddy with their hands, and perform many other remarkable feats. We are told that a young Bengali in 1882 testified before a number of respectable witnesses that, while travelling in Tibet, in the neighbourhood of the Lake of Manasarwara he met one of these men, accompanied by a number of Chelas, or pupils. The master saluted him, and finding that he had nothing to eat, gave him some ground grain and tea; as the Bengali had no means of obtaining fire the master called for some fuel, and kindled it by simply blowing on it with his mouth. He also cured a shepherd who was brought to him suffering from rheumatic fever, then and there, by giving him a few grains of rice crushed out of paddy, which he had in his hand." Our contemporary hopes that Colonel Younghusband may be able to throw some light on the matter.

We have drawn the attention of both the Chief Justice and the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to the necessity of appointing a Hindu Judge in the Calcutta Small Cause Court, three-fourths of the litigants being Hindus. We are however glad to learn that our cry was not a cry in the wilderness. On the nomination of the High Court, the Government of Bengal has appointed Babu Bepin Behary Mukherjee, Sub-Judge, as fifth Judge of the S. C. Court of Calcutta. Babu Bepin Behary has been brought in from Howrah, where he was Small Cause Court Judge of Howrah, Hooghly and Serampur. Our thanks are due to both the Chief Justice and the Lieutenant-Governor for this consideration. We are informed that the new Judge is discharging his duties satisfactorily. In view of the Chief Judge taking leave for one year, we hope the services of Bepin Behary may be retained in the Calcutta Small Cause Court.

We have already noticed the petition of Babu Gopal Chunder Mukherjee to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, drawing his Honor's attention to the evils of the system of paying the conductors of the Calcutta Tramway by trips. Babu Gopal Chunder, a few months ago, would have been run down by a running car had not a few fellow passengers promptly caught hold of him and averted the accident. His complaint is that he repeatedly called upon the driver of the car to stop it, but the latter did not pay any heed to his words. On the other hand, Babu Gopal Chander was in a hurry bent upon some urgent mission and could not afford to miss the car, consequently he tried to board it while in motion. In reply to his petition, we are told Babu Gopal Chunder has been informed that his petition has been forwarded to the Chairman of the Corporation. But although a month and a half has elapsed apparently nothing has been done by the Chairman of the Corporation. We hope the Chairman will prevail upon the Managing Agent of the Calcutta Tramway, Company Ltd. to do away with the pernicious system of paying the conductors by trips, and to strictly enjoin on them to stop the car as soon as hailed by a passenger.

Next Friday, the 2nd proximo is a gazetted as well as a Hindu holiday, already sanctioned by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, in which all men professing the Hindu religion are required to perform certain ceremonies which are obligatory on them but unfortunately the Tea Brokers' Association have fixed that day as "Tea Auction Sale Day" consequently the clerks employed in the aforesaid brokers' offices and other mercantile offices dealing in tea will be required to attend office on that day; if they do not, they will be either heavily fined or dismissed from their service. The number of holidays already curtailed by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce is keenly felt by these poor clerks, and if the merchants now try to make a further reduction, they are helpless, and have no other alternative, but either to submit to these hard and arbitrary rules or to resign their posts. The Association could easily have fixed any other day for Tea Auction instead of Friday for the convenience of these poor Hindu clerks. We hope the Government of Sir Andrew Fraser will intervene, and that these mercantile officers will be strictly enjoined not to interfere with the Hindu holidays already sanctioned by the Govt. of Bengal and the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

Since our Lieutenant-Governor took charge of Bengal the sanitation of Puri engaged his earnest attention. In November last year, when His Honor visited Puri, he held a Conference with the local officers for the purpose of settling the main lines on which improvement should proceed. The most important decision arrived at by the Conference was that a expert should be placed on special duty to work out a complete system of drainage for the town, to make experiments for devising a good system of water-supply by means of tube wells or otherwise, and to provide means for the periodical cleansing of the sacred tanks. Mr. F. B. Lines, an Assistant Engineer, was deputed to carry out the work, and his report is now awaited by Government. Enquiries were also instituted in order to secure the improvement of the lodging-houses by means of an improved type of private latrine, and the adoption of a standard plan for new lodging-houses. The introduction of radical schemes of sanitary reform will involve heavy expenditure, and it has been suggested that the necessary funds may be found either from an increase in the lodging-house tax or from a tax on pilgrims. The consideration of the financial aspect of the schemes has, however, been deferred until the details of the schemes themselves are settled; and the Lieutenant-Governor is, therefore, not in a position to express any opinion on this point at present.

It requires a good deal of tact and judgment to decide the comparative merits of two scandals that are now agitating the minds of both the rulers and the ruled in India. In Bengal we have the Hazaribagh scandal and our brethren of the benighted provinces, the Trichinopoly scandal. The Governor of Madras has expressed his opinion on the Trichinopoly scandal, but our Lieutenant-Governor who is taking a keen interest in the Hazaribagh sensation and has, of his own motion, called for the papers of the case, has not yet expressed any opinion of his. A writer in the "Hindu" has, however, attempted a comparison between two scandals. The Trichinopoly affair, says he, had the effect of bringing the administration of justice into contempt, whereas the Hazaribagh scandal had the effect of bringing the High Court into contempt. Fancy a Civilian of 8½ years' standing telling the High Court that its order is wrong, and declining to give effect to it! Two Judges of the High Court are of opinion that the Deputy Commissioner treated the case as a "personal matter" and played into the hands of the District Superintendent of Police. When we find District Magistrates play second fiddle to Police Superintendents, is it not high time to bring about the much needed reform of "separation of the Executive and Judicial functions"? Let us not irritate the feelings of the above Magistrates by comparing their deeds. Let us not vote in favour of the one against the other. Let us vote golden statues both of them, so that they may go to England and recount their deeds before their friends.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Calcutta and Mofussil.

Calcutta Corporation.—Mr. R. T. Greer, Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation, is expected back in the first week of November.

Plague Regulations Withdrawn.—The regulation for the prevention of the introduction of plague by sea imposed in the ports of Orissa and Chittagong against vessels arriving from Salaya Port in Kathiawar have been withdrawn.

O'Brien vs. O'Brien.—Further evidence was adduced in this case yesterday in which Sarah Aileen O'Brien sued her husband Herbert St. Vincent O'Brien, for the dissolution of marriage on grounds of desertion and adultery. His Lordship the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Stephen granted the order prayed for.

Conviction of A Hindu Priest.—On Thursday, before Syad Mahamed Khan Bahadoor, Deputy Magistrate of Alipore one Fakeer Chud Chuckerbatty, a Hindu priest of Tallygunge was charged with having lifted a cow belonging to one of his neighbours and sold it to a local butcher. The accused pleaded guilty and prayed for mercy. The Court accordingly convicted and sentenced the accused to two months' rigorous imprisonment.

Criminal Trespass.—One Sahadat and three constables attached to the Pundooah Police are being arraigned before Mr. S. C. Ghose, I.C.S., Assistant Magistrate of Hooghly. It is alleged that the accused Sahadat accompanied by three constables trespassed into the house of his brother-in-law (husband of his wife's sister) named Aijal Huck during his temporary absence from home and forcibly carried away his young wife Morijan Bibi, the sister-in-law of Sahadat. The trial is proceeding.

Sanitary Inspector of Hooghly.—The above post has been newly created by the Hooghly Municipality and offered to an able and expert medical man to look after the sanitation of that town which is sadly in need of the services of such whole time officer. Certain rules calculated to better the sanitary condition of the town have been framed by Dr. Crawford, the Civil Surgeon of the district, who is also an ex-officio member of the Municipal Board for his direction and guidance which forebode to produce good and satisfactory results.

A Case of Enticement.—A young Mahomedan married girl, aged seventeen, named Nekjan Bibi, living with her husband, one Jahor Shaik, in the village of Gorgram, under thana Santipore, within the district of Nuddea, was one day seduced by a neighbour of hers, one Nayan Shaik, from the lawful guardianship of her husband for immoral purpose. Nayan Shaik, it is said, took the girl to Pundooah where the run-away couple was arrested by the Police on suspicion. They were sent up by the police and are now being tried before Babu Chunder Bhusan Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate of Hooghly.

M. A. Examination.—The distribution and headings of the M. A. papers in English have been modified as follows, with effect from the M.A. Examination in 1905, inclusive:—1st paper, Drama; 2nd paper, Poetry; 3rd paper, Prose; 4th paper, Prose; 5th paper, General Paper in Literature; 6th paper, Anglo-Saxon, Comparative Grammar, and Essay.

Civil Medical Department, Bengal.—Third grade Assistant Surgeon Sarasi Lal Sircar, Additional Assistant Surgeon to the Chemical Examiner's Department, Calcutta, is appointed to do supernumerary duty at the Medical College Hospital until further orders. Senior Assistant Surgeon Kasi Nath Ghosh is appointed to act at the Bhagalpur dispensary during the absence of Senior Assistant Surgeon Jogendra Nath Ghosh.

Indian-made Cigars.—It is a happy sign of the times that according to the demand in the market there are springing up all varieties of industries undertaken by the children of the soil. Babu K. N. Surma has manufactured some kinds of country-made cigars which he has called "Mundane Cigars" prepared solely with indigenous ingredients. We learn that the cigars have given satisfaction to the general public inasmuch as many have become the permanent customers of the above firm. Though the shape of the "Mundane" cigars is yet not so nice as those manufactured in first-class European firms, it is nothing when one takes into account its cheapness and the delicious smell it gives out when smoking. Those of our readers who are in the habit of smoking cigars may, however, give the above a fair trial in consideration of the fact that they are country-made articles and thus deserving of support. Any one may write for samples to Babu K.N. Surma at 35, Brojodulal's Street, Calcutta, with one anna stamp.

Defamation.—Before Mr. W. A. Bonnaud, the second Presidency Magistrate, the case in which Babus Opendra Nath Sen and Girish Chander Ghose charged one Radha Ram Das, with having defamed them, by means of a petition addressed to the Port Commissioners containing allegations of bribery and extortion, was concluded. Babu Kali Nath Mitter, Mr. Manuel, Babus N. L. Dey and Kristo Lall Mitt, appeared for the prosecution and Babu Amarendra Nath Chatterjee with Babu Hem Chander Sanyal for the defence. His worship in convicting the accused of the charges completely exonerated the complainants of the allegations made against them and considering the grave nature of the offence, sentenced the accused to pay a fine of Rs. 300 in default to undergo two months' imprisonment.

River Casualties.—Writes our Hooghly correspondent:—On Wednesday the 24th August, a boat laden with 30 or 32 passengers was coming up the river in the evening at about9 p.m. amidst squally winds to Chandernagore from Nawabgunge, where Jhoolon Jatra ceremony was celebrated with pomp and grandeur. While at Telinipara the boat came upon a jetty belonging to the Victoria Jute Mill by the force of the strong current and got capsized. The unfortunate occupants of the boat being thus thrown overboard managed to get ashore by swimming save, three who must have been drowned.—On the following night another boat with several passengers on board was proceeding up the river to Bhadressur from Nawabgunge at a rapid speed with sail unfurled. While in mid-stream the boat capsized all on a sudden owing to the wind having changed its course, throwing the passengers overboard through its influence. Unhappily neither the boat nor the passengers could be traced.

B. A. Examination.—It is notified that at the ensuing B. A. Examination to be held in March 1905, the Practical Examination in Chemistry will be held in Calcutta only. Candidates who take up the Honour Course in Chemistry will, therefore, be required to present themselves for examination in Calcutta.

Registration Department.—Maulvi Syed Muhammad Nasir Khan is appointed to be Rural Sub-Registrar of Barhi, in the district of Hazaribagh. Babu Krishna Kumar is appointed to be Joint-Sub-Registrar of Arrah at Koilwar, in the district of Shahabad, vice Kumar Chandra Sen Saran Singh, resigned. Maulvi Syed Haidar Ali, Rural Sub-Registrar of Chatmahar, in the district of Patna, is appointed to be Joint-Sub-Registrar of Basirhat at Hasanabad, in the district of the 24-Parganas.

The Vaish Trading Company.—The above company, established in Ludhiana, Punjab, has sent us for review a bed-sheet prepared by them. We are highly pleased with the made of the article. It can be used either as a bed-sheet or a table-cloth or a cloth for Baitakhanas. Its size i 2¾ yards by 1½ yards. The colours, which highten its beauty are fast. In short, considering the durability, texture and size of the sheet, its price of Rs. 2-6 is cheap. The Vaish Trading Company, who are dealers in country cloth, ought to be patronized by the Indian public.

Killing An Uncle.—On Thursday at the Alipore Criminal Sessions before Mr. Harward, the additional District and Sessions Judge one Khoda Box Shaik, a young Mahamedan of Packpara was charged with murder. It was stated that there was a long standing quarrel between ahe accused and his uncle, Maramet Shaik over a piece of land on which stood a privy close to their houses and early on the 21st July last the uncle had occasion to use the privy whereupon the nephew commenced a quarrel in the course of which the latter struck the former on the head with a piece of timber, causing fracture of his skull. The wounded uncle was immediately removed to the hospital where he died from the effect of the injury shortly after his admission. The trial is proceeding.

Bengal Crop Report.—The rainfall during the week was general and moderately heavy in some places. More rain is needed in Purnea. Considerable damage to "bhadoi" crops was caused by floods in the Begusarai subdivision and in thana Gogri in the district of Monghyr. "Bhadoi" crops were also much damaged by floods in Malda. In parts of Hooghly, Murshidabad, and Sonthal Parganas crops are still suffering from the effects of the floods. Sugarcane doing well. Harvesting of "bhadoi" crops commenced. Transplantation of winter rice approaching completion. Prospects fair. Cattle-disease reported from 1 districts. Fodder and water generally sufficient. The price of common rice has risen in districts, has fallen in 5, and is stationary in the remainder.

Robbing A European Lady.—On Thursday Inspector Large of the Ekbalpore Thanna charged one Chadi Mowlah and Elahibox Mullick, peddlers of Calcutta before Moulvi Serajul Huq, Police Magistrate of Alipore with theft of two diamond rings belonging Mrs. Strelly of Diamond Harbour Road. The two accused entered the house of Mrs. Strelly for the purpose of selling some pieces of cloths and took away the rings that were left on the table. The accused was caught red handed and handed over to the Police. Mr. Ebrahim, barrister-at-law appeared for the accused no 2 and contended that his client was not guilty of the offence as the stolen articles were not found in his person. The Magistrate accordingly convicted and sentenced the first accused to sixteen stripes on account of his tender age and acquitted the second.

Subordinate Educational Service.—Babu Narendra Nath Chakravarti, M.A., is confirmed as an Assistant Master in the Patna Collegiate School. Maulvi Abdul Quadir, M. A., Assistant Master (Maulvi), Patna Collegiate Schools, is appointed to be an Assistant Master in the Arrah Zilla School, but he will continue to act as Deputy Inspector of Schools, Shahabad, during the absence, on deputation, of Babu Aswini Kumar Das. Babu Gopi Bhusan Sen, B.A., Senior Assistant in the Chemical Laboratory of the Presidency College is allowed leave of absence for three weeks. Babu Manomohan De, B. Sc., is appointed to act as Senior Assistant in the Chemical Laboratory of the Presidency College, on Rs. 50 a month, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Gopi Bhusan Sen.

Weather and Crops in Assam.—The following report on the state of the season and prospects of the crops for the week ending the 23rd August, 1904, appears in the "Assam Gazette:" Moderate rain in all districts. Harvesting of early rice, transplanting of late rice, plucking and manufacture of tea and cutting of jute in progress. Tea retarded in Cachar by cold; elsewhere thriving. Prospects of early rice indifferent in Lower Assam, fair in other districts. Insects are damaging rice in Sylhet. Prospects of late broadcast rice, sugarcane and cotton generally fair and of jute poor. Cattle disease prevalent in six districts. Prices of common rice—Silchar 18, Sylhet 17, Dhubri and Tezpur 14, Gauhati, Nowgong and Dibhugarh 13, and Sibsagar 12 seers per rupee.

No Chief Justice.—"Max" writes in "Capital":—Sir Francis Maclean, the Chief Justice of Bengal, left Bombay on Saturday last in the steamer "Caledonia," so we are informed, and the consequence is that there is no Chief Justice of Bengal at present either in the Presidency or in India. No notification has appeared in the "Gazette" intimating the grant of any leave, though we see it stated that the Government of India have granted his Lordship one week's casual leave. Be this as it may, it is the duty of the Government under section 7 of the High Courts' Act, 24 and 25 Victoria c. 104, to appoint a Chief Justice to act during the absence of Sir Francis Maclean. This they have not done, and I see that the native press appear to insinuate that this was because Mr. Justice Chunder Madhab Ghose should have been the Judge appointed. I am not disposed to believe this. I am of opinion that this little arrangement, by which the Government winks its eye at the departure of Sir Francis Maclean, is only to enable him to draw full pay during the week that he is absent. The matter, however looked at, does not redound to the credit of the Government, because it is very evident that there is one law for those in high places and another for those who are not so highly favoured. We shall probably hear some questions in Parliament on the subject.

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

[From our own Correspondent.]

London, Aug. 12.

"THE TRUTH ABOUT INDIA."

A few weeks ago, I quoted some remarks made by Dr. C. E. Aked, of Liverpool, complaining of the ignorance in England with regard to Indian affairs. Dr. Aked's remarks have brought a reply from Mrs. Blair, who, as "Patrika" readers well know, is the daughter of Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee and Hon. Secretary of the Liverpool Branch of the Indian Famine Union. Mrs. Blair's remarks are so pertinent that I make no apology for a somewhat lengthy extract from her letter. "I should like to be allowed," she writes, "to add my appeal to the one contained in Dr. Aked's article, that people in England should insist on getting to know the facts about India. For India is availed secret, a mere metaphysical problem to most English people. They think that India is so far away and so vast a puzzle that they are easily persuaded by the so-called experts, that they had better attend to their own affairs. How can they know anything of India if they have never been there, fought there, or had a share in ruling her? If a man wishes to take a clear, commonsense view for himself, he is regarded as something of a fanatic. A commonsense view of Indian questions, indeed! Why, the experts, as they call themselves, are up in arms at once against such a revolutionary tendency. It must not be permitted. The secrets of India must be kept from the profane eyes of the multitude. When officials return they must be questioned in a submissive frame of mind, and difference from them is held to be an obvious absurdity, and the men who govern dumb millions in India expect to meet with persons equally submissive in England. The exercise of commonsense is denied to English people. What they are invited to accept is official expert opinion wrapped up for them in pretty paper. This is no exaggeration. Investigation from England is discouraged, and criticisms are pushed aside by the amazing superiority of the experts. This state of things is a danger and discredit to England and a danger and discredit to India. In England, it leads to mental sloth, indifference, and readiness to accept any silly excuse for expenditure or reckless military expeditions. It shifts from the masses of the English people all quick sense of responsibility. It destroys touch with enlightened native opinion in India whenever and wherever that is known to exist. To most English politicians, in fact, there is no such thing as Indian opinion, or there ought not to be outside of the governing or the military class. What is wanted is a commonsense study of Indian questions, free discussion of whatever happens in India, a revolt against the refined despotism of officialism and expertism. If it is desirable to develop a true and enlightened opinion in India, England must set the example of emancipation from the thraldom of official personages at home. Interpretation must not still be official and expert when native interests are pleaded. What the Indians themselves think and feel on questions vital to their financial and social well-being must be recognised. The ignorance of Englishmen must be removed, for there is no other way of getting rid of the dominance of what is often narrow, prejudiced, but still considered expert, opinion. Englishmen must bestir themselves in view of their responsibilities."

WESLEYAN CHAPLAINS AND THEIR TRAVELLING EXPENSES.

From a letter in the "Times," signed by the General Secretaries of the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society, it is evident that the Wesleyan body does not intend to leave matters in the unsatisfactory position for which the Annual Conference was responsible. As regards the contention of the Rev. J. Findlater that it is illegal for officials of the Missionary Society to receive on a series of journeys more from Government than they have "actually paid out as travelling expenses," the General Missionary Committee have reported that "the procedure he condemns is the procedure dictated by the Government rules and is perfectly honest and honourable." This, it will be remembered, is the attitude taken up by an impartial observer, Mr. Henry Beauchamp, of Madras. But one cannot help having doubts as to its correctness when applied to the members of a religious organisation. The Government of India drafted its regulations not because it wished to present a travelling bonus to such of its officers who chose to travel "on the cheap", but because it was necessary to frame regulations which could be easily worked to prevent any abuses creeping into the expenses system. It therefore provided a schedule of permissible travelling expenses which would apply to the average travelling official. By the ordinary rough and ready standards of everyday life, it is quite permissible to pocket the difference between actual and scheduled expenses when one has managed to journey at a cheaper rate than usual. Even a religious organisation—whose standard, one may hope, is higher than that of the street—might pocket the difference with a clear conscience. But when it comes about, as Mr. Findlater, declares, that a religious body "systematically" takes advantage of this average expense sheet to obtain money for their Church, the case becomes altogether different. Occasional profits from this source are permissible, since the Government has fixed its average with a view to such a contingency. To obtain those pronts regularly is altogether another matter, although the Wesleyan authorities do not appear to have comprehended this elementary thical fact. But a more serious charge was also made by Mr. Findlater when he accused the chaplains of making unnecessary journeyings and of charging for their journeys in which they used free railway passes. The General Missionary Committee recognise the gravity of this accusation, and they have appointed a subcommittee to investigate any instances of this practice which Mr. Findlater can bring before them. In taking this step they are to be commended. It would be an improvement, however, if they were to nominate one or two persons to places on the committee who are not connected with their Church. In making this suggestion I do not in the slightest degree wish to hint that they are incapable of taking a perfectly unbiassed and just view in dealing with the case. On the contrary, I believe the Committee to be entirely straightforward and honest men. But their life-long sympathies will naturally be in favour of the defendants in the case, and in such circumstances few men are able to pronounce a calm, judicial verdict, unincide?—has once more been revived by the case fluenced by their emotions.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Aug. 30.

Reuter at Chifu telegraphs that after a lull, severe fighting was resumed at Port Arthur on the 27th instant.

It is announced at St. Petersburg that the crews of the cruiser "Novik" have arrived at Vladivostok.

Reuter at Shanghai says that the Russian men-of-war have finished disarming.

The British Admiralty announces that the Commander of the Cape Squadron left Seychelles on the 26th instant with the Crescent, the Forte and the Pearl, and is proceeding to the south in search of the Russian volunteer cruisers, St. Petersburg and Smolensk. The Barrosa searches between Walfisch Bay and Simons Bay. The commander of the South Atlantic squadron, which is presently in the vicinity of Cape Verde with the St. George and the Brilliant, is also ordered to join in the search.

Reuter at Tokio says it is believed that the loss of Aushanshan, the strongest defence of Liaoyang, renders the Russian position at Liaoyang untenable.

Reuter at Liaoyang wires to-day that rifle firing began at five this morning southwards, a steady cannonade is progressing and a great battle is believed to have begun. The Japanese reached five miles west of the railway last evening but have dispersed.

Reuter at Tokio says that the Japanese in the battle at Anping had 2,000 killed and wounded. The Japanese captured eight guns at Anping and eight at Anshanshan.

General Sakharoff reports from Liaoyang at noon that the Japanese are advancing along the whole front against Liaoyang. The main attack is directed against Russian centre and right, where the Russian losses are heaviest. The Japanese over night posted numerous artillery within range of the Russian position, and by nine in the morning the Japanese were close to Russian centre.

Reuter at Chifu says that since the failure of the grand assault on Port Arthur the Japanese are contenting themselves with desperate attacks on individual positions, but have made little permanent impression and have lost heavily.

London, Aug. 31.

The Russian Baltic Squadron has returned to Kronstadt from a cruise.

General Sakharoff, in a despatch from Liaoyang, dated to-day, says that yesterday's battle concluded at nine o'clock at night. The Russians recaptured many positions occupied by the Japanese. The enemy attempted to turn the Russian right, but were repulsed by the reserves. The Russian losses were three thousand.

Reuter at Liaoyang to-day says that the battle is proceeding, but the force of the cannonade is not equal to that of yesterday. The Japanese are getting round the left flank of the Russians. More than half a million men and thirteen hundred guns are engaged on both sides, and practically the whole force is in the firing line.

Reuter at St. Petersburg says it appears that reinforcements have been pouring into Liaoyang during the past weeks, totalling two army corps.

Reuter understands that the autumn campaign will probably terminate with the fall of Port Arthur and the driving out of Kuropatkin from Liaoyang.

It is pointed out that the Japanese financial position will enable her to continue the war for a long time yet; while as long as she is victorious her credit will be undiminished.

Reuter at Tokio telegraphs under today's date that the battle at Liaoyang is progressing. Official dispatches which left late yesterday say that the neither contestant has realized a visible result.

Reuter wiring from Liaoyang last evening says the Russians have effected an advance southwards along the railway.

General Stoessel telegraphed to the Tsar on the 26th ultimo that the daily assaults of the Japanese at Port Arthur had all been repulsed.

Reuter wires from Mukden on the 30th ultimo that a Japanese force of ten thousand is reported to be advancing from the North-East.

Reuter at Tokio says the Japanese despatches make no mention of the casualties at Liaoyang. It is expected that the battle will be prolonged several days. Unofficial Russian reports state that the Japanese have lost forty-six guns at Liaoyang.

The Dail Chronicle correspondent at Chifu says that the bombardment of Port Arthur has been suspended and the Japanese have abandoned the idea of capturing it by storm and have commenced an investment.

Reuter at Chifu says the steamer Independent with stores for the Japanese at Niuchwang has been detained by the Customs authorities there on the ground that it is a breach of China's neutrality if the steamer is allowed to depart. The Japanese Consul has protested.

London, Sept. 1.

Reuter at Tokio wires that the Russian right centre, defending Liaoyang southward, was retreating on Thursday afternoon and the Japanese were pursuing.

Reuter at St. Petersburg says that Kuroki with artillery is crossing the Taitse by means of pontoons, the cavalry utilising the ford. One division has already crossed.

Sakharoff reports desperate fighting all yesterday. At the south front there were two separate engagements. Fighting was suspended at midnight. The Russians claim to have maintained most of their positions. Great losses were suffered on both sides.

Generals Stackelberg and Drosowsky were wounded.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Sept. 1.

Reuter at Shanghai wires that the unconfirmed report is current there that the Japanese have occupied Liaoyang. The Russians are receiving strong reinforcements.

Reuter at Liaoyang says that Kuropatkin at nightfall yesterday ordered a retirement upon the main works around the city owing to information that the Japanese were preparing to cross the Taitse at dawn. To-day a mixed Japanese division having crossed the Taitse marched westward towards the railway with the object of cutting communications.

Reuter at Chifu says that Sir Robert Hart has ruled that the steamer "Independent" can proceed to Niuchwang unhampered.

London, Sept. 2.

Reuter at Tokio says that Headquarters reports state that there was a fierce and daring assault made by Oku's army on the 1st, which finally broke the Russian right, after which the Russians retreated. Marshal Oyama wires that his losses have been heavy. Kuroki's casualties between the 24th and 25th ultimo were 2,225.

The report is still current that Liaoyang has been captured.

Reuter wires from Mukden that the train service to Liaoyang is interrupted and the roads are impassable.

Reuter at Tokio says that the Japanese left began pressing the Russians towards Taitscho at dawn on Friday. The Japanese casualties since Monday are officially estimated at ten thousand.

Reuter at Tokio this afternoon states that it is reported that a conflagration is raging at Liaoyang. The retreat of the Russian centre and right necessitated the Russians crossing the Taitse to the north bank and this resulted in the Russians being thrown into great confusion. The Japanese seized a number of Russian guns and turned them against the Russians.

While paying a tribute to the great feat of arms accomplished the Japanese papers suspend their judgment as to the ultimate issue and consider Kuropatkin's position is one of terrible danger, and that the probabilities point to the destruction of his army.

Reuter at Tokio says that the city is ringing with shouts and cheers for the victory at Liaoyang and lantern bearing crowds are surging through the streets.

Popular estimates regarding the fall of Port Arthur place the date at late in September.

London, Sept. 2.

A Russian steamer in clearing the channel at Port Arthur struck a mine and was destroyed.

GENERAL.

London, Aug. 31.

Mr. Brodrick writing to Sir M. Bhownuggree has assured him that he will do everything in his power to safeguard the position of British Indians in the Transvaal.

Mr. Chamberlain goes to Italy on the 10th of October for six weeks and renews his first campaign immediately he returns.

The match between Yorkshire and M. C. C. was drawn.

A letter from the Foreign Office to the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce states that in consequence of representations made by His Majesty's Government the whole question of contraband is now under consideration by the Russian Government.

London, Sept. 1.

The Annual Hungarian Omcial Crop report estimates the deficiency in the world's yield of cereals at five per cent., as compared with last year; but this is practically covered by supplies in sight and on markets.

The Clan Matheson, the Sardinia, and the Den of Airlie are unable to discharge at Marseilles. A general strike in sympathy will be declared to-day at ten Mediterranean ports, including Corsica and Algeria.

Earl Grey has been appointed Governor-General of Canada.

London, Sept. 2.

Sir Edwin Egerton has been appointed Ambassador at Rome and Sir James Rennell Rodd, Minister at Stockholm.

The following is the latest betting on the St. Leger:—

2	to	1	on Pretty Polly
7	to	2	against St. Amant
16	to	1	Andover
20	to	1	St. Denis
25	to	1	Almscliffe
33	to	1	Lancashire
33	to	1	Darley Dale
33	to	1	Rydal Head
33	to	1	Pace Egger Colt
33	to	1	Henry First
33	to	1	Santry
40	to	1	Admiral Breeze

PARS FROM THE "PIONEER."

Allahabad, Sept. 1.

The "Pioneer's" London correspondent wires under date August 31:—

Each side is believed to have a quarter of a million men at Liao-yang but the Japanese have the larger number of guns. Some doubt exists as to whether Kuropatkin intends to make a grand effort or merely to cover his retreat. Experts are speculating on the possibilities of Kuroki blocking the road to the north. Some continental telegrams aver that this is already accomplished, others that the Japanese west of the railway are strong enough for the purpose Reports circulated in Rome state that the Japanese are already on the outskirts of Liao-yang. Kuropatkin has sent a portion of his army north to protect the railway, the Chinese having destroyed the bridges.

The programme of Lord Curzon's autumn tour will probably be arranged this month.

It is probable that Major Macnab, Joint civil surgeon, Simla will join the viceregal staff as surgeon on Lord Curzon's return.

General Sir Montagu Gerard has been with general Kuropatkin's headquarters for some time past as one of the British attaches representing the Indian army.

It is hoped that as the bay current of the monsoon dies away this month there will be less chance of snow in Tibet. A prolonged monsoon however is almost certain to entail further snowfall on the passes as high as the Karo-la.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

A DESPERATE FIGHTING. JAPANESE BAYONET COMBAT.

Allahabad, Aug 30.

The "Pioneer's" London correspondent wires under date August 29:—

Mr. Bennett Burleigh, the "Daily Telegraph's" correspondent anticipates that the present fight will prove the biggest and most momentous battle of the whole campaign. The Russians are resisting desperately. All telegrams praise the work of their artillery. The abandonment of the positions at Anshanchan which could not have been taken without serious loss was compelled by the Japanese advance from the East. Kuropatkin is reported to be embarrassed by the army's dislike of constant retirements.

A Mukden telegram shows that the Japanese sought a bayonet combat on the 26th advancing without firing. A Russian regiment and battery got around their flank and mowed down whole columns from the rear, the Japanese generally preferring suicide to capture.

REPORTED ENGAGEMENTS NEAR LIAOYANG.

Bombay, Aug. 31.

The First Army commenced an attack on 25th August on the enemy who were strongly posted on steep mountain ridges, 23 miles south-east of Liaoyang. On the night of the 25th our army's central columns, after a bayonet charge by the infantry, succeeded in carrying the enemy's position on that side, but the enemy's right and left wings continued to offer desperate resistance.

On the 26th severe fighting was resumed but the enemy's resistance remained unabated. In that fight our right column, after a sanguinary engagement, carried the enemy's left and captured eight guns. On the 27th our whole columns resumed the attack and at sunset the entire line of the enemy's position fell into our hands. Our casualties were about 2,000.

At the same time our other armies marched to Anshantien wherefrom the enemy retired without a resistance. Our armies pursued the enemy while our detachments intercepted the enemy who thereupon fled toward Liaoyang in utter confusion, apparently suffering considerable damages from our fire. We also captured eight field guns, ammunitions and many carts.

SIR CHARLES RIVAZ.

Simla, Sept. 1.

It is understood that Sir Charles Rivaz, Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, will probably proceed home on six months' leave next summer.

A MEDICAL APPOINTMENT.

Simla, Sept. 1.

Major A. J. Macnab, Joint Civil Surgeon, will be appointed Surgeon to the Viceroy on Lord Curzon's return to India.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

Pubna, Sept. 1.

A public meeting was held here yesterday under the presidency of Babu Girish Chander Roy, Vakil, for the advancement of Scientific and industrial education. Babu Mohini Mohan Lahiry M.A., Chairman, Local Board, and Dr. Haris Chandra Mojumder were elected delegates to the Calcutta meeting. A District Committee and an Executive Board were formed. Great enthusiasm prevailed.

THE INDIAN STAFF COLLEGE.

Allahabad, Sept. 1.

The Indian Staff College, the construction of which has recently been sanctioned by the Secretary of State, will cost some six lakhs to build, the Military Works estimate being Rs. 635,440. It is expected that two or three years will pass before the buildings at Quetta are ready to receive professors and students. If vacant buildings can be found in any suitable cantonment they may be utilised for the moment. The allotment in Military estimates for the current financial year was two lakhs of rupees and this sum will be spent at Quetta where the materials have already been collected. The College is estimated to cost just under Rs. 70,000 annually a sum which there will be no difficulty in finding.

THE WEATHER.

Simla, Sept. 1.

The only important rainfall given by the Arabian Sea current during the past week occurred in connection with a depression which formed off the Orissa Coast. Though it was a very feeble disturbance and ultimately advanced northwards into Bengal, it was the means of determining some rain to the Central Provinces and Orissa, the heaviest falls reported being 5 inches at Raipur and 2½ inches at Cuttack, Jubbulpur, Seoni and Sambalpur. The break in the rains has been almost complete over the remainder of the Peninsula and North-West India. Even rain given by the Bay current in North-East India and Burma, has been very local in character, and has been equal to the week's average in only the Burma Coast districts, East and North Bengal and Assam. Southerly winds from the Bay have given moderate to heavy rain in Assam for the past two days, during which period Cherrapoonjee has registered 15 inches. Rain has increased slightly on the West Coast during the same period, but there are no indications at present of any immediate improvement in monsoon conditions over the east of the Arabian Sea.

The Tibet Expedition.

THE NEGOTIATIONS.

Simla, Aug. 31.

It may be definitely stated that in the terms now being offered to the Tibetans there is no idea of a Resident being stationed at Lhassa. Everything is proceeding satisfactorily, but no announcement as to the nature of the obligations now being imposed need be expected for some weeks.

PROBABLE DATE OF RETURN.

It is understood that the Tibet Mission will start on its return journey from Lhasa on the 15th of September, and the march back will probably occupy some five weeks.

High Court—Sept. 1.

ORIGINAL SIDE.

(Before Mr. Justice Stephen.)

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF A RECEIVER.

Madhub Monee Dassee vs. Rai Bahadur Amritonauth Mitter.

Mr. Garth instructed by Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose, appeared for the plaintiff.

Mr. Jackson and Mr. Chuckerbutty, instructed by Babu Hirendro Nath Dutt, appeared for the defendant.

In this case a rule was obtained calling on the defendant to show cause why he should not hand over to the plaintiff stridhan property and certain other properties belonging to the estate of her deceased husband, and why in the event of his refusing to do so, a receiver should not be appointed.

Mr. Jackson in showing cause said that the first ground that he would take was that the suit was not maintainable under section 44, rule 6 of the Code, on account of nonjoinder and misjoinder of parties. His second objection was that the plaintiff's half-share of the dwelling-house, No. 33, Muktaram Babu's Street was sold by her to the defendant's wife in the year 1898 for one sum of Rs. 7,444, and she having since died intestate the property now belonged to the sons of the defendant's deceased wife and that they ought therefore to be made parties to the suit. Under the circumstances counsel submitted that the suit could not proceed, there being multifarious causes of action united in one suit. On the merits, counsel said, there was no ground for this application. Mr. Jackson then read the affidavit of Babu Amarnath Ghose, and afterwards the affidavit of the defendant, from which it appeared that the plaintiff's stridhan property is kept in the bedroom in his dwelling-house under her lock and key, and that he (the defendant) had offered to give every facility to the plaintiff to remove her stridhan property on her identifying the same. The defendant strongly objected to the estate being made over to the plaintiff, as he was informed that she recently signified her intention that on her getting all the property into her possession, she would sell it, and distribute the money among her relatives. With regard to the allegations that the defendant gave a donation of Rs. 22,000 towards the establishment of an outdoor eye dispensary without her knowedge he stated that it was wholly false. The affidavit stated that the sum was given to Government with the plaintiff's full knowledge, consent and approbation, and that she signed the account book containing the entry of this payment. Referring to the contribution to the Victoria Memorial Fund of Rs. 2,000, the defendant stated that it was also wholly false. The amount was only Rs. 500, and not Rs. 2,000, and it was given with her knowledge and consent. Mr. Jackson submitted that the plaintiff had not made out a case for the appointment of a receiver, and that he had answered every allegation that had been made against his client, and asked that the rule might be discharged with costs.

Mr. Garth then addressed the Court on behalf of the plaintiff. He said that the objection raised by his friend was of a purely technical character. He wanted three suits to be brought instead of one, that is, one in respect to stridhan property, one in respect to the house, and one in respect to the estate of the deceased brother. Of course if the defendant insisted, he (Mr. Garth) was willing to bring three suits. The immovable property was now in the hands of the defendants. The estate of the plaintiff's husband had been administered. There were no debts to pay. An appeal, however was pending in this Court from the decree of the Alipur Court with regard to a portion of the property, but that, Mr. Garth submitted, was no reason why the defendant should not make over the estate in dispute to the plaintiff.

His lordship after hearing both sides said that if he were to make the rule absolute it seemed to him that he would be prejudging one of the issues raised in this suit. The rule must therefore be dismissed with costs.

GREAT BUSTLE IN BURABAZAR.

WHOLESALE MERCHANTS IN STRIKE: BUSINESS SUSPENDED.

IMMENSE EXCITEMENT PREVAILS.

On Wednesday evening the Barabazar section of the merchants of sorts went on strike, chiefly because of the highhandedness of the Footpath Inspectors, which has of late increased to such an extent that they could no longer silently put up with it. The Footpath Inspectors, it is alleged, seize peicegoods etc. on the road-side and that without hearing any explanation, reasonable or unreasonable, from the dealers thereof. The feeling of dissatisfaction caused by the alleged frequent highhanded dealings of the Municipal underlings was daily getting more and more strained until it culminated in a rupture between the parties concerned. It is reported that one Mr. Aratoon, a Footpath Inspector, all of a sudden, put in an appearance at Suttapatty on Wednesday noon last. He tried to take possession of a bale belonging to one Champa Lall Settia, which was lying on the road prior to its removal inside the shop or godown. Champa Lall of course remonstrated with the Inspector and this led to an altercation which eventually resulted, so runs the rumour, in a row between the Inspector and his men and the merchants concerned. In the end one of the merchants were arrested by the police and subsequently released on bail for a charge of an alleged assault on a peon of the Corporation. This proved to be the last straw on the camel's back and it broke. The merchants unable any longer to withstand such behaviour at the hands of the Footpath Inspectors closed their shops in a body. The shops, as our reporters inform, continue still to be closed and we are told, that unless the Chairman of the corporation, on whom a deputation consisting of Rai Hari Ram Goenka Bahadur and Babu Rung Lall Poddar, Hony. Secy., Marwari Association, waited on Wednesday afternoon, intervenes in the matter and gives the merchants to understand that their grievance will be properly inquired into and ultimately remedied by him. The intervention of the two premier Marwari gentlemen named above clearly shows the intensity of the feeling and the excitement caused amongst the merchants by the alleged ill-behaviour of the Footpath Inspectors.

Having obtained this much information from some reliable source, our reporter travelled across the Harrison Road, Cross Street and certain other Streets and lanes in Suttapatty to glean from the merchants themselves any information worth recording. There was no such extraordinary rush of wayfarers and the usual bustle and commotion of the customers. Only groups of people were to be seen here and there, all intent upon pondering what steps the Municipal as well as the Marwari Association and the Marwari Chamber of Commerce authorities are going to take in the matter. A rumour ran rampant that the Chairman of the Corporation would presently visit the locality.

Our reporter waited till late in the evening, but the Chairman did not turn up. On his enquiring of some Marwari gentlemen they informed him that the Chairman had requested the shop-keepers to open their shops through their representatives who waited upon him on Wednesday and that he had promised to see that no more oppression is made upon the dealers in piecegoods and that he would personally see into the matter. The Bengal Chamber of Commerce, also urged upon the Marwari Chamber of Commerce to open the shops in the hope that the Chairman of the Corporation would personally see into the matter and redress the wrongs done unto them. But the patience of the traders has already been sorely tired and they are determined to make an end of their grievance at an early date.

A great mass meeting representing all sections of merchants, traders and cloth-dealers, was held on Wednesday noon at the Sri Sri Bishudhanandu School compound. It unanimously deputed Rai Bahadur Hari Ram Goenka, a Municipal Commissioner, and Babu Rung Lall Poddar to wait on the Chairman of the Corporation and to represent their grievances to him. Our reporter saw the latter gentleman at his residence on Wednesday evening and was informed that the Chairman owing to the lateness of the hour when they waited on him could not have a long conversation on the subject, but promised that he would leave no stone unturned to see that justice is done to the traders.

As the suspension of piecegoods business means heavy loss to the European merchants they influenced the Bengal Chamber of Commerce to intervene in the matter and see that the grievances of the Marwari Merchants are soon done away with. And the Chamber has readily taken up their cause as will be seen from a note published elsewhere.

To his query as to the cause of the strike Babu Rung Lall said that on Saturday last as also on Monday some Inspectors freely lashed some Marwari boys and this exasperated the already tried patience of the traders and that the high handed behaviour of Mr. Araton on Wednesday last added but fresh fuel to the fire and the matter ended in a free fight in which the Municipal Inspector was the the first to strike: Babu Rung Lall, however, hoped that every thing will be all right to-morrow (meaning Thursday) when another mass meeting is expected to be held and added that they were trying their utmost to settle the matter amicably, and that as soon as possible as the strike means immense loss to trade.

ALLEGED ZULUM BY FOOTPATH INSPECTORS.

The Honorary Secretary to the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce has addressed the following letter to the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation:—"It has come to the knowledge of the Committee of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce that considerable zulum has for sometime been exercised by some of the Footpath Inspectors and this has at last resulted in the closing of the shops in Barrabazar and contiguous places. It is complained that goods have been seized and taken away while being loaded or unloaded on footpaths. It is not always possible to remove heavy packages from the footpaths immediately they are unloaded, and while the trader is actually removing or attempting to remove the goods to his shop or godown it is very exasperating that the goods should be seized and carried away. The Committee feel confident that forcible seizure and removal of goods under the circumstances stated, could never have been intended by the Legislature, and are advised that the practice complained of is not in accordance with the spirit of the law. The trade of the city is paralyzed. The Committee therefore request the immediate adoption of measures calculated to prevent repetition of similar acts of zulum."

On receipt of intelligence of the strike of the piece goods dealers and others of Burra Bazar and contiguous places, owing to the alleged high handed proceedings of some of the Footpath Inspectors of the Corporation of Calcutta, the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce have addressed a representation to the Chairman of the Corporation. The Honorary Joint Secretary of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, Babu Radha Churn Pal, also saw the Chairman in this connection. We are told that the Chairman has expressed his regret for want of tact on the part of the Footpath Inspectors and told that their work would be suspended for the time being.

PROSECUTION UNDER THE ARMS ACT.

At the Bombay Police Court, before Mr. Kursondas Chubildas, Cursetjee Navecha, a Parsi, was charged with being in possession of a revolver without a license. It appeared that about a month ago accused got the revolver from Mrs. Fred DeLair, to sell on her behalf. The police, on receiving certain information, searched the room of the accused in Colaba. The latter made a statement and took the police to a refreshment room at Bandora. There he produced the revolver from under a bed on which he used to sleep. Accused admitted having no license for the possession of arms, and also having received the revolver from Mrs. DeLair. Taking into consideration the circumstances under which accused came into possession of the revolver, the Magistrate fined him Rs. 15.

A MEETING.

Suri, Sept. 1.

A highly successful and influential meeting in support of the Association for the Advancement of Scientific and Industrial Education was held under the presidentships of Lieutenant Colonel D. Basu I.M.S. at the Ram Ranjan. Town Hall this evening. It was attended both by the government officials and general public. The popular District Judge Mr. A. Goodeve grace the meeting with his presence and made a liberal donation to the fund. Other government officials and leading men were present and subscribed. Moulvi Syed Erfan Ali and another gentleman were elected delegates for the Central Committee.

A SENSATIONAL ENTICEMENT CASE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Chandpur, Aug. 30.

To-day at about 3 p. m., the local criminal court was the scene of a great commotion, when the Court Sub-Inspector brought before Mr. Mehta, S. D. O. of Chandpur, a Hindu young woman of rare beauty of village Murapara, Police Station Rupgunj, district Dacca, with a man named Asanuddi Sheikh of Suapur, Police Station Munshigunj, Dacca, who were arrested at the local Railway station under the following circumstances. It appears that as the pair was going to Calcutta by the Chandpur Express Steamer, their amorous movements roused the suspicion of some of the gentlemen on board the steamer who, before the steamer had left Chandpur, very cleverly managed to give timely information to the Government Railway Police. The latter immediately came to the scene and, on questioning the pair had reason to doubt as to the correctness of their statements and thus took them under arrest. They found some letters in possession of the man, which went to show that there has already been instituted a criminal case before the S. D. O. of Naraingunge against the woman by her father. It transpired from the woman's statement that she has been living in different places with different accused from Falgoon last. The woman says her husband Ram Ratan Das is still living.

ALLEGED FATAL ASSAULT BY A "SHAHEB."

On Thursday, before Mr. Ram Anugrah Naryan Sing, Deputy Magistrate of Sealdah Mr. C. V. Warden, a Customs Preventive Officer, was re-arraigned on a charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder by causing the death of a coolie, named Shaik Romjan, who, it was alleged, had been kicked by the defendant. Mr. Shamsuddin Ahmed, Court Inspector, conducted the prosecution and Babu Promotho Nath Mukerjee with Babu Probadh Chander Bose represented the defence. As the case was called on, the following witnesses were examined:—

Constable Anwar Khan, examined said:—"On the 12th August 1904 at 6 a.m. I took the corpse of Romjan (deceased) from the Medical College Hospital to Alipore Morgue. I arrived there at 6 p. m. I watched the corpse for the night. On the following morning "post mortem" was performed on the body."

Inspector Cooper was next examined. He said:—"On the evening of the 2nd at about 6 p.m. I received information from the Chandney Hospital that a man was admitted into the hospital and suffering from the rupture of urethra and the diagnosis of the case was reported to be serious, but not unfavourable. I went to the Chandney Hospital at 7 p.m. I saw the man there. He gave his name as Shaik Romjan living at Dhukuria Bagan. He said he was employed as a coolie in the New Market and that on the evening of the 1st, a lady and a gentleman had engaged to carry miscellaneous articles purchased in the market that they brought those things on the roof of a ticca gharry to house No. 5 Entally. That on demanding his wages the lady and the gentleman refused to pay him as a tin of jelly was missing. On demanding his hire again the gentleman (defendant) gave him a kick. He said he came out on the road and fell down unconscious. When he regarded a bit, he engaged a ticca gharry and went to Chandney Hospital where he had been on business and returned home that night. He could not give the number of the gharry. On the next day he again went to Chandney Hospital where he was admitted as a patient for treatment. I took up the enquiry and found that the accused Warden was the occupant of No. 5 Convent Road. I saw the accused and he at once admitted having given a slap and a slight kick to a coolie as the coolie was very disrespectful to him and his wife addressing them "toom." On the evening of the 6th I received a certificate from the Medical College Hospital stating that Romjan was admitted there and he had a rupture of the urethra. I went to him and found it was the same man. I then went to Dr. Masoom of Peter's Lane. He is an Honorary Magistrate. I had the statement of Romjan recorded. On the evening of the 9th at about 4 p.m. I took the accused to Dr. Masoom and had him identified by the deceased. On the morning of the 12th at about 5-30 or 6 a.m. I received information of the death of Romjan and sent him to Alipur Morgue in charge of a constable, Anwar Khan, in the afternoon at 4 p.m. The "post mortem" was performed by Dr. Daly on the morning of the 13th in my presence, on the body. I sent up the accused."

Cross-examined by Babu Promotho Nath witness continued.—"I have been Inspector for 12 years. The accused said that he had got two slaps and a kick. The coachman said that the deceased had walked home. There was no evidence that the man had dropped unconscious on the road. The hackney carriage driver stated that the deceased had walked ahead of his gharry. The deceased never came to the thana to complain. The Chandney Hospital doctor did not tell me that the deceased had gone to him on the evening of the 1st."

The cross-examination of Inspector Cooper over, the Court enquired of the prosecution, whether they would call Dr. Moir as a witness in this case.

Babu Promatho Naah Mukerjee said: "It would be better, Sir, if prosecution would call that doctor, for in that case, no stone will be left unturned by them."

The Court agreed with the view taken by pleader and adjourned the case to the 5th instant, for Dr. Moir's examination.

ALLEGED EXTORTION BY A POLICEMAN.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Malda, Aug 31.

Osman Khan at present the Head Constable of Gazol P.S., who was very recently charged by Darpan Mandall for adultery, etc, with his wife, the details of whirh have already appeared in the columns of the "Patrika" is again hauled up before the Magistrate for extortion and wrongful confinement. On 8th June last one Rajmu Santhal of Matoll P.S. Gazol appeared before the District Magistrate Mr. D. De and complained as follows:—"I complain against the Jemadar of Gazol Thana. I cannot remember his name. He came to my village on a Friday to enquire into a case in which a boy had attempted to ravish a girl. This was yesterday in a month ago. (It appears the man cannot count). He sent for me and I went to the mango tree where he was sitting. Then I accompanied him past my brother's house. There the Jamader detected some "pachwai" by the scent. He said unless I paid Rs. 200 he would send me up. My brother Munshi was not present I can not say where he was. I showed the Jamader my license and also that of Munshi. At last the sum of Rs 60 was settled but I was unable to pay it and so was taken to the thana along with the pots of liquor. I was taken there with my hands tied. There were 16 pots full of "pachwai." That day I was released on bail and next day I paid Rs. 60 with my own hand to the Bara Munshi who gave it to the Jamader. There is no fixed number of pots in the pass. I am allowed to make a Handi as I please. I did not complain before because the Jamader told me the case would be hushed up but I was subsequently sent up yesterday and was discharged. The occurrence was a month ago."

The Magistrate after receiving the complaint made over the case to Babu D. K. Mitter, Dy. Magistrate for judicial enquiry, who reported the case to be a true one and recommended for summoning the accused person. Accordingly the Jamader Osman Khan was summoned by the Dist. Magistrate who has kept the case in his own file. After taking the evidence for the prosecution, the accused was charged under Secs 342 and 384 I.P.C. The trial is proceeding.

NOTES FROM BENARES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Benares, Aug. 30.

A SENSATIONAL CASE.

A sensational case occurred here sometime ago. A respectable Zemindar went to Chandaul Tahsil, in this district, to pay up his income-tax. He happened to owe something on account of land revenue also which was demanded from him by the peons, but had not sufficient money at the time and promised to bring it afterwards. The Tahsildar had however left orders that every such defaulter should be brought before him; so the gentleman was also taken before him and shoe-beaten. This atrocious act has filled the Zemindars with alarm. The aggrieved person went to submit his complaint to the Collector and the Tahsildar also followed his step to reach his official superior in good time and put the best complexion on his action. An enquiry was made by the Collector with the result that every word of the Zemindar's complaint was found to be true. But "conflicting interest" had perhaps to be reconciled and the Collector endeavoured to bring about an amicable settlement. He exerted his powerful influence over the poor Zemindr, and promised to suitably punish his subordinate if he desisted from taking legal proceedings. The Zemindar had of course no choice but to yield to pressure, but just see what "suitable punishment" has been given to the Tahsildar. I do not know whether the matter was reported to higher authorities or not; but if it has been, who can doubt that the scandalous affair must have made in as mild as language could make it. This presumption is borne out by the punishment the Tahsildar has received. He has been transferred. Or rather will be transferred! He is still kept at the same tahsil probably to show that the transfer was arranged in the ordinary course of business and has nothing to do with his above act. But is transfer a "suitable punishment" for such a grave offence? Imagine a respectable high caste Zemindar paying an income-tax shoe-beaten for nothing!

A MYMENSING SENSATION.

OBSTRUCTION REMOVED UNDER GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

Mymensing, Sept. 1.

The public road obstructed by Mr. Lee has been opened by him under orders of the Bengal Government. Sir Andrew Fraser deserves heartfelt thanks of the people of Mymensing.

THE ROSSO-JAPAN WAR.

Bombay, Aug. 31.

The following telegram was received this morning from the Japanese Government by Mr. S. Hayashi, Consul for Japan:—"The report on the engagements in the direction of Liao-yang is as follows: The First Army commenced the attack on the 25th instant on the enemy, strongly posted on steep mountain ridges, 23 miles south-east of Liao-yang. On the night of the 25th the infantry of the Army's central column, after a bayonet charge succeeded in carrying the enemy's position on that side, but the enemy's right and left wings continued to offer a desperate resistance. On the 26th instant the severe fighting was resumed, but the enemy's resistance remained unabated. That night our column, after a sanguinary engagement, carried the enemy's left, and captured eight guns. On the 27th instant our whole columns resumed the attack and at sunset the entire line of the enemy's position fell into our hands. Our casualties were about 2,000. At the same time our other armies marched to An-shan-tien, wherefrom the enemy retired without resitance. Our armies pursued the enemy, while detachments intercepted the enemy, who thereupon fled towards Liao-yang in utter confusion, apparently suffering considerable damages from our fire. We also captured eight field guns, ammunition, and many carts."

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE INDIAN BUDGET.

STATEMENT BY MR. BRODRICK.

THE TIBETAN MISSION AND ITS COST.

On the Motion for going into Committee on the East India Revenue Accounts.

Mr. Brodrick, the Secretary of State for India, said that a large proportion of the figures he had to deal with had already been before the House. It was pointed out last year that for four years there had been surpluses amounting in all to £11,000,000, and the revised estimates for 1903-04 showed a result which was equally gratifying; but although there might be a good balance it was necessary to keep eventualities in view, and not to rely too much on surpluses. The comparison of the Revised Estimate for 1903-04 with the Budget Estimate published in March, 1903, was as follows:—Net Revenue, Budget, £43,164,500; Revised Estimate, £46,506,100; difference, £3,341,600. Net expenditure, Budget, £42,215,800; Revised Estimate, £43,794,900; difference, £1,579,100. Surplus, Budget, £948,700; Surplus, Revised Estimate £2,711,200; difference (better), £1,762,500. No Buaget was, perhaps, more subject to fluctuations than that for India, and another consideration was that in dealing with the Indian revenue they were dealing with what was to a large extent paid by many who were not far removed from poverty (hear,hear). On the question of the salt tax he said the effect of lowering it had been to enable the population to increase their consumption of salt, and in the current year the yield would be £300,000 more. The present year had been budgeted for a smaller receipt and larger expenditure. Lord Kitchener had been now nearly two years in the country, and it was expected of him that when he went out there he would undertake to some extent the reorganisation and mobilisation of the Indian Army. Lord Kitchener had gone carefully into the matter, and had brought in a scheme after the most minute consideration. It was being carefully gone into by the India Government. The Committee would agree with him that, however little they desired to increase the charges for the Army in India, it was necessary that the Army maintained there should be capable of effective and ready mobilisation (hear,hear). It must also be self-dependent for necessary stores and transport for mobilisation. Under these circumstances it would be necessary to add something to the charges this year for the purpose of providing equipment and stores, and it had been thought desirable that out of their surplus £666,000 should be provided. The figures showed that India was in a condition of steady improvement. There was something more satisfactory than temporary improvements, viz., the extraordinary power India showed of recovery from service visitations of famine as those of 1836-7 and 1899-1900. India had reached again the position in which it was before those famines took place. Improvement continued, destitution was absent, and the demand for labour had gone up. Satisfactory progress was being made in agriculture, in irrigation, in railways, and in other directions. Speaking of the railways the right hon. gentleman said he was in favour of centralisation for that kind of work as far as possible. The Government proposed to set up a Board, to whom very considerably increased responsibility would be given, the Government reserving their ultimate financial control while conceding a large extension of power in all minor matters. With regard to the geneal financial situation, the Government had practically assets for the whole of their expenditure and debt, and he hoped that position might be maintained under the circumstances of the future. It should, however, be remembered that there were certain items of government which had by no means reached the point of perfection, and in which reforms were needed. They were still behind-hand in primary education. Out of 240,00,000 people it was reckoned that 18,000,00 boys ought to be at school; only about one-sixth of those were, however, receiving education. If they wished to have manufacture and industries set up in India suitable to the requirements of that country they would have to preface that era by increased ducational facilities.

Sir H. Fowler said they had listened with satisfaction to Mr. Brodrick's lucid statements. The right hon. gentleman had put the India administration fully and frankly before them. Lord Curzon had pointed out that there had been no reduction of taxation of India during the last twenty years until last year, when the tax on salt was reduced. He (Sir H. Fowler) thought there ought to be a greater reduction of taxation in that country. It was gratifying to learn of the increase of trade in India, and the satisfactory returns from the railways, which seemed to have larger earning power than the railways in this country. A question of special interest was that of Military expenditure. For last year that amounted to £16,784,000 whilst the Budget estimate for this year was £18,215,000. The Military expenditure had been rising very rapidly for a number of years, and the Secretary of State gave the House no hope of its decreasing, but rather seemed to look forward to an increase. It involved a heavy burden on the people of India. With regard to the Tibetan Expedition, he (Sir H. Fowler) wished to know what were the intentions of his Majesty's Government. He had never been able to understand why that Expedition was undertaken, or what could possibly be gained if it succeeded. He trusted that the Government would not entertain the sugge that we should establish a Residence in that quarter, which would involve great expense for its protection and would arouse the spirit of fanaticism. He was one of those who did not apprehend danger on the North-west Frontier, and who thought that an amicable understanding should be arrived at between this country and Russia as to their respective spheres.

Lord G. Hamilton, criticising Sir H. Fowler's policy, remarked that it was popular to remit taxation but tenfold more unpopular to have to reimpose it. The large surpluses were not wasted, but went to diminish the amount of borrowing which otherwise would be necessary for the purpose of carrying out public works in India. With regard to Military expenditure he thought that if it was to be reduced something might be done by getting rid of portions of the Indian Native establishment not up to what was required of them. He expressed great satisfaction at the manner in which the salt tax had recouped itself. The returns of the Railways were most satisfactory. After touching on other features of Indian progress and property, the noble Lord turned to the question of the Mission to Tibet, which he considered was fully warranted by the circumstances in regard to Treaty obligations on the part of the Tibetans. There never was a question on which the opinion of India was more unanimous (hear, hear). Reverting to the financial prosperity of India, he believed that one of its main causes was the success of the currency reform (hear, hear). On the whole the two-headed system of Government of India had worked well (hear, hear).

Sir M. Bhownaggree said it had been the good luck of the Secretary for India to present a most satisfactory Budget. As a result of the surplus which had been reported he would have liked to see a further remission of taxation. He moved—"That in the opinion of this House a substantial proportion of the expenses of the armed Mission to Tibet should be defrayed by the British Exchequer, as its objects both politically and commercially have been closely connected with, and its results will have a beneficial effect upon, Imperial interests and British trade." He did not make that declaration on the ground of disapproval of the Expedition. Whether it was justified or not, it had nothing to do with his Motion. The purposes of the Expedition were Imperial and not purely Indian, and it was for that reason he moved his Amendment. There could be no doubt that in the purpose, initiation, and results of the Expedition to Tibet, British and Indian interests were intertwined. He recognised that India had a concern in the prestige and honour of Great Britain, in which it shared. The Princes and people of India were always willing to support any such undertaking on the part of the Imperial Government. They rejoiced in British victories, and fought side by side with British soldiers (cheers). But they had been called upon again and again to pay charges that did not properly belong to them. Nobody had more appreciated than he (the hon. membe) the blessing to India of the British Connection, but he must say that in its financial treatment of that country the Imperial Government had been very parsimonious, imposing upon it burdens which could not be justified. Considering the value to the British Empire of India, the loyalty of the Indian princes and people to the British Crown, he appealed to the sense of justice of the English people not to put so heavy a burden for this Expedition on the people of India (hear, hear).

Mr. H. Roberts spoke in support of the Amendment.

Mr. Wylie said it was incumbent on India to bear the cost of the Tibetan Expedition.

Mr. Bowles said the Expedition to Tibet was more than a crime. It was a blnder. So far from the Expedition being calculated to have a beneficial effect on Imperial interests, it would be altogether harmful, and it represented a wanton and dangerous venture on the part of a Viceroy whose ambition required to be curbed.

Mr. Brodrick, in reply, held that the Tibetan Expedition was an Indian interest, and that the cost of it should rest on India. The policy of the Government with regard to Tibet had not changed in any way. It would beunwise for him to give a pledge as to when the expedition would return to India. It had reached Lhassa with the full intention of leaving it as soon as arrangements had been come to. It would not stay a day beyond the period it was deemed in Military judgment wise to remain.

The Master of Elibank asked whether it was the intention of the Government to exact an indemnity.

Mr. Brodrick said the question of terms was a very difficult one to go into, but certainly there must be an indemnity of some description (hear, hear). It was not proposed to place a Resident at Lhassa, but they were determined to make the British name respected.

Sir C. Dilke followed.

Sir M. Bhownaggree's Motion was negatived without a division.

(Left sitting.)

THREATENED FAMINE IN GUJERAT.

Ahmedabad, Aug. 25.

The Nareli Purnima or the sacred day of Boliden has passed away but without enthusiasm or spirit among our people on this side of the country and why? The reason requires not to be said, inasmuch as the tale is told in more than adequate words by the official reports and wailings of the press. June and July have passed entirely dry and so has the usually wet August with but slight drizzling now and then, here and there. The metre reports the downpour till now to have measured a little above seven inches —a deficit of over 60 p.c. on the average of the last 3 years. It is said rain is wanted everywhere, but then its absence does not cause so much anxiety in any part of the country as in the Western Presidency and Marwar, where standing crops in the very little area that is sown has largely withered and the rest is withering still owing to the searching sun. Let the Hamiltorian Budgets proclaim as they may but it is too well-known to the world and to the people with their heads above their shoulders and their conscience within them. I mean those humanitarians who look not with others' glasses —that the once known traditional land of gold is not as yet out of the firm grip of the grim demon famine of 1900 that has still been stalking in the country. It is all easy to speak of recuperative power, it is all easy to talk of peace, prosperity and progress and dupe the noble-minded Englishmen at Home, but a current view of the situation can be had only if we care to inquire on the spot or is fortunate enough to hear from one who moves amidst those whose condition is the topic of consideration. More than 50 per cent of the area is left unsown and villagers are all left out of employment eagerly awaiting for rain but rain there is none. The Local Government has instructed the District authorities to keep a close watch and accordingly the Collectors have directed their assistants and subordinates to prevent alarm and panic and report on the agricultural situation and prospects every alternate day. I, too had recently an occasion to go out to Taluka and I have found that not only those in the lower grades but even middle class commoners are in a state of utter confusion and are distressed knowing not wherewith to keep their body and soul together and maintain their family if crops fail as they threatened to be—if Indra does not shower His blessings within a month. Besides the middle classes have another uneasy circumstances to face and that the exactions of the revenue department officials which has been a matter of common knowledge since the Gujerat Revenue Inquiry of 1901 instituted at the instance of the Hon'ble Mr. Gokuldas Parekh, the father of Gujerat agriculturists and landed proprietors. The eyes of the people all round are directed vertically above at the skies; rain is their desire, rain they talk of, rain they dream of. The official classes and the Local Government too are uneasy and in a disturbed state but for the Government nothing new be said for the situation, gloomy as it is and threatens to be the more so, is of their own making. Experience has already shown and the present threatening conditions corroborate the conviction and the plain fact that in this country the people are rendered helpless by a single failure of rains, not because sufficient crops are not produced for in a normal season we have enough and to spare as the export statistics speak—but because we have no stamina—no savings to fall back upon In other words there is a famine of money due to costly and lavish expenditure, unnecessarily superfluous array of British soldiers and civil and military officers who devour 75 per cent of the produce. It would be burdening the readers of the "Patrika", if I digress further from the main topic and I would therefore stop here. Wait a month quire into the conditions and let the Benmore and then if the inevitable happens I shall be going out to the Districts to engal know of Bombay the doom.

THE TRIAL OF BRITISH SUBJECTS.

IMPORTANT CORRESPONDENCE.

The Secretary of the European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association has addressed the following letter to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, dated 11th May:—

Sir,—I am directed by the Council of the European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association to bring the following facts to the notice of His Hon the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

2. On the 22nd of September last, Mr. G. Sims of Monghyr appeared, in answer to a summons, before a native Deputy Magistrate of that station, to show cause why he should not be bound down to keep the peace under section 107 of the Criminal Procedure Code, and, on refusing to waive his privilege as an European British subject, he was allowed a day to produce authority for "extending his privilege as a European British subject to a proceeding under section 107" of the Code.

3. On the following day the Deputy Magistrate heard arguments and recorded the following order:—

"I have heard both parties and read the authorities referred to by them. There is no ruling on the subject, and opinion is divided. A late Officiating Advocate-General thought, not however without some difficulty, that a proceeding under section 107. C. P. C-, against a European British subject could not be taken by a Native Magistrate, but Mr. Justice Prinsep is of the opposite view, and says that section 443 does not include proceedings under Chapter VIII of the Criminal Procedure Code. This view is in support of the view I held in my order of 26th August last, and I cannot see sufficient reason to differ from it now. The case will proceed in this Court." The case proceeded accordingly, and Mr. Sims was bound down to keep the peace.

4. He then appealed to the District Magistrate, upon, among others, the same ground, but his objection was over-ruled, the District Magistrate stating as follows:—

"There is no ruling as to the power of a Native Magistrate to inquire into a Criminal Procedure Code case where a European British subject is implicated. About 1884 the Acting Deputy Legal Remembrancer pronounced against the Native Magistrate when his opinion was asked, and a circular was issued giving his opinion. Mr. Henderson in his Criminal Procedure Code quotes this circular and upholds the opinion. I find, however, that Sir H. Prinsep in his C. P. C. under section 443 states that European British subjects, in matters coming under Chapter VIII relating to security to keep the peace, are subject to the ordinary jurisdiction of Criminal Courts. We have thus the opinion of a High Court Judge against that of a Deputy Legal Remembrancer. The Deputy Magistrate was, I think, justified in choosing to follow the former."

5. Mr. Sims then made an application in revision upon this among other grounds to the High Court, but the learned Judges (Ghose and Stephens, J.J.'s), without dealing specifically with the ground in question, dismissed the application with the remark that they saw no sufficient reason to interfere with the order of the District Magistrate. It does not appear whether this ground was specially brought to their Lordships' notice.

6. It will be seen on reference to the circular alluded to by the District Magistrate (which, as far as the Council can ascertain, has been consistently acted upon and followed from 1884 until the present case was decided) that the opinion therein quoted was not that of the acting Deputy Legal Remembrancer, as the District Magistrate supposed, but that of the then acting Advocate-General of Bengal, Mr. A. Phillips, whose opinion was taken in consequence of a representation made by this Association upon a similar case, in support of which they had the honour to quote the opinions both of the late Mr. Kennedy and of Mr. Pugh in support of their contention.

7. The Council submit that an editorial note, for which no reasons are given and no judicial authority is or can be cited, can scarcely be said to justify such a drastic change in the view of the law hitherto adopted by the Government of Bengal as the present decision involves, and they humbly conceive that it cannot be regarded as of sufficient authority to over-ride the counsel (confirmed as they were by the opinion from 1884 until the present case was decided) of the Advocate-General of the day taken by the Government for its own guidance, and the directions issued by that Government to their officers to act in accordance with that opinion.

8. Considering as they do that this is a matter of the highest importance, as affecting European British subjects, the Council earnestly trust that it may be fully and carefully reconsidered by the Government of Bengal and such orders passed, in reference to it, as may seem right.

9. The Council beg to annex for reference copies of the opinions forwarded to the Government with their previous letter on this subject in 1884.

The reply of the Government is as follows:—

From W. C. Macpherson, Esq., C.S.I., Officiating Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary, European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association, dated Calcutta, the 9th August, 1904:—

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1128, dated the 11th May 1904, in which you bring to notice the case in which Mr. G. Sims of the Monghyr district, a European British subject, was required by the District Magistrate to show cause why he should not give security to keep the peace under section 107 of the Criminal Procedure Code and was afterwards bound down to keep the peace by a Native Deputy Magistrate. Your Association ask that the question of the competency of Native Magistrates to enquire into or try cases under section 107 of the Criminal Procedure Code against European British subjects on which the Officiating Advocate-General advised in the year 1889 may be again considered.

In reply, I am to say that, after perusing the records of the case the Lieutenant-Governor sees no need, on the merits of this case, for taking any action. The order of the Native Deputy Magistrate was upheld not only by the District Magistrate, but also by the High Court. There is no reason to doubt for a moment that it was a just and proper order. Nor is there any reason for pressing for the immediate consideration of the general question of law raised in this case. The Lieutenant-Governor has ascertained that no case of imprisonment of a European, in connection with such an order for the preservation of the public peace, has occurred. While, therefore, His Honor has thought it right to submit the views of your Association to the Government of India for consideration at any suitable opportunity, he has not asked that the question be immediately raised.

ALLEGED FATAL ASSAULT BY A SHAHEB.

On Wednesday before Mr. Ram Anugraha Narayan Sing, Deputy Magistrate of Sealdah, the case in which a European named Mr. C. V. Warden, a Customs Preventive Officer, stood charged with culpable homicide not amounting to murder by causing the death of a coolie named Shaik Ramjan aged about 35 years and also with causing hurt, was resumed. The facts of the case have been fully reported in the columns of the "Patrika." Babu Siddeswar Chatterjee, the Court Inspector conducted the prosecution and Babu Promotho Nath Mukerjee appeared for the defence.

The prosecution first called Dr. Nerode Chander Mukerjee who treated the deceased in the Medical College Hospital.

He deposed:—I am a resident of Ranaghat in the district of Nadia. Here I live in Baranasi Ghose's Street. I am Assistant Surgeon Medical College Hospital. I am in service for two years. I remember a coolie named Shaik Ramjan was admitted on the 6th June in the hospital at 11-30 a.m.

Court Inspector:—When did you see him that day?

Witness:—I saw him at night. I don't remember the time.

Court Inspector:—In what condition you saw him?

Witness:—I saw him suffering extreme pain and noticed some difficulty in macturation and some swelling on the perinium.

Court Inspector:—Did you ask him any question?

Witness:—Yes, I did. He said that he had been kicked by a European gentleman on the perinium but I did not notice any blood in the urine.

Witness continued:—Next day Mr. Moir passed a bongie to examine the condition of the urethra. There was some obstruction in the passage. No blood was passed. I noticed some difficulty in the passage and he gave him some rest.

Here Babu Promotho Nath Mukerjee, the pleader for the defence said addressing the Court Inspector. "Have you brought Dr. Moir here to give evidence in the case? This would be no evidence, if he is not called."

Court Inspector:—The witness was present at the time with Dr. Moir.

Witness continued:—He (deceased) got fever. On the 8th his temperature was 101.6. Patient could not retain anything in the stomach, nauscating and vomiting. He passed a loose stool on that morning. The urine was quite clear. On the 9th the patient was still vomiting. Bowels loose. There was much pain over the perinium. The color of the urine clear on the 10th, the swelling of the perinium was much diminished. The pain still the same. The color of the urine clear. Bowels loose. Nausea still lxisting. The patient complained of pain on the left side of his chest and got dry cough. Temperature 101. Fine cripitation was heard on the base of the left lung and region is somewhat dull on percussion. Tongue was dry and coated. Patient thisty. Mouth was dry. On the 11th the temperature was very low the patient delirious and there was profuse hemorrhage through the urethra and the patient died the same night. He died in hospital. Operation per formed to stop hemorrhage by the Resident Surgeon. He made an incision on the urethra. Urethra was found lacerated. Blood clots were removed from the parts. The bleeding points were tied and wounds closed subsequently.

Court Inspector:—What was the cause of death?

Witness:—It was Pneumonia and hemorrhage hastened his end.

Court Inspector:—Do you call it Traceumatic Pneumonia?

Witness:—I can't say positively whether it was Traumatic or Septic Pneumonia.

Witness continued:—During the time he was in hospital, the patient was under treatment.

Witness cross-examined, said:—I don't know exactly the length of the urethra. It is 9 or 10 inches.

I can't say it without consulting the book. The normal length of urethra is 8 inches. I consider Walsham on surgery as standard on surgery. I have not seen such a case. I can't deny that an urethra may also give way behind an old stricture, when the patient attempts to empty his bladder. I would expect extravassion of blood in the perinium and the escape of blood in the urethra. The patient is unable to pass water. Any attempt to do so merely forces more urine into the tissues of the perinium and gives pain. The deceased told me that he was at the Chandney Hospital. I asked him what treatment he had passed through in the Chandney Hospital. I don't remember having asked the patient if any catheter had been passed in the Chandney Hospital and how often. The rupture of uretha could be caused by various ways. It may be caused by falling rails and other things. Unskillful passing of a catheter may lacerate the urethra specially if there is any obstruction such as in cases of strictures and gonorrhoea. I thought at the time there was extravasson of urine going on; but not much very slight. I did not take any step to stop as it was not necessary. Sligat extravasson of urine is not dangerous to life. I don't think any record was kept in hospital as to his quantity of urine passing there. It was not recorded. The whole of Dr. Moir's ward is under my supervision. This being a special case I can say something of the patient. I did not measure the quantity of the urine with my own hands but I saw the bottles. I can not say postively what quantity of urine absorbed in the system is dangerous without consulting the book. I took step to stop urine and blood. I applied ice and so far as I remember the patient passed normal urine. I know Dr. Gibbon but I do not know Dr. Gibbon's book. One of the most important parts of the treatment of injuries to the urethra is the constant retention of the catheter, with the object of preventing urine coming in contact with the injured part. The present case was not a bad case of extravasson. In my opinion a kick on the perinium may cause death, I have not seen such case. Rupture of the urethra is curable and I have seen all the cases cured. It takes about one to three weeks the latest to cure. I was not present when he died. Pneumonia is brought by various causes. Weakness, exposure to cold are the predisposing causes of Pneumonia The secondary hemmorage is not uncommon. I don't consider this extraordinary but uncommon I dont remember having asked this man whether he had gonorrhoea or not. The man was under chloroform before the operation.

After this cross-examination the court said addressing the pleader "I complement you for the cross-examination". After this some more witnesses were examined and the case was adjourned.

A STEAMER INCIDENT.

A correspondent writes from Tezpur:—Talking of the steamer company and refund the other day when on board one of their steamers I quite expected to be the recipient of a silver tea service or something of that kind from them. I was taking forty winks after dinner and when woke up I could not see anyone at the wheel. It was one of those steering sort of pounds, with a partition round the wheel. I jumped up and shouted at the sleeping badmash. I could not see him owing to the darkness and so could not give him a kick to wake him up. The position was serious but I kept my head. With one hand I seized the rope attached to the whistle and pulled it and with the other I pushed down the handle of the engine room communication to "Stop."—Then having given a thirty seconds whistle, with calmness, pride and folded arms I awaited developments. I kept the pride and calmness but not the folded arms owing to the boat humping on a sand bank with some force. I had sufficient time to summon some appropriate Hindustani before the developments arrived. They rushed from below Doctor Babu, serang, pilot and all, and asked me, what was the matter. "Matter," said I. "Look!" and I pointed to the place where I guessed the steersman would have fallen in his drunken sleep. They said they could see nothing and then I struck a match, but the man was not there. Then they all jabbered at me and I eventually made out that they were steering from below. The funny part of it was that some of the passengers seemed quite angry with me which was somewhat hurting.

On the 29th instant the young Rajah of Vizianagram was installed on the "Gadi." Invitations were issued by H. H. the Maharajah Kumarika to everybody in the district to witness the ceremony.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. L. P. Tucker, officiating British Resident, left Bangalore on Friday on a visit to Sivasamudram where he will inspect the Cauvery Power Electrical Works, and will afterwards go on to Mysore, returning with H. H. the Maharajah on the 31st instant. The Maharajah is going to Bangalore for a few days in connection with the Police School Sports.

With a view to promoting the study of the Tibetan language among officers of the Army in India, it has been decided that the reward of Rs. 500, referred to in Article 853 (3). Army Regulations, India, Vol, 1. Part I., will, in future, be admissible to all officers of the Army in Military employ without restriction as to the locality in which they are serving, on their passing an examination in that language according to the tests which will shortly be notified.

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From a return recently laid upon the table of the House of Commons it appears that India contributes £100,000 or .13 per cent. to the maintenance of the Imperial Navy.

The following tale is being told at Kyoukme, this side of Hsipaw. 25 coolies were set to work, to cut down a large tree. The people of the place protested, but all in vain; and down that tree came. During the next few days, all the 25 coolies were dead. This thing, they say, can be authenticated by the testimony of the several leading thugyees near the place where it occurred.

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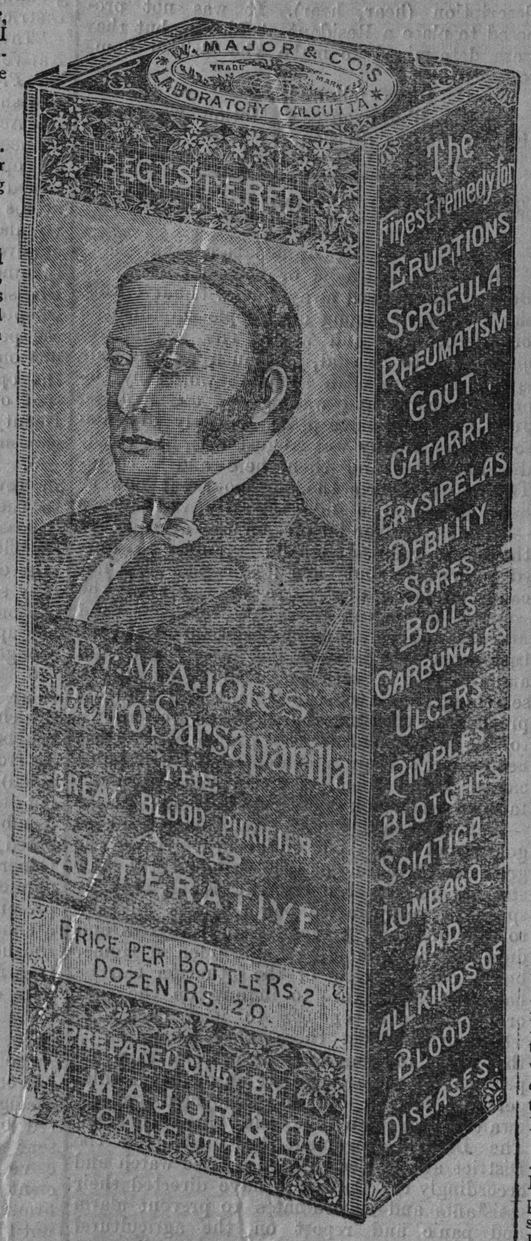

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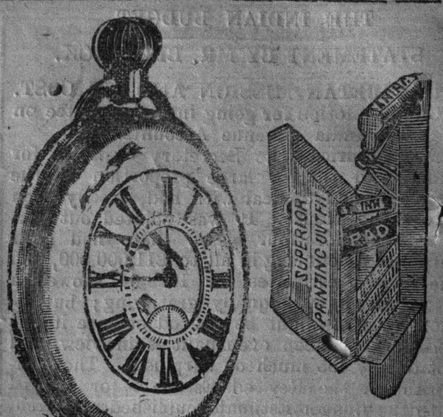

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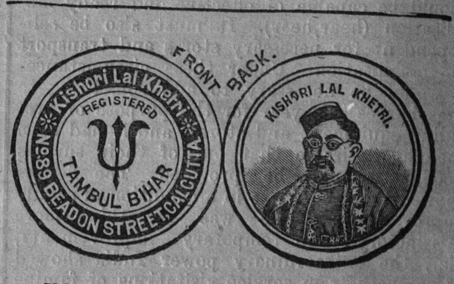

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THE HEAVENS IN AUGUST.

The Summer Constellations and Where to Look for Them.

The summer constellations are now well visible, and this is a good month in which to learn to know them.

If we go out at nine o'clock on a clear evening in the middle of August we will see the Milky Way, forming a great arch across the sky, and passing almost overhead. Many of the finest constellations in sight lie near it, and we will begin with them.

Near the horizon, a little west of south, is Scorpio, the most brilliant of the twelve zodiacal constellations. Its brightest star, Antares, is fiery red in color, and is accounted the reddest of all the bright stars. A fainter white tar flanks it on each side. The vertical row of three stars on the right makes the Scorpion's head and claws, while its tail is formed by the long line of stars which descend from Antares almost to the horizon, and curve back to the end in a bright group, which is conspicuous even at the low altitude at which we see it.

Antares is doubly worthy of attention by those who possess telescopes, as in addition to its splendid color and fine banded spectrum, it is double, having a green companion of the seventh magnitude at a distance of about three seconds. On account of its nearness to the principal star it can be seen well only when the air is steady.

To the left of Scorpio lies Sagittarius, whose principal configuration is the little inverted "Milk Dipper," composed of five fairly bright stars. Above it, the Milky Way is full of bright patches and knots, which afford many fine telescopic views. Some of the star clusters and nebulæ in this region are distinctly visible in a field glass.

The bright star higher up, almost on the central line of the Milky Way, is Altair in Aquila. It is one of the nearest of the brighter stars, coming next to Sirius and Procyon in order of distance. The next constellation to the noth of Aquila is Cygnus, which is easily identified by the fine cross of stars whose axis lies along the Galaxy. West of Cygnus, and almost overhead, is Lyra, whose principal star, Vega, is the brightest in this part of the sky. The region east of the Milky Way is not so brilliant. The most prominent group is the great square of Pegasus, which is now about an hour high in the East. The constellation is a large one, and extends westward from the square half-way to Altair, leaving room between them for the little group of Delphinus.

Acquairius and Capricornus, which are lower down in the south-east, have no very bright stars, but Saturn, which is now in the latter constellation, is decidedly conspicuous. The brightest star in the western sky is Arcturus, which is almost due west, and about half way down to the horizon. The rest of Bootes lies north and east of it. A line from Arcturus to Vega passes first through the semicircle of Corona Borealis, and then through the keystone-shaped figure which is the most recognizable feature of Hercules, whose other stars extend some distance both north and south. Further down between Hercules, Acquila, Scorpio, and Bootes a large space is filled by Orphiucus and Serpens—two constellations which are so inextricably confused that one must use a star-map to tell which stars belong to each.

Of the circumpolar constellations Ursa Major is in the north-west, to the left of the pole. The fore-parts of the Bear are so low to be well seen, but the Dipper is still conspicuous.

Draco lies above Ursa Major, extending to the meridian. The Dragon's head is marked by a conspicuous group of four stars about one-third of the way from Vega toard the Dipper. His body extends first eastward, then northward, and then bends back in a long curve, enclosing the Little Bear, so that the end of his tail lies between the Pointers ands the Pole Star.

Cossiopeia and Cepheus lie in the Milky Way on the other side of the pole and Andromeda and Perseu are rising in the north-east.

THE PLANETS.

Mercury is evening star throughout August, and is visible in the evning twilight for most of the month. On the 1st he is close to the bright star Regius. The two set at about 8 p.m., so they will not be easy to see. Later on the planet is more easily visible. He reaches his greatest elongation on the 19th, when he is more than 27 degrees from the sun—about as far as he ever can be, as seen from the earth. He is, however, some ten degrees farther south than the sun, and is consequently not so conspicuous as he was in the spring. But as he sets an hour later than the sun all though the middle of the month, he ought to be seen without much difficulty. Venus is also morning star, but is still too near the sun to be visible to the naked eye.

Mars is morning star in Gemini and rises about two hours before the sun. On the 12th he is nearly in line with the two bright stars, Castor and Pollux, which may aid in finding him.

Jupiter is in Pisces and will soon be conspicuous in the evening sky. He rises before 10 p.m. on the 15th, and is well observable after midnight. Transits of his satellites may be seen on the nights of the 2nd, 7th, 9th, 14th, 16th, 23rd, 25th, and 30th.

Saturn is in opposition on the 10th, and is visible all night long. He is better placed for observation than he has been for several years, though he is still a good way south of the equator. He is in Capri-cornus, a long distance from any bright star, so that he can hardly be mistaken for anything else.

His rings are seen more nearly edgewise than in the last few years, and consequently appear narrower, so that the ball of the planet projects, conspicuously beyond them at each side. The apparent orbits of his satellites are also becoming narrower, for the same reason. The fainter of these interesting bodies can only be seen with large telescopes, but the brightest one, Titan, is easily visible with a small instrument. It may aid in identifying him to know that he is north of the planet on the 3rd, east on the 7th, south on the 11th, and west on the 15th, the positions repeating themselves regularly in the satellite's period of sixteen days.

When north or south of Saturn his apparent distance from the planet is about equal to the greatest diameter of the rings, but when east or west of him it is about four times as great.

Uranus is evening star in Sagittarius. His position on the 15th is R. A. 17 h. 43 m., dec. 23 deg. 36 min. south. He is not near any conspicuous star, but if his place is plotted on a star-map, he can easily be found.

Neptune is morning star in Gemini, and rises at about 2 a.m. in the middle of the month.

THE MOON.

Last quarter ocurs at 9 a.m. on the 4th, new moon at 8 a.m. on the 11th, first quarter at 11 p.m. on the 17th, and full moon at 8 p.m. on the 25th. The moon is nearest us on the 12th and farthest away on the 26th. She is in conjunction with Jupiter on the 3rd, Neptune on the 8th, Mars on the 9th, Venus on the 12th, Mercury on the 13th, Uranu on the 20th, Saturn on the 24th and Jupiter again on the 30th. None of the visible conjunctions is close.

An occultation of the fourth-magnitude star Gamma Tauri, which takes place early on the morning of the 6th, is visible in the eastern part of the United States. As seen from Washington, the star disappears behind the moon's bright limb at 1-56 a.m. and reappears from behind the dark limb at 2-56.

The times of the phenomena will vary for different places, being in general earlier for places farther west.—"Scientific American."

SIR C. ELIOT AND LORD LANSDOWNE EXPLANATION BY SIR CHARLES.

There appears in the "Times" a long letter from Sir C. Eliot, explaining in detail the grounds of his disagreement with the Marquess of Lansdowne, and his reasons for resigning the Commissionership of East Africa.

With respect to the grant to the East Africa Syndicate of 500 miles of land in absolute freehold, Sir Charles points out that in the spring of 1902, when real agricultural pioneering work might have rendered great service to the country, he himself offered to lease 500 miles in return for an expenditure of 10,000l. Nothing, however, was done by the syndicate, beyond prospecting for minerals until December last, when, owing to Sir Charles's refusal to grant the large demands made by the syndicate, the latter transferred their application direct to the Foreign Office, with the result that the full ownership—not the lease, as at first proposed—of 500 miles was granted to them on the following conditions:—(a) No rent for seven years, and then 1d. per mile. (b) The syndicate to start five farms within the first seven years. (c) After having established these five farms the syndicate to have the right of buying the area for 50,000l. Sir Charles continues:—

I raised objections to these conditions as soon as they were communicated to me. Such a concession is unparalleled in East Africa and to my mind cannot be regarded as an encouragement to pioneer work. In the first place, it had at this time (December last) become quite unnecessary to encourage people to take up land, for in the last six increasing frequency, and every day brought in applications for large estates from persons ready to pay rent or purchase money. Secondly, the lease which I refused to sign is little more than an option on the land for 25 years. The syndicate have merely to fulfil the ridiculously easy condition of establishing five farms during seven years on what is known to be first-rate land, and they can then either do nothing if things go badly or, if things go well, they can buy up the whole area and make or, if things go well their profits.

The principle of these options seems to me bad, and I can see nothing in the work done by the syndicate in East Africa which justifies so munificent a reward. They say that they spent 34,000l. on the country. If this expenditure had been directed to developing its resources they might have had a claim to compensation, but I think it must have been mainly spent on fruitless prospecting for gold and other minerals. According to their own statement (No. 25 in the parliamentary paper) they have only expended 500l. on agricultural experiments, which can hardly be held to constitute a claim for recompense from the State.

The above facts seem to me to substantiate my statement that Lord Lansdowne gave them an unduly favourable concession.

It is further pointed out that, while making these enormous grants in perpetuity to the syndicate and to Lord Delamere, who received 100 miles, the Foreign Office stepped in to prevent even small grants being made to private persons, not in ownership at all, but merely on lease, and even under stringent conditions for the real development of the land. The case of two applications for 32 miles each is particularly instanced. The applications were for 32 square miles each, but, as all land required by natives for securing access to water or other purposes was excepted from the lease, the real dimensions were reduced to about 20,000 and 18,000 acres. The leases were strict. Only 10,000 acres could be converted into freehold, and that only with the consent of the Government, which was also required for sub-letting; 5,000l, supported by vouchers, had to be expended within five years in developing the land. Such terms are useless to a speculator, and can only be fulfilled by a lessee who is ready to really develop his land.

As to the question of native right, said to be involved in the private applications, Sir Charles points out: First, the local authorities (within whose competence the matter was) had stated that the leases were compatible with native rights, and, secondly everybody asked why, if the syndicate can obtain 500 square miles of freehold within a certain district without violating native rights, cannot others have about 30 square miles on leasehold in the same district, being well known that it is much easier protect such rights on leasehold property than on freehold.

In conclusion, Sir Charles apologises for any seeming want of courtesy towards Lord Lansdowne.

After a good deal of delay and discussion the Government of India have been able to make up their mind on the Luff Point scheme, and the Government's order on the subject will shortly be issued.

How to Avoid the Dangers of a Cold.—Everyone must realize the dangers attending a severe cold, and that it is always prudent to remain in-doors until the danger is passed. Many, however, do not feel able to lose the time and will be interested in knowing that a severe cold may be broken up and all danger avoided by the prompt use of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It not only cures, but cures quickly and counteracts any tendency toward pneumonia. For sale by
Smith Stanistreet and Co.,
Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdool Rahaman and Abdool Kareem, Calcutta.

FIRE WALKING IN MADRAS.

A WEIRD AND PICTURESQUE CEREMONY.

By the courtesy of Mr. S. Babu Rao, I was invited last night to the fire walking procession which takes place every year in Nungumbaukum village. The Europeans who had accepted invitations to witness this interesting ceremony were accommodated with chairs under a pandal, beyond which on all sides was a seething crowd, all eager to see the performance, and to obtain some of the sacred ashes afterwards. Upon my arrival I saw blazing furiously a huge bonfire of logs, round which the god of the adjoining temple was frequently carried in procession. When most of the logs in the fire had been reduced to glowing embers, a bag of charcoal was emptied on the burning pile to add fuel to the flames, while all large pieces of partially burnt wood were removed. The burning cinders were then spread out till they resembled a beautiful fiery carpet about 16 ft. long by 12 ft. across, and a number of torches, variously shaped like rings and tridents, which were carried hither and thither, cast a weird and garish light over the scene. Then amidst wild shouting and tom-toming, the procession emerged from the temple. The deity in whose honour the ceremony was held, Sri Krishna, was mounted on a representation of a fearsome looking beast resembling a panther, and was elaborately ornamented with decorations of jasmine flowers. The effigy was borne on a platform on many strong shoulders, and surrounded by worshippers decked with flowers and carrying strange emblems on coloured poles. Beside the god on the platform stood a priest and above all waved a huge white and red umbrella.

Past the fire and down the village marched the god, preceded by his devotees, men and youths, some twenty in all, several of whom carried boys on their shoulders. All were garlanded with white flowers, and the boys had their heads covered with flowers, which were also twisted into their long hair. Those who go through this ordeal, I was told, undergo a severe preparation, eating nothing but milk and plantains for several days beforehand. They do it in requital of a vow or as a preliminary to asking some boon from the god, it may be children, health or general protection. For this reason many carry their sons through the fire, and so they believe ensure their children's safety through the coming year. If the worshipper is faithful and true the deity will not allow the fire to burn him; such, at any rate, was the explanation accorded me. When the procession reached the fire the turmoil was tremendous. The god having been carried amidst much enthusiasm past the fire, the crucial moment arrived, and after a second's hesitation the devotees, holding hands, ran lightly across the length of the glowing embers, which were still so hot that we could hardly bear to stand within 6 ft. of them. The excitement then became intense, a large number of those present apparently becoming well nigh frenzied with religious zeal. Three times the devotees rushed through the fire, even the small boys being impervious to fear or pain. The procession over the wildest scramble ensued in the endeavour to secure some of the sacred ashes, a pinch of which mixed with water is believed to be a sovereign cure for all the ailments to which Hindu flesh is heir.—"M. M."

THE MADRAS EXAMINATION CASE. ACCUSED ACQUITTED.

Madras, Aug. 30.

The special test examination frauds case, which had been occupying the attention of Mr. Justice Boddam and a special jury, before the Criminal Sessions at the Madras High Court, for five days, concluded this afternoon. The accused had been charged with abetments of theft, dishonest misappropriation, and criminal breach of trust in respect of two question papers, between the 1st of May and the 22nd of October 1903. When the prosecution closed the case this afternoon, His Lordship called upon the Crown Prosecutor to say what evidence there was of abetment. Counsel replied it was impossible in a case of that sort to prove theft or abetment directly, but the evidence adduced and the correspondence exhibited would enable the jury to presume that the accused was an abettor or one of those who conspired to get the papers. His Lordship ruled that no evidence of theft or abetment was adduced and he said it was a case where they would have to find the man guilty if they could, and it was the position of the jury that in the law no offence had been committed. His Lordship went further and said that even if the jury brought in a verdict of guilty on the evidence, it was the duty of the Court to set aside the verdict. His Lordship then charged the jury to bring in a verdict of not guilty as the only possible verdict and he remarked there was no offence in this country in dealing in examination papers. Nothing could preclude the person, so far as the law was concerned, from purchasing from anybody or from advertising that he was prepared to sell them. The prosecution had proved that by the assistance of the Madras City Police the accused had practically advertised he would sell question papers. According to the prosecution the Indian branch city police, from the Chief Inspector of the intelligence branch, to the station house officers knew the accused had been carrying on a trade in examination papers, and these men were all attempting to get papers from him with the assistance of the police. He carefully concealed from the authorities that he had papers and was prepared to sell them. Before all this could be made an offence the prosecution must prove that he was a party to obtaining the document containing the questions. This they had not done and it was the jury's duty, under the circumstances, to return a verdict of not guilty, especially as there was no property in the contents of the documents. The jury gave a verdict of not guilty, and added it was a great pity there was no enactment in making transactions such as these penal and it was high time the Government was moved to legislate.

The Idea which some people have that chronic diarrhoea is incurable is a mistake. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy not only gives immediate relief but will effect a permanent cure. It never fails and is pleasant to take. For sale by
Smith Stanistreet and Co.,
Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdool Rahaman and Abdool Kareem, Calcutta.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

We shall now only appear at irregular intervals, as our pressmen bolt whenever there is a bombardment.—"Novi Krai," Port Arthur.

Sir Arthur Martindale, Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, and Lady Martindale, arrived in Simla on Tuesday, where they are the guests of the Viceroy.

We are informed that the new accelerated mail contract with the P. and O. Company for the carriage of Indian Home Mails will take effect from the 1st of February next year. The present contract does not expire till the end of January, 1905.

Tenders for the Bombay Port Trust Debenture Loans of 1904, were opened on Tuesday, and tenders amounting to Rs. 36,40,500 at and over Rs. 104-1-0, were accepted in full, The balance of the loan Rs. 9,500, was distributed pro rata among those who tendered at Rs. 104. The average rate of tenders accepted, was Rs. 104-8-7 and the aggregate total of tenders received was Rs. 57,47,000.

The only abnormal features in the meteorology of the South-East Trades region during the past week were a slight excess of pressure at Port Louis (Mauritius), and usually heavy rain at the Seychelles, where 1.50 inches were recorded, and an usually light winds at Port Louis and Zanzibar. A ship which arrived at the Seychelles from Madagascar reports unusually strong Trades.

The District Judge of Calicut written to the District Superintendent of Police, reporting the extreme unpreparedness of certain S. H. O's to answer questions put to them in court. At every question, they refer to their note-books and cause much delay and vexation. If they cannot remember important facts relating to their cases, it is high time, the Judge remarks, that they should be eased of the burden of the S. H. O's duty.

Gunner Fox "alias" C. Hill, against whom a complaint had been filed in the Town Police Court of cheating, had been recently arrested at Allahabad, and was taken to Madras a few days ago. The charge against the accused is that he obtained a sum of money from Major Farmer, Commanding Officer, R. G. A., stationed at Fort, St. George by false representations. Accused will be put on his trial shortly.

With a view to stimulating the recruitment of signallers in the Telegraph Department it has been decided that pay shall be given to youths during their probationary period. The demand for signallers is very great owing to the increase in traffic and hence the necessity for encouraging those who may desire to join, but are deterred by the fact that they have hitherto had to work several months without pay.

The District Board of Calicut met on 27th August 23 members were present. After the other items in the agenda had been gone through, the President rose and announced that, under section 29 (a) of the Local Boards Act, he would exclude from the meeting chamber all who were not members, in as much as he was going to place before the meeting certain confidential matters. Our representative, thereupon, withdrew. We understand that the President's order dispensing with the services of Mr. Rosario was confirmed by a majority of 14 votes, against 4 opposing and 5 not voting.

The operations of raising the sunken warship Varyag at Chemulpo are steadily advancing under the energetic supervision of RearAdmiral Arai. A Japanese correspondent says that some neutral warships are earnestly watching the operations close to the scene. The first stage of the work has already been finished and the second stage is now in progress. The first working section was the removal of her armament and ammunition. In the last section the discharge of coal has been nearly completed, water preventing work going on; four funnels have been removed and two masts were being cut off. The number of coolies employed is 250 in all. There are twenty-two diving machines working 36 divers. Valuables discovered in a secret box in the Commander's room are said to have furnished important data for the Japanese navy.

Give a beggar a horse to ride, and he will ride to the devil. That the powers in the hands of a preponderating class of executive and judicial officers in India are grievously misplaced can hardly be denied in a country sanctified by the doings of District Magistrate Garrett of Puri fame, of District Magistrate Foster of Hazaribagh fame, and others—to mention only a few of the most prominent of innumerable executive and judicial guardians of the "prestige" of British rule in India thriving and prospering under the protecting wings of the powers that be. A typical case has been just reported by the "Allahabad Law Journal." One Syed Khan was put upon his trial for an offence under Section 411 of the Indian Penal Code and acquitted. The Magistrate having thus proved an exception to the rule, the Sessions Judge felt compelled to uphold the prestige and demonstrate the dignity of the law. So, purporting to act under Section 437 of the Code of Criminal Procedure he directed further enquiry into the charges preferred against him. Syed Khan appealed to the High Court, and in his judgment Mr. Justice Knox observes:—"I know of no section which authorises the Sessions Judge to act where the accused has been acquitted. The learned Judge appears to consider that the order of acquittal amounted in strict law to a discharge only, because no witnesses were produced in defence by Syed Khan. There is obviously some confusion here. The learned Judge must have in the course of his experience come across several cases in which an accused person is acquitted without any witnesses being produced for his defence. In any case, the order for further enquiry is illegal and must be and is set aside." A few years ago, our readers may perhaps remember, a poor fellow in a certain human locality of Bengal was sentenced to a long term of rigorous imprisonment by a "convicting" Magistrate, but was acquitted by the Sessions Judge, who found absolutely no evidence against him. The Magistrate, to uphold his prestige, immediately had the poor fellow dragged before him and sentenced to a much longer term of rigorous imprisonment than he had even originally done! And to this day it has not transpired if any one interfered on behalf of the poor man. And these are by no means solitary instances.—"Tribune."

FORSAKEN ON HER HONEYMOON.

BELGIAN BRIDERGROOM WHO "WENT TO KLONDIKE."

A sad story of a young girl's ruined life was related in the Westminster Police Court the other day. It is asserted that she was deserted three days after her marriage, that her husband fled with all her money and property, and that the last that was heard of him was that he was "off to Klondike."

Mr. Gilbert Thorn, solicitor, sought the magistrate's advice in the matter on behalf of the National Vigilance Society. The wife, whose name was not stated, is a Belgian lady of twenty-two years of age. The absent husband was described as an officer of the Belgian army.

In 1902, as a result of the girl's father following the couple to London, they were married at the Strand Registry Office the bride's dowry of £400 and her jewellery being taken charge of by the husband.

The couple went to Calais for their honeymoon but on the third day the husband is stated to have left her at the hotel, and gone with her money, her boxes, and nearly all her personal effects to Paris.

He wrote saying that it was better to leave her without a scene at the hotel, and that he was off to Barcelona. She then went to Paris, but could not trace her husband, and even finally she came back to London in most distressed circumstances.

Eventually, through the agency of the National Vigilance Society, she found a home at a convent at Brompton-square until employment was obtained for her as a French governess. A letter posted at New York to the girl's father stated that the missing husband was off to Klondike to make a fortune.

Eighteen months later came another letter from Cairo. In this the man stated that he was "living in a country where the law allowed him to have several wives."

The magistrate said that he would help the girl if he could, but there were many difficulties.

Mr. Thorn: We have a letter from the man stating that he will not return to this country. Cannot that be regarded as a declaration of desertion and summons be issued?

Mr. Horace Smith: The summons could not be served abroad. Then there is the marriage in England of two Belgian subjects. It seems to be a case of deception and real hardship, but I cannot grant process.

The Chief Commissioner, north-west Frontier Province, leaves Nathiagalli on 12th September on a visit to Simla, being back on the 25th idem.

HAMMERS AND EGGS.

I have seen hammers, weighing many tons each and operated by steam, that would crack an egg without crushing it, and yet at one blow smash a lump of iron as big as your head as flat and thin as this sheet of paper. There are several such hammers at Essen, in Prussia, where the German Emperor's big guns are made, and at Armstrong's foundry, by the river Tyne, in England.

I have looked at these hammers with admiration and awe. They are things to take one's hat off to Oh, to have the power of a thunderbolt combined with muscular control that would enable me to take a moth between my thum and finger without brushing the flour from its wings! And health, too, of course, health which should never, since I began to breathe, have been modified by an ache, a weakness or any physical suggestion that this condition would ever end.

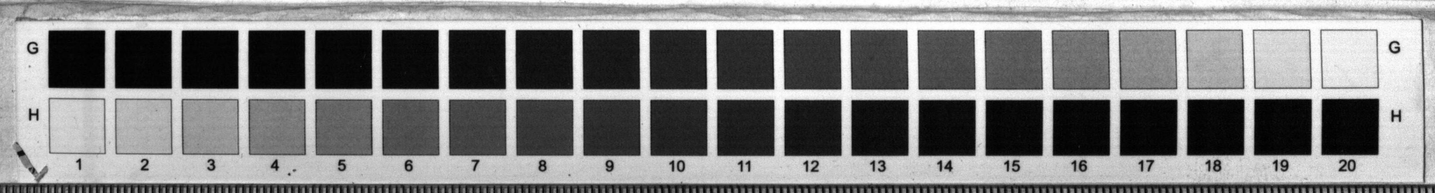
But there! if wishes were horses beggars might ride.

Whether the Creator so inteded it I cannot say, but every human life falls short of the ideal.

Here is an extract from a letter written by Mrs. H.C. Oosthuizen, who lives at Stand 875, Richt Street, Burghersdrop, Transvaal, on April 14 of this year, 1904, in which she tells you exactly how she suffered and what the chief symptoms were. If you are suffering from pains in the stomach, or kidneys, or from rheumatism, and have any of the symptoms she describes, it would be well for you to act on the recommendation she gives when she tells you what cured her. She says: "For nearly fifteen years I suffered from kidney complaint. I was hardly ever free from rheumatism, pains and backache. became so ill at last that while in the Women's Camp at Bloemfontein, during the war I was taken into hospital and there remained for over two months. The treatment given me by the hospital doctors gave temporary relief and I was discharged from hospital. The rough conditions under which we were living at the time away from all home comforts did not tend toward building up my already shattered state of health. Having some friends in the camp who had been cured by Mother Seigel's Syrup, I visited them and from them heard the wonders of that remedy. I purchased two bottles and began to feel my health improve. I continued using the Syrup until I was completely cured."

There is no mistaking that story—it is a plain and simple one. But perhaps you would like to know more about the wonderful curative effects of this remarkable medicine in another case—this time the patient being a man. If so, read the accompanying extract from a letter written on March 27th, this same year, 1904, by Mr. X. Norodien, of the Malay Location, Johannesburg. He says: "For nine years I suffered from severe pains in the vicinity of the kidneys, lost my appetite completely, and could only take milk and beef tea; anything more substantial would not remain in the stomach. I became so ill that I was forced to take to my bed. A doctor treated me for almost two months, but without success. On arriving at Cape Town at the outbreak of hostilities, a Malay friend told me of the wonderful qualities of Mother Seigel's Syrup. One bottle relieved me, and now I am never without a bottle in my house."

Only one bottle, he says, cured him, but he has such confidence in the remedy that he keeps it always handy. He can eat and enjoy and digest his food now. Without fire, no heat. Without digested food, no strength. That's Nature's law. Relief and cure for digestive disorders reside in Mother Seigel's Syrup. Cases on which excellent doctors have looked in despair are daily cure by it, and it is constantly adding to the working strength and happiness of the world.



Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE OPPOSITION WALK OUT.

STRIKING SCENE IN THE COMMONS.

REQUEST TO BE CARRIED OUT BY THE POLICE.

The whole Opposition rose in the House of Commons yesterday afternoon (5th Aug.) and walked out as a protest against the manner in which Mr. Balfour was conducting the Defaulting Authorities (Education) Bill, which they call a coercion Bill for Wales. It is intended to compel the local authorities to carry out the provisions of the Education Act. They charged Mr. Balfour with using his influence on the Chairman of Committee, Mr. J. W. Lowther, and accused Mr. Lowther of putting in force the closure to serve the purpose and exigencies of the Government.

Closure is put in operation by the Chairman on the motion of the Minister in charge of the Bill or the leader of the House. He may refuse to accept the motion if he consider the debate has not gone far enough. If he does accept, it is put to the House, and a division is called. When the motion has been carried the question in debate is then divided upon.

The Opposition was led throughout the day by Mr. Lloyd-George. About thirty Welsh and English members refused to go into the lobbies at four o'clock, when a division was called on a closure motion. The Chairman named five for suspension, and then he named them to the House. Some threatened that they would not leave unless carried out by the police. Calmer counsels prevailed, and Mr. Asquith eventually took up the cause and led out the entire Opposition save four or five. This course was taken to save an undignified scene of disorder.

CHARGES AGAINST THE CHAIR.

The origin of the trouble must be traced to the Education Bill of 1902. It has been vigorously resisted in Wales. The County Councils refused to put it in force. They declined to supply money or levy rates for the upkeep of Church of England schools. Most of the members are Nonconformists.

In this impasse the Government brought in the present Bill to enable them to withhold certain moneys which should pass from the Treasury to the County Councils, the object being to maintain with these funds the schools which the County Councils neglected. It was to fight this Bill in the Committee stage that the Welsh members came down in force yesterday. They were prepared to sit all night and all Saturday if need be, and even into Sunday. All depended on how the Government used the powers of the closure.

The Chairman of Committee is Mr. James W. Lowther, a member of the Unionist party. He is a strong man, firm in his rulings, exceptionally cool in a crisis. But this session the Opposition have frequently called in question his decisions, and have once or twice charged him with partiality for the Government. This feeling found strong and repeated expression yesterday, and was one of the main causes of the trouble.

The Bill was drafted in a single clause of some thirty-five lines. Round this arrangement the fight began. The Welshmen declared that the Government had purposely embodied the whole principle and machinery in one clause so that the Bill might be closured at one fell swoop. Mr. Ellis Griffith described it as "a gross scandal," and demanded that the clause be divided up. The Chairman could not do that. "You ought to protect the minority," thundered Mr. Lloyd-George, turning the storm on to Mr. Lowther. "This was deliberately done to prevent discussion, the Prime Minister relying on his authority and influence over the Chair in doing it."

ACCUSING MR. BALFOUR.

Nothing excites the Commons so much as an attack on the Chair, and Sir Fortescue Flannery expressed the anger of Ministerialists. Mr. Lowther was unmoved. If the insinuation was against Mr. Balfour, he ruled that it was in order; if against himself, it was out of order. To put himself in order Mr. Lloyd-George directed it against Mr. Balfour.

These were but the mutterings of the storm. Closure at one o'clock did not draw down the lightning. After lunch there were even interludes of humour, as when Mr. Philipps told a story of Mr. Lloyd-George and the Bishop of St. Asaph, who heard it in the gallery. A Welsh newspaper declared that the bishop was the biggest liar in Wales, adding that Mr. Lloyd-George was more than a match for him. At 3-50 Mr. Balfour invoked the closure again, and carried it. He had brought the fire very near the powder-barrels. Twenty minutes later he moved closure on the first four lines of the clause, and the powder exploded. Mr. Lowther accepted the motion, thereby shutting out four pages of amendments, some of which were considered important.

Members poured out into the lobbies, but the Welshmen and a few other Liberals, numbering in all about thirty, refused to move. "I see no use in taking part in a farce of this kind," said Mr. Lloyd-George. The Chairman, usually strong in method and even forcible, chose the mild and persuasive course, and urged them to proceed to the division now that they had made their protest.

They had chosen their course, and were firm. Members crowded at the bar and behind the chair, and looked through the side doors from the lobby to watch developments.

"If you don't go I shall have to suspend you," said Mr. Lowther in effect. But neither threats nor entreaties, repeated again and again in almost a beseeching tone, availed. The Welshmen were resolved. "I most distinctly decline to leave," said Mr. George White.

The two parties sat and watched each other in silence. Mr. Lowther, standing by the clerks, was pale and anxious. He had taken his course and could not go back. He must follow the rules—to suspension and removal by the police if need be. The Welshmen looked to Mr. Lloyd-George and he would not go back on his decision. Appeal from the Chair, again an appeal, and each time firm refusal.

A deep stillness brooded over the House for a spell. Then it was broken by Mr. Churchill rushing in with a book of precedents. Sitting behind the Treasury bench with hat on he invited Mr. Lowther to suspend the sitting for a time because of grave disorder.

Speaking in his gravest tones, and with a tremor in his voice as if he feared a rude disaster to the dignity of Parliament, Mr. Lowther said: "I am compelled to name certain honourable members for disregarding the authority of the Chair. I name Mr. Guest, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Harwood, Mr. Alfred Davies, Mr. Lloyd-George, and I shall have to report them to the House." "Name me also," cried Sir Alfred Thomas. Others laughed: they had got what they wanted.

"Why pick and choose? You did that once before," said Mr. Lloyd-George. The Chairman had, in fact, chosen the four on the front bench below the gangway and the leader behind them.

The House filled up in a moment, members coming back from the lobbies in hot haste. Mr. Asquith and Mr. Bryce sat on the front Opposition bench, while Mr. Balfour and all his Ministers sat opposite in silent dismay. The Prime Minister exchanged a few words with Mr. Lowther, and judging by the result they decided on pacific measures. The Serjeant-at-Arms was puzzled, but eventually lifted up the mace and the House was in sessions. Mr. Lowther took the Speaker's chair, and a shout of indignation and derision went forth as he proceeded to report the events to himself. The Speaker was ill and absent, he explained, and that excuse was sufficient. Then he "named" twenty-one members:—Mr. Lloyd-George, Mr. Guest, Mr. McKenna, Mr. George Harwood, Mr. Alfred Davies, Sir Alfred Thomas, Mr. Moss, Mr. Herbert Lewis, Dr. Shipman, Mr. Levy, Mr. H. J. Wilson, Mr. Whitley, Mr. Griffith, Mr. W. Abraham, Mr. George White, Mr. Phillipps, Mr. Ainsworth, Mr. William Jones, Mr. Brynmor Jones, Mr. Herbert Roberts and Mr. Edwards.

"And me." "Not half enough." "All of us," cried Opposition members, anxious to join the company of martyrs.

Mr. Lowther, standing before the chair, paler and more concerned than ever, went on: "I have now again to ask honourable members to leave the House for having disregarded the authority of the Chair." The usual course would have been for Mr. Balfour to move that they be suspended from the service of the House, but he did not rise, and, indeed, took no part in the scene. He was anxious to avoid disorder. So was Mr. Lowther. When the recalcitrants rose one after another to renew their protests in speech, he gave them full scope in the hope of letting the steam escape and avoid a worse explosion. Unionist members below the gangway laughed and jeered, and the Welshmen replied with taunts about "the gentlemen of England."

INVITATION TO THE POLICE.

"This farce has gone too far," said Mr. Lloyd-George, and he repeated that his protest was against the course Mr. Lowther had taken at the instigation of the Prime Minister. Mr. William Abraham, the sturdy miner known as "Mabon," announced that he was prepared to be carried out, and the Serjeant-at-Arms shivered at the idea.

Mr. Lowther made a final and solemn appeal. 'Hon. members have always treated me with great courtesy, and I am sure I may say I feel that they are very deeply moved in the position they have taken up. They have made a protest, which, as I have said, was a dignified protest, and one worthy of them in the difficult circumstances in which they were placed. I again appeal to hon. members not to compel the vigorous enforcement of the rules. I, therefore inform hon. members that I shall resume my place at the table, that the question will again be put, and the division take place in the ordinary way."

Here then was a way out of the difficulty. The fire had rather gone out of the scene through much speaking. The House was calmer now that it reached the uttermost verge of order, and the shadow of the policemen seemed to loom behind the chair. Mr. Asquith crept over to Mr. Lloyd-George and held whispered conference counselling moderation.

Speaking very solemnly and seriously, all his banter and wit banished, and the fighting manner laid aside for a tone of sorrowful defeat, Mr. Lloyd-George declared that he would walk out, but he would walk out altogether and wash his hands of the whole thing. Thereupon Mr. Asquith rose, and a delighted Opposition cheer welcomed his intervention at the last moment. He was glad Mr. Lloyd-George had avoided an unseemly scene. He entirely sympathised with him, and would join in walking out and taking no further part in the discussion.

MARCHING OUT.

Stepping forth into the middle of the floor, Mr. Asquith led the procession. Mr. Bryce followed with the Whips, the Liberals fell in behind, and then the Welshmen from below the gangway wheeled up like a company of soldiers, and so the Opposition passed out of the House. It was a striking scene, impressive in its very orderliness and the quiet resolution that carried it out with not a cheer or a word of further reproach. A few Unionists jeered, but they were instantly suppressed by their friends. Mr. Balfour watched the departure of his opponents impassively, impressed at last that they meant what they said.

A handful of Nationalists remained with Mr. Churchill and Mr. Will Crooks. Otherwise the Opposition side was deserted. The Chairman put the remaining portions of the Bill to the House. "Those of that opinion say 'Aye.' A chorus of "Ayes." "The contrary No. Not a sound; only a deep, unwonted stillness. 'The 'Ayes' have it.' There was no opposition. "This is the sort of government you would like," said Mr. Crooks to the party opposite. And so the Bill passed through Committee. Third reading was set down for Monday.

The Opposition came back to prevent the Government taking any further business, though it was only a quarter-past five o'clock, the scenes having lasted nearly an hour and a half. Mr. Churchill and Mr. Asquith held that the House was not in a condition to discuss further Bills. Mr. Chaplin protested against this view, but when he rebuked the Opposition he was shouted down. Mr. Bowles thought the Opposition had chosen the weakest and most foolish course. Still, he also wanted to get away.

Mr. Balfour and Mr. Asquith conferred behind the Speaker's chair, and the Prime Minister offered as a compromise not to press contentious Bills. "All Government Bills are now contentious," he was told. "We shall oppose everything out of pure cussedness!" Mr. Crooks frankly confessed.

Mr. Balfour's position was extremely difficult. He did not wish to exacperate his opponents; he would not say who was to blame for the scene. "Perhaps"—he said, and some one suggesting. "Both," he smiled with a sort of half-consent. But if the Liberals wanted to fight everything every day, "let us fight now." The scene had been as painful to himself as to the Opposition, and he wished them to separate in good temper and good humour.

Finding no single concession would calm the anger of the Opposition, Mr. Balfour conceded all, consented to do no more work for the day, and the House rose at 5-40 in peace.

PREVIOUS SCENES.

Twice before a protest like that of yesterday has been made in the House of Commons. The Conservatives left in a body under one of Mr. Gladstone's closures. The Liberals did the same in protest against the action of Mr. W. H. Smith.

When the Irish members in a body refused to clear the House for a division as the Welshmen and Liberals did yesterday they were promptly suspended, and carried out of the House by policemen.

Yesterday's scene was the culmination of an antagonism which sprang up early in the session between Mr. Lowther and the young Radicals. Through the long fight on the Education Bill of 1902 his impartiality and firmness were admitted on all hands. But this year the Opposition conceived the idea that he saw too forcibly the side of the Government, and was partially blind to theirs.

There have been two sharp passages this session between Mr. Lowther and Mr. Churchill.—"Daily Mail."

IMMORALITY IN MYSORE JAIL.

A petition was filed before the City Magistrate, Bangalore, last week by one Hayath Bibi, a Mahomedan female convict, praying that one Balakrishna Row, a Brahmin convict, be made to pay a fixed sum for her maintenance. The circumstances under which she prayed for maintenance were that she was outraged by convict Balakrishna Row when she was undergoing imprisonment in the jail; that she was in consequence divorced by her husband and is without support. She further mentioned in the petition that while she was in the bath-room of the Matron of the female convict ward Balakrishna Row, the convict who was distributing rations committed the outrage which when reported to the Matron, the Matron took no notice of. The Magistrate summoned for the Jailor and he deposed in the court that Hayat Bibi was a convict, but was lately released, her term of imprisonment having expired, at the Bangalore Jail undergoing an imprisonment of 7 months for a charge of infanticide; that Balakrishna Row was another convict, a Brahmin, still undergoing imprisonment for a charge of defalcation of Government's accounts at Dodaballapur. He further said that the complainant never reported of the alleged conduct of Balakrishna Row, till later than it was detected by the Jail servants who had helped Balakrsihna Row in his immoral actions. In consequence of this breach of discipline at the jail, he mentioned the conduct of the Matron of the female ward to Government, and that the Matron was ordered to resign her post. The Magistrate after hearing the plaint did not permit the case to be taken on file. The complainant has put in a petition direct to H. H. the Maharaja.—"Mysore Standard."

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12 Dr. T. U AHMED M. B. C. M, L S P (London) His Majesty's Vice Consul, says:—I have recommend this Healing Balm strongly to the suffering piublic

13 DR, R. MONNIER M. B. C. M, (Edin) Resident Surgeon, Park street Goverment Charitable Dispensary, says:—Healing Balm was used by me in several cases of Gonorrhœa and was found successful,

14 Dr. M. N. Banerjee B. A. M.R. C, S. I, S. A, (Lond) says: I have found it good in Gonorrhœa

15 M. L. Dey M. B,, M. Ch., Late Resident Medical Officer, Paisley Assylum (London) says:—Healing Balm contains some of the choicest drugs for the cure of Gonorrhœa and Gleet.

16 Dr. K. P. CHAKERBUTTY M. B. Late Superintendent and Medical officer, Lewis Jubileeu Sanitarium, Darjiling, says:—"It is called Healing Balm and may be rightly called so In chronic cases of Gleet and Cystitis it acts with wonderful effect."

17 Dr. Atul Chandra Kasu M, B, Late House Surgeon Medical College, says:— Healing Balm will prove very officacious in Gonorrhœa and Gleet of long standing.

18 Dr Kedarnath Dutt M B says:—The preparation is an admirable one in curing Gonorrhoea and gleet of all kind. I can recommend it safely to the suffering public

19 Dr. Troylakya Nath Banerjee M. B. says:—I am glad to be able to report very favourably of Healing Balm all the cases treated having derived great benefit in oa remarkably short time.

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(SEALDAH CORNER)

Our Calicut correspondent has sent us particulars of a case, which has caused some sensation in the locality. The complainant is Mr. C. Gopala Menon, one of the members of the Caste Committee recently founded at Tiruvanoor. He has brought a case against a nephew of H. H. the Zamorin. According to him, the members of the Sava were resolved at a meeting upon outcasting a young woman for her immoral conduct and sent in a petition to the Zamorin in connection with their proceedings. The accused Raja or Thampuran (as the members of the royal family are called after the proclamation of 1904) is the direct nephew of the Zamorin and manages the affairs of the palace. The complainant accompanied by some other members went to the palace and asked the accused about the petition submitted by them. Thereupon it is alleged the accused insulted Mr. G. Menon. The latter has put in a petition to the District Magistrate, praying to get his case transferred from the file of the second class Magistrate of the city, before whom it is pending.

"A. C." writes in "Indian Planting and Gardening":—This was long ago in Mussoorie when the then Superintendent of the Government Botanical Gardens and several residents in Mussoorie clubbed together to get out a consignment of fruit trees. In those days they had to come out from England round the Cape of Good Hope to Calcutta, and from there up country over 1,000 miles by the then slow mode of travel. The story was told me by Nanuck Chowdri, who all his life was connected with the Saharanpur Botanic Gardens. He died at a good old age, but he was a celebrated character in the Saharanpur and adjoining districts. He was the man employed by Dr. Hugh Falconer to hunt for and collect the fossils of the Dehra Dun (or as it was then written Deyra Dhoon) and the districts of Nahun. He could give the dates when most of the trees in the old Botanical Gardens, Mussoorie, were planted. One, a "Populus Euphraticoe" he said, was planted at 11 a.m., of the day that Dr. Falconer went to Kabul with General Pollock in 1842. When the consignment of fruit trees was opened at Mussoorie the plants were found to be in a very sickly state, but they were divided up as fairly as possible between the co-sharers, but only one lived and that was one planted in the Botanical Gardens and this Nannak used to point to as being an apple tree that cost Rs. 1,000.

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