REG NO C 59

Amrita Bazar Patrika

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VOL XXXVI CALCUTTA, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1905 NO 712

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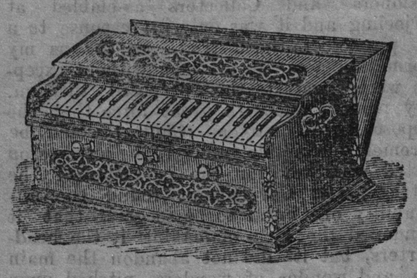

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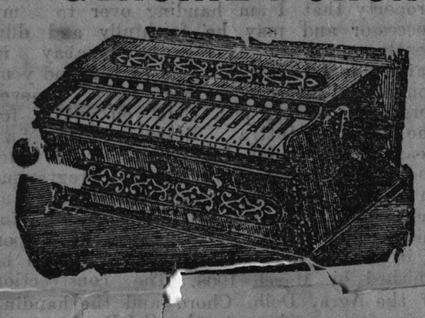

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BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

ADDRESS TO LORD CURZON.

HIS REPLY.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Viceroy's Camp, Bombay, Nov. 8.

In reply to the address presented to Lord Curzon by the Chamber of Commerce his Lordship said as follows:—

Gentlemen,—It is impossible for me to receive the address which you have just read without recognising that it is no ordinary or perfunctory document, but that it constitutes one of the most remarkable tributes emanating from an exceedingly representative body of public men engaged in almost every walk of business and representing one of the great commercial communities of the British Empire that can ever have been offered to a departing Governor-General. When you say of that Governor-General that during his term of office the barrier that seemed some years ago to divide Government from Commerce has been completely broken down and that his administration will be long remembered for the active interest that he has taken in all that concerns internal affairs and for the confidence that he has inspired in every branch of commercial life I cannot feel that I deserve these generous words—I yet should be made of dull clay if I were not proud to receive them. For I am conscious that in India Commerce has not always opened its arms in this way to Government or the representative of Government while I am also aware that the sentiments which you express effect a revulsion of feeling that is not confined to Bombay but has spread from one end of India to another inaugurating a happier era in which the development of this great country is regarded as the combined work and the equal duty of all those officials and non-officials whose lot is cast within its borders. I propose to respond to your confidence by a few remarks upon the present commercial position of India suggested by what you yourselves have said, and summarising in a convenient from the situation. It now appears to me, to be the first condition of sound finance; and the first aim of our financial administration in India has been the foundaction of a sound monetary system. Here I profited by the wisdom of my predecessors in closing the mints as far back as 1893 and by the advice of the London Committee that sat and reported during my first year of office. We were able in consequence to introduce the gold standard and we have ever since maintained a stable exchange. But currency reform, however urgent in itself, was only the condition of wider improvements and larger aims and the moment we had obtained it, it ceased to be an end in itself and became the means by which the economic and industrial progress of the country might be pursued upon a score of parallel lines. Each of these lines might with equal truth be regarded as part of a great scheme of financial reorganisation or of economic development or of efficient administration.

Thus we directed ourselves among other objects, to a scheme of greatly accelerated railway construction believing that there is no more prudent employment of public funds. The highest total mileage hitherto recorded in any Viceroyalty has been 3,928; in mine we have laid 6,110 miles bringing up the total mileage in India to 28,150 and I believe and hope that these figures will be exceeded by my successors. The highest capital outlay in any previous Viceroyalty has been 47¼ crores; we have expended nearly 60 crores bringing up the total capital sunk in Indian railways to 240 millions sterling. There has never before been a railway surplus, the aggregate railway surpluses of the past 6 years have amounted to 4½ millions sterling.

One of the most pressing and severely felt of difficulties in Indian railways has for long been the deficiency of rolling stock Exclusive of large orders now under construction. We have provided an increase of 28 per cent. in engines, 21 per cent in passenger cars, and 33 per cent in goods wagons. We have placed before the Secretary of State a railway expenditure programme for the next three years, under the triennial programme scheme which, as you know, is one of our achieved reforms, of no less than 15 crores in each year or a total of 30 millions sterling. These results and these prospects for which I must not be understood to claim the smallest personal credit, for had any one else been standing in my place he would have been able to say the same, are, I think, of a thoroughly satisfactory nature. They show genuine progress made and they are full of promise for the future. The net income of our railways has, indeed, been growing three times as fast as the interest on our capital liabilities. The railway property of the Government of India is, in my view, a magnificent asset as fine as any in the world, and we may safely banish the nervous fears that have sometimes inspired the responsible authorities as to the risks of borrowing more freely for railway extension. Take our 4 cross loan of the past summer raised in this country for these purposes. It was covered nearly five times over and we could have raised nearly five crores on almost the same terms as we raised four. I hope that this experience will encourage the Government of India to a bolder policy in the future. When we had to pay a high price for our loans, when the Indian money market did not exhibit its present elasticity and when our railways were themselves not a paying concern there was a good excuse for timidity. But I think that a policy of greater confidence and courage is now required and I have endeavoured to inaugurate it.

You have been good enough to allude to the consideration of administrative reform which has accompanied this history of progress and which will, I trust, be an efficient agency for guiding it, namely, the creation of the Railway Board. It would be absurd to pretend that this idea was mine or that of any one now in India. Years ago I remember reading all about it in Sir George Cheney's admirable book, and from the day that I laid down charge of the Public Works Department in the summer of 1899, having held it a few months in order to obtain a grasp of the business, I was bent upon getting a Board as the indispensable condition of business like management and quick and intelligent control. It only remained to seize the psychological moment and to work out a plan adapted to our present needs. I might draw a similarly rosy picture of the prospects of irrigation and the outlay upon it. But I dealt with this subject in my budget speech of March last and will not repeat myself to-day Neither will I say anything about the other features of our commercial and industrial policy, such as the imposition of countervailing duties on sugar,—our pronouncement on preferential tariffs,—our attitude towards local industries as instanced by the Tea-cess Act, the tea and indigo grants and the encouragement to iron and steel works—our hitherto unsuccessful but still unabandoned attempts to readjust the machinery and to remove some of the restrictions of our existing banking system,—our reform of the Customs Department and creation of a single Imperial Customs Service, largely due to suggestions from Bombay,—or even the creation of the new Commerce and Industry Department, which has already, in so gratifying a success owing, no doubt, very greatly to the fact that we came prowling down to Bombay and took some of your best men to assist us in starting the venture. I will not say more of any of these topics because they would encroach too much upon my limited space, but I should like to add a word upon two subjects of policy of the Government of India, which you have noticed with special satisfaction. The first of them is reduction of telegraphic charges. This is a matter to which I attach the very highest importance and of wich I can truthfully say that I have assumed personal charge sometimes in the face of no small difficulty. I believe in the reduction of cable rates of Europe because a cheap tariff is the greatest instrument of imperial unification that can be devised. It has been brought down from 4s to 2s a word in my time but it must go lower still. If there were a cheap rate, say of 6d a word,—and of course press messages would be cheaper—between England India, the almost indescribable ignorance that prevails in each country about the other and which is often the despair of the friends of both, could no longer exist. I am not sure that the task of Government would be rendered easier, perhaps the reverse, but the relations of the two peoples, commercial, social and sentimental, could not fail to become more intimate. On similar grounds I have been an earnest advocate of the reduction of the internal rates in India. Since the changes were made two years ago, there has been an increase of 30 per cent in private messages in India, while the stimulus given to press traffic may be shown by the fact that in a single year the total number of words, jumped up from 7,680,000 to 14,000,000 or an increase of between 80 and 90 per cent. I believe in giving news to the people some persons, I know, do not; and I sometimes rule my eyes and wonder where my imaginary reactionary tendencies, in this respect at any rate, are supposed to come in.

The other subject to which I referred was agriculture, in the development of which, you were good enough to say that I had taken the greatest interest. I was pleased to read in an address from a Chamber of Commerce so frank a recognition of the momentous of importance of this subject, because in the last resort the welfare of the agricultural population is just as vital to you as it is to the Government of India What have we been doing for agriculture? I do not speak, for the moment, about land-revenue assessments or collections, of remissions or takavi grants, or the many ways in which we have tried to make things easier for the Indian cultivator. Our real reform has been to endeavour, for the first time, to apply science on a large scale, to the study and practice of Indian agriculture. It is quite true that the Indian peasant perhaps the Guzerat peasant in particular, knows as well as any peasant in the world, how to make the most of the soil and of the fruits of tillage. In his way he is a heriditary expert. But his greatest admirer cannot pretend that he knows anything of scientific discovery or experiment while not even the most hidebound conservative can give any good reason why India should be the only agricultural country in the world to which the lessons of research are incapable of being applied. Anyhow we are doing our best to apply them and one of my last acts in pursuit of this has been the special grant of 20 lakhs per annum to provincial agriculture which we gave for the first time this year, and are going to continue and possibly to increase. It has been deemed advisable to address the Secretary of State and propose to him a great scheme for establishing in every province an Agricultural College and Research Station with a farm attached to it, where agriculture may be studied, both in the laboratory and in the field. Each Province will then have its own Director of agriculture and its own expert staff; and in each distinctive agricultural tract there will be an Experimental Farm under a trained agriculturist. Everywhere the object will be the same, namely, to bring the staff in touch with the cultivator so that knowledge may pass up and down between them. In this way we shall soon train the whole people. We shall, I hope provide a training for hundreds and thousands of the young men of the country; indeed, we shall soon train our own experts without having to import them and we cannot fail to make discoveries and to introduce reforms that will quicken the entire future of the Indian agriculture.

Gentlemen the sum total of my own experience in the last seven years is to send me away a convinced optimist as to the economic and industrial prospects of this country. I suppose we shall never be free from the chantings of that dismal chorus who spend their time in lamenting over the poverty and sufferings of India, without, so far as I can see, doing very much that is practical to remedy the evils of which they complain. Never let us shut our eyes to poverty and the misery. But do not let us be so blind to the truth as not to see that there is an enormous improvement,—that there is everywhere more money in the country, in circulation, in reserves, in investments, in deposits and in the pockets of the people,—that the wages of labour have risen,—that the standards of living of even the poorest have gone up,—that they employ conveniences and luxuries which a quarter of a century ago were undreamed of, thereby indicating an all-round increase of purchasing power,—and that wherever taxation could be held to pinch we have reduced it and may perhaps be able to do more. It is only fairness to acknowledge these facts; it is blind prejudice to ignore them. I can put the matter in a form which will appeal to you as business men by some figures which I have had prepared. I will take the period of my own term of office because the whole point of my argument is that the improvement dates from the closing of the mints by Lord Lansdowne and Sir David Barbmur, and though it is in my time that the fruits have been mainly reaped, the seeds were sown by them. I will contrast, therefore, in each case the figures of 1893-4 and those of 1904-5. The Capital sunk by Government in railways and irrigation works has increased by 56 per cent in that internal; that invested by Joint Stock Companies in industrial undertakings by 23 per cent; the Savings Bank deposits have gone up by 43 per cent, the private deposits in Presidency banks by 71 per cent, the deposits in other joint-stock banks by 130 per cent, the deposits in exchange banks by 95 per cent, Government paper held in India by 29 per cent, the amount invested in local authorities debentures by 90 per cent, the amount of income in which income tax is assessed, excluding at both periods the incomes now exempted, has increased by 29 per cent, the rupee circulation by 27 per cent, and the note circulation in actice use by 68 per cent. The net absorption of gold in the 10 years preceding the two dates of enquiry, namely 1893-04 and 1904-05, shows an increase of 120 per cent in the case of silver 136 per cent. The total value of Indian imports has gone up 35 per cent, of exports 48 per cent. The product debt has increased in the same period by 69 crores, but the non productive debt has decreased by 16 crores. Now, these figures which I have had prepared specially for you, are worth thinking over, from what ever point of view you regard them. Bearing in mind that these considerable, and in some cases amazing, increases have occurred in a period in which the increase in the population has only been 4 per cent, it is impossible to deny their collective testimony—an advance, in every test that can be applied to the progress of a nation, which is without example in the previous history of India, and rare in the History of any people. It is indeed a magnificent property that I am handing over to my successor and may he faithfully and diligently guard it. As regards Bombay in particular I have been able to befriend your commercial interests in many ways. I never forgot the strong plea that you put in for the Nagda—Muttra Railway in my first year, and although I could not, for a time, succeed in squeezing it into the programme in the face of what were represented as more pressing claims, yet it is now there for good; and 73 lakhs are being spent upon it in the current year and the line will be finished by March 1908. The construction of the Agra, Delhi Chord and the handing over of its working to the G.I.P., have I think, been of similar advantage to the trade of Bombay. I incline to effect a similar result from the Bombay-Sind connection although it is primarily on strategical graunds that it is to be taken in hand. If you divide the advantages with Karachi you will not, I am sure, grudge the benefit to the sister port. Sind, too, we have been able to help by the reform of the Sind Sadar Court, which has at last been sanctioned. Finally in a local matter, concerning which you felt, I believe, strongly, we have decided to accept the Bombay views about the extensions of the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Police in Bombay, under the local Government, with local Superintendents under the commissioner. I will not swell this list which has merely been drawn up to show that Bombay has had its full share in the sympathies and interests of the Govt. of India. But I will conclude by thanking you sincerely for the unaffected warmth of your address and for the most agreeable compliment of your farewell.

WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC.

"SOLD TO CHINESE."

Forty-nine American and Canadian young women have been sold into what is practically a state of slavery in China. The local, federal, and police authorities of Chicago have discovered the facts of the case. The police are in possession of the names of a woman in Chicago, and another in Shanghai, who are thought to be the leaders in the practice. The immigration authorities have reported the sale of a girl named Louise Miller, of Montreal, to the agent of a Chinese official in Shanghai. Three waitresses from Montreal, who were induced to come to Chicago, met with the same fate.

Other evidence is also adduced as to the extent of the traffic. The plan of the gang who effected the sales is believed to be as follows. Unsuspecting girls are offered a position as high servants to a wealthy Chinaman, and when they reached China are sent under guard to their purchasers, who have previously paid from $500 to $1,000 per head for them. Many are supposed to be held prisoners in the palaces of wealthy Chinamen.

We hear that the Government of Mysore are pleased to sanction the holding of an Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition at Mysore on the occasion of the visit of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

SORE MUSCLES.

Prominent athlets throughout the country find that the best treatment for sore muscles after severe exercise or hard work of any kind, is a hot bath at bed time, which opens the pores. This should immediately be followed with an application of Chamberlain's Pain Balm vigorously rubbed into the skin. This liniment removes all stiffness and soreness and has become a favorite rub down, as it acts promptly and keeps teh muscles in excellent condition For sale by

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CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY IN OLD VIRGINIA.

The Hutchinson Drug Company, which is located at Perry, Okishome, U. S.A., in speaking of the sale of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, says: "We take pleasure to recommending it to our customers because we believe it honestly made and a meritorious preparation. We sold it in Old Virginia and several other states, covering a period of over twenty years, and have always sound it is give perfect satisfaction." For sale by

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DO NOT BE INFLUENCED.

Never hesitate to say "No" to your dealer if he offers you a substitute for Chamber if he offers you a substitute for Chamberlains Cough Remedy. It has no equal on the market for the prompt cures of coughs colds, croup and whooping cough and you make no mistake in buying this medicine For sale by

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CORRESPONDENCE.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

An Open Truth.—Anonymous.

A LAMENTATION.

To The Editor.

Sir,—The news that the Lieutenant-Governor stopped at Khargpur to inspect the site of the proposed headquarters of the new district of South Midnapur, has struck consternation into our hearts. We were fondly hoping that the long silence of the Government in this matter betokened its abandonment. But no, the zid of the Government is to be supreme and whatever the people might say, the Government will not be quieted by their opinion or feelings.

Why so? Does the Government think, it has the monopoly of reason or that the people living under it are all senseless beings, who do not know their own interests? Evidently it is so, or else why this disregard of public opinion? This disregard has been shown from the very beginning. It did not publish the result of the Conference of Commissioners and Collectors assembled at Darjeeling and it was only in response to a few people of the district. So far as my information goes, all of them without exception were against the proposed division. They pointed out with great force that the proposed head-quarters (Contai) would be extremely unsuitable and that no reason existed whatever for the partition of the district. The Government found the unsuitability of Contai to be so great that it abandoned the idea of making it the headquarters, but it did not abandon the main idea, and wonder of wonders, pitched upon Khargpur as the site of the new quarters, as to which the opinion of the persons formerly consulted, was again asked, and again they all (so far as I know) pronounced against it.

Although you are all troubled now with the far larger and more serious question of the partition of Bengal, let me beg of you a little space for putting before your readers this question and the Government method of dealing with it.

You may remember the committee at Darjeeling last year commenced with the idea that the division of the district of Midnapur was inevitable. We have been bothering our heads to know, why inevitable? But no one answers the question. The Commissioners said that the administration of the district by one officer will cause a break-down. But no break-down has occurred within living memory or since Mr. Beames penned his report. And if there is any, in future, can it not be remedied instantly? And what is a break-down, pray? Here, again, we require to be enlightened. Who will answer the question? Not the last Collector, Mr. Kerr, who, it is believed, was of opinion, he could administer the district without assistance,—well and efficiently.

Our Government is said to be an enlightened Government, which means, if it has any meaning, governing in accordance with the wishes of the people and for their best interests. It is clear, in this matter, as in the larger one, Government has not taken the opinion of the people into consideration. Has it, then, acted for their best interests? The people think, the Government has not. Has the Government taken the trouble to explain it? It has not. Mere saying that the division is inevitable does not amount to explaining why it is so. Nor is the fact, that some Collectors were of opinion that the work was too heavy—any explanation of the inevitableness. Has the Government shown by quoting figures that work in this district has for the past 25 years fallen in arrears—by comparison with the work of the Collectors of the neighbouring districts; or has it noticed this fact in its annual administration repo[illegible] work of this district? It has not, so far as I am aware. Under such circumstances, how can you ask the people to believe that partition is necessary? They see that the Executive and Judicial work of the district is being smoothly carried on; and so they refuse to believe in the necessity of division. They can concede that the Collector of this district has to devote more time to his work than the Collector, say, of Hooghly or Bankura. But will the Government divide the district only to afford leisure to the Collector? As a matter of fact, after the partition, the Collector of old or North Midnapur will have very little to do; and the Collector of the new district only a little more perhaps. It is obvious that the work of one man, if divided between two, will fall only lightly on each of them.

I do not write in any expectation that the Government will stay its hand. Far from it. My only wish is that the Government should know the feelings and opinion of the people about its pet measures. We will have no quarrel with Government if it says openly that it will do what it thinks best and not what we think best. Let the Government say so, and all agitation against its measures either in the press or elsewhere will cease. The Government should also say that, although an enlightened Government, it does not consider it to be its duty to explain its measures to the people and that the people must obey its mandates whatever they might be, blindly and without asking the reason why.

In regard to the present matter, if it were for the interests of the people they would never have objected to it. The people are shrewd and know their own interests, very well. The point is wherein will they be benefited? Khargpur is only 3 or 4 miles from Midnapur. The people have houses and friends living in this town where they come on business, whereas Government will have to create a new town at Khargpur and appoint a new set of officers. Looking from the people's standpoint, the Government will do all this and incur the large extra expenditure, only to save a few miles' journey to the old town. The Civil Courts being here people cannot relinquish their connection with Midnapur. So, they will have to go to Khargpur and come to Midnapur under the new state of things which will no doubt be to their great benefit as they will have the advantage of seeing and expending money in two towns, instead of in one as now.

People from all parts of the district have built houses in the old town, the Zemindars, big houses, and other people according to their means. The Southern portion of the district being rich and more populous I think their houses will come up to about half of the houses comprised in the present town. The value of all this property will amount to some lakhs of rupees. The effect of the division will be to destroy their value and put the Zemindars and other people to the additional expense of building new quarters in the new town. In the absence of any explanation we are led to suppose that the alleged discomfort of one officer outweighs the loss of property of so many people.

There are many other considerations which all tell against the measure which it is needless now to mention. The position briefly is this: To afford leisure to one of its numerous officers the Government will incur the expenditure of lakhs of rupees and put the people to loss of property and extra expenditure and trouble, with no adequate benefit to them. What is the proper name for a measure like this, pray?

26-10-1905. A Midnaporean.

HAPPILY SURPRISED.

Many sufferers from rheumatism have been surprised and delighted at the prompt relief obtained by applying Chamberlain's Pain Balm. A permanent cure may be effected by continuing the use of this liniment for a short time. For sale by

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THE PERILS OF INDIAN POSTMEN.

In the annual report on the Indian Post Office for 1904-05 the following paragraphs occur:—

There were twelve highway robberies of the mail during the year as compared with eighteen in the previous year, of which eight occurred in British territory, and four in Native States. Of the robberies in British territory, four were committed in the United Provinces, two in the Madras Presidency, and two in Sind and Baluchistan. The most serious case in the United Provinces occurred in October. 1904 when a mail cart was stopped at night some miles out of Azam garh. The robbers had fastened a rope across the road and after inflicting severe injuries on the driver of the mail cart decamped with the mails. There was nothing valuable however, in the mail bags and the whole of the contents were afterwards recovered. In one of the Madras cases the robbery was committed by a cousin of the mail runner, who was apparently aware that one of the mail bags contained a sum of money. The runner was induced by this man to leave the road in the direction of an outlying village and was then cut down by a sickle which his cousin was carrying. He was not killed, however, and was able to give information which led to the arrest of the offender who produced the money which he had carried off and was subsequently sentenced to seven years' rigorous imprisonment. One of the robberies in Baluchistan took place in the territory of the Khan of Kalat in August, 1904, when the camel rider who was in charge of the parcel mails was surprised and bound by two Afghans, who opened the mails and carried away two parcels making good their escape over the border. The most serious of the robberies in Native States was committed in May 1904 in Cutch. A mail runner while carrying the mails between Khombdi and Modh was murdered in broad daylight and his mail bag was taken away. The dead body which appeared to have been set fire to by the robbers was found the same day, but the Cutch police have failed to obtain any clue to the perpetrators of this outrage. It should be added that one of the other cases was only a constructive case of mail robbery, a village postman in the Jhabua Native State in Rajputana, having been stopped while on his rounds by five Bhils, who took away from him Government cash and postage stamps amounting to Rs. 5.

There were only six cases in which Government suffered any loss and the total loss amounted to Rs. 277-12-6. Of this amount a sum of Rs. 236-12-6 was cash stolen from the mails and the balance Rs. 41 represents the compensation that will have to be paid for the loss of an insured article. The entire mail was recovered in two cases and part of the mail in five other cases, while in the remaining five cases the whole mail was lost. Prosecutions were instituted in three cases, in two of which convictions were obtained. In addition to the cases of the actual highway robbery mentioned above, there were two unsuccessful attempts to rob the mails, both of which occurred in British territory.

Mention may be made also of some other cases that occurred during the year under report in which dangers of a different kind had to be encountered by mail carriers, or in which mails were lost or postal property destroyed. In February, 1905 a mail runner was carried away by a maneating tiger in broad daylight while traversing a hill road through dense forest in the Mandla district of the Central Provinces, and it may be added as a further illustration of the perils from wild beasts that two months previously a mail runner in the Ahmednagar district of the Bombay Presidency was attacked by a wolf which was the terror of the country side. The mail runner defended himself with his staff and after a severe struggle succeeded in overpowering and killing the animal. He was given a special reward in recognition of his courage. During the rains of 1904, three cases occurred, two in Burma and one in the Gaya district, in which the boats, in which mail carriers were crossing rivers in flood, were upset In one case the mail carrier lost his life, though the mails were subsequently recovered, while in the other two cases the mail carriers escaped but the mails were lost. In December of the same year a mail bag was lost owing to a ferry boat being swamped by a tidal wave on the river Manpura in Bengal. In February, 1905 there was a serious loss of life owing to one of those accidents on the Himalayan passes which no precautions seem able to prevent. The letter and parcel mails of several days for Chitral were being carried across the Lowari pass when the whole party consisting of fifteen men was overwhelmed by an avalanche. Rescue parties were sent out as soon as possible and the mails were recovered but unfortunately all the men perished in the snow. In addition to these casualties a village postman while on his rounds was murdered apparently by mistake in the Ferozepur district of the Punjab. He was sleeping at night near a wine seller's shop in one of the villages which he had to visit, and while asleep was struck several heavy blows with a club and killed by a resident of this village who stated on being arrested that it had been his intention to kill the wine-seller with whom he had had a quarrel.

Touching the tragic death of Mr. Eravamannattil Narayana Manadiar, of Calicut, we learn that one of his Anandiravans has been arrested on a charge of complicity. The deceased, it would appear, was asleep in his room with an astrologer for his bed-fellow, when some Mohammedans entered by boring a hole in the wall, and stabbed the deceased fatally, after first gagging and blindfolding the astrologer. A servant who rushed into the room on hearing the scuffle received serious injuries and is in hospital. The Mahomedan miscreants are still at large. The Police Inspector of Ponnani Division is being specially sent up to investigate.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, NOVEMBER 12, 1905.

FURTHER ANALYSIS OF SIR A. FRASER'S EXPLANATION.

It is now quite clear that the so-called explanation of the Lieutenant-Governor on the anti-Swadeshi Circular has not improved the situation. On the other hand, in going to satisfy the public by an expression of his views, His Honor has only added to their dissatisfaction, and placed himself in the most awkward position possible. This must be the fate of an honest man who is fired with the ambition of playing the diplomat.

It is now an open secret that Sir Andrew Fraser considers the Circular to have been a great blunder. Such being the case, the only course open to him was to shelve the document. But no,—he will not, and that for reasons which we need not enquire into. At the same time, Sir Andrew wants to persuade the public to believe that he was not only perfectly justified in issuing the order but that he has done a service to the student community by the measure. Now, in order to succeed in this impossible feat which may delight the soul of an astute diplomat, Sir Andrew had to perform many an unsuccessful somersault, that is, to make statements which are irreconciliable or which directly contradict those of his Chief Secretary. Sir Andrew might have avoided this unenviable situation if he had been only less diplomatic and more straight-forward.

Here is a sentence we quote from His Honor's explanation:

"The circular regarding employment of schoolboys and students in connection with political agitation, which appeared originally in the "Statesman," was neither issued nor authorized by this Government."

If the circular was neither issued nor authorized by Government, how did it find its way to certain District Magistrates? That the circular was addressed to a number of District Officers cannot be denied. The Magistrate of Rungpur got one, and, what excellent use he has made of it, we all know. The Magistrates of Nadia, Hooghly, Faridpur, Mymensing, Pubna, Bogra, etc., were also furnished with it. The following communication from the Hon'ble Mr. Carlyle, dated October 30, in reply to a letter from Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose, throws further light on the subject:—

"I have seen the circular in the "Statesman." I have not compared it with the one issued by Government, but it appears to be a reproduction of the circular issued by Government to District Magistrates. The circular issued by Government has not been withdrawn and there is no intention of withdrawing it."

The next day Mr. Carlyle came forward with a somewhat different statement. He said that his attention had been drawn to an additional paragraph in the "Statesman's" circular which did not appear in the Government order. Of this later on. The following day the circular, which purported to be the one issued by the Government of Bengal, was sent to the press as an official communique and published in all the papers.

Let us now analyse the above. The Government circular is dated 10th October, 1905.

From [illegible] Carlyle Esqre., C.I.E.
Officiating Secretary to Government of Bengal.

To the Magistrate and Collector of . . .
Dated, Darjeeling, the 10th October, 1905."

On the 15th and 16th of October, Mr. Carlyle met a number of leading Bengalee gentlemen in Calcutta and gave them to understand that such a circular had been issued. He was requested to postpone the matter, but he said the Government could not wait and had been obliged to adopt the repressive measure. We may thus take it that the circular was issued sometime between the 10th of October and the 16th. That this was so is conclusively proved by the fact that the Magistrate of Rungpur, who was transferred from the jurisdiction of Sir Andrew Fraser to that of the Hon'ble Mr. Fuller on the 16th, was furnished with a copy of the circular.

Now, when did the "Statesman" publish its version of the circular? It was on the 22nd October, that is, after the Government had issued its own! Is there any doubt now that what the "Statesman" published was the Government-issued circular, unless it were accepted that our contemporary had manufactured the document, or that the Magistrate from whose office he got his copy had tampered with the text of the Government circular and replaced it by another—a supposition which is absurd on the face of it? It is quite evident that, all these circumstances were not put before Sir Andrew, for he would not then have ventured to make the unqualified statement that the text published in the columns of the "Statesman" was "neither issued etc." by his Government.

A serious problem now presents itself. We find two circulars on the same subject, both purporting to emanate from the same Government and conveying almost the same sentiments in almost the same language, and yet differing in some material points. How did such a curious phenomenon happen? It can be accounted for in the following way: The circular that appeared in the "Statesman" was originally issued by Government. Seeing, however, that it contained an unnecessarily offensive paragraph and some unjustifiable sentiments, clothed in unhappy language, which had provoked great resentment and indignation, the Government replaced it by another circular which was milder and from which the obnoxious paragraph was omitted. This would very well have explained the matter and there would be no harm if the Government had actually adopted such a course; but, Sir Andrew is positive that no such thing was done. Indeed, His Honor says that the "Statesman's" circular was not issued at all by the Government; on the other hand, his Chief Secretary states it *was* issued by the Government. Whom to believe? So, you see, it is confusion worse confounded, and the problem remains unsolved.

The matter becomes more complicated when the language of the additional paragraph, which appeared in the "Statesman's" circular but is wanting in that of the Government, is taken into consideration. Here is that para:—

"4. The gentlemen to whom this circular letter is addressed are requested to explain the above to their subordinates. The District Superintendent of Police will please instruct his thana officers to report instances of misconduct on the part of boys of the nature indicated in the first paragraph above."

Now, we are told that, in the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor and Mr. Carlyle, this paragraph was added to the circular by some foolish Magistrate. The story goes,—though we can't vouch for its absolute correctness—that it is suspected in high quarters that it was the doing of some Indian Magistrate. But is not this theory quite untenable? Just see. The paragraph begins with the words, "The gentlemen to whom this circular letter is addressed, &c". Now who can these "gentlemen" be if not the District Magistrates? For, the circular is addressed to none else but to certain Magistrates. District Magistrates, in short, are requested by the Government to explain the above, that is, the contents of the first three paragraphs, to their subordinates or to Deputy Magistrates, &c. The paragraph must, therefore, have emanated from the Secretariat, and not from any foolish District Magistrate. No other construction is possible upon it. We wonder, some poor District Magistrates would be sought to be sacrificed for the blunders of the Secretariat! Similarly the District Police Superintendent, who is next in rank to the Magistrate, was instructed to dog the steps of the boys. The Magistrate who comes in daily contact with his Police Superintendent had no need to issue such an order to him in writing when he could do it more effectively by word of mouth.

We very much wish that Sir Andrew had not sought an opportunity of expressing his views on the subject through "a member of his Council," for if he had remained silent, people would not have connected him with the circular. But now, they cannot help thinking, he is entirely in the hands of his subordinates who can lead him in any direction they like. The circular, even as it stands, is fraught with mischief. But we shall discuss this point in a future issue.

THE LYON PROCLAMATION.

If Mr. Carlyle is the Chief Secretary to Sir Andrew Fraser, Mr. Lyon is the Chief Secretary to the Hon'ble Mr. Fuller, the ruler of Eastern Bengal. So, when Mr. Carlyle has his anti-Swadeshi circular, why should not Mr. Lyon have his proclamation too? Both are equally mischievous and both have the same object in view, namely to check the Swadeshi movement by a clever move. Here is a free translation of the document which is written in the Bengalee language. It has been circulated in Jalpaiguri, and is on its way to every district in Mr. Fuller's province:—

PROCLAMATION.

"It has come to the knowledge of the Lieutenant-Governor that efforts are being made to create an impression in the public mind that it is the order of the Sirkar Bahadur that the people should purchase country-made goods instead of foreign. This rumour is false. The wish of the Government expressly is that anybody can buy any article he likes. Any one who compels another against his wish to buy country-made goods is guilty under the law. Though such offences are not cognizable by the Police, yet it is the duty of the Police to prevent such offences and to bring the same to the notice of the authorities, because there is every likelihood of such offences leading to breaches of the peace.

The Lieutenant-Governor also takes this opportunity of letting the public know that the rumour that the existing laws and regulations in the districts that have been transferred to the new province will be changed is unfounded. No such change will take place, and the statements of those who circulate such rumours are utterly false.

"(Sd.) P. C. Lyon,
"Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Eastern Bengal and Assam."

"Nov. 4, 1905.

It will be observed that, though, like the Carlyle circular, the proclamation has been issued ostensibly with the object of preventing any so-called disturbance of the public peace, it is really directed against the Swadeshi movement. Some District Magistrates wrote privately to Sir Andrew or to Mr. Carlyle that students might create riots in their districts in advancing the Swadeshi cause, and the result is the circular of the Government of Bengal whereby pupils and their teachers are both to be punished for what nobody knows. Similarly, because Mr. Fuller or his Chief Secretary heard a rumour to the effect that some men had given out that the Government had passed an order to the effect that people, in lieu of foreign goods, should purchase only country-made things, therefore the police have been let loose upon the peaceful society to catch not thieves, but men who are found to circulate such rumours? It is in this wise manner that they administer the affairs of this country.

When certain District Magistrates reported to Sir Andrew that they apprehended mischief from the boys, His Honor should have fully satisfied himself as to the absolute correctness of the information before taking the serious step of issuing a circular which has convulsed the country. In the same manner, when somebody whispered in the ears of Mr. Fuller that some people had been circulating false rumours against the Government, he should have enquired into the matter thoroughly, and promulgated a proclamation of the kind he has done, only when a culprit had actually been produced. As it is, both Sir Andrew and Mr. Fuller betray by their acts that they are entirely helpless in the hands of their subordinates, and that the latter may lead them to do anything they like.

Sir Andrew, we trust, has by this time been convinced that there is absolutely no foundation for the official report upon which he acted, namely, that the students in certain districts were turbulently disposed. It should have occurred to His Honor that when ten thousand students in Calcutta did not break the law on a single occasion though they roamed over its streets in an excited state of mind for months together, it was utterly impossible for their confreres in the Muffassil, who were only a few hundreds in every district, and most of whom were, again school boys, to do anything which might cause a riot. But, it was believed, that the Swadeshi movement would collapse if the student help were withdrawn, and hence the circular.

Mr. Fuller, in the same manner, has no doubt come to know by this time that no man ever said the Government had identified itself with the Swadeshi movement in order to injure the interests of Manchester. If anybody preached any such thing he would have been laughed at by the people, and the police would have pounced upon him. Indeed, if the police cannot catch thieves, they are past masters in hauling up innocent men and harassing them. But, imagine the character of the mischief which the Lyon Proclamation, based upon a mere rumour, is calculated to do. The police have been openly directed to molest people who, in their opinion, might ask others to abstain from the use of foreign goods against their wish. A subtler way of injuring the Swadeshi movement could not have been conceived. We trust, however, the movement, the sole object of which is to develop the industries of the country, will survive these ungenerous attempts of the authorities to smother it.

THE RUNGPUR STUDENTS' CASE.

Now to the students' case at Rungpur. The public are not yet in full possession of the facts. The story we are about to relate will thus prove intensely interesting to the reader. The Head Master of the Rungpur Zillah School promulgated the following circular on the 31st October last:—

Circular No. 108.

Notice is hereby given that if any attempt is made by any boy of the Rungpur Zillah school to take any action in connection with boy-cutting, picketting and other abuses, his case will be reported to the Inspector of Schools, Rajshaye Division, for punishment. Every assistant teacher is requested to explain to the boys that such a practice is absolutely subversive of discipline, and most injurious to their interests and studies. He is also requested to see, both in the school and out of the school, that the boys do not meet together for such purpose or disturb the peace by taking any part in boy-cotting movement. If there be any fear of such disturbance the name of the boys should be reported to the undersigned.

(Sd.) A. K. Ghosh, Head Master."

It is understood that this circular is based on the confidential circular No. 1679 P.—D. of Mr. Carlyle, Offg. Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, which was forwarded to the Head Master by the District Magistrate,—without any authority or sanction, according to Sir A. Fraser. On the 2nd of November, the Head Master received the following order from the District Magistrate, presumably passed on a letter written by the former in reply to a communication from the District Magistrate:—

"These boys are fined Rs. 5 each and are not allowed to attend classes again until the fine has been paid. Head Master to warn them that repetition of this offence will endanger the existence of this school and to send a copy of this to their parents."

Rungpur Magistracy. T. Emerson."

The Head Master finding that the rules of the Education Department did not permit him to carry out the Magistrate's order sent a telegram to the Divisional Inspector of Schools to the following effect:—

"86 boys shouted 'Bande Mataram' along the public roads. Magistrate fines them Rs. 5 each without any judicial trial and orders not to allow them in the class until the fine is paid. Wire advice."

On the 3rd of November the Head Master communicated the Magistrate's order to the students concerned, and on the 4th he carried it out without waiting for the Inspector's advice, and did not allow the boys fined to attend their classes because they had not paid the fines imposed, and forwarded the Magistrate's order to their guardians and parents. In reply to an enquiry from some of the guardians as to why the boys were fined, the Head Master wrote as follows on the 5th November:

"For shouting "Bande Mataram" on the public road after school hours."

In reply to the Head Master's memo forwarding the Magistrate's order, some other guardians wrote to the Head Master inquiring for what fault or offence, if any, this order of fine had been passed, and further requested him to see the order reconsidered as they were aware that the boys had done nothing deserving of any punishment. Subjoined is a verbatim copy of the letter:

"To the Head Master of the Rungpur Zillah School.

"Sir,—In reply to your memo dated the 4th instant forwarding to me a copy of an order purporting to have been passed by the Magistrate of Rungpur by which the student (name of the student) has been fined Rs. 5 and has further been prohibited from attending his class until the fine has been paid (and as a matter of fact the student was not allowed to remain in his class as he had not paid the fine) and which further states that the repetition of the offence will endanger the existence of the school, I have the honour to state, that it is a matter of regret that neither the order itself nor your memo mentions for what fault or offence the boy has been punished. I therefore request the favour of your kindly informing me, in continuation of your memo mentioned above, the offence for which the boy has been fined. This is essentially necessary for my "guidance". So far as I am aware the boy has not done anything deserving of any punishment. I therefore request that you will kindly see that the matter is reconsidered."

The Head Master, it appears, acting as a direct subordinate of the District Magistrate, forwarded the letter of the guardians to the District Magistrate who passed the following order thereon:

"The boys have been fined for attending a political meeting and shouting in public on the road and maidan."

It should be noted here that the description of the offence of the boys as given by the Head Master is quite different from that given by the Magistrate. The Head Master communicated this order to some of the guardians on the 6th of November. The result of this unwarrantable procedure of the District Magistrate and the unbecoming subservience of the Head Master to the District officer has been that the guardians of the boys who have been fined have not paid down the fine and have not allowed the boys to attend the school, and the guardians of the boys, who have not been fined, apprehending similar treatment, have thought it proper to keep away their wards from the school, which at present seems to be a criminal court for summary convictions without trial. Out of about 350 boys on the rolls of the Zillah school, only 32 attended on the 7th, and the guardians of some of these are Zillah schoolmasters and Government servants.

56 boys of the local Technical school have been similarly fined. They too, following the example of the Zillah school boys, have ceased attending their school. There are about 100 boys on the rolls of the Technical school, but none attended the school on the 7th November.

As the reader is aware, the now-notorious Carlyle circular, as published in the "Statesman", being "neither issued nor authorised by the Government,"—to quote the words of Sir Andrew,—does not, therefore, authorize any District Magistrate to take any action upon it. Besides, there is no provision in the circular empowering the Magistrate to fine any schoolboy for "attending political meetings" and "shouting in public streets and maidan." Further the Head Master is not bound and authorised to realize the fine in the way directed by the District Magistrate. So it was illegality and high-handedness all along the line. The Magistrate ousted the educational authorities and usurped their functions, and the poor Head Master tremblingly carried out every order he passed.

The latest information is that Dr. Purnananda Chatterjee, the Divisional Inspector of Schools, arrived at Rungpur four or five days ago and has since been frequently conferring on the subject with the Magistrate. On the 7th instant the Magistrate, of his own motion, remitted the fines of those boys whose guardians are Government employes. As regards the sons or wards of independent gentlemen he expressed a wish to remit their fines too, if their guardians gave an undertaking to the effect that their wards would no longer join any political meetings. None agreed to this condition. On the same day there was a mass meeting on the maidan adjoining the Collector's Office to consider what steps might be taken. Babu Sachindra Prosad Bose, we are told, made a most effective speech. The District Magistrate was observed to be watching the demonstration from the public road. The boys took a vow at the meeting never again to read in a Government School. A new school was started the next day, and several pleaders have volunteered their services as teachers. The Magistrate is said to be yet defiant. All this we owe to Mr. Carlyle's circular which has been so warmly supported by Sir Andrew Fraser in his explanation.

The following sensational telegram comes from Rungpur:—

Rungpur, Nov. 10.

Babu Bepin Ch. Pal is expected here tomorrow. The following mandate has been issued by the Magistrate this evening: "Notice is given that without the permission of the District Magistrate, no public meeting is to be held on Government and District Board land. Applications for permission should state the object of the meeting and guarantee that no schoolboys are to be present at the meeting. On disobedience to this order the meeting will be dispersed by the police. The unseemly conduct of persons attending a meeting held on Government land recently, has made this order necessary.

When rulers of provinces and higher officials have lost their heads, what can be expected from the smaller fry? Mr. Carlyle has an anti-Swadeshi circular, and Mr. Lyon has his too. Similarly, Mr. Halliday, the Police Commissioner of Calcutta, issued an order that his police would disperse any public meeting held on the Maidan. Why, then should not Mr. Emerson, the Magistrate of Rungpore, do the same thing? But does the land adjoining the collectorate belong to Mr. Emerson? Did he inherit it from his father, or did he bring money from England to purchase it? Just see how foolish the order is. Suppose they hold a meeting at another place and snap their fingers at the Magistrate, what can he do to them? The people of Rungpur have taken a serious responsibility upon themselves. Of course, they must, on no account, break the law and foment a quarrel with the authorities, but they must not, at the same time, allow themselves to be cowed down by these empty and senseless threats of the District Officer. They should see it the order of the Magistrate is legal or not. If legal they must not hold any meeting at the prohibited place, but, if illegal, they must fight the matter out in law courts. By the way, we find in the "Eastern Bengal and Assam Gazette" that Mr. Emerson has been transferred to Rajshaye. So, his rajgee at Rungpur is at an end.

The following extract from a Report of Mr. Russel, Assistant Director of Public Instruction appeared in the "Sanjibanee" newspaper of December 8th, 1904:—

"In order to learn something of the conditions under which students live in messes, and of the extent to which the rules issued by Government (Bengal Government Notification No. 1375 T.—D., dated 29th September 1900 and subsequent modifications) are practically operative, I have visited 33 messes and two hostels. The result of the inquiries I have made is the reverse of satisfactory.

"Except in the two hostels (which appear to be as well conducted as under present conditions could be expected), there has apparently been no attempt to carry out either the letter or the spirit of the Government rules. In practically all the private messes they seem to have been wholly disregarded. Thus out of the 33 visited, only two or three claimed to have been licensed (in 1903) by the Municipality. Only two appeared to have been visited (within the last two years) by any college authority. I did not find in any of them a written license from a college principal; not one had either a Conduct Register, or an Attendance Register, or a Visitors' Book. Most of them had no rules at all, but only certain understood conditions in regard to the payment of messing charges etc. I only came across a single written rule which could be described as of a disciplinary character. This was to the effect that any boarder who was guilty of shameful misconduct should be "liable to leave the mess," but it was added that in such case he should not be permitted to leave until he had provided a substitute; I did not investigate the sanitation of the messes visited; but in some cases no investigation was required to detect insanitary conditions.

"It is plain that in the life of these students, outside the college lecture-room, there is no semblance whatever of order, discipline or authority; and the amount of evil for which this state of things is responsible would, I am afraid, be difficult to exaggerate. Apart from the feebleness of character, slovenliness and incompetence which shows itself in their college work and is the natural outcome of a slipshod and wholly undisciplined mode of life, there are positive moral evils of a more serious nature. Some of the messes are almost next door to brothels; and I have been told by a trustworthy person of instances where students for the sake of economy have actually lived in brothels. The servants employed in the messes, I am told, are commonly women of loose character.

"That evil of this kind is deplorably prevalent among Calcutta students cannot, I am afriad, be doubted; and its physical consequences are most serious. Every Professor notices remarkable want of life and spirit in his senior classes as compared with boys in their first year. It is to be feared that evil of this type can never be combated with any hope of complete success in town like Calcutta, but the enforcement of a stringent discipline and control might do much to narrow its area."

This unwarrantable libel on our student community was confidentially communicated to Government by Mr. Russel, the Assistant Director of Public Instruction; and although the Government took prompt action on it by requiring the Director to frame rules and regulations based on his Assistant's report, the public would not have known anything of it but for the fortunate chance of its coming to the knowledge of the "Sanjibani." When it thus attracted public notice, a committee, formed of Dr. Nilratan Sircar, Babu Satish Chandra Mukherjee and Mr. J. Chowdhury, took up the matter in right earnest. They visited a large number of messes, observed the habits and conduct of the boys on the spot, noticed all the good and bad points in the system and obtained the opinions of a goodly number of representative gentlemen, who were in a "position" to speak with authority on the subject. Below, in the form of questions and answers will be found the opinion of one of the parties thus consulted; and from it will be seen how very opposed were the statements of Mr. Russel to actual facts. Here is the paper of questions with answers:—

Re Old Mess system.

1. Do you think there were any definite evils connected with the old mess system?

No, I do not think there were any, except in so far as the entire absence of control was itself an evil.

2. If so, what were the serious evils?

None. There was probably a want of method in the arrangements. Cleanliness and sanitation may not always have been studied. But these are not among serious evils.

3. Is the joint responsibility method of management in the main successful?

In messes (as distinguished from hostels, of which there are few) the new method is much the same as the old, except that there is now occasional inspection by college or official authorities.

4. Have any seriously undesirable results come, as far as your experience goes, from the freedom of action and lack of regular supervision?

None. The boys may have played at cards in a noisy fashion, or gone to witness sports, or see plays acted, but there are no undesirable results.

5. Is there ground for the statement that the majority of women-servants in messes are of loose character?

No ground. The women-servants in messes come from the same classes as those in respectable families. Their real character is known only to themselves, but they conduct themselves well in the houses in which they are employed. Even the "ticca" servants who do not stay at night are well behaved.

Kindly mention ages of these servants, in cases known to you. They are generally elderly women, from 30 to 40; sometimes old, being over 50.

6. Kindly state number of cases of corruption you have heard of.

I have heard of no cases of corruption. There are scarcely any facilities for corruption. The servants are elderly, ugly-looking, dirty. The boarders live (or lived) not one in a room but generally two or three in a room. Scarcely any house had any unoccupied room or unnoticed space. Some of the boarders might be elderly persons working in offices.

7. Do you know of any messes contiguous to houses of ill fame? Have you ever known of any students living in such houses.

I cannot say if any messes were contiguous to houses of ill-fame. If any were, I think scarcely any boarder would dare visit a contiguous house, for he would be noticed by his friends and neighbours.

Re New Mess system.

8. What is your opinion of the principle of one mess one college (as opposed to territorial system;

The principle is one which makes it convenient for college authorities to exercise supervision, for each college may control its own students easily. But I think it may be inconvenient to students who, being friends or relations, desre to live together though they read in different colleges.

9. Are you in favour of supervision, as well as registration? Would you approve of regular inspection by European inspectors? If not, what alternative method of regulation commends itself to you?,

I am in favour of supervision. I would not object to European inspectors on principle, but I am afraid they might be too critical and disposed to lay down impracticable conditions. Supervision by college authorities should be enough.

10. Has the system lately (i.e., during the present term) introduced worked well? What has been its effect upon the members and bearing of the students?

The system lately introducel has had a very injurious effect on private colleges generally. I cannot speak for Government or missionary colleges. Students have been scared away by the hard-and-fast official system, which in many cases is more expensive than before, and they have got themselves admitted very largely into mofussil colleges. The houses secured for the messes are not always suitable, and many students are grumbling. It has not been possible as a rule to provide messes with resident Superintendents, and the boys are now left to themselves in messes as before, but they are subject to occasional inspection by college authorities.

A meeting of the Calcutta University was to have been held yesterday to consider the observations of the Committee, above referred to, on the report of Mr. Russel.

The judgment in the Bankura Outrage Case, in which a European driver and a Mahomedan fireman of the Bengal Nagpur Railway were charged with having committed an outrage upon a young Bengalee peasant girl, is published elsewhere. No one can go through the case, as presented by the trying Magistrate, without his blood boiling in wrath and indignation. Here was an innocent girl of 15 found in a defenceless condition, and a demon in human shape stopped his train, jumped out of it, chased her, and, having caught hold of her, dragged her near the

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train in a dishevelled condition amidst her shrieks, and lifted her, in that half-nude state, with the help of another demon, into the brake van, anu puting motion to the train took her off as a prisoner. And all this they did in broad daylight! When the culprits saw that they had no escape from the iron grip of the law, they invented a story which was so absurd that it could not be believed in by any sane man. In short, the principal accused said that, with a view to commit suicide she was sleeping on the rails, and it was to save her life that he put her in the railway van! His own witnesses, however, contradicted him; and the evidence leaves no room for doubt that the only object which led him to commit this dastardly act was to do something worse. If he failed to do it, as the court observes, it was not because that he was virtuously disposed, but because he had no opportunity of accomplishing his nefarious purpose, as the incident was witnessed by a man who gave the alarm and the relations of the unfortunate girl followed the moving tra

What strikes us as most astounding is the conduct of the trying Magistrate. Though he admitted that a gross outrage had been committed upon the helpless girl, and that the object of the man was to degrade her, yet not only did he not show any the least indignation at the conduct of the principal culprit, but let him off with only one month's simple imprisonment, because his father was a retired Government officer and spent some money in defending his son! So, according to this Magistrate, there should be one kind of justice for ordinary people, and another for the sons of Government servantal The conduct of the Magistrate is all the more condemnable as, being an Indian, he could fully realize the monstrous nature of the wrong that, according to Hindu notions, was perpetrated upon the girl. Then, again, the enormity of an offence is measured by the intention of the offender. The outrage that was admittedly committed upon the girl was grave enough; but, the Magistrate was also convinced that the motive of the culprit could not have been other than that of taking undue liberties with her. That being so, with what sense of justice could he inflict such a nominal punishment upon the

We are on principle against enhancement of punishment already meted out by a court of justice. But here is a very fit case for the Goveroment to interfere. Outrages on females by railway employes, specially by lower claes Europeans, are getting more and more frequent. Sir Andrew Fraser apparently took no notice of the Saran outrage case, in which a Mussalman woman was dishonoured in a moving train by a European railway employe, in the presence of three other women, though the people of Saran brought the matter directly to His Honour's attention. The present case is no less outrageous than the other. We remember that, a few years ago, Mr. Kiran Chunder De, the then Sub-divisional Officer of Ranaghat, sentenced a European Railway employe to three months' rigorous imprisonment, for attempting to outrage a Hindu woman; but the Government of Bengal at once moved the High Court and got the sentence enhanced to three years. The Bankura case is worse than that of Ranaghat, and should be taken up by the Government of Sir A. Fraser.

It will be remembered that the other day an esteemed correspondent, "Indica", proved, by facts and figures, in these columns how very promising were the chances of small weaving enterprises with hand-looms. In continuation of his letter, he writes under yesterday's date.

"I am now in a position to state that one such factory, it is contemplated, to start in or about Calcutta as an experimental scheme, so as to prove to the public how profitably such small factories can be worked. For this purpose a Company is now being floated with a capital of only Rs. 30,000. The prospectus, I believe, will be published sometime next week."

This is solid practical work which cannot but commend itself to every one who has truly the cause of his country at heart. We have very little doubt that the shares of the proposed Company will be taken up, and all encouragement offered to the promoters, by the public.

SCRAPS.

The long-talked of Agricultural College at Cawnpore is about to become a reality. There is to be a European Principal, assisted by experts, Chemists, Botanists, Eutomologists, etc.

As a result of the Dane Treaty, the Ameer lately drew from Government a large portion of the accumulated subsidy for expenditure on defence works in Aighanistan. So much gone out of India for nothing.

After consultation between the Principal of the Presidency College and the Director of Public Instruction, it has been decided to punish a brilliant 4th year student, Master Satish Chandra Sing, on a charge of having used something to which exception was taken by the authorities mind, at some students' meeting. The student, we learn, has been fined Rs. 50.

The Benares Exhibition Committee has set apart a good sum from its funds for medals. In addition to those exhibits which will receive awards on the recommendation of the judges, the Committee has already announced the following awards. A cash prize of Rs. 500 for a special kind of handloom to be invented; two gold medals for the best and simplest pattern of handlooms; one gold medal for the best flour made by roller machine. A gold medal will be ear marked for work done by ladies and some prizes for agricultural exhibits.

It does not surely speak much in favour of the Punjab authorities that a paper like the "Tribune" of Lahore should make such a complaint:—

"We have had occasion several times to draw attention to the vagaries and high handedness of Mr. Bosworth Smith, Deputy Commissioner, Attock. We dont know whether the Government even took notice of what was said against him and instituted any enquiries. We are however afraid that even if this was done it has produced no effect on him. Only recently he is said to have committed an assault on the Superintendent of his Vernacular Office, and there is a very general complaint of his using most foul language towards his subordinates."

Our rulers speak of prestige but real prestige is damaged by incidents such as these.

Mr. W. T. Hall, C. S. I., Financial Commissioner, Burma, has been appointed Member of the Viceroy's Council. During Mr. Hall's absence in Calcutta Mr. Bayne acts as Financial Commissioner.

An Anglo-Indian contemporary writes:—The Hon'ble Mr. J. Chowdhury Member for the Rajshahye Division and the Hon'ble Mr Ambica Charan Mazumdar, Member for the Dacca Division, will probably continue as members of the Bengal Legislative Council for the unexpired period of their terms.

The Vice-Chancellor at Oxford has received from the India Office a copy of regulations which have been made by the Secretary of State for India in Council for the future recruitment and training of probationers for the Indian Forest Service. In and after 1906, probationers will be selected upon the results of a competitive examination held by the Civil Service Commissioners. For the present year (1905) thirteen probationers are required, and the Secretary for India will select them from candidates offering themselves, whose respective qualifications will be considered by a selection board, appointed by the Secretary, which will sit at the India Office in the first week in October.

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

London, Oct. 20.

MR. STEAD IN RUSSIA.

From the latest accounts received we learn that Mr. Stead is carrying on his propaganda in Russia with unabated vigour. He is holding meetings and interviewing various typical Russians, from the Tsar downwards to the workingmen. His great object in view is to explain to the unenlightened in Russia the true significance of the edict which establishes a general assembly—the Duma. He is in touch too, with leaders of all political movements, and, in spite of certain criticisms levelled against him, because he never fails to speak well of the Tsar and his intentions, Mr. Stead appears to be making a triumphal progress. In Saratoff, reputed to be the most advanced Radical town in Russia, the English Radical made a vigorous speech extolling the measure of liberty which had been granted, and declared that from consultations with the authorities in St. Petersburg, he was convinced that it was intended merely as a beginning, that greater things would follow: "I think it means victory and I congratulate you upon your success. Not complete victory by any means, but nevertheless victory—a pacific victory which will banish all dread of civil strife. . . . The Duma is the signal of your victory!"

The current number of the "Review of Reviews" contains a long account from Mr. Stead's pen of his experiences in St. Petersburg for the last few weeks. He arrived before the news of peace had been proclaimed, and gives a very interesting record of the effect of the unexpected news in the capital city of the Russian Empire. Through out he speaks with deep appreciation of his Imperial Majesty, and laughs to scorn the rumours that have been current of the moroseness, weak-mindedness, and even despair of Nicholas II. He asserts, however, that the peace excited no enthusiasm; that, generally speaking, it was felt to be a great humiliation. Mr. Stead, in his usual vigorous and sympathetic manner, contributed a word of hope to Prince Oukhtomsky's paper "The Dawn," bidding Russia take heart of grace from two important events in English history, humiliating defeats which yet led to vast and important developments; they were the defeat by the French in the fifteenth century and the defeat by the American Colonists towards the end of the Eighteenth Century. For Russia, too, he affirms, progress and needful development will come. and the Duma, he maintains, is worth twenty Manchurias. It is not likely that London will see again for some time the presiding genius of the Mowbray House offices of the "Review of Reviews; he will be busy helping to spread principles of freedom and development in Russia and from month to month the record of his doings will appear in the magazine. I should add that the October number contains another article entitled 'Apologia Pro Vita Mea," in which the veteran journalist gives an autobiographical sketch of his life to prove that he is no friend to despotism but so staunch an advocate of liberty that he has not hesitated to suffer for his convictions.

The Assistant Superintendent of Police proceedes to Kalapatti, a place some six miles from Kalahat to enquire into a case of murder, the victim being the senior member of the Eramanattil Mannadiar family. It would appear, the man, as usual, was sleeping in his room on Friday night, when between 10 and 11 p.m. some-body got into room and committed the atrocious deed.

His many friends in India will hear with deep regret of the death of Sir Trevor Chichels Plowden, K. C.S.I., formerly Resident at Hyderabad, which was reported by Reuter on the 7th The deceased came of an old and well known Anglo-Indian family closely connected with other equally old and well-known Anglo-Indian families like the Stracheys and Grants Educated at Winchester, the deceased entered the Indian Civil Service in 1860, and was posted to Bengal. He was for time Inspector-General of Police in Assam; and in 1878 was appointed to the Foreign Department. He served as a 'Political" successively in Turkish Arabia, Baghdad, Ajmere, Mewar, Kashmir and Hyderabad. Appointed to Hyderabad in 1892, he held that important Residentship until 1900, when he retired.

In connection with the Royal visit, the Madras Banqueting Hall is being throughout fitted with electric lights and fans. In Government House itself several structural alterations are being made. An installation of electric fans is being set up. Hot water installations are also being laid on to the baths. The Royal apartments will be furnished with an entirely new suite of furniture, which has been ordered. The whole of the Royal party will be accommodated in Government House. The entourage which will join the party on their arrival in India, will be placed in a camp pitched close by in the Government House compound. The resources of the Governor's fine stables have been strengthened by the supply of horses from the Remount Depot at Hossur and the Bodyguard will also be increased by an additional half squadron from the 30th Madras Lancers.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

Hughly Bridge Lighting.—The Port Commissioners approve of the proposal to open the bridge at night for the passage of Inland Vessels and sanction the estimate amounting to Rs. 25, 00 for lighting the bridge and approaches

Committed to the Sessions.—On Friday before Moulvi Serajul Huq, the Railway Police prosecuted one Jomir Khan, an old thief with a record of four previous convictions against him, for the theft of a "chudder." He was committed to the sessions.

Alleged Insult to Female Modesty.—On Friday, before Mr. D. H. Kingsford, Chief Presidency Magistrate, one Mr. Branch was rearraigned on a charge of insulting the modesty of one Mrs. Peters. The case was partly gone into and was adjourned till Monday.

Municipal Present to the Royal Guests.—The coloured pearl necklace which the Corporation of Calcutta propose to present to Her Royal Highness The Princess of Wales on her arrival in Calcutta, is on view at Messrs. Hamilton and Company's showrooms in Old Court House Street. Ratepayers, so inclined, might inspect it.

Assault.—On Friday, before Moulvi Syed Mahomed, Khan Bahadoor, Officiating Police Magistrate of Alipore, Mr. Burke was charged with having assaulted one Notho Singh. The complainant was talking to one of his friends on a public road, when he was accosted by the accused who peremptorily demanded the reason of his "golmal" and without much ceremony gave a good slap upon his cheek. The court found the accused guilty and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 8.

Alleged Assault By Shahebs.—On Friday before Mr. D. H. Kingsford Chief Presidency Magistrate, a man named Sudhir Chander Banerjee made a complaint aginst Messrs Buchmanu and Fog, on a charge of assault, under the following circumstances. The allegations were that the applicant was employed in the shop of Mr. Bachmanu to do packing where the second defendant, Mr. Fog was the "Chota Shaheb" on Wednesday last, the second defendant asked the applicant to remove some heavy packages, which were on the footpath and to take them inside the shop. Applicant told him that his duties were to pack goods and expressed his inability on the ground of weakness. On this, the second defendant called the applicant "sala, you dare speak to my face" and with these words, he dragged the applicant inside before the first defendant who after hearing what had passed betwen them is alleged to have kicked the man, who was next slapped by both defendants. The court ordered the applicant to produce his witnesses to prove the allegations.

Post Office Strike.—We understand that the General Post Office has not escaped the strike troubles that have affected the Government printing presses and the Tramway Company. A body of two hundred men, employed at the G. P. O. as menial peons, struck work on Thursday morning. About a month ago, we learn, these men forwarded a petition to the Presidency Post Master demanding an increase of pay by the 8th November and threatening to go on strike if this was not granted them. They were told in reply that the peremptory tone of their petition forbade its recognition, but if they were prepared to work to the end of the year another petition couched in different terms would be sympathetically considered. No reply was received to this communication, and the men refused to go to work on Thursday morning. Although there was some internal inconvenience the public suffered little by the strike, and by midday the places of the strikers had been filled up. We understand that the men, who are prepared to promptly return to work, will be taken back

National University.—On Friday evening a students' meeting was held on the Maidan attached to the "Field and Academy." Nearly four thousand students attended, and Mr. A. C. Banerjee took the chair. Babu Satish Chunder Mukerjee, of the Dawn Society, first addressed the meeting. He said that the object of the anti-Student circuiar was to put down the Swadeshi movement. The Government was unwilling to allow the students to join in any political meeting, because it did not like unity among the people. He said that he was not imputing any motive but that was the natural inference from the manner in which Government was proceeding. He concluded by saying that it was the duty of the students to leave Government colleges and schools in a body. Babu Manoranjan Guha next addressed the assembly. Babu Bepin Chunder Pal announced that a Zemindar of North Bengal had promised a donation of 5 lakhs in aid of the National University. As there was a conference in connection with the National University Mr. Banerjea left the meeting earlier after which it dissolved after 8 p.h.

A Shocking Murder.—Early Thursday morning the Deyganga Police was informed that a cold-blooded murder was committed at Jhikra near Baraset. Sub-Inspector Huro Lall Basu hastened to the spot and found that Monmotho Nath Paul, village Punchayet, was lying in a pool of blood on the roadside, and several serious cut wounds were visible all over his person, but life was not extinct. On enquiry it transpired that the victim who lived apart from his elder brother, used always to rebuke his nephew Money Mohan Paul, aged about eighteen years, for his misconduct. This young man being dissatisfied with his uncle determined to murder him, and so conspiring with his maternal uncle both came to his house at dead of night and called his uncle Monmotho to come along with them to his elder brother's house, on the pretext that his sister was going to be married, and that the proposed bridegroom's party had come to perform the "ripe" ceremony. and that they would go next morning. The uncle without any hesitation accompanied them, and on the way the nephew satisfied his grudge by giving him several mortal cuts with a sword which he kept concealed under his clothes. resulting in serious injuries on the neck and left arm. The dying man was immediately removed to the Baraset Hospital where he lies in a precarious condition. The accused were subsequently arrested, with the blood-stained clothes and the sword, and will shortly be placed on

St. Andrew's Dinner.—We understand that Sir Andrew Fraser has accepted the invitation of the Caledonian Society of Calcutta to be present at St. Andrew's Dinner on the 13th instant.

Bogie Carriages.—The frames of a number of bogie carriages for the Kalka-Simla Railway have arrived in Calcutta. The carriages will be built at the new Kalka workshops, which have recently been erected, but may not be ready before May next.

Railway Board.—On account of the transfer of Messrs. Couchman and Jacobson, the posts of Under-Secretaries with the Railway Board will be abolished, and Assistant Secretaries will be appointed instead. Mr. Hadowe replaces Mr. Couchman, and Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Jacobson.

Sebpore Waste Lands.—A large area of low-lying land to the west of the railway at Seebpore now lies fallow, but could be rapidly taken up at a good rate of rent if it were levelled up, drained and divided by roads into convenient plots. The Vice-Chairman of the Port Commissioners has written requesting the Chief Engineer to prepare a scheme for making this land available for occupation, thereby improving the rental from the landed estate of the Commissioners.

The New Incinerator.—Further trials are, we understand, being carried out with Baker's Incinerator in Entally, which will no doubt be taken over entirely by the Corporation very soon. In connection therewith it is proposed to establish a small factory for the manufacture of flagstones made of crushed vitrified clinkers and crement. Experiments have been made and a certain number of slabs turned out. These slabs which have been subjected to tests are found to be of first class quality.

Landing Stage Lighting.—The Calcutta Port Commissioners are making special arrangement for lighting the new landing stage at Chandpal Ghat. Electric lights are to be installed on the pontoons, in the buildings of the pontoons, on the bridges, on the river bank, and on the landing steps to be used by small boats. The Commissioners are erecting their own generating plant at the jetties. but it will not be ready till April, and in the meantime the necessary power is to be purchased from the Electric Lighting and Power Company.

The Borisa Murder Case.—On Thursday at the Alipore Criminal Sessions, before Mr. Pope, the Additional District and Sessions Judge, the case of Kamta Upadhay, lately a cook in the employ of Babu Promoda Charan Mozumder, who was charged with having killed his master's wife and having attempted to take the lives of his masters infant sons and daughter, for the purpose of committing robbery came on for trial. The Jury having returned a unanimous verdict of "guilty" on a charge of murder, the Judge sentenced him to the last penalty of the law.

Calcutta Mounted Police.—Alterations in the dress of the sowars of the Calcutta mounted police force have been sanctioned and the new clothing is now being made by Messrs Mason, Hill and Rogers of Chowringhee. The short jacket now worn will be replaced by a sort of white frock similar in make to that worn by Indian cavalrymen. A broad red cumberband will be worn under the belt. The head gear will be the small Kabuli hat, in blue. Altogether the change will make for smartness and neatness, which the sowars now lack in appearance.

The Baduria Murder Case.—The case in which one Noymuddy Mollah of Baduria and his father were charged with being members of an unlawful assembly, rioting and causing the death of one Meajan Mollah, their co sharer over a land dispute was concluded on Thursday before Mr. Pope the additional District and Sessions Judge, presiding over the Alipore Criminal Sessions. The Jury returned a unanimous verdict of "guilty" against the son on a charge of grievous hurt, and "not guilty" against the father. The Judge agreeing with the verdict sentenced the son to five years rigorous imprisonment and acquitted the father.

Grievous Hurt.—On Thursday before Mr. D. H. Kingsford Chief Presidency Magistrate one Buduan was re-arraigned on a charge of causing grievous hurt to one Mr. Heard by striking him with a "lathi" on the arm. The facts were fully reported when the case was first heard. The Court found ac used guilty and sentenced him to suffer six weeks' rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 150, in default to undergo another six week's imprisonment.—In another case the police at the instance of a woman named Hari Dassi, prosecuted one Bhut Nath Das, and two women. The Senior Court Inspector Mr. Abdur Rahim, opened the case by saying that the complainant and one of the women had a quarrel over some petty matter. The man, in the cause of the latter bit the complainant, while the other woman kicked her and knocked out two of her teeth. A charge of causing grievous hurt was then preferred against the defendants. Babu Jatindra Mohun Ghose, vakil, appeared for the defence. The case was adjourned.

Stalked by Vultures.—Have you ever been stalked by a vulture? Asks Mr. E. H. D. Seweil in the Indian Field. I have, and the feeling is a queer one. I was on famine duty in the Deccan in 1900, and the food of the vulture in my neighbourhood was not, as you may imagine, all beef. I was endeavouring to keep the larder going with a .577. To circumvent a buck the only way left to me was to cross an open field, drier than any sawdust, of about 200 yards' breadth To do so it as necessary to lie flat, reach out the .577 as far as possible by holding the stock, lay it down gently, muzzle resting on something to prevent grit getting down the barrel, and then shuffle myself along up to and just past it, reach back for it, and repeat the process. By the time I had left forty or fifty yards behind me I became aware of shadows circling round me, passing and repassing, but for a few yards took no notice of them. Then the noise of wings striking an unusual note caused me to throw a hasty glance upward. I cannot describe nor shall I ever forget, the ghastly feeling that came over me as I at once recognised vultures, some five or six of them, and it flashed across me that I was the obejct of their attention It was not until I had drawn a bead, and of course, missed, that my attendant ghouls found out the error of their ways.

ARRIVAL OF THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE BOMBAY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Bombay, Nov. 9.

The Appolo Bunder gave a brilliant scene from morning. The "Renown" reached as announced before exactly in time. The people of Appolo Bunder, Hornby, Rampart, Carnac, Kalbadevi and Bhendibazar, Parel, Grantstaid, Gamdevi and Malbar roads thronged and repeated salutes as per programme were fired Chiefs, Sirdars High Court Judges, Council members, Civil Military and other officers all more than 100 with attendants were on one side of the Shamina and the other side bristled with Royal Guards, Military and Cadet Corps ready near the Bunder. 400 seats were provided for the municipal corporators. The Hon. Mr. Mehta, got a special chair as President of the Corporation. The Viceroy and Lord Lamington went to see the Prince and returned the Prince's arrival in the Bunder by firing guns. The Prince, the Princess, Lord Curzon, the Vicerine, Lord Lamington, and Prince's retinue reached the dais. All stood and cheered, vociferously upon the Prince and the Princess. The Viceroy, Vicerine and Lord Lamington were all standing.

The Prince received municipal address from Mr. Mehta's hands. The casket was worth seeing. The folling is the text of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales' reply to the address of welcome from the Bombay Municipal Corporation:—

"I thank you most sincerely for the kind and enthusiastic welcome which you have given to the Princess of Wales and myself. We are both deeply moved by your touching allusion to her presence here. She is indeed proud to be the first Princess of Wales to have set foot on these shores. The words of your address, eloquent as they are, will not, however, convey to our fellow subjects in other parts of the Empire what we see here to-day. Nor do they render full justice to the efforts and goodwill of the citizens of this great western part of India which culminate in this splendid ceremony. Just thirty years ago all but a day my dear father the King-Emperor was standing not far from this very spot and was saying that it had been the dream of his life to see India. The Princess and I have had similar anticipations and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the manner in which you and your fellow-workers have brought these dreams to realisation. In thus following in the footsteps of my father we are but carrying out the tradition established by him and one which I trust will be repeated as generation succeeds generation. I hope and indeed I am confident that the same loving interest in this great continent which was inspired in my father's heart by his visit to India and which has never abated will equally come to travel through the various countries which make up this great empire. The Princess and I can win sympathy and good-will of the people of India. We shall secure a precious result from the voyage which we have been privileged to undertake. It is the last stage of our memorable and happy mission, of four years to his Majesty's great dominions across the east. Though strangers to this beautiful [illegible] we have thought [illegible] to adapt [illegible] heard much of your trip [illegible] as the capital of western [illegible] which "links" this eastern [illegible] Europe. Bombay has had [illegible] herself more perhaps than any other oriental city to requirements of modern life up to her position and as the threshold of this picturesque and fascinating land of India that position is somewhat exacting. But if I may judge from a brief impression from the sea and from what I observe here, Bombay does not fall short of her obligations. Apart from the beauty of her buildings and her natural advantages she has thoughts for trade facilities and for what is of equal or perhaps greater importance for the health and well-being of nearly 8,00,000 people. I am delighted to be associated with the new dock and with the first large street which the City Improvement Trust has constructed. Bombay has had her vicissitudes and your municipal history has its counterpart in many other cities of our empire which I have had the pleasure of visiting. Your period of prosperity has endowed you with buildings and other possessions, of which you may well be proud. But it also brought you a population perhaps inconveniently large and you are now wisely grapping with the problems which have beset us in the west—the problems of wide streets and healthy industrial quarters. I wish you Mr. Chairman and all who are working for the welfare of Bombay godspeed. I can imagine no nobler work than the endeavour of the individual to do something for his town. There is one drawback to journeys such as that on which the Princess and I are now starting, Time is all too short to see every thing and to tell every one who has joined in greeting us how heartily grateful we are. I have inherited from my father and from our late beloved Sovereign your first Queen-Empress a love for India and for Indians. From my youth I have associated the name of India with qualities of kindness, loyalty, courtesy and bravery and I doubt not that these early ideas will be comfirmed and strengthened by the experiences which await me in the next few months. We cannot as we should like see all your many institutions but we hope to have opportunities of gaining some insight into those of a similar character in other parts of India. We both hope to carry home with us not only a warm sympathy and affection for the people of India but an increased and abiding interest in India's wants and problems and an acquaintance with the various classes—official and non-official, British and Indian, which under God's Providence are labouring to one end the well being of India and the happiness of her peoples. I will not fail to convey to the King-Emperor the expression of your loyal devotion to his throne and person and remembering that to-day we celebrate His Majesty's birthday these assurances will come to him with special gratifications and I feel sure that this great company will join with me in wishing him very many happy returns of the day.

Mr. Pherozeshah Mehta presented boquets and garlanded the Prince and the Princess. 20,000 children at 12 different places were given medals on both sides. The Royal guests were strewn with flowers in five places, specially on the way generally. They were in many places photographed.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

The Anti-Swadeshi Circular

CAN IT EVER BECOME INOPERATIVE.

Object of the circular.—It is admitted on all hands that the object is anti-Swadeshi. Even the "Indian Mirror" who does not approve of students taking part in any political movement admits this.

Policy of the Government.—The policy of the Government is that while it approves of the development of indigenous industries, it does not approve of a whole people taking part in a great national movement, even though that movement is industrial. Therefore, our students must not take part in the national Swadeshi movement. Hence the issue of the circular. Some people speak of the Government withdrawing the circular, or of the circular becoming inoperative or a dead letter. They forget that the circular is but a means to an end; and that that end is that our students must not take part in any national movement, which is but another way of saying that they must desist from serving their own people and country. Therefore, so long as the Government policy remains what it is, the withdrawal of the circular, even if it should come to pass, (which is very doubtful,) practically means nothing at all in other words the circular can become inoperative or a dead letter only when the Government gives up the end which it has kept steadily in view, viz., that our students should have nothing to do with the national Swadeshi movement.

The Policy of students and Guardians:—The students and their parents and guardians are not prepared to accept the above position. How can they give up serving their country? How can the parents say to their sons "desist from serving your country; do not cherish in your heart any feeling for your people? Or if you have any such feeling, do not give any expression to it by word or deed." The position to which Government is driving students and their parents is, therefore, impossible. There is no sedition in this, no disloyalty—nothing of the kind: but the Government practically says that it is sedition—it is disloyalty.

The position of the People: pros and cons—If the Government dtclares that to be sedition which is never sedition—gives a good thing a bad name, threatens our schools and colleges, teachers and students and all with severe punishment, withdrawal of grants, of scholarships, of employment, of affiliation and so on, and all because our boys desire to help on the cause of their country in a practical manner—the only course open for us would be to exercise the right of private defence, viz., to withdraw our students from Government and Government-aided schools and Colleges and from the Government University itself. Hence the need of an educational organisation independent of the Government University and independent of Government aid—call it by what name you will, a National University or Education Society or anything else.

Satish Chandra Mukerjee.
Hony Secretary. Dawn Society.

ARREST OF BABU BEPIN CH. PAL.

On Friday morning Babu Bepin Ch. Pal was wrongfully arrested by the Police constable at the Sealdah station. He, dressed in dhuti, was seated on a bench when a constable came and asked to leave the seat saying that Indians were not permitted to sit there when European[illegible] about the place. Bepin Babu [illegible] seat was arrested [illegible] by the [illegible] who [illegible] Inspector [illegible] remonst[illegible] for having done what he had no business to do. Bepin Babu asked the Inspector to make a note in his diary of his complaint against the constable for assault and wrongful restraint but the Inspector noted it down on a slip of paper only.

ALL ABOUT AN ASSAULT ON A EUROPEAN.

The other day, Mr. D. H. Kingsford, Chief Presidency Magistrate, convicted one Budhan and sentenced him to six weeks' rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 150 in default to undergo another six weeks' imprisonment. In connection with this matter Mr. C. Heard applied for a notice on one Doran Halowi a sweet meat shop-keeper and master of Budhan, and others to shew cause why they should not be bound down to keep the peace towards him. The court observed that substantial justice had been done by the conviction of Budhan and it did not think any further proceedings were required. The application was accordingly ordered to be filed. Doran who was present in court was also warned.

After this, Mr. Manuel appeared on behalf of Doran and submitted that he was ready to go on with the case in which Doran had charged Mr. C. Heard with assault and obtained a summons. The court said that it was satisfied from the evidence placed before it in Budhan's case that Doran and his men were the aggressors and if anything was done by Mr. Heard, it was done in self defence.

Mr. Manuel requested the court to transfer the case to the file of some other Magistrate. The court enquired into the reason why Mr. Manuel replied that there was every possibility of the other Magistrate coming to a different conclusion in this case as the facts were somewhat different.

The court observed that the other Magistrate might come to a different conclusion but he was of opinion there was no necessity for it. Mr. Manuel said that this was a different matter altogether.

The court said that it saw no reason to transfer the case and if he choose he could move the High Court.

Mr. Manuel then signified his intention of moving the High Court.

The Chief Court re-opens after the long vacation on Monday. There are 78 insolvent cases on the Board of Mr. Justice Bigges' Court on that day, beside other miscellaneous work.

Sub-Inspector Ahmad Khan's case in Lyallpur sensational topic of the day and is engaging the attention of the people on account of certain episodes insolving the names of some well-known Police Officers as concerned in the case.

Li-Ching-Mai, of Pekin, son of the late Li-Hung-Chang, has been appointed Chinese Minister to the Austro-Hungarian Court, in place of Yang-Cheng, who has been appointed to Berlin. He is now on his way to Trieste, and will pass through Colombo with in a few weeks.

ALLEGED HIGHHANDED CONDUCT OF A EUROPEAN CONSTABLE.

On Friday at about 2 p.m. a Bengali gentleman was coming to Calcutta from Howrah in the ferry steamer "Buckland" when a European constable on duty on board is said to have abused him because the latter wanted to sit on the upper deck. The constable said that the second class cabin was not intended for a shabilly dressed Indian like him and gave him a shove. Naturally the gentleman remonstrated. The matter temporarily stopped there, but when the steamer touched the Calcutta side the gentleman got down, entered a gharry and was driving away, when the constable ran after the conveyance caught hold of the horse, dragged him out and took him to the thana. A large number of people followed him to the thana shouting "Bande Mataram." They seemed to be all aghast at the highhanded conduct of the police.

Soon after Mr. A. C. Bannerjee went to the thana and applied for bail. He remonstrated with the police saying that they had no business to keep the man under arrest. The Daroga, however, apologetically said that as the Inspector was away he had not the power to admit the man to bail, and that the Inspector would be back in about half an hour after which the application for bail might be renewed. At the time Mr. Banerjee went to the thana a large expectant crowd consisting of Marwaris and Bengalees, both Hindus and Mahomedans) numbering about two thousand, greeted him in one voice with the cry of "Bande Mataram."

After half-an-hour Mr. N. N. Mitter, Bar-at-law, went to the thana and applied for bail again. Inspector Major, in charge of the thana, refused to let him out on bail till he received orders from the divisional Superintendent and finished the enquiry. This, he said, he was bound to do as the case had caused so much excitement. The charge against the gentleman as alleged by the police, was that he had obstructed the constable in the execution of his duty.

THE RANGOON ABDUCTION CASE.

Rangoon, Nov. 9.—The abduction case against E. Maung and seven others was today committed by the Magistrate to the Sessions of the Chief Court, which will open on the 21st instant. To suit the convenience of counsel coming from India for the defence, arrangements have been made to take up the hearing of the case on the 28th idem before Mr. Justice Irwin and a Jury. An application was made by Mr. Das, on behalf of the accused, to-day before Mr. Justice Fox, to set aside an order of the Magistrate directing the accused to produce certain love letters written by Mah Noo to E. Maung, which were alleged to be in the latter's possession. The grounds for the application were that the letters were very material to the accused's case, which was that the girl was a consenting party to the abduction and they would be produced in Court when necessary. The object of the prosecution to obtain the letters was simply to know their contents and enable the girl to meet that part of the case. Mr. Eddis, for the prosecution, considered the documents [illegible]

[illegible] On account of the press strike in Calcutta, the "Gazette of India" will continue to be published at Simla until further orders. The [illegible] the situation is changed the better for all parties; but then, there is the lock-out and it is the officials who did it.

The net yield of the income tax in the United Provinces during the two last years in which it stood upon the original footing was over 25 lakhs. On the 1st April 1903, Sir Edward Law removed the tax from the poor payers with incomes ranging from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000 per annum, and its returns fell to a little below 20 lakhs. During the past financial year they rose to 20 lakhs and a quarter. As before the change, so now, the tax has taken on a settled character showing that the work of assessment and collection has touched ground, and all that can be reasonably looked for in future is a slight and regular upward movement registering the general progress of the Province. That in the operation of the tax, much oppression is oftentimes practised by subordinate officers in all provinces goes without saying; and we are glad to find that the fact appears to have struck the authorities in the United Provinces.

Pakiri, the ex-Inspector of Police of Thongwa district, who was in 1902 sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, aggregating fourteen years, for fabricating false evidence and framing groundless charges against innocent villagers, has been transferred from the Rangoon Central prison to H. M. Penitentiary, Madras. The grounds under which Pakiri's transfer to an Indian prison was made and sanctioned by the Government of India were that there were many prisoners undergoing sentences in the Burma prisons who had been arrested by Pakiri when a Police officer, many of them being lifers in the Rangoon Jail. Owing to the Prison authorities apprehending danger to Pakiri in this respect he had to be kept close and seperate confinement, and as he had already undergone nearly three years of sentence in a manner which would affect his health, it was considered advisable, on medical grounds, that he should be sent to a prison in India where he is not likely to come across such men

At a meeting of the Mahajana Sabha, held on Saturday, the 4th instant, it was resolved that a Memorial be submitted to the Government of Madras, praying for the establishment of special schools and for holding demonstrations in select centres, for the instruction of the weaving classes, in the use of the improved modern appliances and for the opening of a special department in connection with the manufacturing industries of the country, as is already being done in regard to agriculture, to be presided over by experts in view to their furnishing the public with instruction and advice, with regard to such industries. It was further resolved that in view of the formation of the Indian Industrial Company, Limited, that the Sabha does not consider it necessary at present, to take any action, in the matter of carrying out the suggestion by the sub-committee of the formation of a company. It is as it should be.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

London, Nov 7.
The New Zealand football team has beaten Oxford by 47 to nil. Their total score up to the present is 540 against 15.

London, Nov. 7.
Subscriptions to the Bank of Abssinia opened to-day and closed at noon over subscribed.

London, Nov. 7.
A banquet was given last night in honour of Lord Lansdowne in recognition of the conclusion of the Anglo-Japanese treaty. Baron Hayashi was present, and Lord Ashbourne presided and proposed the toast of the Mikado in most eulogistic terms.

Lord Lansdowne, whose health was then proposed, said in reply that in these days when nations were grouping themselves and arming to the teeth, no nation could venture to stand alone entirely; he eulogized our ally's prowess, patriotism, patience, self-restraint and straightforward diplomacy. He had, he said, no better recollections of the Foreign Office than the intercourse with Baron Hayashi, who was about to be made an Ambassador. "We gain an ally of whom we are proud; the alliance was not a conspiracy against the others. There were no unavowed motives, no secret clauses, and nothing behind the published documents."

The "entente" between Great Britain and France had also greatly strengthened the position of both. He deplored the assumption that these understandings necessarily involved estrangement with other Powers. "If any of the latter desired a similar understanding with us, we are willing, provided nothing with us, we are willing, provided nothing is done hereafter to impair our friendship with Japan and France."

London, Nov. 8.
Despite the general cessation of strikes in Russia, the Railway Union has issued a significant circular to railway men saying they must store their arms, and when the decisive moment comes, rise as one man and never lay down their arms until the victory is complete.

London, Nov. 8
Details of the horrors, during the past ten days in the Russian Provinces, are gradually leaking out and surpass all imagination. In one instance, at Minsk, several detachments of troops poured a cross-fire on an unarmed crowd, killing and wounding 400 in a few moments.

It appears that fifty thousand troops with guns from warships, landed at Helsingfors on 3rd instant.

The situation became most critical when the Imperial Manifesto arrived and relieved tension.

London, Nov. 8.
An official communique published at St. Petersburg says it is undeniable that in some places the local authorities are hostile to reforms, and encouraged the recent excesses. Judicial investigation is ordered wherever the authorities are suspected.

The "Times" states that Count Witte has completed his Cabinet as follows:—Prince Urusseff, Minister of the Interior; Prince Eugene Trubetzkoi, Minister for Education; M. Shipoff, Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Nimjachaieff, Minister for Railways. All these are prominent Liberals. M. J. Shipoff becomes Minister of Finance. The other portfolios remain unchanged.

One hundred and twenty Cossacks, under the District Governor, burning the villages in a turbulent district, inland from Batoum, were surrounded by some armed rioters. 105 were killed after a desperate resistance of seventeen hours.

London, Nov. 8.
A mass meeting of Jews has been held at New York, at which a committee was formed for the purpose of relieving the distress of Russian sufferers, irrespective of religion. 56,800 dollars were subscribed on the spot. Telegrams were received from the Jews in London, Paris anl Berlin, offering to participate in the international organisation.

Four hundred and twelve Jewish victims of the massacres were buried at Odessa yesterday, in the presence of vast crowds. They were interred without coffins in trenches holding seventy each. The scenes at the grave-side were piteous.

Pubna, Nov. 8.
A grand open-air mass meeting of Mahomedans—inhabitants of Debottar and adjoining villages—was held yesterday evening under the presidency of Moulvi Asseruddin, a highly respected leader of Mahomedans. The President's address evoked greatest enthusiasm and the assembled mass nowed in a body to use none but Swadeshi articles. Mr. Syed Ahmedali moved and Moulvi Nazimuddin seconded resolutions protesting against the partition of Bengal and against the address voted to Hon'ble Mr. Fuller by Arjuman Islam of Pabna at the instance of some officials as not representing the opinion of the entire Mahomedan community.

London, Nov. 9.
The London Rothschilds and the New York banker Mr. Schiff, have each contributed £10,000 to the London fund for the relief of the Russian Jewish victims. The money will be remitted through the British Consuls, whom Lord Lansdowne has authorised to distribute.

London, Nov. 9.
Grand Duke Vladimir has resigned command of the St. Petersburg Military Dis-

London, Nov. 9.
Yielding to popular demand General Trepoff has resigned. The authorities at Kishineff deliberately organised the rabble against the Jews giving troops for unbridled massacre and pillage lasting two days. Seventy were killed and 120 wounded, all being Jews.

London, Nov. 9.
A mob at Ismail arranges an auto-da-fe burning alive eleven Jews who had taken refuge in a haystack. 59 Jews were killed at Kalarasch. Similar stories continue to be received from other towns in Bessarabia.

London, Nov. 9.
Soldiers and sailors at Cronstadt joined the workmen in sackling, pillaging and burning. Desperate fighting has taken place between Loyalists and Revolutionaries, and there are pools of blood in the streets. The inhabitants are fleeing, and the warships have been ordered out of the harbour.

London, Nov. 9.
It is reported that a force of Lancers sent from Peterhof has joined the rioters in view of the possibility of further disturbances at Odessa. The German, Austrian and Italian Consuls have requested their Governments to send guardships from Constantinople to Odessa.

London, Nov. 9.
Sir Charles Hardinge, British Ambassador, St. Petersburg, has received the Grand Cross of the Victorian Order.

TELEGRAMS

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

London, Nov. 9.
It is estimated that Mr. McClelan, the Tammany candidate, has been re-elected Mayor of New York by a narrow majority.

London, Nov. 9.
The Earl of Warwick and his brothers start for Nairobi on a sporting expedition on the 26th instant.

London, Nov. 9.
Prince Louis of Battenberg had a most enthusiastic reception in New York.

Bombay, Nov. 10.
The English Mail steamer was signalled today at 7 hrs. 39 mts. The Mail is expected to arrive at the Calcutta General Post Office by special postal train on Sunday at about 1-45 a.m.

London, Nov. 10.
Reuter's correspondent who has reached Kronstadt, found the meeting quelled. The most reliable troops now vigorously control the town. The survivors among the mutineers have been arrested.

London, Nov. 10.
The following is the official list of the next Council in Russia:—Ivan Shipoff, Minister of France; M. Cutler, Minister for Agriculture; M. Timiriozeff, Minister of Commerce; M. Nemeshoeff, Manager of South-Western Railways, Minister of Communications, and M. Tilofasoff, Comptroller of the Empire. With the exception of M. Nemeshoeff, all are departmental heads of various ministeries, giving M. de Witte's Cabinet a strong bureaucratic complexion. Presumably the appointments are a further indication of the aloofness of the Liberals.

London, Nov. 10.
All the newspapers emphasize the Imperial significance of the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to India. The "Times" remarks that they represent the permanent authority of the British Empire and remind people that great Viceroys and renowned Generals come and go, but the Government of India remains and that mistakes, if made, are not irrevocable.

London, Nov. 10.
The following is the result of the race for the Liverpool Autumn Cup.

Saint Wulfram	... 1
Chaucer	... 2
Glenamoy	... 3

London, Nov. 10.
The death is announced of Mr. William Parrott, Member for Normanton.

London, Nov. 10.
Mutinous soldiers and sailors at Cronstadt, who numbered five thousand, have killed ten unpopular officers. Two squadrons of Hussars and two battalions of the crack Preobrajensky Regiment have arrived at Cronstadt.

General Trepoff has been appointed Commandant of the palace troops.

The Grand Duke Nicholas Nichollevich has replaced the Grand Duke Vladimir in command of the St. Petersburg Mutary District.

London, Nov. 10.
The "Standard" says that theoretically the Japanese Navy will form part of a scheme of world-wide naval manoeuvres in 1906. It is assumed that the situation is threatening, and that the Anglo-Japanese natives are watching enemies' ships throughout the world. Later on a war breacks out and a skeleton enemy of cruisers leaves England with secret orders to keep everyone on the alert for weeks.

London. Nov. 9.
Mr. Balfour at the Lord Mayor's banquet at the Guildhall began his speech by a lengthy statement regarding the unemployed problem, and dwelt on the difficulty of finding a remedy which would not do more harm than good. He appealed to public benevolence, and especially those present, to support the machinery provided by Government.

Turning to foreign politics he said that, from Korea to Morocco, there were a succession of States which may cause difficulty to civilised Powers, and the object of diplomacy is to prevent a conflict there, and this was not easy. The less civilised nations cannot be left alone owing to the competition for markets. Peace is to be maintained by arrangements between the civilised countries themselves, not by the less civilised playing one civilised power off against another. He referred to Japanas "Our new Ally, a grea power arisen in the Far East." It was a happy time to survey foreign politics when our allies were beginning a great mission of civilisation. Our friends in Russia were absorbing public interest by a great movement in the direction of self-government. All Great Britain wished the Tsar and his advisers success, and hoped that the future would be unsullied by the horrible scenes marring its initial progress. He dwelt upon the efforts of Great Britain during the past ten years to render war impossible and develop arbitration. He pointed out that no boundary question in Africa or elsewhere was likely to produce friction, and he was sanguine that we should not see war in the future, unless a ruler arises trampling on the rights of his neighbours with a view to national aggrandisement. But there was no prospect of such a calamity in Europe. He concluded by prophesying a long peace, comparing the remark of Pitt a century ago who prophesied a long war. But though happier than our forefathers we must be prepared for any emergency and make sacrifices on behalf of the defensive forces of the Empire.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

THE MADARIPUR STUDENTS' CASE.

Madaripur, Nov. 11.
On the complaint of Mr Cattle that his durwan was assaulted by students, the Assam Government has decided that the so-called ringleaders must be flogged before the Sub-divisional Officer or boys to be fined 150 Rs. or grant-in-aid to be withdrawn. The Head Master refuses to carry out executive orders. Mr. Cattle accused by a student for cowardly assault was discharged by the Faridpur Magistrate. The local Indian Magistrate has been transferred.

RAT DESTRUSTION IN RANGOON.

Rangoon, Nov. 10.
There were during October 10,289 rats killed in Rangoon. In the same month 135 specimens of blood films and blood pipettes were examined at the plague labarotory. Ninety-nine of these specimens were found to contain plague bacilli. Experiments made to ascertain the number of rats still left in the crowded area of the town by the employment of trained rat catchers resulted in complete failure to capture any rats

TELEGRAMS.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

GAZETTE OF INDIA.

Simla, Nov. 10.
The services of Mr. Barrow I.C.S., are placed at the disposal of the Military Department with effect from 6th November.

Mr. Burt is promoted to special class grade first as Manager Eastern Bengal Railway.

Mr. Jacob C.I.E., is confirmed as Manager of Oudh-Rohilkhand Railway in special class grade two.

Mr. Biscoe is confirmed as Traffic Superintendent, Noth-Western Railway.

Mr. Kiernander is confirmed as Traffic Supdt, Eastern Bengal State Railway.

Major Bonham-Carter is promoted to class first grade first, Superior Revenue Establishment.

Mr. Gabbet is appointed Consulting Engineer, Government of Indian for Railways, Lucknow.

Major Rose R. E. reverts to Deputy Consulting Engineer for Railways Lucknow on relief by Mr. Gabbet.

The following passed students of the Coopers' Hill College are appointed Assistant Engineers 3rd grade, State Railways:—

Messrs. Harvey and Highet, Eastern Bengal State Railway; Mr. Briggs, Nagda-Muttra Railway.

Mr. Hensley, Examiner of Accounts, retires with effect from 21st November.

BLOCKING OF THE SUEZ CANAL.

Allahabad, Nov. 9.
The "Pioneer's" London Correspondent wires under date, 8th November:—In connection with the blowing up of the "Chatham" and the delay caused to traffic in the Suez Canal, the Steamship Companies have been circularized with a view to joint action against the Canal Company. The damages for detention are estimated at £80,000 to £100,000.

CABUL AFFAIRS.

Allahabad, Nov. 9.
Reports continue to be received from Cabul that the Amir will visit Jellalabad this winter and preparations for a Durbar are being made.

There is said to be a growing scarcity of food-grains in northern Afghanistan. Prices have risen considerably in Cabul; but famine in the true sense of the word is not apprehended as it is believed that food stocks are really sufficient to carry the country through winter.

News from Bokhara states that Kushbegi Khan, Governor of the city is dead, and that he has been succeeded by his brother, Hasan Gul. The latter is a protege of the Russians and is not altogether in favour with the Amir but His Highness was not equal to resisting the pressure brought to bear upon him.

CONTROL OF BRITISH TROOPS IN THE SOUDAN.

Allahabad, Nov. 9.
The War Office has, wires the "Pioneer's" London Correspondent, just given sanction to a proposal made by Sir Reginald Wingate, with the entire concurrence and approval of Lord Cromer, that henceforward British troops stationed in Khartoum and other Soudan garrisons, where British detachments may at any time be posted, will be under the immediate orders and command of the Sirdar and Governor-General of the Soudan, and will cease to belong to the command of the General Officer commanding the army of occupation in E[illegible]t.

"SWADESHI" IN BOMBAY.

Bombay, Nov. 9.
Yesterday night a crowded meeting of more than 5000 students attending the University examinations was held in Girgaon to support the "Swadeshi" movement. The Hon'ble Mr. Khare presided. He strongly criticised the actions of the educational authorities in prohibiting students from joining the movement and advocated that students of all grades should take, and they are actually taking, part in it. He also exposed the inconsistency of the argumets of Principal Selby, Mrs. Annie Besant and others. Speeches in Hindi, Gujrathi and Marathi were delivered by different speakers who, one and all, strongly supported the movement.

SYMPATHY FOR RUNGPUR STUDENTS.

Bhanga (Faridpur) Nov. 10
A students' meeting was held yesterday sympathising with the Rungpur students and congratulating them on their noble conduct in leaving school rather than desist from serving their Motherland. Boys here have determined to follow their example, if necessary, and pray for a National University to impart to them sound and healthy education and are resolved to join it as soon as started.

GAMBLERS ARRESTED.

Monghyr, Nov. 10.
Sixty three gamblers were arrested in the Gawrakshani Sabha of Babu Baijnath Ram Goenka, a wealthy Banker. A gathering used to be annually held with the pretext of raising funds for feeding cows. The gambling used to be also carried on so far undetected but this year the police headed by a European Inspector arrested 63 persons while gambling in the said Gowrakshani Sabha and sent them to hajat. Great sensation prevails.

BURMA ITEMS.

Rangoon, Nov. 10.
A collision has occurred on the river between the steam launch Alexandra of the Burma Oil Company and steam launch Gunner belonging to the military authorities. The collision took place early this morning near Monkey Point. The whole of the stern part of the launch Gunner was smashed in and the Alexandra received a severe shock damaging her bows. Both launches are under repair now at Dalla. No lives were lost or persons injured.

The appointment of Adviser on Chinese Affairs in Burma has been abolished. Altogether there have been three occupants of the office, the last incumbent being Taw Sein Ko.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

HIGH COURT.

VACATION BENCH.

(Before Justices Woodroffe and Mukerjee

DISPUTE BETWEEN BROTHERS-IN-LAW.

Babu Bidhu Bhusan Ganguly applied for the admission of an appeal on behalf of one Rai Charan Mandal who was convicted by the Sessions Judge of Khulna in concurrence with one of two assessors of offence under sections 326, 307 I. P. C. and sentenced to four years' rigorous imprisonment. The facts of the case are shortly as follows. The complainant Jogneswar Poddar and the accused are brothers-in-law having married two sisters. The accused who was living with his wife at the house of the complainant for sometime past suspected intrigue between the complainant and the accused's wife, and left for his native village with his wife and returned to the complainant's house after about ten days, slept with the complainant in the same bed and at dead of night, inflicted some injuries on the complainant with a "dao" in his attempt to kill him. The defence admitted the infliction of the injuries but contended that the wounds were inflicted when the comlainant attempted to tamper with the virtue of the accused's wife. Their Lordships admitted the appeal and sent for the record.

A RULE MADE ABSOLUTE.

Babu Atulya Churn Bose appeared in support of a rule issued on behalf of one Mahesh Narain Pandey calling upon the District Magistrate of Howrah to show cause why the proceedings before the Bench Magistrate of Howrah should not be transferred to some other Magistrate outside the District. The petitioner is a Jemadar in the employ of Messrs. John King and Co. and his case is that he is being prosecuted at the instance of the Howrah Municipality under the Bengal Municipal Act for picketing bullocks on the roadside and allowing urine and cowdung to run down on a drain over which dispute is going on between the Municipality and the masters of the petitioner. It was alleged that the case was the outcome of a long-standing dispute between the District Magistrate who was also the Chairman of the Municipality and Messrs. John King and Co. the petitioner's masters.

Their Lordships after hearing the learned vakil and going through the explanation submitted by the Magistrate remarked that the Magistrate's letter in no way replied to or explained the facts stated in the petition. The rule was accrodingly made absolute and the case was transferred to the 24-Parghunnas.

PREMATURE PROCEEDING.

On 4th April last one Mussummat Akhjan Koer executed a deed of sale in favour of Giani Rai and Ramphal Rai in the presence of four witnesses. Five days after the same woman executed a mortgage deed in respect of the said property in favour of one Shew Narain Lal. On 10th April when the mortgage deed was put up before the Sub-Registrar of Dinapur for registration, a petition written by the writer of the sale deed purporting to have been written out at the instance of Giani Rai and Ramphal Rai, was laid before the Registrar by way of intimation stating that a woman would appear before the Registrar falsely personating Akhjan Koer. The matter was reported by the Sub-Registrar to the District Registrar, who sent it to the Sub-divisional Magistrate of Dinapur for enquiry. Upon a mere denial by Ramphal the whole matter dropped and the mortgage was directed to be registered. On the 13th June Giana and Ramphal submitted the prior deed of sale for registration and asked for compulsory registration by summoning the woman. The Sub-Registrar again reported the matter to the District Registrar who ordered a careful and sifting enquiry to be made inorder that it might be ascertained who were the real cuprits. The Sub-divisional Magistrate held an enquiry and reported against Giana Rai, Ramphal Rai and four witnesses to the deed, holding that it was a forged deed. Upon that report the District Registrar directed a prosecution. Against that order this court was moved and a rule was issued which came on for hearing to-day.

Mr. P. Morton appeared in support of the rule. Babu Dasarathi Sanyel showed cause.

After hearing both sides their Lordships thought that no order had yet been made refusing the registration of the deed. Even if such an order were made there would be a right of appeal against such order and in the event of that order being affirmed on appeal there would be a right of suit. Under those circumstances, their Lordships held that the proceeding which had been taken against the petitioners, was premature. Accordingly the rule was made absolute.

A MUKTEAR IN TROUBLE.

In a certain case from Hooghly the petitioner obtained a rule on the affidavit of a local Muktear J. C. Bose. During the hearing of the rule it was pointed out that the affidavit was a false one and their Lordships directed the District Magistrate to report whether the Muktear was a certificated Muktear or not. That report reached the High Court and their Lordships after perusing it passed the following order:—"In our judgment in criminal revision case No. 937 of 1905 delivered on the 24th October last we directed the District Magistrate of Hooghly to report whether J. C. Bose who swore to the affidavit on the basis of which the rule was granted was a certificated Muktear or not. The District Magistrate has now reported that Jogendra Chundra Bose is a certificated Muktear. We now direct the District Magistrate to hold on enquiry into the matter of the affidavit, the truth of the statements contained in which has been denied by the trying Deputy Magistrate, Babu Annoda Prosad Bose. The Magistrate in holding the enquiry should give notice to Jogendra Chandra Bose and call upon him to submit any explanation he may have to offer. When the result of the enquiry made by the Magistrate is reported to this court let the matter be brought up for further consideration and for orders if necessary under section 13 of the Legal Practitioners Act. A copy of this order is to be sent down to the District Magistrate at once. Let also a copy of our judgment dated 24th October, as also copies of the petition and affidavit filed in this court and the explanations submitted by the District Magistrate and the trying Magistrate be sent down. The Magistrate will also report as to the previous conduct and reputation of Jogendra Chundra Bose as a certificated Muktear.

A "MY DEAR CONSTAM" CASE.

Their Lordships in delivering judgment in a certain case in which a brick-dealer got into trouble for preferring a complaint against a European, remarked that "a person should not be appointed a Judge in his own cause." One Nak Chand Pathak, who used to supply bricks to the Majhowa Factory in Bettiah, on 28th June last filed a petition of complaint in the Court of the Sub-divisional Officer Mr. Hopkyns against two men Juthan Lal and Lal Bahadur, clerk and servant respectively of the above factory on charges of having stolen 10 cart-loads of bricks from his kiln. The Sub-divisional Officer after examining the petitioner directed Mr. Maxwell Smith, manager of the Majhowa Factory, to make an enquiry and submit a report. On 1st July Mr. Maxwell Smith submitted a lengthy report in course of which he said that Nakchand was a very bad man and had cheated him of some bricks. He further said that he was informed that Nakchand had himself removed the bricks and then preferred a false complaint against his servants. Nakchand objected to this procedure of an enquiry by the master of the accused but the Magistrate rejected the application. The Magistrate, at the request of Mr. Maxwell, visited the factory and after holding an enquiry there on 3rd July dismissed the complaint under section 203 Cr. P. Code. This was not all. On 3rd August the Magistrate holding that the petitioner had failed to prove his case and should be prosecuted under section 211 I.P.C. sent the records to the District Magistrate for the prosecution of the petitioner. Nak Chand then moved the Sessions Judge but with no effect. He then moved this Court and obtained a rule which was disposed of by their Lordships.

Babu Dasarathi Sanyel appeared in support of the rule and Mr. Douglas White, Deputy Legal Remembrancer, appeared for the Crown.

Their Lordships delivered the following judgment:—

"In this case a Rule was issued on the District Magistrate of Champaran to show cause why the order of the Sub-Divisional Officer of Bettiah directing that the petitioner should be prosecuted should not be set aside. The order complained of is one dated the 3rd of August 1905 directing the prosecution of the petitioner for an offence under sec. 211 of the Indian Penal Code. In the proceeding in which the petitioner was called upon the show cause why he should not be prosecuted under this section, certain witnesses were examined on his behalf. The Sub-Divisional Magistrate expressed himself as not being satisfied with that evidence and stating that in his opinion the complainant had failed to prove his case, directed the prosecution of the present petitioner under sec. 211 I.P.C. That finding is in itself, an insufficient one. There is, however, a further objection to the order in that it is (as appears from its terms) based upon the report of Mr. Maxwell Smith, dated the 1st July 1905 and also upon matters which the Magistrate says that he observed when making the enquiry under sec. 202 of the Criminal Procedure Code. In our opinion neither of these two matters should properly have been taken into consideration in the judicial proceedings in which the accused was called upon to show cause why he should not be prosecuted under Sec. 211 I.P.C., nor is this indeed contested by the Deputy Legal Remembrancer, who appears for the crown. We must, therefore, set aside the order complained of, of the 3rd August 1905, directing the prosecution of the petitioner. We are of opinion that a further enquiry should be made into the petitioner's complaint as the order dismissing the complaint under Sec. 203 Cr. P. C. is, as we have already stated, based in part upon the report made by Mr. Maxwell Smith and in part upon certain statements which were made to the Magistrate when the enquiry under Sec. 202 Cr. P. C. was being carried on. No doubt the reference to Mr. Maxwell Smith was not expressly prohibited by the terms of sec. 202 Cr. P. C., but we think that it is an order which should not have been made upon the principle that a person should not be appointed a Judge in his own cause or in a cause in which he is at all interested The Magistrate in his order stated that Juthan Lal was the Karani or the clerk of Mr. Maxwell Smith of the Majhwa Factory and he says that the accused being a servant of Mr. Maxwell Smith he sent the complaint to him for favour of report. In fact he sent the complaint to Mr. Maxwell Smith upon the very grounds which should have prevented him from doing so. The complaint was one not only against a servant of Mr. Maxwell Smith but in respect of a matter with which to a certain extent Mr. Maxwell Smith was himself concerned, in that the alleged false charge is said to have been made in consequence of a dispute between the accused and Mr. Maxwell Smith. This being so we are of opinion that the matter should not have been sent to Mr. Maxwell Smith for investigation. Next we find in the order of the Magistrate dismissing the complaint that he acts not only upon statements of Mr. Maxwell Smith contained in his report but also upon information given by Mr. Maxwell Smith regarding matters which Mr. Maxwell Smith had himself heard from others, one of such matters being that Mr. Maxwell Smith informed the Magistrate that he had himself been informed that the petitioner had come with carts to remove the bricks and was pulling down the brick field. Having regard to the fact that we intend to allow fresh proceedings, if necessary, to be initiated against the petitioner, we think that the order under sec. 203 dismissing the complaint should also be set aside. We direct that there be a further enquiry by another Magistrate than Mr. Hopkyns into the petitioner's complaint. If upon and after such enquiry the petitioner's complaint is dismissed it will be then open to the Magistrate to again call upon the petitioner to show cause why he should not be prosecuted under section 211 I.P.C. for having preferred a false complaint. We further direct that the complaint of the petitioner be transferred to the file of the District Magistrate to be heard by him or by such other competent Magistrate whom the District Magistrate may appoint."

Colombo, Nov. 3.—A Kandyan villager was brought into the Civil Hospital, Gampola, to-day suffering from a severe gun-shot wound. It appears that another villager, whilst in search of game in the jungle, was what he thought was a wild-fowl, and fired at it. To his astonishment he discovered that he had shot a human being. The headman arrested the villager and took him to the police, with the gun, which is an unlicensed one. The case has been postponed for further inquiry.

The Royal Tour

THE DISEMBERKATION.

The landing and reception of Their Royal Highnesses at the Apollo Bunder, Bombay, provided a series of wonderful and stirring scenes, in which dazzling episodes succeeded each other in rising tones of brilliance. The culmination was reached in the spectacle in the crowded amphitheatre.

At noon, when a salute was fired in honour of the King-Emperor's birthday, the space in the Bunder began to be cleared of the crowd, which witnessed the arrival of the Royal squadron. A little more than an hour later the music of the bands announced that the troops were lining the routes of the Viceregal and Royal Processions. By two o'clock the Chiefs and notables were beginning to arrive in the "shamiana," and the amphitheatre was gradually filling. The sun was very hot, and the people in the open space and along the routes through the city had a warm period of waiting. The guard-of-honour of the Royal Scots arrived and took up a position in the "shamiana," and the Chiefs and high officials succeeded each other, each adding to the mass of gorgeous colour, filling the cool depths of the great tent. By three o'clock there was a rattle of approaching artillery, and the head of the Viceregal procession swung into sight in the Bunder Road. The Viceroy's escort, headed by the Artillery, came up at a smart pace, passing under the decorative gateway and around the amphitheatre in a splendid cavalcade. As the Viceroy's carriage reached the gate the guard-of-honour saluted, the tattered colours of the Royal Scots fluttered out, and the band played God Save the King. After a brief delay the Viceroy and Lady Curzon passed along the path of crimson cloth to the Bunder steps, where members of the Staff had already taken up positions. His Excellency wore a political uniform with the insignia of the Star of India. He looked well, but was still suffering from the cough which has noticeably troubled him since his arrival in Bombay. Lady Curzon appeared charming in a handsome gown of dove-coloured embroidered silk, with a hat and sunshade completely in harmony. Their Excellencies boarded the Indian Marine launch "Bee," and as she prepared to move off towards the "Renown," the saluting battery on the middle ground began a Royal Salute, which was echoed by the "Hyacinth," the other ship of the East Indies Squadron, and the Portuguese ship "St. Gabriel." As the Viceregal launch set out on her journey to the "Renown," the ships were manned, and guards paraded and saluted as the launch drew near. Fifteen minutes after the departure of the Viceroy, the Governor of Bombay arrived and, accompanied by the Bishop, the Chief Justice, and the Members of Government, embarked on the launch "Aida," under a salutation from the middle ground battery. These arrangements were carried out punctually, and with the precision of clockwork. Then ensued a brief period of waiting while the Viceroy was being received on the "Renown" and the Governor of Bombay and the officials with him were being presented to Their Royal Highnesses. The interval was relieved by the arrival and landing of the members of the Royal suite. All of them on ascending the steps were introduced to General Sir Archibald Hunter and others waiting at the head.

At 3-35 Lord Lamington and those accompanying him returned to the shore and took up positions to receive Their Royal Highnesses at the head of the steps. Precisely at 4 o'clock the first gun of a salute from the "Hyacinth" announced to the eagerly waiting crowds that the Prince and Princess were coming off from the "Renown." The salute was taken up by the other ships, and from the fog of dense smoke enveloping the "Renown" and the "Hyacinth," two launches were seen to emerge. For a moment there was a doubt as to the Royal barge. Then a big scarlet launch forged ahead towards the north of the harbour and the other smaller one came straight on towards the Bunder. This, the Royal barge, was painted in bright green and floated the Royal Standard and the White Ensign. The sound of cheering came over the water as the Royal boat passed each of the vessels at anchor. As she headed on gallantly for the landing place, it was seen that she was accompanied by a couple of pinnaces as an escort. Meanwhile a guard-of-honour, consisting of officers of the various regiments now in Bombay and of members of the Viceroy's and Governor's Staffs, had taken up positions on the Bunder steps. Conspicuous among these was His Highness the Maharaja of Idar, Sir Pertab Singh, in the uniform of the Imperial Cadet Corps, of which he is the Commandant. The Prince and Princess were accompanied in the Royal launch by the Viceroy and Lady Curzon, and as His Royal Highness stepped ashore the battery on the Bunder began a Royal Salute, which was repeated by the warships. While the guns roared out their welcome, the Prince and the Viceroy and Her Royal Highness and Lady Curzon crowned the gangway of the landing barge to the steps where the Maharaja of Idar instantly laid his sword at the feet of the Prince and next at the feet of the Princess as she stepped to the land. This graceful and symbolic action was accompanied by a profound obeisance. The officers here gathered and were presented to Their Royal Highnesses, this ceremony affording ample time for excellent views of the Royal landing to be taken by numbers of photographers installed at the Bunder head. Both Their Royal Highnesses appeared to be in excellent health. The Prince of Wales wore the white tropical uniform of an Admiral with the insignia of the Star of India. Her Royal Highness, looking radiant was dressed in white relieved by pale blue trimming and a blue plume in her white toque.

INTRODUCTIONS.

Ascending the steps Their Royal Highnesses were received by the Governor, the Naval Commander-in-Chief, the Bishop of Bombay, the members of Council, and the Lieutenant-General Commanding. Introductions began immediately, Lord Lamington presenting those in the "shamiana" to His Royal Highness. Beginning with the Consular body, the first of the representatives of foreign nations to be presented was the Consul for Germany, who is the "doyen" of the Consular representatives in Bombay. Thereafter the presentations continued throughout the "shamiana", prominent personages, officials, Chiefs and Sardars being introduced in turn. Their Royal Highnesses were clearly impressed by the brilliance of the gathering which here greeted them. The introductions concluded, the Prince of Wales, attended by Sir Archibald Heinley, Commanding the Western Command, and the General Officer Commanding the Bombay Brigade, inspected the guard-of-honour.

A MAGNIFICENT SIGHT.

The officers who had lined the landing steps meanwhile lined the pathway leading from the "shamiana" to the amphitheatre, and when the Royal party came out and ascended the dais it was a magnificent sight that met their eyes. The amphitheatre was crowded with a huge throng, and the lofty buildings which closed in the scene were packed with great numbers of people. The brilliant decorations were completed by the bright uniforms of the Viceroy's and Governor's Bodyguards and of the Cadets of the Rajkumar College in brilliant blue turbans and darker hued tunics who fringed the crowded space. The brilliant company from the "shamiana" filled up the dais in the rear of the Royal party. The Prince and the Viceroy stood in the centre of the dais, with the Princess on the right of His Royal Highness, Lord Lamington on the right of the Princess, and Lady Curzon on the Viceroy's left. The members of the Bombay Corporation waited immediately in front of the dais with the Municipal banner in their midst.

NOTES FROM "CAPITAL."

"Max" writes:—

I feel heartily sorry for Sir Andrew Fraser over this affair of the latest unspeakably silly Carlyle circular. Sir Andrew is naturally bound by the traditions of the Service and must do all he can to stick up for his subordinates when it is at all possible for him to do so, or to cover the retreat of an understrapper when he has been caught doing an extremely foolish thing. This is part of the "dustoor" of his office which a Lieutenant-Governor can hardly get rid of, any more than he can extricate himself from the custom, after vigorously slating an official in a Resolution, of concluding with the customary paragraph thanking the condemned man for the fine work he has done in his department during the year.

* * *

I am not greatly concerned with the manner in which His Honor does his best to tone down and explain away the terms of Mr. Secretary Carlyle's confidential effusion to certain District Magistrates regarding the attitude they were to assume towards demonstrative students. The circular itself was a profound blunder in adminisrative Government. Sir Andrew Fraser himself would never have made such a mistake as to pen such a circular. I believe that none regrets its issue more than he does. And probably by this time Mr. Secretary Carlyle is a very sorry man over the part he has played in the whole exceedingly foolish affair. Mr. Pedlar's letter, with its "Marginally Noted Student," was also another blunder of the first degree. And then we see how one false step leads to another. Carlyle's epistle to Emerson (thanks to my friend "The Statesman" for pointing out the amusing parallel) not on this occasion addressed to Concord, but very far from it seems to have inspired that District Magistrate who conduct perfectly assinine in its character.

* * *

This Emerson of Rungpur proceeds, on a list being furnished to him, at his peremptory request by the head master of the school, of some 60 boys to fine them Rs. 5 each for singing "Bande Mataram." For a Magistrate to try a boy for an imaginary offence in his absence and without hearing the defence; to pass a sentence and inflict a fine in such circumstances, is a most outrageous proceeding on the part of a judge. How does he propose to collect the fines? There is no legal machinery for doing so under such circumstances. During the time when Sir Barnes Peacock was Chief Justice in Bengal, a certain judge of the High Court thought fit to impose a fine of one rupee on a Court official for some little irregularity in connection with some Court document The official felt insulted at being thus treated as a menial servant. Sir Barnes, when the affair was brought to his notice wrote something to the following effect: "Mr. Justice——has fined——the sum of one rupee. How does he propose to collect it? I know of no other way than by deducting it from his salary, and I will take care that no such thing is done. Let the papers be sent back to the learned judge."

* * *

How will His Honor treat this Emerson affair? I do not know, but he would be well advised to let the whole matter drop into oblivion as quickly as possible. Let the circulars and letters referred to be treated as dead. We have no wish that the Carlyle and Emerson of Bengal should be treated according to their sins nor rewarded according to their iniquities. Let His Honor, if he chooses, do as a Scotch judge once did to a prisoner whom he wished to let off, pronounce a sentence of "Not Guilty, but don't do it again." The public are heartily tried of all this bungling business. Let the dead bury their dead. And let the administrative bunglers hide their diminished heads for a season. Let them tarry at Jericho until their beards are grown, or at all events until they cut their wisdom teeth.

The National Fuud.

AN APPEAL.

On the sixteenth day of November current, the National Fund will complete the first month of its auspicious existence. On that day the trustees of the Fund will publicly announce the total amount they have collected so far.

Our humble appeal to our patriotic countrymen, therefore, is that those who have promised contributions to the Fund, to fill up the coffers of the Motherland, but have not been able to do so would be pleased to send in their quota on or before the 16th current positively either by messenger or by postal money order, to the undersigned.

MANMATHA NATH MITRA
34 Shyampukur Street.
PASUPATTY NATH BOSE
65 Bagbazar Street.

It is reported that Board of Directors of the East Indian Railway have decided to raise the salary of its Agent from Rs. 3,500 to Rs.4.000 a month.

The building work in connection with the Congress at Benares is being rapidly pushed forward. The Congress and the Exhibition Committee have employed two engineers. This year's Congress pandal will be original in design. It is to be a two storeyed building, the upper storey to be reserved for ladies and distinguished visitors.

UNITED PROVINCES LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TWO NEW BILLS.

The United Provinces Legislative Council met Lucknow on the 8th His Honour Sir James La Touche presiding. The Hon'ble Mr. Holms, in introducing the Local and Rural Police Rates Bill, said that it was the first part of the measures designed to give greater financial security and clearer administrative powers to the District Boards. The Bill enables Government to make a contract with each Board, on review of the rate income and other receipts and limits appropriations to the cost of certain defined services, such as districts posts and public roads. Boards which will still have surpluses after paying the appropriations will be left with those surpluses and the rest will receive a fixed grant-in-aid to bring their funds up to requirements.

In reply to speeches by hon'ble members, His Honour explained that the reason for continuing the authority to make appropriations was that it was necessary, as far as possible, to equalise the income of District Boards. Government was in correspondence with the Government of India regarding district posts, and His Honour had strong hopes that the Government of India would relieve the District Boards of the charge of district posts.

The motion introducing the Bill was put and agreed to, and the Bill was referred to a Select Committee.

In moving for leave to introduce the District Boards Bill, the Hon'ble Mr. Holms said that the Bill was the complement of the Local and Rural Police Rates Bill. It was proposed to make elections and appointments to District Boards and to abolish the Local Boards, which had been found of very little use. A second change, recommended by Government, was the appointment, as in Madras, of the District Magistrate as ex-officio Chairman.

The Hon'ble Pandit Madan Mohan Malavya said that if powers of electing their own Chairman were taken away from District Boards it would be a retrograde measure. This sentiment was voiced by other speakers, the Hon'ble Rai Sunder Lall Bahadur contending that the result of the measure would be to take away the sense of responsibility which was necessary to the proper conduct of the business of the Boards. The Lieutenant-Governor promised that the questions brought before the Council would be carefully considered in a Select Committee.

The Hon'ble Mr. Holms then introduced the Excise Law Amendment Act Bill, which is designed to give Government power to regulate the use of cocaine, and is on the lines of legislation already introduced in Bombay, Bengal and Burma. The speaker said that some urgency attached to this measure, owing to the prevalence of the cocaine habit in Benares. It was also reported that the habit of using cocaine as an intoxicant had spread to Lucknow, Cawnpore and Saharanpur. It was proposed to declare cocaine an intoxicating drug, and to prohibit its sale except by licensed vendors for medical purposes.

The Bill was referred to a Select Committee, and it was arranged that it should be pasesd at the meeting of the Council early in December.

CENTRAL PROVINCES CROPS.

The second forecast on the prospects of the Til (sesamum) crop of the Central Provinces and Berar, 1905,—states that on an [illegible] ending 1903-04 the [illegible] Provinces and [illegible] 26.10 per [illegible] til per cent [illegible] crop in British [illegible] cast of the 15th August [illegible] condition of the crop up to the 1st week of that month. The present report contains approximate estimates of the area and cutturn of the crop up to the end of September. In the first forecast it was estimated that the area under this crop in the Central Provinces and Berar would be larger than in the previous year, but this expectation has not been realized in Berar. The present estimates forecast for the Central Provinces an area of 886,422 acres, which is 3 per cent. larger than that of the preceding year and 23 per cent, above the average of the 10 years ending 1902-03. The estimate for Berar is 79,189 acres, which is 24 and 31 per cent., respectively, short of last year's area and the decennial average.

The monsoon, though late, was favourable for the sowing of the early variety. The light rainfall in the middle of the monsoon afforded ample opportunities for weeding and favoured the growth of the plants, but heavy and continuous rain in the second half of September greatly impeded sowings of the late variety, which accounts largely for the decrease in the area sown. The extension of cotton cultivation has also diminished the area available for til, especially in Wardha, Nagpur and the Berar districts. In Jubbulpore, Hoshangabad and Nimar, where til is grown to a large extent, the contraction in the area is estimated to be from 2 to 9 per cent., while in Chanda, Raipur and Sambalpur, where the crop is important, the increase in the area sown is from 5 to 12 per cent. The crop suffered somewhat from heavy and continuous rain in September in Mandla, Nagpur, Chanda, Bhandara, Balaghat and Akola. Some damage was also caused by caterpillars in parts of Saugor and Bilaspur, and the crop was partly destroyed by the insect called "katwa" in the Harsud Tahsil of the Nimar District. Insects also caused some damaged in Balaghat.

With the late variety only just appearing above ground, it is impossible to give any reliable forecast of the outturn. The estimates of outturn given in the appended statement are consequently of doubtful accuracy. It is anticipated that Jubbulpore, Betul Chhindwara, Raipur and Sambulpur will reap full crops (120) and nine districts a crop above the normal and the remaining four districts of the Central Provinces a normal crop.

In Berar insufficient rain in the middle of the monsoon and excessive rain in September have each in their turn caused some damage, and the crop is estimated at from 75 to 90. The estimates of the District Officers, combined according to the area under the crop in each district, point to an outturn of 112 per cent. of the normal in the Central Provinces and 31 per cent. in Berar. Favourable conditions during the next two months will probably improved the condition of the crop in districts where the reports are least hopeful. Clear weather has set in since the commencement of the current month, and if no damage is caused by insects or heavy rain, there is reason to hope that the outturn will be above the normal in the Central Provinces and better than that shown against the districts in Berar in the appended statement.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Correspondence.

THE FIRST INDIAN BOYCOTTER OF FOREIGN GOODS.

To The Editor.

Sir,—It may be a news to most of your readers that the first boycotting movement, which is now called the Swadeshi movement on the popular side, began as early as the year 1725 A.D., and the scheme was propounded by a profoundly learned sannyasi who was a native of Bengal and a Brahmin by caste. This eminent Bengalee ascetic was born in the district of Nadia and flourished in the Presidency of Bombay as a great Mahatma and spiritual preceptor of the Mahrattas, the Gujeratees, and the Katiwarees. His name was Gourpada Swami. I hope, the following extracts from the "Nasik Gazetteer," published by the Government of Bombay, will be read by many of your readers with much interest and admiration.

"Gourpada Swami was a Bengal ascetic who lived on the hill (Saptasringa) about 1730 in the time of the second Peshawa Bajirao (1720-1740). He lived in the Kalika tirtna and had many disciples among the Mahratta nobles. One of the chiefs was Chatra Sing Thokoy of Abhona who built the Kalika and Surya reservous. * * * Near the rest-house is the tomb or Samadhi of Sriman Dharmadev, a famous chief of the Dharampore State near Surat who died here while on a visit to his gooroo—a Bengalee ascetic by name Gourpada Swami. The tomb is like the ordinary domed temples of Mahadev and contains a "linga"; it is well built and has some neat carving, but the whole is much out of repair. Near this is the well and the tomb of the ascetic Gourpada Swami."

Here is another extract to prove that the boycott movement was first inaugurated by the Bengali Swami:—

"Nearly thirty miles off from Nasik we visited the (Saptasringa) hill on which the tomb of Gourpada Swami was worshipped by the Mahrattas. Much difficulty is found in forming a correct estimate of the characters of this extraordinary man. He was more of a statesman than of a religious mendicant. His charities were almost unbounded and he usually showed much concern for the welfare of the people. The general tenor of his life was marked by many virtues. He was a patriot and a great scholar. It was he who destroyed the Ostend Trading Company in Bombay and Bengal, and proclaimed a regular crusade against the use of German, French, Danish and English goods by the Hindus and the Mahomedans. During the course of his prolonged sojourn in south India, he lectured on trade and commerce, and persuaded many princes and peoples to solemnly pledge to discard the use of foreign goods."

Such was a Bengalee Sannyasi during the time of the mighty Peshawas. Let us all imitate the unflinching zeal, the uncommon perseverance, the unswerving energy, the indefatigable labours and the unselfish patriotism of Swami Gourpada, and be prepared to hazard our lives for the sacred and sublime cause of the Swadeshi movement which I believe to be a cause of righteousness.

Dharmananda Mahavarati.

THE ALLEGED POLICE ZULOOM CASE.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Khulna, Nov. 4

I stated in my last [illegible] tions filed on behalf of the Prosecution in the above sensational case were rejected by the trying Magistrate, and how at last he agreed to [illegible] the case for a week and fix the 7th instant for further hearing. To-day, Babu Kunja Behari Mukerjee with Babus Provas Chandra Chatterjee and Jyotish Chandra Ghosh, pleaders, moved the District Magistrate on behalf of Durga Charan Baity, the complainant, for transfer of the case to the file of some Magistrate other than the trying one on grounds which have already been reported in my previous communications. As the result of this motion the District Magistrate has called for a report from Babu Gyanendra Nath Pal, the Senior Dy. Magistrate, and has ordered for the issue of a notice on the accused—who as our readers know, are the two Sub-Inspectors of Police of the Kotwali thana—to show cause why the case should not be transferred to some other court. He has also stayed further proceedings of the case. The 7th current stands fixed for the hearing of the application.

Govt of India Press

ENQUIRY BY MR. HEWETT.

The Hon'ble Mr. Hewett who has specially come down from Simla to enquire into the grievances of compositors and pressmen of the India Government Press and the causes which led to the lock-out, has we understand nearly completed his enquiry. The men at first wanted that they should be represented by Mr. A. K. Ghosh, but Mr. Hewett did not accede to this request. He, however, gave them sufficient guarantee that the enquiry would be fair and impartial. As suggested by the men a Bengali clerk of his office acted as interpreter. By appointment six of the men as representatives of the various departments of the Press went to see Mr. Hewett on Friday and the enquiry was held in their presence. One by one he enquired what grievances they had other than those included in their petition. The enquiry lasted for about 2 hours. The result is not known, but he assured the men that orders would be passed within two or three days and the men would be informed through the Superintendent.

Though the result of the enquiry is not out, we, however, learn that the authorities are not willing to take back the 7 men who were dismissed for attending the compositor's meetings, and it is also said that the body of compositors are determined not to join office unless those dismissed are re-admitted.

The Bombay High Court re-opened on Monday last after the October Vacation.

The draft bill to amend the Presidency Banks Act will shortly be sent home for the approval of the India Office.

A Kulu correspondent writes: The Duff Dunbar suspension bridge, rebuilt by the 1st Sappers and Miners, has again been cracked badly by the earthquake which occurred on the 23rd ultimo. The road between Largi and Mangalaur is also blocked and rendered impassable for mule traffic; and for eight days and nights large boulders, the size of cotton bales, have been thundering down from a height of 2,000ft.

The Bankura Outrage case.

JUDGEMENT.

The following is the full text of the judgment delivered in the above case and referred to in our editorial column:—

Charge:—The two accused have been charged with having used criminal force to the complainant Raimoni Dassi on the 2nd August, 1905, knowing it likely that they would thereby outrage her modesty, and further with having wrongfully confined the complainant the said Raimoni Dassi in the break-van of the Railway train of which the first accused was the driver and the second accused the fireman.

Case for the Prosecution:—The prosecution alleges that on the 2nd August, 1905, at about 2-30 p. m., while the complainant, a young girl of about 15 years of age, was washing utensils in a ditch about 10 cubits off the rail road (at a place called Lapoor between the Railway stations of Bishenpore and Onda on the Bengal Nagpur Railway) after supplying the midday meal to her father-in-law, her husband and her other relatives, who were transplanting seedlings on their fields at a distance, an up goods train came in her sight. Seeing the train coming, the complainant stood up and was watching the train pass out of girlish curiosity about 10 cubits off the line. According to her, the first accused who was the driver to the train beckoned to her to come. She was frightened and moved towards the field away from the line, when the train was suddenly stopped. The complainant seeing the first accused come after her, began to run away but was overtaken by him on a field about 40 cubits from the line. She then cried aloud when the alarm was raised by P. W. 1. The first accused forcibly dragged her some way when the 2nd accused (who was the fireman to the engine), the guard and the brakeman got down from the train and they with the first accused all forcibly put the complainant into the brakevan and carried her off to the next station, Ondagram, where they made her over to the Station Master.

Meanwhile the alarm having been taken up, two of the complainants' relations pursued the train and reached the Ondagram station a little after the train had left.

Statements of the accused:—The accused in their examination say that the woman was lying on the line to commit suicide, when the first accused stopped the train, and ordered the second accused to seize her, which order the second accused obeyed. The complainant was put to the brakevan by the second accused.

Points for determination:—The points for determination are:—(i) Whether the accused used any criminal force to the complainant, (ii) whether they knew it likely that the use of such force would outrage her modesty and (iii) whether the accused wrongfully confined the complainant in the brakevan of the train, between the time of her arrest and the making over of her to the Station Master of Ondagram.

Decisions thereon:—The decision of the Court on each of the above points is in the affirmative.

Reasons: First Point:—It is evident from the evidence of the eye-witnesses (Nos. I, II III and IV) for the prosecution that the first accused got down from the engine, chased the complainant who was running away, caught hold of her, and forcibly dragged her, when the 2nd accused, the guard and the brakeman joined him.

The second accused admits having seized the complainant but under orders from the 1st.

[illegible] the first accused in his examination disclaims having actually seized the complainant, his own witness (D. W. II and D. W. IV) depose having seen him actually seize her when first discovered. The complainant's story that she sobbed, cried and struggled with the first accused is corroborated not only by the prosecution but by the defence (D. W's. II, III and IV), some of whom (D. W's. III and IV) go so far as to say that she begged them to let her go as she did nothing. The deliberate arrest and forcibly dragging the complainant to the brakevan against her will and in spite of her entreaties show that both the accused intentionally used force to her. From her plight at the time, it appears that she was not only frightened and annoyed and injured by the action of the accused but that the action of the accused amounted to something graver than using criminal force as detailed below.

Second Point:—It has been established by the prosecution that the complainant belongs to respectable middle class society, and that like one belonging to that class always appeared in veil in public. It is also on record that the females of this class in the village of occurrence take meals to the fields for their relatives who work or supervise the work thereon. The above points have not been challenged by the defence at all. It has been proved by the prosecution that while the accused were catching hold of the complainant, they used such force that not only her veil but the clothes on the upper part of her person fell off. The latter surely is looked upon as an outrage to the modesty to women of any civilized country. In a country where pulling up of a woman's veil is looked upon as an outrage to female modesty, the accused were surely aware that not only this but their using such force as exposed the upper part of her person, was surely an outrage to her modesty. It also appears from the evidence for the prosecution as well as of the defence, that the complainant was forcibly lifted up to the brakevan. From the uncontradicted evidence for the prosecution, it appears that the two accused, the guard and the brakeman lifted the complainant there per force. D. W. II says that the trolleyman (D. W. III) and the brakeman (D. W. IV) lifted her therein. But D. W. III denies having taken any part in the affair, and this agrees with the story for the prosecution. D. W. IV contradicts the trolleyman and the guard and says that he himself alone caught the waist of the girl, and lifted her to the van in spite of rer entreaties. As the evidence on this point is confused by the defence, the Court accepts the story for the prosecution, that all four lifted the girl to the brakevan per force. The brakevan was about a man's height, and from the way she was handled by the waist as well as by other parts of her person, it will be obvious that her modesty was outraged.

Third Point:—The fact that the complainant was carried to the brakevan and confined therein is admitted by the defence. Again it has been pointed out that the complainant struggled, sobbed and begged to be let off when forced therein. This shows that she was prevented from going beyond the confines of the brakevan having been put therein per force. When once there, the train let off, she could not possibly have jumped off the train at the risk of her life.

Justification of the accused:—From the above, it will be seen that the main facts of the case, viz., of the arrest of the complainant by the accused, their forcibly dragging her against her will, their forcibly lifting her to the brakevan and confining her therein in spite of her protests are points admitted by the defence. It now remains to be seen what justification the accused had in their conduct.

When a young girl is run after by, is caught, and becomes the subject of force and restraint at the hands of a young man of the age of the 1st accused, and subsequently molested and confined by him and others, the burden of proof that the motive of the accused was innocent or actuated by good faith lies on the defence. If the motive be innocent, then the outrage to the modesty amounts to a mere technicality.

Plea of the accused:—The accused plead that the girl was "sleeping" on the line as will appear from Exbt. A. signed both by the 1st accused and by the guard (D. W. II). There is absolutely no evidence to corroborate their theory. Not an iota of evidence has been adduced by the defence to support this. True it may be that the 1st accused has been telling the story of the girl's attempt to commit suicide by sleeping on the rails from the time he was discovered catching hold of the complainant till his arrival at Ondagram. But this appears to be to find an excuse for his own conduct. For, first of all there must be some motive for the girl to commit suicide. According to the prosecution whose witnesses were very searchingly cross-examined by the ablest pleader of the local bar, who defended the accused—the complainant was a chaste and good girl perfectly happy with her husband and his relations and dearly loved by all of them. Previous to this incident, there was no threat, or no attempt by her, no talk nor even any rumour of her ever attempting to commit suicide. There is a total absence of any motive for her—a young girl of 15—to commit suicide and none has been suggested nor even ascribed nor sought to be proved by the defence. Secondly had the girl been bent on committing suicide, she would not have possibly selected a fine afternoon for the act, when her relations and other cultivators were working around the place of occurrence. No quarrel or no misunderstanding took place immediately before the occurrence for attempting a speedy suicide in broad daylight. Thirdly to sleep on the rails when they are very hot after a whole day's fierce sun is not a comfortable idea, as also according to P. W. V there is no place for sleeping on the rails. Fourthly the suggestion that the complainant was sleeping there is not a sustained story. D. W. I says that the 1st accused did not tell him in what way the complainant attempted to commit suicide. D. W. II says that the 1st accused told him while discovered with the complainant that she threw herself on the line as the train was approaching her Surely throwing one'sself on the rails at the approach of a train — not sleeping thereon.

The complainant had been telling the one story of her forcible capture for nothing even to the witnesses for the defence from the very beginning of the case and her story is borne out by her witnesses.

Again D. W. III did not hear of the theory of attempted suicide. He was the only eye witness who was not accused of any offence. The rest of the eye-witnesses of the defence were more or less implicated with the case, and hence their story should be accepted with great hesitation unless corroborated by independent evidence. They were all railway servants probably waiting to save the accused as well as themselves as much as possible. This will be evident from the admission of D. W. II that he attended the Court on the days of hearing of the case.

Motive of the accused:—It has been pressed by the defence, that as the complainant herself says in the first information she lodged with the Police (Exbt. I) that she was not ravished, the accused arrested her as she was attempting to commit suicide. It has been shown above tat the theory of attempt at suicide does not bear scrutiny Apart from the unwillingness of a Hindu girl to admit having been ravished by any one—far less by a Christian—lest she be outcasted and sunned by society for ever and given up by her husband, there are circumstances in this case, which made it impossible for the 1st accused to ravish her. It appears from the defence that they did not notice any one around or at the place of occurrence. The unchallenged testimony of the complainant that the 1st accused beckoned her to come and the subsequent stoppage of the train and other acts seem to be plausible facts, as the 1st accused was probably under the impression—like his own witnesses—that as there was none in the fields, his outrage on the girl could not be seen by outsiders. But as the girl being frightened ran away, the 1st accused also ran after her even then probably not noticing any outsiders on the fields. But as soon as he caught hold of the girl, she cried out and the alarm was raised by P. W. I to the cultivators working around. Apprehending the danger of having been seen the first accused could not proceed further in his act than the catching hold of the girl. At the same time, if this part of the story of the defence be believed the guard and the other railway employees in the train got down to see what had happened on account of the sudden stoppage of the train and discovered the girl in the clutches of the 1st accused, who had no alternative than to invent the story of her sleeping on the rails (for his own safety), with the admitted result that she was forcibly put into the train. The villagers could not come to the rescue as will appear from their evidence being terrified at the sight of the Guard and the Driver and the train having started immediately. The matter having been known the relatives of the complainant ran after the train and reached the Ondagram Station after the train had left. The accused probably feared that had he let off the complainant at the place of occurrence, the charge against him would have been all the more strong and hence he being confounded, invented the absurd theory of her sleeping on the rails.

The second accused:—As regards the second accused who was working with the first as a fireman on the engine, the only inference that can be drawn is that he was cognizant with the motives of the 1st accused who left the engine before him. As soon as he scented danger for the 1st accused, he also got down to render what help he could in securing the girl and in putting her to the brakevan as soon as possible.

The petition of compromise:—A word or two may be necessary on the petition marked Exht. B. It was alleged to have been filed by the complainant wanting to compound the case under s. 342 I. P. C. But the complainant who was searchingly examined on the point denies any knowledge whatever of the petition. The Muktear who was said to have identified the complainant says that the complainant did not consent to have the case compounded and that it was never read out to her. Probably it was an attempt to have the case compounded on the part of others who had no legal locus standi to do so. The value of the petition however amounts to nothing, when it is remembered that it was filed after the Dt. Magistrate on going through the complaint ordered the Court Sub-Inspector to add the charge under section 354 I. P. C. and the accused were being tried under that charge and under section 342 I. P. C. Moreover a mere glance at the complainant's first information will show that she complained of violence having been used to her, though she was not actually ravished. Her deposition in court supports the complaint she lodged with the Police and there is ample independent evidence to show that the case comes under section 354 I. P. C.

Conclusion.—For the above reasons, I find that there was no justification for the first accused to use criminal force to the complainant and to confine her in the brakevan. His actions have amounted to an outrage to the modesty of the complainant, and her wrongful confinement. The second accused has deliberately assisted the first in his acts, knowing that there was no justification in them, and is therefore as much guilty as the first. I therefore find both of them guilty under sections 354 and 342 I.P.C.

Sentence:—As regards the sentence, the Court takes into consideration the facts that the father of the first accused had been a Deputy Assistant Commissary on the Madras Establishment of H. M's. Indian Military Force, as will appear from the warrant of appointment filed by the 1st accused. He has been put to some pecuniary loss in having had to defend his case by the ablest pleaders of the bar and a large number of Muktears. Moreover any sentence of conviction will mean loss of present employment for him and social stigma.

After therefore giving the case a most careful and anxious consideration, the Court direct that the first accused Robert Baillie Forsyth be made to undergo simple imprisonment for one month and to pay a fine of Rupees two hundred only (in default to undergo one month's additional simple imprisonment), and the second accused Najir Sheikh to undergo one month's rigorous imprisonment sections 354 and 342 I.P.C.

The 21st October, 1905.

(Sd.) Charu Chandra Mukerji,
Deputy Magistrate.

Bankura,

Alleged abuse by a Ticket Collector

A "BANDE MATARAM" INCIDENT.

ATTITUDE OF THE E. B. S. R. AUTHORITIES.

On the 16th October last, when people were pouring down to Calcutta from different parts of the country in order that they might be present at the meeting in the house of our esteemed fellow-townsman, Roy Pashuputty Nath Bose, there occurred at the Belliaghata station what but for certain fortunate circumstances would have resulted in a very serious riot. Some of the passengers of the train which reached the Belliaghata station at 5 p.m. shouted out "Bande Mataram" on its arrival. This appears to have disturbed the mental equilibrium of a Eurasian Platform Inspector of the name of Hayes. Why of all men a member of the Eurasian class should be agitated or exercised at the mention of "Bande Mataram" it is, for obvious reasons, difficult to conceive. Mr. Hayes upon hearing what has become the national cry alike of the Hindus and the Mahomedans in Bengal, is reported to have used such language as would perhaps bring the blush of shame on the cheeks of a great many of even his denomination. He exclaimed, as will appear from the evidence of some of the passengers, that the Bengalees are "sons of * * * and deserve to be hammered." This matter was brought to the notice of the railway authorities by Babu Mohendra Nath Mukherjee, a Government pensioner (from the Mint) and Secretary of the Passengers' Association, and also by Babu Kally Charan Sanyal, a legal practitioner of the Sealdah Police Court, by separate letters. Surprisingly enough the Traffic Superintendent of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, without hearing what Mohendra Babu or any body else, who was present on the occasion, had to say, wrote back to say that nothing had happened. To this Mohendra Babu replied that he was not aware of any "bona fide" inquiry being held in this case "as none of the passengers had been called upon to be present at the investigation with the witnesses to prove the serious allegation against Mr. Hayes. Upon this the Traffic Superintendent agreed to reopen the question but on the following condition:—

"I beg to inform you that the Railway is not prepared to hear counsel, but will record depositions of persons who heard the expression used by Mr. Hayes; not second-hand, but direct from Mr. Hayes' lips."

Mohendra Babu with a number of witnesses and accompanied by Mr. A. C. Banerjee, Bar-at-Law, went to the Belliaghata station last Monday—the day fixed for the inquiry. On their arrival there, they were met by two Railway officials the name of one of whom it appears, is Mr. Murray Mr. Banerjee said that he was brought there not to address them on behalf of the Passengers' Association, but to be present at the inquiry so that he might put or suggest questions, if necessary, to enable the parties concerned to get at the real truth. Mr. Murray, for reasons best known to himself, said that he would not allow that. To this Mr. Banerjee asked what objection there could be to the procedure suggested by him if the Railway authorities were really anxious to get the truth. He was, however, told that it would lead to a good deal of waste of time. This, however, led Mr. Banerjee to point out to the two Railway officials some what indignantly that he did not know whether or not they had any training in eliciting evidence; that he presumed that they had none while he had, and that if the real intention of the Railway authorities was not to whitewash a fault but to get at the whole truth there could be no earthly objection to allowing him to interrogate the witnesses if necessary. It would lead to save time and not to waste it. After considerable discussion the Railway officials agreed to allow him to be present and take down the evidence. The following is among the evidence taken down by him:—

Beni Madhab Mukherjee, Asst. Station Master, Belliaghata.—I was on day duty on the 16th October. Some 40 or 50 men were passing along the road, shouting "Bande Mataram"; at about 12 or 1 o'clock, when hearing the cry I came out. Mr. Hayes who was then waiting behind me said that these Bengalees were sons of * * * and should be hammered for making this row.

(Mr. Murray—we don't want this.)

Q.—Was there any train near the platform or passenger there?

.—No. But there were other Railway officials.

(Cross-examined by Mr. Murray.)

Q.—Did you hear Mr. Hayes use abusive language between 4 and 5 p.m?

A.—No, as I was at the other end of the platform, but I heard (stopped.)

Mr. Murray.—We need not take down the 1st portion of his evidence as it was nothing to do with the enquiry.

(N. B.—Ye plea of Mr. Hayes being that his observations were directed against a few Bengalees, with whom he had some dispute and regarding whom he was talking to one or two of his confreres).

Kally Ch. Sanyal.—I am a Legal practitioner, Sealdah Police Court. When I got down here at about 5 p.m. in front of the booking office some passengers on getting out of the train, cried out "Bande Mataram". One Eurasian standing near the clock on the platform, whom I subsequently discovered to be the Platform Inspector of this station, and whom I have seen even just now in the station, seemed to have been enraged by these words and he was abusing the passengers saying the Bengalees are sons of * * * and deserve to be hammered." He repeated these words and used other words also which I do not remember. I did not care to notice the other words as these sufficiently enraged me. At that time I saw this gentleman (pointing to Babu Mahendra Nath Mukerjee) and called the attention of other gentlemen also. Then we tried to find out the Station Master but we heard that he was not at the station. Then we concluded to report the matter to the Head office at Seealdah and to the District officers. This gentleman (Babu Mohendra Nath Mukerjee) having undertaken to do so, we gave him our names and addresses.

Mohendra Nath Mukerjee, (Govt. pensioner from the Mint).—I missed the 4-40 p.m. train and being too ill I was waiting in the intermediate waiting-room for the next train which leaves here at 5-40. Shortly after, an up-train came in and some passengers cried out "Bande Mataram" from the breakvan side. That noise attracted me and I went and stood near the door of the waiting-room. I found Mr. Hayes standing close to the intermediate ticket-room where the clock was, facing southwards towards the brakevan. No sooner than was the cry made that gentleman said that "natives are sons of * * * and they should be hammered." Some passengers alighted opposite to where he stood. I called them to come and see me in order that I might inquire if they had also heard these words. They came out to meet me outside the station alongside of the railthem and asked me what could be done in this case. I told them to seek for the Station Master and report the matter. One porter was asked if the Station Master was in the station, but he unfortunately told us that he was not in the station. We made up our mind to report the matter to the District Traffic Superintendent. When the 5-40 train was at the platform I came upon the platform to catch it and found a tall gentleman, who afterwards, I discovered, was the Traffic Inspector, making a row with one of the clerks of the District Traffic Superintendent's office, which led me to proceed to the spot with several other passengers. One out of those who accompanied me and who intended to travel by the down train, shouted "Bande Mataram". The Traffic Inspector lost his temper at this and drove away the passengers in a very rough tone. I can recognise the T. I. although I came to find out who he was afterwards. When the T. I. and T. office Babu were talking there were several of the station staff, and no other passengers were there. After this I got into the train.

(Cross examined by Mr. Murray.)

I knew Hayes as I was a daily passenger, and I knew who he was. I did not make any reference to Hayes personally either at the time or subsequently in this connection. The words I have given are exactly the words he used.

(A document shown.)

This was signed by me. The words "Bengalees are big fools" I did not myself hear but I was told by others that Hayes had used them. Some passengers said that the words "Bengalees are big fools" had also been uttered. My not hearing these words may be accounted for by the possibility of the noise of the Engine and the rush of passengers.

Bishnu Ch. Bannerjee.—I am a Booking clerk here. I was at the intermediate ticket-window. Few of the passengers, about 4 or 5, came and told me that the Platform Inspector had abused them by saying "these Bengalees are sons of * * and they should be hammered." I told them to go to the Station Master as I had nothing to do with it. Handing the cash to the Head Booking Clerk I was going out when I saw the Head Booking clerk and I told him what the passengers were complaining. Then he asked me what all that was about and I explained to him everything. (To Mr. Murray) I heard nothing of the abusive language myself.

(Here Mr. Murray stopped him by saying "We don't want your evidence.")

Witness added "one Manmatha Babu came and asked me if what was being complained of was true. When I said that people had been complaining against Hayes, he said, "well, in that case it would be best to report the matter and not to create a row in the station."

Radhica Prosad Moitra.—I am a pleader of Alipur Judge's Court, but I practice in the Munsiff's Court at Baruipur. I arrived here at 5 p.m. by up-train. Near the gate through which intermediate passengers pass a gentleman was using abusive language. He shouted, "These are all sons of * * * and ought to be hammered," As I was going away this gentleman (pointing to Mohendra Babu) called me and others and asked me and others what could be done. Then he enquired whether the station master was present or not, and learnt that he was not present. It was settled that the matter should be reported to the Railway authorities, and he took our addresses.

(Cross-examined.)

Near the gate where tickets are collected there was, as usual, a rush of passengers and I was detained for about 5 or 10 minutes. I heard Hayes use those words perhaps once,—only once. He, however, made use of other abusive language in a softer tone. I do not remember if any European or Eurasian was standing near Hayes at the time.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

TALE OF THE HAUNTED HOUSE.

The "Occult Review" publishes the following communicated by a reader. It is striking and certainly gruesome. She writes:—

I was told the following remarkable story of a haunted house by Mrs. Lascelles, mother of Captain Lascelles, the whilom tenant. The Editor has the real names of those concerned, with the exception of the servant, whose name and address are at present unknown to me. Mrs. Lascelles is a woman of the world and not at all the type usually associated with foolish belief in the "not understood."

Captain Lascelles and his wife, on their return from a prolonged tour in the East, decided to live for a time in town, and after much searching selected a charming house in a well-known quarter. It had not been occupied for some time (for which an excellent reason was given), was in good order, and gave promise of being in all ways a delightful home. Servants were engaged among others an excellent cook, a capable and steady Scotswoman.

Captain Lascelles as a thoughtful and literary man found in a fine library the surroundings fitted to his taste, and spent much of the late evenings there in study and writing. Mrs. Lascelles, a rather delicate woman, retired very early.

AN UNKNOWN PRESENCE.

The first few evenings, from ten to midnight, passed without incident of a definite kind. But Captain Lascelles found himself constantly interrupted in his thought by a feeling of not being alone in the room, so much so that he once or twice turned in his Voltaire chair to see if by any chance his wife had entered the room quietly. It was large and thickly carpeted, and the writing table occupied a recess. There was no one, and he attributed the sensation to fatigue and the sudden change from a busy wandering life to one quiet and contemplative. But the curious sense of presence continued with the gradual addition of what is called "Fear" in a weak nature, but needs some other name in a strong man of balanced mind and judgment. Strange thoughts of misery and evil ran counter to the literary vein of reflection, madness, and violence seemed to cloud the reasoning faculty, as of some subtle poison fumes in the physical atmosphere. A voice without words, a sound vibrated in the room, and once or twice he felt as if some one leaned over him with menace and horrible suggestion of violent death. One evening the intensity of the mysterious presence overpowered his self-possession; with contempt for his own cowardice, he closed the book he had tried to read and study, extinguished the lights, and hurriedly left the room. He found his wife still awake, but made no excuse for his early appearance. After two or three hours' sleep he woke suddenly with a sense of hideous danger, to feel that something was bending over him, with that malignant silent suggestion of embodied evil. Cold with terror, he heard the little dog which slept in a basket in the dressing room whining and barking. Mastering his fear by great self-control, Captain Lascelles turned on the electric light, sprang out of bed and went towards the dog's basket. "Sprite" stood there trembling and looked with glaring eyes to the door which opened on the corridor. He paid no attention to his master, and evidently saw something invisible to Captain Lascelles. Mrs. Lascelles, now awake asked her husband what was the matter. He took the frightened little dog in his arms, came back to the bedroom and said: "Upon my soul, Grace, I don't know! But it is something 'uncanny,' and I feel ashamed to say that I wish to leave the light burning." And he told her of his experience in the library. Though delicate, she was not a timid or nervous woman. And whatever the horror was, it had no power over her, she felt neither fear nor uneasiness.

THE SHAPE OF SIN.

Next morning brought a climax. The cook after the orders for the day were given told Mrs. Lascelles she wished to leave at once. "I have no fault ma'am, with the place or the other servants, but I cannot stay here."

"Will you not tell me your reason, Mrs. M'Laren?" said her mistress. "Perhaps I can make matters right for you. I am unwilling to part with such a good servant as you are."

"You cannot do anything ma'am; it is the house, I cannot stay in it."

At last, after much persuasion, Mrs. Lascelles induced her to give the real reason.

"This house is haunted, ma'am; I have the second-sight and I saw it." In evident distress, she told her mistress that repeatedly the kitchen door would swing slowly open, and a dreadful face with bloodshot eyes and a great gash across the throat looked in. Then the door fell to again. The other maids thought it was a draught, or creaked hinges, and Mrs. M'Laren said nothing to them. And in her bedroom the previous night she heard "Sprite" bark, and saw again the awful face near her bed. "Now, ma'am I know, for 'the sight' gives me knowledge, that it is a Shape of Sin that is lonely and wants another's self-destruction. Then there would be two together. You must leave the house at once, you must not bide here. I have 'the sight,' and I know I speak true."

Mrs. Lascelles, deeply impressed, asked her husband to come to hear the strange tale. Mrs. M'Laren added, "When the wee dog barked last night, sir, I tell you it saw what I did. It was no fear of the living, it was just that awful Shape that was stealing in on you and the mistress."

Captain Lascelles told her of the feeling he had had in the library. "It is just the same thing, sir, but you only feel; I see! Oh, sir, I beg you, go right away or some awful thing will happen here".

THE PREVIOUS TENANT.

Captain Lascelles had seen too much to doubt the woman's earnestness and real distress. The memory of his own feelings also helped him to the instant decision to leave the house at once. The servants were sent away on board wages, and he and Mrs. Lascelles went to a bachelor friend who lived not far from—'s Gate. A scientific man with much interest in the supernormal, he urged Captain Lascelles to go with him to see a medium, whose name is well-known to the Society of Psychical Research. This they did without delay. The medium was told nothing more than that one of the gentlemen wished her to tell him what he was to do. Entranced she said in a slow monotonous voice. "A fine house and two dwell in it. But another is there that is the Son of Death and Sin. Death and Violence walk there in form to be seen by the other sight. That Shape seeks companionship in Sin—which is Hell. Set no foot there again, leave it for ever, or madness will seize you, suicide be your doom. The little dog was wiser than you were; it saw, that night it barked in the next room." Now no mention had been made of anything of this. How did the medium know of the dog and its terror?"

After this interview Captain Lascelles went to the landlord, and told him he did not intend to occupy the house, although he would pay the rent. The man looked perturbed, and Captain Lascelles drew a bow at a venture. "Why did you not tell me the house was haunted?"

"Because I did not believe it. I thought it nonsense when the last tenant said the same thing as you do. It remained empty for some time, then I had the whole place done up. And refurnished the library," he added.

"Why did you do that?" queried Captain Lascelles. "Was it there your previous tenant committed suicide?"

"How did you know that?" said the landlord in amazement. Then Captain Lascelles told him the story. He confessed it was quite true: a previous tenant, with a very evil reputation, cut his throat after trying to murder a friend. Captain Lascelles never again entered the house:

Alleged Students' Case at Madaripur

At a students' meeting held at College Square on Thursday evening under the presidency of Babu Naresh Chandra Sen M. A., B. L., the following resolution was passed:—"That the students of Calcutta do express their hearty sympathy with the students of Madaripur for the trouble they have been put to, and that a telegram to this effect be sent to them by this meeting." (The following is the text of the telegram:—"Calcutta students fully sympathise in your distress. Never bring disgrace to the student community. Don't yield. Declare for a National University. Whole Calcutta is at your back. Special thanks to the Head Master.")

In moving this resolution Babu Khiti Mohan Sen narrated an incident which had happened at Madaripur. A European employe of Messrs. Landale, Clark and Co, Madaripur, while passing along the road came across a student of the local H. E. School, who was on his way back home from the school, and pulled the latter's umbrella from behind his back. The boy thought that some school boy was doing so in jest and he held it fast. This enraged the adventurous white gentleman and he snatched away the umbrella from the boy's feeble grasp. The boy tried to offer resistance but was thrown down on the ground caught hold of by the Shahib's chaprasies and beaten black and blue. But even this did not satisfy the Shahib. He sent for the Head Master alleging that some of the latter's boys had insulted him and that he wanted to inflict on them condign punishment.

The Head Master replied courteously that he had heard a different version of the case and that, if necessary, the European might come and see him. The white man demurred at this reply. In the meantime a Chaprasi of his who had gone out on some errand came back and reported to his master that he had been beaten by somebody. The master at once reported the matter to the authorities. Upon this the Inspector of Schools came down to Madaripur to hold a departmental enquiry. Mr. Stapleton, the Inspector, asked the Head Master to find out the offenders. The latter replied that he could do so if the matter were entrusted to his hands. On this Mr. Stapleton took a rather extraordinary action. He thought that the offence must have been committed by the students of the upper forms of the school and he decided that they should pay two hundred rupees to the Chaprasi in question. Strong exception was taken to this procedure and in consequence the Inspector after some discussion and cogitation came down to Rs. 25. And the Company referred to above were communicated with. Meanwhile, however, down came a mandate from the ruler of the new Province that the boys of the first third classes should be fined Rs. 150 and the fine should be made over to the Government and that the Head Master should whip the boys concerned in the presence of the Sub-divisional Officer of Madaripur.

The motion being duly seconded, supported and carried Babu Sachindra Prosad Bose proposed that a congratulatory telegram be sent to the Head Master of the Madaripur H. E. School for the strong sense of justice and moral courage displayed by him in connection with this case. This motion too was duly carried.

At the close of the meeting Babu Phani Bhusan Banerjee announced that Babu Subodh Chandra Mullick had offered one lakh of Rupees towards the establishment of a "National University". This welcome intelligence was received with tremendous shouts of "Bande Mataram."

After Babu Ramakanta Roy and the President had addressed the meeting the gathering dispersed.

About 70 lakhs of tolahs of silver have been purchased by the Government of India during the past week for immediate coinage into rupees.

Kolangarath Velu Nair, amshom peon of Kotal Amshom, Calicut, was fatally mauled by a tiger on Monday last.

An important fothcoming work of the Imperial Meteorological Department is a meteorological and climatological atlas of India, the preparation of which is in the hands of Sir John Eliot, K. C. I. E., the late Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India, who is now at Home on retirement. Messrs. Bartholomew, the well-known Edinburgh publishers, have been entrusted with the publication of the atlas.

A man named Hughes was on the 6th sentenced by the District Magistrate of Bangalore to six months rigorous imprisonment, for forging a signature and thereby obtaining money on false pretences from various residents of the Station. It appeared that Hughes had drawn up a petition purporting to be from a woman in poor health and with two children, who wished for the journey-money to join her husband at some distant station. In the petition it was asserted that the Friend in Need Society was advancing half the money. The scheme worked gaily until a doubtful resident wrote to General Fisher on the subject, when the fraud was exposed and Hughes arrested by the Police and made an example of.

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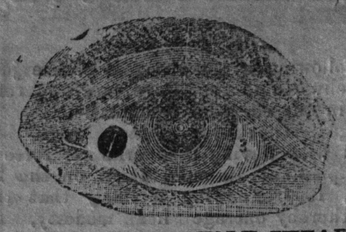

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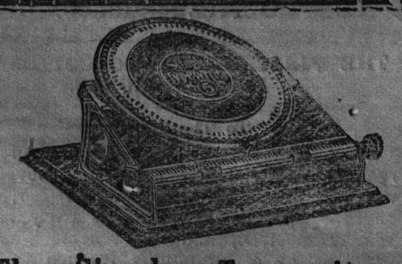

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THE EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM GAZETTE, NOV. 4.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Mr. A. H. Cuming, I.C.S., on return from leave, is appointed to officiate as Magistrate and Collector, Rangpur.

Mr. T. Emerson, I.C.S., Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Rangpur, is appointed to officiate as Magistrate and Collector, Rashahi.

Mr. L. O. Clarke, I.C.S., on return from leave, is appointed to officiate as Magistrate and Collector, Mymensingh.

Mr. Surjya Kumar Agasti, Statutory Civilian, is appointed to be Magistrate and Collector, Pabna.

Mr. A. E. Harward, I.C.S., is appointed to be District and Sessions Judge, Mymensingh.

Mr. H. C. Gordon, District Superintendent of Police, on return from leave, is posted to the Noakhali district.

Babu Umaprasanna Guha, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahi, is appointed to act temporarily as Magistrate and Collector of that district.

The Lieutenant-Gobernor accepts the resignation tendered by Babu Ishan Chandra Das of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate of the Sadar Independent Bench in the district of Faridpur.

Maulvi Abu Nasr Muhammad Oheed, M.A., Professor of Arabic, Persian and Hindustani in the Cotton College, Gauhati, is transferred to Dacca and appointed to be Superintendent of the Dacca Madrasah.

Mr. J. F. Dickinson, Asst Supdt. of Police, Backergunge, is granted privilege leave for two months.

Srijut Rajani Kanta Bardalai, Extra Assistant Commissioner, on being relieved of his duties of Assistant Settlement Officer, Sibsagar, is transferred to Jorhat.

Babu Subodh Chandra Ray is appointed to be an Assistant Superintendent of Survey in the districts of Backergunge and Faridpur. He is also appointed to be an Assistant Settlement Officer in the districts of Backergunge and Faridpur.

Mr. S. N. Mackenzie, I.C.S., Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to have charge of the Narainganj sub-dibision of the Dacca district. This cancels the Notification posting Mr. H. K. Briscoe, I.C.S., to Narainganj.

Mr. H. K. Briscoe, I.C.S., Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to have charge of the Madaripur Sub-division of the Faridpur district.

Moulvi Abdul Mozuffar Ahmed, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is transferred to the Madaripur sub-division of the Faridpur district.

Moulvi Abul Mozuffar Ahmed, Deputy Magistrate, is appointed to be a Magistrate of the 1st class.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Promotho Nath Chatterjee, Munsif, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge, Chittagong.

The gentlemen named below are re-appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Independent Bench at Netrakona in the district of Mymensingh.—Babus Sachindra Kumar Ghosh and Harendra Nath Mazumdar.

SUBORDINATE CIVIL SERVICE.

The following transfers of Deputy Inspectors of Schools are ordered in supersession of the Assam Administration Notifications Nos. 6279G. and 6280G dated the 2nd August 1905:—

Babu Ambica Charan Das from Karimganj to Hailakandi; Munsh[illegible] from Hailakandi to [illegible] Narayan Das fro[illegible] Sasi [illegible] Collector, [illegible] headquarters station o[illegible] Dacca district.

Munshi Shofiulla Saifuddin Ahmed, Sub Deputy Collector, 4th grade, on probation, is confirmed in his appointment.

Srijut Ganga Nath Sarma, Tahsildar, Mangaldai tahsil, is allowed an extension of leave on private affairs for three months.

Babu Uma Charan Ray Chowdhury, Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Chittagong Division.

Babu Bisvesvar Das, Sub-Deputy Collector is posted to the Dacca Division.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Bolinarayan Borrah, Executive Engineer, 1st grade, to be Inspector of Local Works in the Rajshahi Division.

Babu Jadubindu Chatterji, Supervisor, is transferred from the Sibsagar to the Sylhet Division.

Sub-Conductor H. M. C. Garth, Sub-Engineer, 3rd grade, temporary rank is transferred from the Lakhimpur Division (now Upper Assam Division) to the Dacca Special Works Division, which he joined on the 15th September 1905.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Privilege leave of absence for fifty-three days is granted to 3rd grade Hospital Assistant Bhagbat Prosad Ghose, in extension of the leave already granted to him.

Privilege leave of absence for two months and fifteen days is granted to Senior-grade Hospital Assistant Ram Lochan Das in Medical charge of the North Lakhimpur Dispensary.

Second-grade Hospital Assistant Badar-Uddin Ahmed, a Supernumerary in the Sibsagar district, is transferred to North Lakhimpur and appointed temporary to the medical charge of Dispensary and the Subsidary Jail there.

Third-grade Hospital Assistant Sarada Mohan Bhattacharya, in subordinate medical charge of the Tura Dispensary, is transferred to Silchar and attached for duty at the Sadar Dispensary.

Third-grade Hospital Assistant Muhammad Abdul Khalik, on being relieved by Hospital Assistant Sarada Mohan Bhattacharya, is appointed to the medical charge of the Sonai Dispensary in the Cachar district.

The undermentioned Hospital Assistants having passed the professional Examination are promoted to the 3rd grade, with effect from the dates specified:—Babus Trilok Chandra Ray, Kedar Nath Chaudhury, and Bipin Behary Mitra.

The undermentioned Hospital Assistant has passed the English Qualification Examination:—Umes Chandra Chaudhury.

Fourth-grade Hospital Assistant Nisi Kanta Chatterjee, having passed the Professional Examination is promoted to the 3rd grade, with effect from the 1 February 1905.

WHAT TO DO UNTIL THE DOCTOR ARRIVES.

If it is a case of colic or cholera morbus give Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarhoea Remedy and you will have no and never fails to give prompt relief. Why not buy it now? Fod sale by

ALL CHEMISTS AND STOREKEEPERS

PRICE 1 Re. 2 Rs.

THE DOVETON COLLEGE IMBROGLIO.

ALL ABOUT TRANSFER CERTIFICATES.

ALLEGED ASSAULT.

COMPLAINT DISMISSED.

On Wednesday before Mr. D. H. Kingsford, Chief Presidency Magsitrate Babu Kessub Chander Gupta made an important application on behalf of a youth named Babu Jibendra Lall Chatterjee, a student of the 3rd year class, Doveton College, against the Revd. Mr. W. K. Duthie, Principal, Doveton College, under the following alleged circumstances as detailed in the petition which runs thus:—

(1) "That your petitioner is a student of the 3rd year (B. A.) class, in the Doveton College and he belongs to a very respectable Bengalee family.

(2) That the accused is the Principal of the Doveton College.

(3) That on the 6th of November last, the complainant went to fetch his transfer certificate from the accused, according to engagement.

(4) That the accused at that time insulted the complainant, who protested against the language used by the accused.

(5) That being enraged the accused assaulted him.

That accordingly your petitioner prays for a summons against the accused, under section 352 I. P. Code and for that your petitioner as in duty bound shall over pray."

The court after examining the applicant enquired of him "How did he assault you"?

Applicant:—He threw me down and tore my shirt.

Court:—What was the language used by the defendant?

Applicant:—He said "are you a Babu"? I said "you can see." He said "oh! I did not expect anything better from you."

Court:—What did you say to that?

Applicant:—I said "well, Sir, please don't have anything to do with my nationality." At this, the Principal insulted me.

Court:—Do you think a pupil has a righ to bandy words with the teacher?"

Applicant:—Well, Sir, if the school master exceeds his limit, I think the student has a right to tell him so.

Court:—Don't you think that the schoolmaster has a right to chastise if you are impudent?

Applicant:—Yes, Sir, he has, but the question is whether I was impudent or not.

His worship after this, passed the following order on the application:—

"Complainant says that he and others went to Mr. Duthie to ask for transfer certificates and there was some difficulty in obtaining them. It is apparent from complainant's account that he proceeded to bandy words with Mr. Duthie and to find fault with Mr. Duthie's orders. Mr. Duthie told him not to create a disturbance and then pushed him out of the room. Mr. Duthie again came out of the room into the passage where complainant was talking and told him not to disturb him (Duthie). Complainant retorted and Mr. Duthie assaulted him. This is a matter between a school boy and a principal. The latter has certain powers of chastisement and they do not appear to have been exceeded. Dismissed under section 203 Cr. P. Code."

The applicant then left the witness-box and went away.

THE COMING OF THE AERIAL TORPEDOES.

EXPERIMENTS AT NEW YORK.

Experiments have recently been made at Long Island, New York, with a novel projectile which is not fired from a gun, but from a tripod, and resembles a rocket in its chief features. The term "aerial torpedo" has been often employed as descriptive of a large projectile containing a charge of wet gun-cotton or other high explosive, and numerous patents relating to such a weapon have been taken out by Maxim and other inventors. The torpedo under mention, however, is self-propelling in the sense that it carries its own lifting charge, which is contained in a brass cylinder at its lower end. The contrivance is thus described:—"At the upper end is a load of steel shrapnel and the high explosive. Several hundred steel shrapnel bullets are used. They are cast in strips and arranged about the inside of the casing, while in the centre are three sticks of dynamite."

The bullets and dynamite are all encased in plaster of Paris. A percussion cap at the upper end of the cylinder explodes the charge when the projectile strikes an object. The time fuse passes up through the centre of the cylinder between the sticks of dynamite.

The projectile is arranged to be fired like a rocket from a tripod, which may be raised or lowered to different angles, and thus regulate the distance the torpedo will cover. This may also be governed by varying the quantity of lifting charge in the cylinder. In one of the tests a small charge was used, so that the action of the projectile could more easily be followed. The rockets in this case covered only a quarter of a mile; while with full charges they would have covered a mile or more. The tests were very successful, the rockets exploding when striking the ground, tearing large holes in the sank and scattering bullets over a large area.

Indian Sketches

BY

Shishir Kumar Ghose,

W TH AN INTRODUCT ON

BY

the late W. S. Caine, M.P.,

MEM R OR INIA.

Mr. Caine says:—"I heartily commend to very cultured and earnes. man, the contents of his deeply interesting volume of miscellaneous, articles from the pen of SHISHIR KUMAR GHOSE, whose metaphysical acumen, versatile talents, pure patriotism, noble character and earnest piety, have endeared him to all Bengal."

In another place Mr. Caine says:—"I do not care to interfere with the author's fresh crisp style—I am simply astonished at the purity of his English."

HERE ARE SOME OF THE CONTENTS OF THE BOOK:

(1) Behari Sardar—A Bengal dacoit
(2) The Conquest of Mars
(3) Alligator Hunting.
(4) The Battle of the Gods.
(5) The Baboo.
(6) Gonor and his Leopard.
(7) A Foreign Office Story.
(8) An Orthodox Ghost Story.
[illegible] etc.

Price Rs. 1 as 8 including [illegible]

Scientific Notes

Artificial camphor under the chemical designation of chlorhydrate of turpentine has been made in Germany by Herr Callenberg. It is soluble in nitroglycerine, and is found to lower the explosion temperature of this explosive, as well as its freezing point.

Some interesting experiments bearing on the subject of the development of spines in plants have been carried on by Dr. L. Cockayne. The plant experimented on is a New Zealand shrub, popularly known as Wild Irishman, which is abundantly furnished with long, sharp spines The young plants were removed when the spines were beginning to be formed to a moist chamber, where they were allowed to grow. There they maintained the leafy, spineless habit characteristic of seedlings, showing that a certain amount of dryness is necessary for the formation of spines.

The gum which exudes from the fruit of Macrozamia, an Australian plant, has been found by Mr. Greig Smith to be of bacterial origin. In the first place, a thin slice of the gum examined under the microscope was found to contain a short rod-shaped bacillus. From a portion of the stalk of the fruit an organism was isolated by culture. A gum was then prepared from the slime formed by the growth of the microbe, which was found to resemble the natural gum. By the action of water, it gave the same sugar-like body. Hence it was concluded that the bacillus is the producer of the gum.

The property possessed by plants of growing towards or away from the light is known as positive or negative heliotropism. And experiments have been recently tried by Malisch to determine whether the emanations of radium produce a like effect. Seedlings of lentils, peas, and vetches were exposed to radium rays, but no heliotropism was observed. When, however, the radium was mixed with zinc blende, which under these conditions becomes phosphorescent, the seedlings bent round at right angles towards it. It has thus been shown that radium only produces heliotropism in an indirect manner.

Type-writing by telegraph was the subject of an important paper read by Mr. D. Murray at the session of the Institute of Electrical Engineers. The message to be transmitted and type-written at the receiving station is first punched on a paper strip or "tape." The "tape", being fed forward in the usual way operates a set of signals, which are sent to the receiving station. Here they are caused to produce a second perforated tape, the exact duplicate of the first. An ingenious arrangement enables this tape to work a type-writer. A speed of 200 words a minute could be maintained, but as this would be too great a strain for any type-writer, 120 words is the maximum allowed. The instrument is now in use on several English lines. It was originally intended as a means of setting type by telegraph, and can be modified for that work.—"Globe."

In the "Comptes Rendus" M. Charles Deperet contends that biologists have been too hasty in making animal pedegrees Various lines of descent have been traced, based on the progressive adaptation of a particular part, such as a limb, tooth, or bone. The ancestry of the horse has, perhaps, been worked out more completely than that of any other animal. Its evolution has been traced from Palaeotherium in the Oligocene strata, through Anchitherium and Hipparion, to the present day. But, according to Deperet, there is good reason to believe that neither Palaeotherium. Anchitherium, nor Hipparion were in the direct line of the ancestry of the horse. Too little time is allowed, he contends, for the horse to have been evolved from Palaeotherium since Oligocene times. But it may well be asked, if these well known fossi forms are not the ancestors of the horse, where are these to be looked for?

Messrs. Revill and Price have invented an ingenious arrangement for preventing skidding in motors. The apparatus is of simple construction, and is to be attached to the roar axle of the car. It carries a small trailing-wheel, which can be brought into contact with the ground by the driver, and kept there as long as desired. Whenever the car commences to slip sideways the wheel rocks a pivot to which it is attached, and this motion brings to the ground a toothed gripping wheel, or set of wheels. These are held to the ground so long as any skidding impulse is received, and their action is to keep the car straight. As soon as the trailing wheel assumes its usually direct line the gripping wheels rise from the ground. While the trailing wheel is on the ground the action of the apparatus is entirely automatic. All that the driver has to do is to lower the trailing-wheel by means of a handle when he comes to a dangerous bit of road.

MM. Henry and Bastien have been investigating the cause of senility in man, and have set forth their views in the "Comptes Rendus." It is due, they contend to dehydration of the tissues, and consequent mineralisation. And this dehydration, or loss of water is brought about by the diminishing activity of certain ferments, whose work it is to fix water chemically on the nutriment, and thus render it assimiliable. When their activity diminishes a part of the water now held in the tissues by capillary action only tends to evaporate, and hence the dehydration. A further result of the growing inactivity of the ferments is loss of weight. The cause of senility being thus known the co-operation of chemist and biologist should be able to suggest a remedy. It is to be noted, however, that science has hitherto shown itself more skilful in finding out the cause of the various ills of life than in providing cures.

By the end of October the presence of plague was reported in twenty out of the forty-nine districts of the United Provinces. As usual the disease is found returning to the localities where it has been most prevalent in previous years, Cawnpore City and Ballia each having a record of twenty-five cases for the week. In Gorakhpur and Kheri districts also the cases are beginning to be numerous. Elsewhere it is as yet only a matter of twos and threes, but the simultaneous reappearance of the scourge in so many quarters makes it all but certain that in a few months' time it will have the whole Province in its grip as effectually as ever.

A HANDSOME WOMAN IN COURT.

ALLEGED KIDNAPPING AND THEFT.

On Wednesday, before Mr. D. H. Kingsford, Chief Presidency Magistrate, in pursuance of the order of the Magistrate, the police produced a young widow named Panchoo Bala said to be 15 years old as a complaint had been made by her father-in-law, Babu Annoda Prosad Ray Chowdry, against three young men named Kala Chand Bhattacharjee, Bimola and another, on a charge of kidnapping against the youths and theft of ornaments against the woman. The facts of the case as alleged are these: Some time in September last, Kala Chand and another kidnapped the girl from her father-in-law's house in the district of Midnapore. She was brought down to Calcutta and kept in a house of ill-fame in Goa Bagan. The father-in-law followed in their track and with the aid of one Bemola succeeded in tracing her to Goa Bagan. She was then brought to Bemola's house who gave her shelter. It was alleged, that smitten with her charms Bemola now concealed her. The father-in-law then complained and the court was pleased to issue a warrant for her production in court.

His Worship examined the girl.

Court:—Where did you live?

Girl:—I lived in the house of a "bariwalli' in Goa Bagan.

Court:—Who took you there?

Girl:—I went there alone.

Court:—Do you know Kala Chand?

Girl:—No.

Court:—Who supplies you with food?

Girl:—I have ornaments. I pledged my "balas".

Babu Khirode Lall Sen, Vakil, who appeared for the father-in-law informed the court that the ornaments belonged to her father-in-law.

Court (to the witness):—Who brought you to Calcutta?

Girl:—Nobody. I came here alone.

The court then enquired of the Pleader her age.

Babu Kherode Lall Sen replied that she was 15 years old and her father-in-law would be able to prove that fact.

The court then ordered that she should now go with her father-in-law and asked the father-in-law to produce evidence as to her age on the 22nd instant.

The girl refused to go with him and there was a great stir in the court room. Every body present in court stood up to see the row. The court asked the European constable to see that she accompanied her father-in-law and also ordered the onlooker to resume their seats.

The father-in-law caught hold of the girl's hand and she wept bitterly and left the court room.

There is one projected railway in the United Provinces that has been shelved for six years, and unless Cawnpore presses for its construction, it is not likely to be undertaken for a long time to come. This is a line from Cawnpore to Rae Bareli, and thence north-eastwards to Fyzabad. The distance is 140 miles, and the estimated cost 112 lakhs. The Indian Midland Company proposed its construction in 1899, but it has been thrown into the background by the Allahabad-Fyzabad Railway. The western section, Cawnpore to Rae Bareli, has an importance of its own, as Cawnpore would be given a direct route to Benares, Jaunpur and Eastern Oudh. This could be secured at a cost probably of 45 lakhs. Further, if a line were built from the Paphamau bridge at Allahabad to Rae Bareli, another new route would be opened to Cawnpore, while at the same time Allahabad would be placed within four hours of Lucknow, the detour via Partabgarh being avoided. These projects should command the attention of the Local Government and the Railway Board alike, for a good return on capital outlay is a certainty.—"Pioneer."

Professor von Behring's first scientific discovery of an anti-toxin for diphtheria date back some years, and his latest announcement of a discovery of a prophylactic for the bacillus of tuberculosis has caused and is still causing widespread discussion and comment. Shortly stated Professor von Behring discovered that the tubercle bacilli contain, besides poisonous and destructive substances, a substance which, uniting with the cells of the attacked organism, enables them to resist the further poisonous action of the bacillus. These bacilli he treats in such a way as to extract from them all the poisonous elements while retaining the other substance, to which he gives the name T. C., and having injected them in this residual form into a variety of the lower mammals suffering from, or threatened by, tuberculosis, he has satisfied himself as to the efficacy of the treatment in securing immunity from the disease. The value of the cure in combating human phthisis thus depends on the acceptance of the proposition that tuberculosis is one and the same disease in allmammals, as opposed to the view of Dr. Koch that man cannot be infected from the ox.

THE ROYAL VISIT.

CALCUTTA PROGRAMME.

December 1905—

Friday, 29th, 4 p.m. **Public Arrival at Prinsep's Ghat.**

Municipal Address and presentation of Jewel at Prinsep's Ghat.

State Procession from Prinsep's Ghat to Government House.

Evening Small Dinner.

Levee.

Saturday, 30th, Afternoon Races.

Dinner with Lieutenant-Governor at Belvedere.

Sunday, 31st, 10-30 a.m. Attend Cathedral Service.

Proceed by river to Barrackpur. Return from Barrackpur.

January 1906—

Monday, 1st Morning Proclamation Parade.

Afternoon Prince of Wales attends University Convocation.

Princess of Wales attends Purdah Party at Belvedere.

Evening State Banquet at Government House.

Tuesday, 2nd, Public Reception on the Maidan.

Reception at Government House.

Wednesday, 3rd. Garden Party at Government House.

Evening After Dinner drive through City to see Illuminations.

Thursday, 4th Possible shoot.

Dinner at Government House.

State Ball.

Friday, 5th, Afternoon The laying of the foundation-stone of the Victoria Memorial Hall.

Evening Dinner with the Commander-in-Chief.

Saturday, 6th 4 p.m. Leave Calcutta for Darjeeling.

PRELIMINARY FORECAST OF THE BHADOI CROPS OF BENGAL, 1905.

Explanatory.—By far the most important bhadoi food crop of the province is Autumn paddy. It covers nearly 60 per cent. of the total area under bhadoi crops. In Bihar and Chota Nagpur the most important bhadoi crop is maize, a good deal of marua and Jewar being also grown: but all these are practically unknown in Central and East Bengal or in Orissa. The most important non-food crop is jute which again is practically unknown in Bihar and Chota Nagpur: but jute is not dealt with in this forecast, as a separate forecast is devoted to it.

Character of the season.—Both in March and April the rainfall was heavy and general all over the Province. In May, too, there was good rain, the fall being generally equal to the normal. But June was a very dry month, the fall being, excepting in North Bengal, very scanty indeed. July, However, brought good rain all over the Province. In August there was deficiency in Orissa and Chota Nagpur, but the fall was very heavy and continuous in North and East Bengal and also in Bihar. In September, up to now there has again been very heavy rain in this tract. But in Orissa and parts of Chota Nagpur the fall has continued only moderate if not light Damage by heavy rain and floods has been reported from parts of the 24-Parganas, Howrah, Hooghly, Bogra, Backergange Faridpur, Mymensingh, Champaran and Darbhanga; while scanty rainfall has affected the outturn in Orissa and Chota Nagpur. The season on the whole has been very unfavourable. Maize and marua have suffered most.

Area sown.—The Collectors of Hooghly, Howrah, Mymensingh, Jalpaiguri, Rangpur, Bhagalpur and Balasore have revised the normal areas under bhadoi crops in their respective districts. The normal area under these crops for the Province (excluding the area under jute, cotton and "bhadoi til" for which separate forecasts are issued) now stands as 13,286,500 against 13,379,400 acres shown in the final forecast of last year. The actual area sown this year (badoi food and non-food crops, excluding jute, etc.) is 12,189,200 against 12,151,200 acres shown last year, but which according to revised returns should stand as 12, 458, 100 acres.

The area under bhadoi food crops this year is 11,553,200 acres against 11819,500 acres of last year.

Outturn.—Only three districts, e.g., Jalpaiguri Purnea and Balasore, return a normal crop, while Darjeeling alone shows above the normal. Rajshahi and Malda report respectively 95 and 93 per cent. Fourteen districts report between 80 to 89 per cent; sixteen between 70 to 79; four between 62 to 69; while six districts, e. g., Backergunge, Monghyr Muzaffarpur, Saran, Howrah and Darbhanga, show 50 per cent and under.

The total outturn of the "bhadoi" crops as estimated by the District Officers comes to only 74 per cent.

Kolangarath Velu Nair, amshom peon of Kotal Amshom, Calicut, was fatally maul[illegible] by a tiger on Monday last.

INDIGESTION,

DIZZINESS, VOMITING,

DRIVEN AWAY THREE YEARS AGO BY

MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP

Mr. Edward Brider, coachbuilder for Messrs. Hammer & Thiebent, Naauwpoort, C.C., wrote on November 30th last:—"I had indigestion in a rather severe form. After meals a dizziness quite overcame me and I threw up the food I had eaten. There was constant dull pain in my stomach and back and I could not sleep at nights. Life seemed not worth living. This state of health continued until I went to live in Middleburg, where I read of Mother Seigel's Syrup, and heard several persons, who had used it, speak in praise of it. I decided to try it and was quite cured by using only three bottles of it. That was some three years ago, and I continue in good health."

** *You read here the experience of a man who has suffered, told in simple fashion! If you have the first symptoms of stomach trouble you should at once try Mother Seigel's Syrup—it is better to prevent misery than to cure it. Mother Seigel's Syrup does both.*

THE CHARGE AGAINST A FINGER PRINT EXPERT.

The further hearing of the case against the finger impression expert previously reported in the "Pioneer" of the 26th October and the 2nd instant was resumed with the evidence of Pandit Giraj Kishore Dutt, the presiding officer of the Court, in which the statements impugned as false were made. He said that he was at present Assistant Sessions Judge and Additional Subordinate Judge of Aligarh, but in August and September, 1904, when the depositions of Kanaiah Lal and Sajjad Hussain were recorded, he was the Subordinate Judge of Moradabad. He identified the promissory note sued upon in the civil case which he decided which bore a finger impression. He further deposed to the whole of the record of the depositions of the two accused persons being in his handwriting. He said that the said depositions were on oath, and that the words impugned by the prosecution in this case as constituting the false evidence given occurred in the said depositions. Cross-examined by Mr. Satya Chandra Mukerji in great detail he said that he had no particular recollection of this case and could not make any statements with regard to it without looking at the record. There was nothing in the record of the depositions of Kanaiah Lal and Sajjad Hussain to show that those depositions were read over to them and admitted by them to be correct, but this could be taken for granted as being the usual practice. He had read up Mr. Henry's book on finger impressions for the purposes of this case, but could not now say what a delta meant or whether both deltas were visible in the finger impression on the promissory note. He could not say which were the two impressions he was comparing when he used the words two or both in connection with impressions in the judgment. He was of opinion that the finger impression on the promissory note was in ordinary Indian ink and not in printing ink. In the opening sentence of his judgment in the case he had described the promissory note in suit as one dated the 27th September 1903. This was a mistake and the confusion arose from there being a receipt of the 27th September, 1903, mentioned in the plaint along with the promissory note dated the 27th November, 1903. He mentioned this receipt of the 27th September in giving a summary of the plaintiff's case, but did not allude to it again. A copy of the receipt of the 27th September, 1903, was on the file of his case, but he could not remember whether the original was produced before him and whether it bore a thumb impression. Cross-examined as to other points relating to the thumb impressions compared, the Subordinate Judge answered that he had no recollection now in regard to them. He had got the thum impression of Sajjad Hussain, the defendant in that case, taken on the Court's proceedings through some chaprassi and he had procured the ink with which impressions were taken from the Sub Registrar's Office.

The judgment of the Subordinate Judge in the case of Murtaza Begum plaintiff vs Sajjad Hussain defendant was as follows:—

"After giving my best consideration to the evidence on the record, to the facts and circumstances of this case and to the arguments addressed by the learned pleaders for both parties, I think it is sufficiently proved by the evidence of the plaintiff's witnesses, some of whom appear to me really respectable men, that the defendant did execute the promissory note in suit in the plaintiff's favour and the consideration for the said promissory note was the money due from the defendant to the plaintiff. The plaintiff's pleader first of all examined as plaintiff's witness, an expert of thumb-prints, and he stated that the defendant's alleged thumb-mark on the promissory note in suit and his admitted thumb-marks on the "rubkar" (proceedings) of this Court, dated the 8th August, 1904, were not the thumb-marks of one and the same person. The plaintiff spent about Rs. 79 in getting the said expert to give evidence in the case, and she would never have summoned an expert who was a stranger to her at such an expense had she not been fully certain and conscious of the defendant's thumb-mark on the promissory note in suit, and her witnesses who were examined after the evidence of the expert was taken down, who knew what was stated by the expert and who are not ignorant rustics but contain among themselves an apparently respectable pleader and some gentlemen who have often occasion to deal with pleaders would not have exposed themselves to a charge for perjury had not the defendant made his thumb-mark on the said note in their presence. The defendant's own first witness, Mahomed Ashgar, in answer to a question put to him in cross-examination, stated that he could not believe either the statement made on the plaintiff's part that he, Sajjad Hussain defendant, made his thumb-mark on the note in suit or the defendant's statement that he had not made his thumb-mark on the said note, and that there was talk of compromise between the parties and it was proposed to get the suit adjourned and then to compromise it. Now if the defendant had not executed, signed and fixed his thumb mark on the note in suit, how could, he agree to compromise the case I think this witness suppressed the truth in stating his ignorance of the defendant's thumb-mark being made on the note in suit. The plaintiff's pleader examined Mir Zamin Hussain and Mir Syad Hasan, two respectable pleaders of this Court, who were consulted by the defendant for defending the suit, though not actually engaged, but they could not divulge the secret which they learnt from the defendant and their lips are sealed with Section 125 of the Indian Evidence Act, and the defendant after consulting his pleader refused to permit them to state anything told them about the note in suit by the defendant. If the defendant had nothing to fear from, the evidence of the said pleaders regarding the genuineness of the promissory note in suit and if he had not admitted the said promissory note before them he might not have hesitated to permit them to disclose anything that he told them about the note in suit Now as to the evidence of the learned expert I may observe that though the expert says that the thumb-mark on the promissory note in suit and the admitted thumb-marks on the Court's "rubkar" (proceedings) of the defendant are not the thumb-marks of one and the same person, the reasons given by him for his opinion do not appear to me very satisfactory and convincing. The learned expert admits that the thumb-mark on the note in suit and those on the said "rukkar" does not appear to me clear. The expert says that the thumb-mark on the note in suit is a simple "whirl," while the thumb marks on the Court's "rubkar" are curved "Jhuka hua or khum khata hua") whorls but on comparing the two i.e., the thumb-mark in dispute with the admitted defendant's left thumb-marks by means of a microscope, the distinction does not appear to me clear enough, though it is possible that my eyes are not sufficiently educated in perceiving the fine distinction stated by the learned expert. I have read the book entitled "Classification and Uses of Finger Prints' by E. R. Henry C. S. I., for the sake of this case and from what I read in the book it seems to me that "ridge counting" is used in comparing the finger or thumb of prints under the head of loops, and "ridge tracing" is used in comparing the finger or thumb-prints, or marks that came under the head of whirls (vide Classification and Uses of finger prints by E. R. Henry, C.S.I., pages 45 to 47 and 80 to 83). This being so, the learned expert was not right in counting ridges in the disputed and admitted thumb-marks. The defendant's thumb-mark on the promissory note appears to have been made by means of ordinary Indian ink and it is not very clear and perfect inasmuch as there are two deltas in whirls, one to the left and the other to the right, but, as stated above, the thumb impression on the promissory note in suit is besides being not very clear and perfect and the delta on the right is wanting and so ridge tracing for the purpose of comparing the thumb-mark on the note in suit with the defendant's admitted thumb-marks cannot be made. The defendant's left thumb-marks on the Court's "rubkar" appear to me to resemble the thumb-mark on the promissory note in suit and, with due deference to the opinion of the learned expert and without pretending to be an expert myself, I hold that the thumb-mark on the promissory note in suit and the admitted impressions of the defendant's left thumb-mark are thumb-marks of one and the same person. The opinion of the learned expert even if I had held it to be correct, could not justify me in discarding the whole of the direct evidence of credible witnesses who swear that they saw the defendant execute, sign and fix his thumb-mark on the promissory note in suit (vide Q. E. vs. Wazir Ali "Weekly Notes for 1889" page 7). The learned pleader for the defendant contend that as the plaintiff alleges that the promissory note in suit was executed in lieu of money found due to her from the defendant by the arbitrator and the promissory note in suit itself purports to have been executed in lieu of money received in cash, the said note is not genuine and it is open to suspicion. I think the learned pleader is not right as it is sufficiently proved by the evidence of the plaintiff's witnesses that the promissory note in suit was executed in lieu of money due to the plaintiff from the defendant and the said note was allowed to be written in its present form at the defendant's own request and by the defendant himself, and the plaintiff is not debarred from showing that the consideration of the promissory note in suit was not in fact paid as therein recited but was paid in a different manner (vide Indrajit vs. Lal Chand W. N. for 1894, page 16.) There were no doubt some discrepancies in the evidence of the plaintiff's witnesses, but these discrepancies simply show that the witnesses are truthful and not tutored and such discrepancies are sure to occur in the evidence of the most truthful witnesses when severely cross-examined like the plaintiff's witnesses in this case. I do not believe the defendants witnesses who do not appear to me truthful and who do not sufficiently contradict the plaintiff's witnesses. I, therefore, hold that the defendant Sajjad Hussain did execute the promissory note in suit for consideration in the plaintiff's favour, and I accordingly find the issue for the plaintiff and decree his claim for Rs. 4,120, with all costs, interest, "pendente lite" and future interest at 6 per cent per annum against the defendant who will bear his own costs as well."

The Subordinate Judge, further cross-examined, said that he could not say whether he kept the promissory note in suit and the "rubkar" on which the defendant made his thumb impressions in a sealed cover or not. He does not know what happened to the case after it left his Court. He could not say whether the letters X.Y.Z. were put against the impressions in the Court's proceedings when the case was in his Court. He rather thought they were not there. He could not say which was the impression which he referred to in the judgment as the defendant's admitted left thumb-mark. He received a letter by post from the office of the Inspector-General of Police at Allahabad during the pendency of this case and he filed it on the record. A petition was presented detailing certain points where, according to him, the expert had gone wrong.

The pleader from Nagina and the other witnesses who professed to have seen Sajjad Hussain affix his thumb mark to the promissory note in suit were closely cross-examined by the counsel for the defence. This closed the case for the prosecution. The case for the defence will be heard on the 11th instant.—"Pioneer."

THRILLING MOMENTS IN THE KING'S LIFE.

HIS MAJESTY AS STAG-HUNTER AND TIGER-SLAYER.

There are probably few sportsmen now in Scotland who are able, like King Edward, to look back on half a century of deer-stalking, or who have achieved such a splendid record in that difficult branch of sport. Indeed, long before he was allowed to handle a gun, His Majesty was serving his apprenticeship to tracking that most coy and elusive of animals under the eye of his father, the Prince Consort, who was an enthusiastic and skilful deer-stalker.

It was not long, however, before the young Prince proved himself his father's superior, for he quickly surpassed him as a dead y shot and stories are still told in Highland cottages of his early feats of marksmanship. On one occasion in the Forest of Mar—one of the two largest forests in Great Britain, extending as it does over 80,000 acres of cleared ground—no fewer than seven splendid stags fell to his gun, some of them being brought down by what seemed impossible shots: and on another occasion he secured five stags with six consecutive bullets, in one case the head of the animal alone being visible over a rock nearly a quarter of a mile away. Later, when shooting with Lord Tankerville at Chillingham Park, he laid low the "King of the herd" of wild cattle with his first shot, although the animal had long proved too much for several of the best shots in the kingdom.

His experience of stag-hunting in France has not been equally happy, for its story contains one incident that might easily have been a tragedy. During his visit in 1868, with the Princess of Wales, to the Court of Napoleon III., a grand stag-hunt was organized in the Forest of Compiegne. The incident is thus graphically described by an eye-witness: "The pace had become very fast, but of course it was all mere child's play to the Prince, who had often ridden to hounds at home. Thus, with the case of an experienced horseman, he rode well in the van of that keen gallop between the lofty colonnades of trees. Thrte frightened red deer suddenly shot out, bounding diagonally across the Prince's path. The first two cleared him, but the last—a big fellow in a dreadful state of panic—crashed against Marignan, his horse, striking him on the shoulder and cutting him clean off his legs. The Prince of Wales took a long flying leap, Marignan fell, sprang up and bolted after the buck, while a great shout arose on every side. 'What a misfortune! The Prince is injured! He is killed!'

"But, happily, the Prince, who had alighted on the moss between the trees, was, though shaken, uninjured, and he promptly gave the company specimen of his mettle. While various officers of the hunt were striving to catch Marignan, His Royal Highness ran up to his spare horse, The Czar, and vaulted into the saddle, ready to resume the chase. It was done so neatly, and with such cool, smiling alacrity, that the Frenchman even the Prince de la Moskowa, remained for an instant quite wonder-struck."

But he had a much more exciting and dangerous adventure than this during his Indian tour thirty years ago, when an enormous tiger sprang on the head of his elephant, and the Prince found himself looking into a pair of blazing eyes, with the hot, fierce breath of the animal in his face. But the shrift of that tiger was short; for His Royal Highness, with amazing coolness, sent a bullet crashing through his brain, the animal's clutch relaxed, and he fell dead at the elephant's feet. And once when hunting bears in the Carpathian's he narrowly escaped a death-hug from a ferocious Bruin, who had approached within half-a-dozen yards when the Royal sportsman laid him low

But to a man who, like the King, has shot tigers in India, elephants in Ceylon, wild boars in German forests and alligators on the Nile, such incidents as these are "all in the day's work." During his tour in India he had some fine sport and many thrilling moments. When he visited Baroda he distinguished himself greatly at pig-sticking, 'getting his spear" by killing the first pig, while he had also the novel experience of hunting with the cheetah. In Ceylon he took a conspicuous part in an elephant-drive in which one gigantic "trunk-bearer" fell to his rifle amid enthusiastic cheers from Europeans and Indians alike. His first tiger he killed while on a visit to the Maharajah of Jeypore, and on a later occasion His Royal Highness narrowly missed a record with a bag of six tigers in a single day.

It is interesting to note that in spite of his great love of sport the King has seldom, if ever, fired a shot on a Sunday. During his visit to the Holy Land with Dean Stanle the latter wrote in his diary: "His Royal Highness had himself laid down a rule that there was to be no shooting on the Sabbath, and though he was sorely tempted to-day, as we passed flocks of crane and geese seated on the bank in most inviting crowds, he rigidly conformed to it."

THE COLLISION ON THE E. B. S. RAILWAY.

OFFICIAL ENQUIRY.

The Railway authorities have concluded their enquiry into the circumstances attending the serious collision which occurred early on the morning of the 31st ultimo between the Bogoola Station and the Ichamutty Bridge between No. 1 up mixed passenger train and a portion of No. 63 up goods train, resulting in considerable damage to Railway property, besides causing previous injuries to Guard Maling of the goods train who had to be removed to the Medical College Hospital where he is at present under medical treatment. The Court of Inquiry was composed of District Railway officers and Mr. Crabbe of the Government Railway Police. It transpired that at about 3-22 a. m. of the 31st ultimo No. 63 up goods train left the Bogoola Station for Ichamutty Bridge, arriving at the latter place at 3-58 a. m., the fact being duly wired by the Station Master of Ichamutty Bridge to the Station Master of Bogoola. At about 4-37 a. m., on the receipt of a "line clear" message from the Ichamutty Bridge Station Master, No. 1 up mixed passenger train left the Bogoola Station with Driver Herdon in charge of the engine. While nearing mile 61 Driver Herdon noticed a dark object ahead; and before he could bring his train to a halt, it collided with considerable force with the brakevan attached to some 40 goods wagons. As a result of the collision the front portion of the Engine was considerably damaged, while two wagons of the passenger train were smashed and two more derailed. Curiously enough, the Engine staff and the passengers of the train, beyond receiving a smart shock, escaped unhurt. Guard Maling who was in charge of No 63 up goods train was found lying underneath the Engine of the passenger train groaning. On being pulled out he was found severely injured, having sustained a nasty fracture of the left leg besides other bodily injuries, necessitating his removal to hospital. The brake van of the goods train was found smashed into match-wood by the force of the collision. Two of the goods wagons were also smashed and two more derailed. Both up and down lines were blocked, causing a considerable delay of goods and passenger traffic, the passenger of the down Darjeeling and the up Chandpur mail trains having had to be transhipped on either side of the scene of the accident, while the disabled No. 1 up mixed train had to be pulled back to the Bogoola Station where the passenger were put into other trains and sent on to their destination. The circumstances which led to the collision are said to be as follows: No. 63 up goods train, on being restarted from Ichamutty Bridge like all other trains was proceeded with a jerk, which in this instance resulted in the snapping of the couplings of a wagon, situated centrally, thereby dividing the train into two sections. The first portion of the train consisting of the Engine and some thirty wagons left Ichamutty Bridge on its onward journey, the Engine driver being utterly ignorant of the fact that he had left half his train behind. This half train, consisting of some forty wagons including the brake van in the rear owing to the slope of the Bridge, rolled back for a distance of about two miles and came to a dead halt when the wagons reached the level on the lines, Guard Maling who was in the brake van being it is said utterly in the dark as to what had happened to his train. In order to ascertain the cause of the backward movement of the train, he appears to have made an attempt to leave the brake van when the collision occurred, throwing him under the engine of the mixed train. The Station Master of Ichamutty Bridge appears to have also been ignorant of the initial accident which led to the parting of the goods train. It would appear that he altogether disregarded a well-known rule in the Railway Act, which requires a Station Master to note the day or night signal as the case might be, in the brake van of every train, thereby satisfying himself that every train with the brake van in its entirety has passed his station. Had the Station Master followed the rule in question, he would have observed that No. 63 goods train had not left his station in its entirety and could have adopted the necessary measure which would have tended to avert the collision in question. The very questionable manner in which the running of trains is carried out will be guaged from the fact that the divided state of No. 63 up goods train had failed to attract attention till it had reached Chooadangah Station which appears to be the sixth station from the scene of the accident. It is believed that the Station Master of Ichamutty Bridge will primarily be held responsible for the accident.

Mohamadu Abdulla Mohamadu Sadekalu, arrested by the Fort Inspector Mr. Coore. Colombo, as an accused wanted in India for robbery and hurt, was produced on November 2nd. An Indian Police Officer came here to arrest the man, but went away without finding him and with the warrant. Mr. Coore found the man later and arrested him. Mr. Elliott, for the accused, contended that he could not be arrested without a warrant. Mr. Coore contended that he could. The Magistrate remanded the accused till the 10th instant for an Indian officer to be sent for.

AN APPEAL FOR NATIONAL UNIVERSITY.

Bombay, Nov. 8.

Yesterday a meeting was held at Khem Raja Shet's Vekateswar Press under the presidency of Sriman Devakinand Auharyaji. Mr. Bodas explained the object of the meeting. Mr. Sathe, representative of the Sanatan Dharma Mahasabha requested the Sabha for support to and sympathy for the movement anent the National Hindu religious school at Benares which Pundit Madan Mohan Malovi wanted to establish. Srimat Srigarn Sankaracharjya and other religious heads requested the people to attend the Kumbh Mela at Prayag in January next. Mr. Bal Gangadhar Tilak proposed the resolution expressing sympathy with the movement and dwelt on the necessity of the people's having their own university at this critical moment. Bombay Shastries, Pundit Deendoyal Sharma, Pundit Mahadeb Prosad Misra, Babu Amrita Lal Roy, Swam Bhaskarananda and others spoke. Mr. Tilak's resolution was carried unanimously, spirited speeches were made. The Mahamandal, and other Sanatan Dharma Sabha as also the Kumbh Mela Mandal were requested to work conjointly. After the usual vote of thanks the meeting separated.

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