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Amrita Bazar Patrika

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VOLV XXXV I. CALCUTTA THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1904. NO. 18,

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No other medicine will give you relief as
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No need wasting word—try and judge.

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GENUINE MOHON FLUTE-HARMONIUM.

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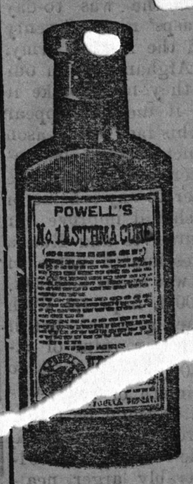
No. 1

POWELL'S ASTHMA CURE

(Great Remedy for Asthma)



It is one of the most reliable remedies for Asthma, both during the par xysm and in the intervals. It may be given twice or three times a day. This formula will prove a valuable Sedative as well as an agreeable remedy for Chronic Bronchiti and other diseases in which the use of Iodine is indicated.

LARGE SALE: Since we have introduced this formula it has been selling very largely amongst the Medical circle. In the cold season POWELL'S NO. 1 ASTHMA [illegible] leading Physicians who have been thoroughly convinced [illegible]

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[illegible]:—Powell's No. 1 Asthma Cure is a great favourite remedy with mann to be relieved of the Asthmatic fits and it is undoubtedly a valuable remedy in the worst forms of cases. It relieves the chest of congealed Phlegm by expectoration without straining, thereby removing all difficulty in Breathing. It [illegible]s wonderful relief in the most distressing cases.

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

Rajshahi, the 28th Oct. 1901.

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(Sd.) ANNADA CH. GUPTA,
Dy. Magte.

BOALIA,
1-5-02.

জুয়েলারি ফারম।

এই ফারম রামপুর বোয়ালিয়াতে আদি স্থাপিত ও প্রসিদ্ধ এবং পুরাতন বলিয়া বিখ্যাত। স্বর্ণ রৌপ্য ও জড়োয়া অলঙ্কার চাঁদীর বাসন ইত্যাদি সর্ব্বদা বিক্রয়ার্থে প্রস্তুত থাকে ও অল্প সময়ে প্রস্তুত হয় ও সুলভ মূল্যে পাওয়া যায়। অন্যান্য স্থান হইতে সুশ্রী। বিশেষ বিবরণ সচিত্র ক্যাটলগে দ্রষ্টব্য। ।৵০ ছয় আনার ডাক টিকিট পাঠাইলে রেজেষ্টরি করিয়া পাঠান হয়।

এতদ্ভিন্ন এই জুয়েলারী ফারমের সঙ্গে ও মটকার বস্ত্রাদির কারবার খুলিয়াছি। বালুচরী শাড়ী, ধুতী, শাড়ী, চাদর ও কোট প্যাণ্টলুনাদির উপযোগী সাদা ও জীন বুনাট থান প্রভৃতি বহুবিধ রেশমী কাপড়াদি বিক্রয়ার্থে প্রস্তুত থাকে। অর্ডার পাইলে সত্বর পাঠাইয়া থাকি। মূল্য তালিকা বিশেষ বিবরণ ক্যাটালগে। পরীক্ষা প্রার্থনীয়।

শ্রীবিপিনবিহারী ধর জুয়েলার এবং পোদ্দার—

ভইজর: রাজসাহী। রামপুর,বোয়ালিয়াপোঃ ঘোড়ামারা, রাজসাহী

আমি শ্রীযুক্ত বিপিন বিহারী পোদ্দার মহাশয়ের দোকান হইতে অনেক স্বর্ণ অলঙ্কার এবং রুপার বাসন ক্রয় করিয়াছি। সমস্ত অলঙ্কার এবং বাসন করার মত সময়ে প্রাপ্ত হইয়াছি। সকল বাসন এবং অলঙ্কার আমার পছন্দমত হইয়াছে বিপিন বাবুর ব্যবহারে সকলেই সন্তুষ্ট এবং ইনি অতি নম্র লোক।

ইতি ২রা আষাঢ়, ১২৯৩ সাল।

শ্রীভগবতীচরণ গঙ্গোপাধ্যায়,
সুপারভাইজর
পবলিক ওয়ার্ক ডিপার্টমেন্ট
রাজসাহী।

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Manufacturers and Importers of Harmonium and American Organs
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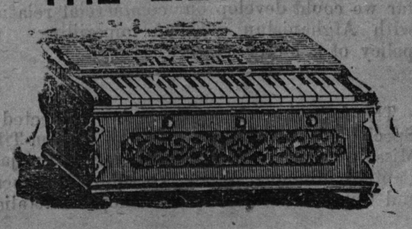
THE BEST HARMONIUM OF THE DAY

THE LILY-FLUTE.



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Exquisite tone and touch, beautiful design, and sound workmanship characterize this High Class Harmonium. Full rich melodious organ tone.

3 Octaves with 3 Stops Rs. 35, (superior Rs. 40)
2 sets of Reeds and 4 Stops Rs 60
FOLDING LILY FLUTE (BOX & TABLE HARMONIUM combined) Rs. 75.

Order must be accompanied by Rs. 10.
New Illtedustra ata'cutta sent free.

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Local aborigines (Kacharies) made genuine durable and glossy endi finds its place in European and Australian markets through the markets of Gauhati and Calcutta. With each washing it will get thicker and glossy. No one shall have cause to regret for its getting thinner after washing. Change or return allowable if not found cheap and good in comparison with the price. For sample one anna.

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"STRONGER PERFECTION LIQUID FOOD."

Is a platable combination of peptone and concentrated extract of malt. In nutritive value it has no equal. A friend to the sick as well as the healthy. Its tonic influence i natural and permanent. Sold in 14oz. bottles at Rs. 3-8 each by

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Have unanimously borne testimony about the efficacy and excellence of our world-renowned sweet-scented KESHRANJAN OIL, thousands [of which may be found in our KESHRANJAN DIARY, forwarded] *Gratis* on receipt of half anna postage label. *Keshranjan* is the King of all sweet-scented and medicated Hair-oils.

Price per Small Phial	...	Re. 1 0 0
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THE GREAT ENEMY!

Do you not know that we have got a marvellous sprcific for Diabetes melitus? It is our great SHASTRIC medicine—BASANTA KUSUMAKAR RASA.

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

Acts as a charm, even in obstinate cases of Diabetes—which have taken away from us, our best geniuses and worthies.

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

Saved many a valuable life from premature decay.

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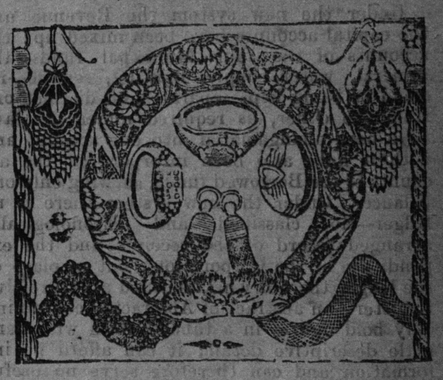
Jewellery, Poddary Shop,
Rampur Boaliah, Ghoramara, Rajshahi.



All sorts of gold silver and jewellery ornament, are kept ready for sale, and also made to order at cheaper rates than others. Confident of the superior quality of the articles and moderate prices at which they are sold, I invite comparison and challenge competition. For particulars see illustrated catalogue price 6 annas including postage. Customers buying ornaments worth Rs. 100 will get a catalogue free of cost.

DEAR SIR,—The ornaments which you have supplied to me on order on the occasion of my danghter's marriage, have all been of approved design and of neat workmanship. I cannot but too highly recommend the promptitude with which my order was complied with. Thanking you for the same and wishing you success, I remain (Sd.) Kedar Nath Sanyal, Ex. Asst. Commr. Habiganj, Sylhet. Dated, 3rd January 1890.

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

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

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

The twelfth ordinary monthly meeting of the Corporation of Calcutta was held at the Town Hall on Tuesday at 4 p.m. The Hon. Mr. R. T. Greer presided and there were about thirty-five Commissioners present.

INTERPELLATION.

Mr. J. G. Apar asked:—

The dates—(1) of the appointment of the Special Committee to consider the Chief Engineer's Report on the scheme of Messrs Buckley and Silk, for Continuous Water-supply and (2) of such meetings as may have been held:

The reason of the long delay in the question

The Chairman replied:—

(1) 2nd December, 1903.

(2) Only one meeting on the 18th December, when the Chief Engineer was asked to test the existing mains between Pulta and Tallah and to report thereon with further details of his Scheme.

The Chief Engineer has almost completed this work and his report will be ready in a few days.

Mr. H. E. A. Cotton asked:—

What number of gas lamps have been billed for for the months of November and December, 1903, and January, 1904, for that portion of Ripon Street which lies to the east of Wellesley Street? And on the reply being given, to move a resolution, if necessary.

He said that he knew that a lamp had been taken away from a certain building while it was being erected. His motive for asking the question was to know whether the Gas Supplying Company was charging anything for that lamp.

The Chairman replied:—

The Deputy Chairman reports as follows:—18 lamps were billed for in each of these months and 17 paid for in December and January. A further deduction will be made for one lamp for half of January and the whole of February

Mr. J. S. Middleton asked the following question:—

With regard to the recent fatal accident in Old Court House Street and the comments in the newspapers on the want of ambulances, will the Chairman kindly state if the order for six ambulances for which Rs. 1,600 were sanctioned on 8th January, has been definitely placed?

The Chairman replied:—

Yes. An order was given to Messrs. Carter and Company of London on the 21st of January to supply six ambulances on as early a date as possible. They replied on the 12th February that the ambulances have been put in hand and will be forwarded without delay.

THE PICTURES SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

Mr. H. E. A. Cotton moved "that the Pictures Special Committee do inspect and report on the Pictures of the King and Queen which the Commissioners have decided to purchase."

He said that the Committee would consider where those pictures would be placed.

Mr. Rustamjee seconded the motion.

The motion was carried.

BABU NALIN BEHARY SIRCAR'S NOTE.

Babu Nalin Behary Sircar moved "that his note on the accounts of the Corporation be considered: That inasmuch as the method of keeping the accounts of the Corporation introduced last year is in direct contravention of the provisions of the law, early steps be taken to place them in conformity with the law."

He said:—

I beg to propose that my note on the accounts of the Corporation, which has been circulated to all the Commissioners, be considered. This Note is now in the hands of my colleagues for nearly three weeks and I dare say those who have cared to read it must have done so by this time. I now tender the document to be laid on the table to serve as a basis for discussion at this meeting.

I have no intention to recapitulate here all the contents of this Note; it would, I venture to think, be sufficiently for my purpose if I were simply to point out that although the necessity—I should say, the urgency of having the Accounts Deparment thoroughly reorganised was recognised five years ago and although two Government Accounts officers were brought in at the cost of the Corporation and although several Sub-Committees of the General Committee, receiving fees for their work, were appointed for the purpose; absolutely nothing has yet been done in that direction—the Department continues in as disorganised a state as heretofore.

But if no re-organisation of the Department (which is so urgently required) has taken place, the system of keeping the Accounts has, on the other hand been radically changed, and that in utter disregard of the provisions of the law.

Under the new system the Revenue and the capital accounts have been mixed up; the accounts of the four Municipal funds—the General, water supply, lighting, sewage—instead of being kept separate and distinct one from the other, as required under the law, have been amalgamated into one account and with it have also been incorporated the accounts of the Borrowed funds, shewing only one balance. Under the new system there is no ledger—no classified and chronologically arranged record of the receipts and the expenditure of the Corporation; but in place of the ledger there is what is called a Progressive Register—an abstract of Abstracts—containing only bold figures in a tabular form with very little descriptive detail; it can afford no information and can therefore serve no useful purpose as a reference or a guide; the new system is such that to obtain any detailed information one must go back and refer to the original bills and vouchers. The new system has provided no means by which expenditure in excess of budget grants could be detected in time and payments stopped by the Accountant A glaring instance of this came to our knowledge the otherday in connection with the expenditure for Advertisement. It was found that the Budget Grants for the year had been only Rs. 13,000, while in nine months a sum of nearly Rs. 22,000 was paid on this account, without the executive being aware at the fact that the Budget Grant had been so much exceeded. The Chairman was not aware at it. nor did even the Accountant know it, until my indefatigable friend Mr. Apcar put certain questions about it to the Chairman in January last; and even then the Accounts Deparment took some time to compile the figures before being able to give the information asked for by Mr. Apcar. This however is not the only instance; the accounts of 1902-03 abounded with such instances; and when the accounts of the current year are published many a case of a similar nature will I have no doubt be discovered. We owe all this middle to Mr. Barrow. Mr. Barrow is an examiner of accounts in the P. W. D.; I do not know what reputation he has in his own department but I must confess it does not seem to have been enhanced by reason of the new system of accounts he has introduced into the Corporation.

In this connection I should like to mention one other important fact, which I regret I omitted to embody in my Note. Section 103 provides that the Municipal funds shall be held by the Corporation in trust, and as trustees it is their duty to see that the accounts of these funds are properly kept and properly rendered in accordance with the provisions of the law. The General Committee have however usurped that function of the Corporaton and have hitherto been, appointing accounts Sub-Committees and Finance Sub-Committees to supervise the work of the Accounts Department. Beyond laying down under section 142 the manner and form in which the accounts of the Corporation are to be kept in consonance of course with the requirements of section 104 and 107, the General Committee have nothing to do it with the Accounts Department. The appointment of the Accounts and Finance Sub-Committees has therefore been absolutely "ulta vires" and the payment of fees to the members thereof has been wholly illegal. The Corporation has so far allowed their powers and duties in this connection to be encroached upon and it is high time now that they should take up the matter in earnest and deal with it themselves by appointing a standing Committee of their own. I therefore venture also to propose that, if the members of the Corporation are satisfied after considering my note that the change of system in keeping the accounts has been illegal, nearly steps should be taken by the Corporation to place the accounts in conformity with the law.

Dr. Hari Dhone Dutt seconded the motion.

Mr. Apcar seconded the motion.

Babu Kali Charan Paulit proposed that the note of Babu Nalin Behary Sircar C.I.E. be referred to a special committee consisting of eight persons together with the [illegible] for consideration with instructions to the Corporation regarding the system of [illegible] account to be adopted and the organisation of the accounts department.

Babu Nalin Behary Sircar accepted the amendment.

Babu Nalin Behary Sircar accepts the amendment.

The amendment was then put to the vote and carried.

SIR HENRY COTTON.

One of the items for consideration was to sanction the placing in the Town Hall of the bust of Sir Henry Cotton which had been executed by Mr. H. H. Armstead R. A.

This item was carried by acclamation.

NEW TRAM LINES.

An application of the Tramways Company to lay down a double line of Tramways along the Harison Road was considered.

The proposal was then put to the vote and carried.

A LOOP LINE.

An application from the Managing Agent, Calcutta Tramways Company for constructing a Loop Line in Chitpur Road was then considered.

The application was granted.

THE CHAIRMAN'S LEAVE.

The Chairman asked the Corporation for leave of absence from April to November—privilege leave combined with furlough.

The leave was granted.

The meeting was adjourned to Friday, the 4th March.

The Budget day of the Corporation was fixed on Monday the 7th March. That day the meeting will be held in the down stairs of the Town Hall.

For several reasons it is to be hoped that the intelligence from Seoul published in New York is incorrect, chiefly because the Korean troops are likely to be more trouble than use to the Japanese. Korea's troops are for the most part little more than licensed bandits, ill-armed, undisciplined, totally unversed in the usages of civilised warfare; they would be a source of weakness rather than strength to any ally, and their utilisation might be held by the Russians to justify the adoption of the methods of Blagovetchensk towards the unfortunate inhabitants of the Korean Peninsula. There would, it is true, be a rather curious irony in the employment of Korean troops against Russia, because so far as those troops have received any training at all it has been given by Russian officers. That training, however, was of the most elementary character, and at a moment of emergency the whole force would become utterly demoralised. At the most it numbers some 17,000 men, and Japan can well afford to do without such a doubtful accession of numbers. If the statement be well founded it is a remarkable evidence of the way in which Korean officialdom has been influenced by the Japanese naval successes. Hitherto, while the Russians have not been exactly loved in Korea, their prestige has been so great that they have been able to dictate whatever terms the acquiescence of the other Powers permitted; Japan, on the other hand, has, according to a recent writer, been held in unconquerable aversion for centuries, and until a few weeks ago no foreigners were "so deservedly detested as those hailing from the island Empire of the Mikado." The opening of Wiju to foreign trade is another evidence of the waning of Russian prestige, though, under the circumstances, foreign commerce is hardly likely to be attracted thither to any great extent. If there is any spot on the Peninsula which is likely to be the focus of military operations it is Wiju and the mouth of the Yalu River, and the merchants who resort there during the next few months will probably have an extremely lively time. The point to notice is that Russia has persistently and hitherto successfully opposed the opening of the port; Japan has with equal persistence demanded the creation of an international trade mart there. Whether business is done or not, the Japanese can point to the formal opening as a proof that their power is in the ascendant at the Korea capital.—"Pioneer."

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COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH AFGHANISTAN.

At the Society of Arts on Feb. 11 Sir Thomas H. Holdich read a paper before the Indian section on "Our Commercial Relations with Afghanistan," Sir J. West Ridgeway presiding. There were present, among others, Lord Sempill, Lady Cavagnari, Sir Steuart Bayley, Sir W. Lee-Warner, Sir G. Birdwood, Sir E. Durand, and Sir H. Trueman Wood.

Sir Thomas Holdich said that our relations with Afghanistan at the present time were not entirely satisfactory, although it was said to be quite beyond the pale of practical politics at present to alter them. We had made that country a very solid buffer between ourselves and our northern neighbour, and it was in every way desirable that it should remain so. Nevertheless, he thought that a candid and plain statement of our determination eventually to extend and improve our own commercial relations would tend to strengthen our political relations even with Afghanistan. He had spent some years of his life in that country and had been in every province of it, and in direct communication with one or two of its leading men; he knew a little of the temper of the Afghan people and he did not think it impossible to effect the improvement we desired. But if we were in any way to teach the new Afghan generation respect for our position without risking the peace of the border, it must be done by convincing the Afghan son of Israel, who was not always either intolerant or thick-headed, that it was to his advantage as much as ours that his trade and communications should be improved, and that in any circumstances we [illegible] our own mind on the subject and possess [illegible] a policy as definite as that of Russ[illegible] ld be remembered that whoever fir[illegible] tened the integrity of Afghanistan [illegible] he was to-day would stir up a veritable wasps' nest. Twenty five years had consolidated the Afghan army. We did not want another Afghan war on our hands. Equally certainly they might take it that Russia did not; but it did not appear to him that there was in this fact any reason for allowing a nation which should be entirely at one with our interests to block the way successfully and for ever to any scheme of civilised progress such as should improve our [illegible] d bring ourselves and Russia [illegible] rd. The estimated value of [illegible] anistan was about 200,000*l.* [illegible] 170,000*l.* imports. With Cand[illegible] ther greater; but if they made the [illegible] value of exports to Afghanistan and 400,[illegible] ports to India, they had a fair estimate of [illegible] value of trade in 1900, so far as it could be a[illegible] tained from authentic sources as maintained along the two principal trade routes. In 1891-92 these totals were considerably larger, nearly 900,000*l.* exports and 546,000*l.* imports. To what circumstances they should attribute this remarkable depression in the export figures he could not say. It was probably due to competition from the north, and the increase of Russian goods in the markets of the country which followed the completion of the railway to Kushk. It was at any rate satisfactory to observe a certain tendency to recovery in the statistics for 1900. But he did not think that trade with Afghanistan could ever rise to magnificent proportions. Sir Thomas Holdich proceeded to consider the question in detail and dealt with the commercial possibilities by the light of our present knowledge of Afghan geography. When all was said and done, he admitted that if we regarded the commercial question from the local point of view alone there was not enough to justify any large outlay in the improvement of communications by railway construction for the benefit of Afghan trade. As to the imperial view, he said that we might be compelled one day to hold Jelalabad on the north, and Candahar on the south, and that a railway to either place would become a strategical necessity. But he looked on this strategic necessity as a long way off at present, and was not prepared to advocate railways on such principles. He was, however, an advocate for a comparatively short and easy connection between the Russian and Indian railway systems, which, passing through that part of Afghanistan which held out the best hope of local commercial development, would unite civilised East and West by the first great iron link that the world had ever seen. He did not suppose that there was any one there who would not be an advocate for a policy of good understanding with all our European neighbours. We did not want to be in a perpetual condition of simmering agitation about the expansion of Russia, which would certainly continue to expand, impelled by a principle of national development which was common to all nations of the world, until it reached its natural and inevitable limit. Nor was there need to be nervous about where and when that limit would be found. Year by year we were ourselves approaching our own limits, just as Russia was approaching hers. Year by year, too, was the principle that it concerned all nations to maintain the balance of power evenly by means of peaceful negotiation rather than by force of arms becoming more and more the business principle of the world's diplomacy. It was, to his thinking, but a natural phase of human evolution, which would certainly prevail in the end—an end which seemed as if it were almost within measurable distance already.

In a discussion which followed, the chairman said that the whole issue was as to how far we could develop our commercial relations with Afghanistan without imperilling the policy of a buffer State.

The following officers have been selected as Special Service Officers with the Sikkim-Tibet Mission Escort:—Major Thomas, 84th Punjabis Captain Minogue, West Yorkshire Regiment, and Captain Anderson, 9th Bhopal Battalion.

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THE TILAK CASE.

APPEAL TO THE HIGH COURT.

THE ARGUMENTS.

To-day (25th Feb.) on the Appellate Side of the High Court, the Hon. Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Chief Justice, and the Hon. Mr. Justice Batty heard furtner arguments on the application made by Mr. Bal Gangadrar Tilak, for the revision of the decision of Mr. Lucas, Sessions Judge of Poona. Mr. Clements, the Special Magistrate, who tried appellant on a charge of prejury, found him guilty and sentenced him to eighteen months' digorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 1,000. From this decision Mr. Tilak appealed, and Mr. Lucas convicted him on the first statement, but found there were extenuating circumstances in the case, owing to which he reduced the sentence to one of six months' rigorous imprisonmentand a fine of Rs. 1,000, or, in default, a furtrer term of rigorous imprisonment for two months.

The Hon. Mr. Scott, Advocate-General, instructed by Rao Bahadur Kritikar, Government Pleader, Bombay, and Mr. S. C. Davar, Govenment Pleader, Poona, appeared for the Crown and Mr. Branson and the Hon. Mr. Daji Abaji Khare for the appellant.

Mr. Branson, continuing his arguments, said that he had omitted the name of one of the witnesses. That witness was Durga Shastri, who went to Aurangabad with the party for the purpose of the adoption. At the time of the examination of Mr. Tilak in 1901, the question of adoption was pending and was not decided.

MR. SCOTT'S ARGUMENTS.

The Hon. Mr. Scott, Advocate-General, in arguing the appeal on behalf of the Crown, said that he did not dispute the power of the Court on revision of an order or finding or sentence, but in considering the propriety or irregularity of the finding, sentence or order of the lower Court the Court should follow the decisions in reference to the same. He did not dispute that in considering the propriety or illegality of a sentence or order of the lower Court, the Court could go into the merits of the case, but that could only be done in special cases, where the Court found that a judgment or finding was manifestly wrong. The learned Advocate-General submitted that the Court could consider the correctness, legality or propriety of a finding, sentence or order, but not the reasons given for such finding.

The Hon. Mr. Scott, proceeding, said that the first point taken up by his learned friend was that there was a material error in not issuing a commission for the examination of Kumbhojkar. The reason for not issuing the commission was that Mr. Tilak had control over him, he being a "karbhari" of the trustees on a salary of Rs. 25 per month, and Mr. Tilak had produced letters from Kumbrojkar.

Mr. Branson: Can my friend point out at what stage of the case those letters were produced?

The Hon. Mr. Scott pointed out exhibits D. 64 and D. 7, 8 and 9.

The Chief Justice read the exhibits, and said they referred to a time four years back.

Mr. Scott: But he was then in the service of the trustees.

The Chief Justice: Nagpurkar was also a trustee.

Mr. Scott: Nagpurkar was dismissed, and he might have no power over the witness.

The learned counsel, proceeding, said that the reason for not calling Kumbhojkar was that he was under the control of Mr. Tilak.

The Chief Justice: I cannot see that was a ground for not examining him.

Mr. Scott: Tilak was not then in jail; he was at large.

The Hon. the Advocate-General, proceeding, said that the second objection taken by his learned friend was in reference to the witness Behele. He was the writer of the letter by Tai Maharaj. He was also the writer of the memo. of accounts, and the reasons for not calling him was that the prosecution had cause to believe that he was a witness who would not speak the truth if called. At that time the prosecution was in the hands of Mr. Strangman, and he believed the prosecution and did not call those witnesses. The learned Advocate-General submitted that it had been held in Calcutta that if the prosecution had reasonable grounds for supposing that a witness, if called, would not speak the truth, they were justified in not calling him.

The Chief Justice: And what were the reasons?

Mr. Scott: I cannot tell what the reasons were. The Native gentleman engaged in the case is dead, and Mr. Strangman is now in England. The Magistrate has assigned the reasons for the prosecution not calling them.

Mr. Branson: There was nothing in the finding to show that Mr. Strangman believed what the prosecution had said in reference to those witnesses.

The learned Advocate-General, proceeding, said, after considering the whole case and the documentary evidence, it was for the Court to decide whether the omission in not calling those witnesses was such as had prejudiced the accused in his defence.

The Chief Justice: And what have you to say in reference to witness Shankar Bhura?

Mr. Scott: He was not called, as he could speak only to the confinement of Tai Maharaj.

Mr. Branson: He and the cook were in the service of the prosecution, and they were with Tai Maharaj at Aurangabad.

The Hon. Advocate-General then proceeded to deal with the case for the prosecution in general, and said their case was that Bala Maharaj was all along the boy whom Tai Maharaj wished to adopt.

He then proceeded to point out from the evidence with the intention of Tai Maharaj was in reference to the adoption.

Mr Branson objected, and asked the ruling of the Court as to whether his learned friend was entitled to go into the evidence.

Mr. Scott maintained that he was entitled to show on the evidence that the sentence and order of the Lower Court was right.

The Chief Justice ruled that the Hon. the Advocate-General should confine himself to Mr. Lucas's finding.

The Hon. Mr. Scott, proceeding, said that exhibits D. II and 12 were in reference to Nagpurkar's dissentient minute to the resolution for the adoption of Jagannath. They were written on the 18th of June, the very day of the meeting. Tai Maharaj's intention all along had been to adopt Bala Maharaj, and she was anxious to go to Kholapur in order that she might be present at the marriage ceremony as well as take Bala Maharaj in adoption there. In order that she might not go to Kholapur. Mr. Tilak took her to Aurangabad. The draft of the adoption of Jagannath was settled on the 27th at Aurangabad, by Mr. Tilak and the pleaders, and after the settlement of the document two fair copies were made, one on a Moglai stamp paper and another on a British stamp paper, but the words from the fair draft in reference to the taking of the boy on the lap were comitted. The reason for the omission, the learned counsel pointed out, was that Tai Maharaj would not agree to proceeding to the formality of adoption here. Mr. Tilak had been examined in reference to the omission. It was an important deletion and there was no satisfactory explanation by Mr. Tilak in his examination. It was done, the learned counsel said, because Mr. Tilak knew that Tai Maharaj would not consent to corporeal giving and taking at Aurangabad. It was only natural that the idea of formally giving and taking of the boy on the lap was abandoned at Aurangabad, and that they knew from thetwo telegrams sent by Mr. Tilak on behalf of Tai Maharaj in the sense of the letter written by Tai Maharaja in the presence of Mr. Aston at his bungalow that the boy was "made" by Mr. Tilak. Then they had the documentary evidence to show that Tai Maharaj had not taken the boy on her lap and Mr. Tilak had made a false statement in reference to it. The learned Advocate-General submitted that Tai Maharaj could not have gone through the formal ceremony of taking the boy on her lap in a hole-and-corner way and the whole of the documentary evidence tended to show that the actual ceremony had been postponed till their arrival in Poona. On the arrival of Tai Maharaj in Poona, the first thing she did was the writing of two documents to Mr. Aston as the Agent of the Sirdars ofthe Deccan and they were only consistent with the theory of the case for the prosecution. They showed that the ceremony of taking the boy on the lap was to be performed in Poona.

After tiffin the Hon. Mr. Scott continuing said that the next document, relied on was the report made by Mr. Tilak to the trustees, which the defence contended was not genuine.

Mr. Branson: It was never suggested.

Mr. Scott said that the report was chiefly directed against Nagpurkar.

The case is proceeding.

Calcutta Gazette.—Mar. 2.

APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS.

Maulvi Abdul Huq, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Howrah, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Chittagong district.

Babu Atul Chunder Kerr, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Khulna district.

Babu Nityananda Bhar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Khulna, is appointed to have charge of the Ulubaria subdivision of the Howrah district.

Maulvi Syed Karam Hossain, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hazaribagh, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Noakhali district.

Mr. M. Smither, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is appointed to act, until further orders, as District and Sessions Judge of Murshidabad.

Maulvi Abdur Rahim, Rural Sub-Registrar Thakurgaon, Dinajpur, is appointed to act as Special Sub-Registrar of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Maulvi Syed Abul Mansoor.

PROMOTIONS.

The following acting promotions are sanctioned in the grades of District and Sessions Judges:—

To act in the first grade.

Mr. C. P. Caspersz, with effect from the forenoon of the 22nd January 1904.

To act in the second grade.

Mr. Lokendra Nath Palit, with effect from the forenoon of the 22nd January 1904.

LEAVE.

Babu Tulsi Charan Pal, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakhali, is allowed combined leave for eight months, viz., privilege leave for three months, and furlough for the remaining period.

Mr. J. E. Webster, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Murshidabad, is allowed combined leave for eight months, viz., privilege leave for three months and furlough for the remaining period.

Maulvi Syed Abul Mansoor, Special Sub-Registrar, Dinajpur, is allowed leave for one month.

MEDICAL.

Captain C. H. Straton, R.A.M.C., Regimental Medical Officer, Dinapore, is appointed to have medical charge of the civil station of Dinapore, in addition to his own duties.

Major S. J. W. Hayman, R.A.M.C., in charge Station Hospital, Barrackpore, is appointed to have charge of the civil medical duties of that station, in addition to his own duties.

S. C. SERVICE.

Babu Jogindra Nath Sarkar, Sub-Deputy Collector, and Superintendent of Distillery, Patna, is allowed leave for one month.

Babu Bisseswar das, Sub-Deputy Collector, Burdwan Division, is posted to the Katwa subdivision of the Burdwan district.

Babu Ambu Nath Chatterjee, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Howrah, is transferred temporarily to the Vishnupur subdivision of the Bankura district.

JUDICIAL.

Babu Bepin Behari Mukherji, Officiating Munsif, Dacca, is appointed to act, until further orders, as a Munsif in the district of Chittagong, to be ordinarily stationed at Cox's Bazar.

Babu Promotho Krishna Singh, Munsif, Barisal Backergunge, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge of Backergunge, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Suresh Chandra Ghosh.

Maulvi Syed Abdus Samad, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate, Dacca, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

Maulvi Abdur Rahman Mahmud, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Magistrate, Sirajganj, Pabna, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate, of the second class.

Babu Jogendro Nath Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate, Manbhum, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure,

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, MARCH 3, 1904.

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THE VICEROY'S VISIT TO EASTERN BENGAL.

We have not the slightest doubt that it was far from the intention of the Viceroy to offend anybody by his utterances. On the other hand, the main object of His Excellency's visit to Eastern Bengal was to take the people along with him by the wonderful powers of persuasion which he so eminently possesses. But, we believe, no one will be more sorry than Lord Curzon himself when he comes to know the effect which his speeches at Dacca and Mymensing have produced upon the people of this country. For, there is no doubt that, in his heart of hearts, he desires to carry their good wishes with him. It is, however, our painful duty to inform the Viceroy that no measure of the present Government has rendered him so unpopular as the contemplated dismemberment of Bengal, and that his speeches have only added fuel to the fire of universal discontent that this question has given rise to. We sincerely deplore this state of things; for, as we said the other day, if His Excellency had really made up his mind to partition Bengal, he was not willing to do it without the sanction of the people, if possible.

What surprised the people most was His Excellency's strenuous attempts to prove the so-called fictitious character of the agitation. But, as the agitation is genuine, and the entire people of Bengal, are, to a man, opposed to the measure, His Excellency's attitude simply created astonishment. Then, the manner in which he sought to establish his case not only showed the weakness of the position of the Government but proved the genuiness of the whole thing. At Dacca he produced a circular of the Mymensing Association to show that the agitation was the work of some wire-pullers. Yet, Lord Curzon himself would adopt the same method at home, if he were now to contest a Parliamentary seat with a Liberal candidate. Why should he then condemn a method which is resorted to everywhere for political agitation and which he himself would not hesitate to adopt for the same purpose?

Suppose a few English district were proposed to be transferred to Scotland. What would be the procedure to protest against such a masure? Well, the leaders of the affected districts would form a central organization, appoint lecturers to stump the country, distribute tens of thousands of leaflets, and by these means would seek to rouse both the literate and the illiterate classes. No one in England would consider this kind of agitation as fictitious. Why should it be considered so in Eastern Bengal, because the people there followed exactly the same line?

In his Mymensing speech the Viceroy gave evidence of his annoyance in a very tangible way. Can it be due to the unfortunate incident described in the following telegram of the Secretary to the Mymensing Association?

"The Magistrate asked the Secretary of the Mymensing Association whether he had issued instructions not to salaam the Viceroy on his way from the railway station to the Maharaja's palace. The Secretary told the Magistrate that the police had instructed the Chowkidars to stand erect and not salam, and the Chowkidars instructed the people not to salam. The Secretary has written to the Magistrate to communicate this to the Viceroy as it is said His Excellency became annoyed for people not salaaming him."

We shall refer to the matter later on and show how the freedom of the people was interfered with in the matter of welcoming the Viceroy. Said His Excellency when addressing the Mymensing public: "I found the streets at Dacca placarded with mottoes expressly sent for the purpose from Calcutta containing the words, 'Pray do not sever Bengalies.'" Again: "This morning also," continued the Viceroy, "upon my arrival here, I saw crowds of men holding up placards also sent from Calcutta and also written in English with inscription, 'Do not divide us'" And, in these placards and mottoes, the Viceroy found an incontestable proof of the hollowness of the agitation!

But, surely, these placards and mottoes had nothing to do with the great mass meeting of Mymensing, which was attended by about 40 thousand people, representing all classes, and which was presided over by such a distinguished nobleman of the country as Maharajah Soorja Kanta. And pray what connection is there between these mottoed placards and the five hundred public meetings held in every part of Dacca and Mymensingh, each attended by hundreds of people? For, not a single one of them found its way into the interior when almost every important village had its protest meeting. The Viceroy strongly objects to these placards being sent from Calcutta; from which we may fairly draw the inference that His Excellency would have considered them quite innocent things if they were printed at Dacca,—is it not?

But, is the Viceroy aware that it was not Calcutta but Dacca which made these placards and mottoes? This is what our Dacca correspondent says:—

"Among the many inaccuracies in the Viceroy's Mymensingh speech one is so glaring that it even requires a telegraphic protest. The Viceroy said: 'I found the streets of Dacca placarded with mottoes expressly sent for the purpose from Calcutta. Whatever might be the quarter whence the information was got the statement is absolutely unfounded. The zinc plates used in printing them were manufactured here and are still open to inspection not to speak of the mottoes whose local origin is hardly open to question. The Viceroy while on the spot, might easily have satisfied himself on the point."

With reference to the issue of a circular by the Mymensing Association, its Secretary, throws the following light upon the subject:—

"In the Viceroy's Dacca speech His Excellency quotes passages from circulars issued by the Mymensingh Association to moffasil; but curiously enough he is silent about one passage in the said circular which states that the Association received a large number of letters on the partition question, enquiring about various matters. As it was impossible to write so many replies a printed circular was issued answering generally to all the points raised in those letters."

And a telegram from Tangail states that, meetings in that Sub-division were held before any of these circulars reached that quarter. What a situation for our great and wide-awake Viceroy! He accuses the promoters of the agitation with having used all sorts of arguments "to deceive the ignorant and credulous classes," which acousation, however, is unfounded. But what is quite clear is that Lord Curzon himself was deceived by his subordinates with the apparent object of his mind being prejudiced against the representatives of the people. The proper course for His Excellency was to trust the popular leaders, who would have never ventured to throw dust into his eyes, as they have an abiding interest in the country. But what His Excellency did was to put faith in his subordinates and the result is the awkward position in which he finds himself. Of all persons, the Viceroy can ill afford to make statements which have no foundation in fact.

Indeed, the Viceroy was kept utterly in the dark about the gigantic preparations made to give him a fitting reception. And how? Well, having kept the people away, the officials were the only parties through whom he heard and saw. At Mymensing the police instructed the Chowkidars, and the Chowkidars instructed the people, not to salam the Viceroy. The latter had every right to be annoyed at this discourtesy. But, of course, the Viceroy was not acquainted with the real truth, and the poor Secretary of the Mymensing Association was sought to be made a scape-goat!

Judging from the telegram of the Secretary published above, what happened seems to be this. The Viceroy was struck by the conduct of the people who did not salute him. He enquired of the reason, and was told by the officials that the Secretary of the Mymensing Association was wholly responsible for it! Yet he was as innocent of this contretemps as Lord Curzon himself. We thank the Magistrate for having brought the matter to the notice of Secretary; otherwise, the Viceroy would have never come to know that it was the officials themselves, and not the representatives of the people, who were responsible for the discourtesy. In justice and fairness to the Secretary to the Mymensing Association, the Viceroy, we trust will be pleased to ask an explanation on the subject from the Magistrate of Mymensing.

The authorities were equally meddlesome at Dacca. The application for permission to hold a loyal and respectful demonstration on the arrival of the Viceroy at Dacca was refused. Similarly, the people, owing to official interference, had to give up the idea of decorating the railway line from Naryangunj to Dacca. So was also the case about offering Sanskrit benedictions by half a dozen Pundits on the arrival of the Viceroy at the Dacca Railway platform. The stanzas containing the benedictions had no reference to any political matter, but still the Commissioner would not permit the ceremony. From time immemorial the Pundits have considered it a privilege to offer such benedictions to kings and rulers, and the latter in their turn have always regarded it as an honour to receive them. Lord Northbrook in due deference to the custom of the country reverentially received the benedictions of the Pandits when he visited Dacca in the seventies as Viceroy, and his memory is still cherished with due affection. And, lastly, there was an attempt at holding a "Sankirtan" party in His Excellency's honour, but it was given up in consequence of the attitude of the authorities.

We sincerely believe that, if the Viceroy did not permit the authorities to make His Excellency unapproachable to the people, then he would have been pleased with the latter, and left a sweet fragrance behind him. Unfortunately, the result is most disappointing on both sides. His Excellency did not conceal his disgust with the placards posted in the streets of Dacca and Mymensing. Did his eyes meet with the following mottoes printed in dozens of them, namely, "Long live Lord Curzon," "Long live the Viceroy?" That was the feeling which animated the breasts of the people in East Bengal when he decided to visit it. But alas! the conduct of the officials and the utterances of the Viceroy had a most chilling effect upon their hearts, and dashed all their fond hopes to the ground.

A PETITION FROM THE DEAD.

Before deciding the question of building a new Province, His Excellency the Viceroy should prepare an estimate of cost. This done, he should ascertain where is the money to come from. That this venture will require a fabulous sum of money goes without saying, though we cannot say just now definitely what the actual cost is likely to be. We have, however, a very clear idea about point number two, that is to say, about the source whence the money is to come. We know this for cetrain that the cost will have to be furnished by the people of Bengal,—the old and the new Province—and not by Messrs. Risley and Garth; and that a portion of the required fund is likely to be raised by starving useful works.

This huge partition project rests upon one single pillar, namely, the allegation that the Province of Bengal is too heavy for one Lieutenant-Governor. Taking this allegation as absolutely correct, the Government proposes to split Bengal into two in the so-called interests of the people and almost double the cost of the present administration. But where is the proof that Bengal is too heavy for one administrator? There is none. The assertion is based upon a pure assumption. And it is upon a pure assumption that this ruinous project is sought to be built up. The allegation, that Bengal is too heavy for one administrator, is not only a pure assumption but also not true. We think we can prove it conclusively, and let us therefore have some discussion on this point.

Mr. W. Stead of the "Review of Reviews," is a spiritualist, that is to say, he believes in the allegation that the dead can and do talk with the living, and it is said that Lord Curzon also believes in this philosophy. Is it not a great thing that the Viceroy believes in a next world? For it means that he has to be good and just, not only for the sake of three hundred millions of people entrusted to his charge, but also for his own sake. But to proceed with Mr. Stead.

Suppose in disposing of the point, namely, that Bengal is not too heavy for one administrator, we seek the help of the dead. Well, in that case, here is a draft petition which we hope Mr. Stead will be able to put before the parties concerned for their acceptance and signatures:

"The humble petition of Frederick Halliday, J. P. Grant, Cecil Beadon, William Grey, George Campbell, Richard Temple, Ashley Eden, Rivers Thompson, Stewart Bayley, Charles Elliott, Alexander Mackenzie, John Woodburn and C. C. Stevens.

"Sheweth,—That your Excellency's petitioners while on earth, occupied the position of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

"That though their duties were onerous, they had yet advantages which enabled them to perform them with ease. The people were gentle and non-criminal; the administrators were helped by a large number of educated and highly-paid Civilians, and a competent staff of native subordinates on smaller salaries.

"That entering into this world of spirits, where gold cannot be carried, your petitioners have come to realize most fully that they did wrong to the poor people of the Province they ruled, by taking so large a pay, larger than that of the Prime Minister of England.

"That, being in this world and therefore nearer God, they tremble with apprehension how it will be possible for them to face the Father of all nations including the one they ruled, when they will have that privilege, and justify their conduct in having taken so much money from a people so poor, a farthing of which they have been able to bring with them.

"That they have been pained and alarmed to hear that the Province, that they ruled while on earth, is going to be divided into two, on the ground that it is too big for one administrator.

"This your petitioners think a preposterous proposition. If the Province was really heavy, how was it possible for your petitioners, thirteen strong, if we include Stewart Bayley, Charles Elliott and C. C. Stevens who are however yet on the other side—and may they stay there for many years to come!—to rule the Province with success?

"Besides, Bengal was in almost a state of chaos when two of your petitioners, namely, Halliday and Grant ruled. During the rule of the latter five millions of indigo ryots rebelled against their oppressors, yet he was never granted an assistant Governor nor did he pray for one. Then, in the sixties and seventies hafl-a-dozen of your petitioners had to govern East Bengal and Orissa without any railway communications whatever.

"Two of your petitioners unfortunately suffered from illness, but that was not the result of over-work. A. Mackenzie had a weak heart and therefore suffered from insomnia, yet he managed to rule the Province alone. Indeed he was not at all for the transfer of Chittagong to Assam when his opinion was sought on the subject in 1896. J. Woodburn's stomach was naturally bad, and hence he was laid up with dysentry for about a year; yet the machinery of the administration was not in any way disturbed.

"The fact is, efficient Secretaries, Members of the Revenue Board, and the District Magistrates did all the real work of the administration and a Chief was wanted only for the purpose of direction and control.

"It is stated in Mr. Risley's letter to the Bengal Government that the population of Bengal has grown from sixty-eight millions in the sixties to seventy-eight millions in 1900, and hence the work of the Lieutenant Governor has increased. It is, however, forgotten that these ten or eleven millions, added to the population of Bengal, are not ferocious and turbulent Afgans but gentle and law-abiding people who can be controlled even by a native Deputy Magistrate. Besides the machinery of Government has been made more easy by railway, steamer service, roads and telegraphs, as well as by the increase of a large number of additional officers appointed since the sixties. The progress of education, the growth of the press and the unpaid services of the people have also helped the cause of good administration.

"In the days of many of your petitioners all these advantages were wanting to a large extent; and if they could yet manage the affairs of the Province without the help of another Lieutenant-Governor surely, there is much lesser necessity for one now.

"It is also very unjust to your petitioners that two men are now proposed to be engaged for work which was done by your petitioners single-handed. It can not be possible that the countrymen of your petitioners have so degenerated as to need the services of two for works which were done before by one, specially when their duties are less onerous than before, and they possess advantages which their predecessors did not.

"If they are really so degenerated, how can they claim the full salary which your petitioners enjoyed?

"And your petitioners as in duty bound &c &c."

As stated above, we have included in the list of the petitioners the names of parties who are, happily for us, yet in the land of the living. So it will be more easy to take their sigatures first than those who are on the other side. Besides, of the living, Sir Charles Elliott was never for any serious partition; he only proposed the transfer of the Chittagong, not because Bengal was too heavy but, because, it was necessary for particular administrative purposes. Indeed, he distinctly said the other day to the London correspondent of the "Englishman," who had interviewed him, that he was never for the transfer of Dacca and Mymensing. As for Sir C. Stevens, he has already strongly declared against the partition.

We do not know whether it will be possible for Mr. Stead to procure the necessary signatures to the above petition. But it is certain, if the former rulers of Bengal could be brought to give their evidence, they would declare in one voice that there was no necessity for splitting Bengal into two parts, and place them under two separate Lieutenant-Governors.

LORD GAURANGA, THE LAST AVATAR.

*(Publised in Thursday's "daily Patrika")

To-day four hundred nineteen years ago, was born a Being to whom many of our people, though demoralized by the materialstic teachings of the West, owe their faith in the philosophy of Avatar. It is sometimes claimed for certain very exalted beings that they had carried to mankind a message from the God Himself. The Indians were asked seriously by Christian missionaries to accept Jesus Christ as such a being, and the educated Indians very naturally rejected the Biblical narrative. The idea seemed preposterous that God should send a message to the Jews alone, and to none others. The character of Jesus was unapproachably exalted; yet he could influence during his life-time only a few low-class men without education.

The proofs of the existence, and sayings and doings of Jesus, furnished by Christians, did not seem at all satisfactory. Besides, the Christians wanted that divine power which is necessary to make conversions. Their character did not seem to the Hindus so high as to entitle them to be respected as religious leaders. For they, most of them, behaved just like ordinary men, and very much worse than the pious men the Hindus were used to see in their own community.

We used an expression above, namely, "divine power". Really pious men acquire this power. Fancy the achievement of the Bengalees, followers of Sakya Muni, who sent missions to Thibet, China, Japan, Korea, and Central Asia. How did they go to such places among cannibals? How did they acquire influence? How could they prove that there was such a country as India, that there was such a personage as Sakya Muni? The ablest of Christian missionaries will not be able to do that. The fact was, that the Budhistic missionaries carried that power. It is now asserted that these men even civilized and colonized Mexico.

Of course the life of Sree Krishna resembles in some respects the life of Jesus. But Sree Krishna was born in those days when the God and gods were more accesible. Faith in Sree Krishna was imbibed by the Hindus with their mother's milk. A faith in Sree Krishna did not, therefore, prepare the ground for a faith in Jesus. In short, the narrative of the career of Jesus Christ was rejected in India, as mythical.

Yet Jesus could not be absolutely rejected by the Hindus. Their sacred books laid down a law which they were obliged to obey. It is this that God sends messages to earth whenever He feels it necessary to establish the superiority of Righteousness over Sin. This is against the Christian doctrine which says that God sent a message to man only once, and He will never do it again. The Hindus naturally believed the proposition laid down by their prophets as being more rational, and more in consonance with the impartiality and the goodness of God. So the charitable among them said that if Jesus really existed, of which there is no conclusive proof however, he was no doubt an Avatar, but yet not so great as Sree Krishna was, for their law, laid down by the Hindu sacred books referred to above, meant that, He sent missions to all nations, according to their capacity. We find the following in the "Life of the Lord Gouranga":—

"If God sends a messenger to one place, it is natural to expect that He sends others to other places. Man is a progressive being, and he needs subtler spiritual food as he grows spiritually. What sufficed for the Jews in the days of Abraham, did not meet their requirements at the time of Jesus. Is it, then, a sacrilege to suppose, that if God Almighty sends messengers at all, He would send them at different periods of the world's history, and human progress"

The fact is when the Christians have accepted a Messiah, they have no help but to accept the messiahs of other nations. The book referred to above says on this point:—

"The denial of any widely-accepted Messiah would lead to the denial of almost every religion in this world; for, most religious faiths are founded upon messages from above. There is a ceaseless quarrel over Messiahs between Budhists, Christians and Mussulmans. If the followers of Christ claim the right of denying the reality of other prophets, they thereby entitle the followers of other Prophets, to claim the same right of denying the genuineness of theirs. And what will be the result? Budhists and Mussulmans will reject Christ, and only Christians uphold him; Mohamedans will support their Prophet while both Christians and Budhists will repudiate him, and the same treatment will be meted out to Budha by the followers of every other Prophet. In this manner the genuineness of every Prophet would be disproved. The Hindus accept all, and this is in accordance with the Impartiality and Fatherhood attributed to the Creator."

The Lord Gauranga flourished at a time when the Hindus and Mussulmans were fighting for the mastery of India. Since then, the Hindus enjoyed never a day of peace, and thus the sayings and doings of the Lord remained almost a sealed book in many parts of India. But now that country enjoys peace His life was published, and it showed that what Jesus Christ was alleged to have done, the Nadia Lord actually did, nay He accomplished more than what was alleged to have been accomplished by the former.

The credentials of Jesus Christ are to be found in the miracles he performed; all the same and more miracles were performed by Lord Gauranga. So if it is proved that a Being accomplished all in Nadia what Jesus was alleged to have done in Judia, a faith in Lord Gauranga paves one's faith in Jesus. In short, those who believe in the divinity of Lord Gauranga also believes, not only in the existence but also of the divinity of Jesus Christ. So the Vaishnavas, that is to say the followers of the Lord, are also Christians and something more. What that something is we shall explain presently.

The account given of the life of Jesus is comparatively meagre, but the sayings and doings of Sree Gauranga have been preserved for us, even to the minutest detail, by eye-witnesses and immediate followers, themselves learned and holy men of the highest character. His advent was followed by the appearance of thousand of books bearing his life and character, and the creation of thousands of saints, saintly families, and sacred places. Many of the localities where the other Prophets carried on their labours can hardly be traced now. But traces of the wanderings of Lord Gauranga are to be seen in thousands of places throughout this country, from Agra to Cape Comorin. Nadia, where he was born, is only about 70 miles from Calcutta.

No Prophet was worshipped by his followers as the Lord God Himself, but Lord Gauranga was worshipped as such not by a few but millions, not by the illiterate, but by the intellectual Pandits of Nadia, whose metaphysical subtleties, according to Mr. Cowell, puzzle the European brain.

He performed the miracles attributed to Jesus and more, but that is not the reason for which He was worshipped as the God Almighty. He performed miracles in secret for purposes of His own, and not for the purpose of establishing His claim as the Supreme God. He sat in the lowliest of huts with a piece of rag round his loins, yet He was regarded by millions that it was He who had created this universe. No being with a human shape has as yet been able to extort such an honor from mankind. He was regarded as the God Himself by His character. He was so perfect a Being—physically, mentally, morally and spiritually—that the excellence that was seen in Him was considered above the reach of humanity. All Prophets preached Love of God as the highest stage to which man can attain. But Lord Gauranga did more. He not only preached Love of God but He showed by example how to love God. That was a feat never before accomplished by any Prophet before Him.

Police Inspector Bepin Behari De Dinajpur, who was involved in a nasty case and sentenced to 25 years' rigorous imprisonment, has been acquitted on appeal by the High Court. He has been reinstated, and, we are told, he will be recompensed for all he had to spend for his defence. The cost will come up to a very large amount. Now, this fight was practically between Mr. Fisher, the District Judge, and Mr. Garrett, the District Magistrate; for, Bepin was backed by the latter, while the former openly declared against him. The adage is, "the wild buffaloes fight and the cane jungles where they reside suffer". The District Judge and the District Magistrate fought with each other over a Police Inspector, and the Indian tax-payers have to pay for the protracted litigation! A nice arrangement, is it not? If it is really decided to pay Bepin's expenses, the amount should be realized from the salaries of the two fighting Civilians. And then, is not the spectacle most astounding that, while, in the opinion of the District Judge, the accused deserved such a ferocious punishment as 25 years' rigorous imprisonment which is perhaps worse than death, certainly more terrible than transportation for life—in the opinion of the High Court, he deserved no punishment at all? This sort of administration of justice shows that there is some screw loose somewhere in the administrative machinery. The case ought to attract the notice of the Government.

Of course Russia's trouble is England's opportunity. But suppose the Russo-Japanese war had not broken out, would not then the English Government have found itself in a very queer position with regard to the Thibet affair? It is now quite clear that it is simply to checkmate Russia that the Thibet expedition has been undertaken, the ground that the Thibet Government had not observed the treaty engagements being a mere plea. The good star of England, however, is always on the ascendant, and thus she is not likely to meet with any serious difficulty in regard to this matter. All the same, it is clear that an influential section of the English public is very much opposed to the measure, and this is no doubt chiefly due to the exertions of Sir Henry Cotton who has done a yeoman's service in this connection. Indeed, he has given evidence of the fact how even a single man, though an Anglo-Indian official, who is regarded almost as much an alien in England as an Indian, can move the English people in the right direction with regard to matters relating to India, if he is earnest and confident of the righteousness of his cause. Very few Englishmen, if any, knew anything about Thibet and its relations with England. Sir Henry has, however, not only made the subject but also the unwisdom of the undertaking plain to most men in England, by his public speeches and communications to newspapers. And now we find that a leading English nobleman in the position of Lord Rosebery stating in the House of Lords that he wished the English would withdraw from the Thibet expedition, for it "had a malancholy resemblance to Lord Lytton's first Afghan War".

The Indians are vitally interested in the expedition, as they will have to meet the cost. But though they have to pay the piper they have no right to call the tune. In the whole world, it is India alone which presents such a unique spectacle, though it is under the rule of the most enlightened and moral nation in Europe. As usual, its people were totally ignored when the question of sending the expedition was discussed by the Government, and the whole expense of conducting it has now been thrown upon their shoulders. And all this has been done in violation of the Parliamentary Act which provides that, India should not be made to pay for such expeditions without the sanction of Parliament. The estimates of cost is not very large at the outset, but we all know, how it will go on swelling. The original estimate for the first Afghan expedition under the Lytton Government was only two crores of rupees. But, when the war terminated, it was found that upwards of thirty crores had been wasted in the Afghan territory to satisfy the whims of Lord Lytton. The last Burma war was undertaken by Lord Dufferin on the distinct understanding that, the expenses would not exceed three lakhs. But several hundred times three lakhs were needed to bring the war to an end. The Thibetans have never known foreign yoke. They are therefore not likely to yield without making a last struggle to preserve their independence. Then, in spite of Russia's trouble with Japan she may yet help them with her armed hordes. The whole of Central Asia may also support the Thibetans. The expedition may not thus come to a speedy termination and this means enormous cost and further starvation to India.

Mr. H. M. Kisch, officiating Director-General of the Post Office of India, who will soon be relieved by Sir Arthur Fanshaw on his return from leave, intends to take special leave for six months. Mr. Kisch was once offered the officiating appointment of the

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, but he did not accept the acting appointment as there was then the likelihood of Sir Arthur Fanshawe's retirement while on leave in England and of his own appointment as permanent Director-General of Post Office.

THE Government of the United Provinces was lately disconsolate over its failure in getting a sentence, passed upon a poor accused by a Magistrate, enhanced. It had intended to appeal to the High Court against the decision of the Magistrate, but before it could move the High Court, it was discovered that the Hon. ble Judges had already disposed of the appeal of the prisoner. The result was, the Government could not take any further step in the matter. It however, consoled itself by issuing an order to the effect that Magistrates should henceforth give prompt intimation to the Government Advocate of their decisions so that Government might have sufficient time at its disposal to go through the records of the cases to move the High Court for the enhancement of punishment when necessary. This shows clearly the principle upon which the administration of criminal justice is based in this country. In England and other civilized countries, appeal against acquittal is considered monstrous. In India, the enlightened Government however not only feels no scruple to take such a step, but does not move at all to give relief to an accused if he is unjustly punished or sentenced to a severer punishment than he deserves.

A PARISIAN astrologer named Jacob agrees with most astrologers in predicting a year of horrors for 1904 and he sums up the situation as follows: Here is the horoscope for 1904, made at the moment the sun entered the sign of Capricorn. It indicates a year of great evil in London. The Viceroy of India abdicates. The United States have grave quarrels with Russia and Germany. Roosevelt falls sick, and a conspiracy is hatched against him. Serious financial disasters in America. The Emperor of Japan has a grave accident. An attempt on the life of the Emperor of China. Volcanic shocks in Constantinople, Chili, and Philippines. A year of unhealthy literature and unlimited materialism. The French Cabinet falls between 7 and 19 April. A panic in a music-hall, grave accidents and popular disturbances in Russia. An attempt to poison the Tsar. Serious dissensions between Russia and Austria. England loses prestige. The campaign in Thibet falls through. Tremendous failures in Calcutta and the Transvaal. Anarchist troubles in Spain; the Government threatened. In China women massacred. Everywhere crimes of passion, mysterious deaths and strange phenomena. Finally: 1904 is an anagram of 1409, the date of the birth of Joan of Arc. This year a wonderful child will be born with a high destiny, showing its power in 1924 an anagram of 1429, the date of the apogee of Joan of Arc. The astrologer is French and so France is the only country which escapes the cataclysm that is coming to engulf the wor

THE Official Secrets Bill be taken up for final disposal at the next meeting of the Supreme Council, that is to say, on the 4th of March. Of course, the general impression is that it will be passed as amended by the Select Committee. Yet Lord Curzon may spring a mine of agreeable surprise upon the public by dropping it altogether. As a matter of fact, His Excellency performed a still more difficult feat by withdrawing the Press Messages Bill which was all but passed. Of one thing there are no two opinions. If Lord Curzon allows the Bill to become law, he will make himself intensely unpopular both with the Indian and the European communities. On the other hand, he will carry the good will of all with him if he is strong enough to veto the measure. It thus rests entirely with Lord Curzon to choose between popularity and unpopularity. If the measure is sought to be passed, we hope, either the member in charge of the Bill or the Viceroy will explain why has this measure been thrust upon this country and the freedom of the press attempted to be curtailed. In England the press is exempt from the operation of the Official Secrets Act; here, the main object of the measure is to muzzle it. We sincerely regret that Lord Curzon's name should be associated with such an act, for, he has ever been known as a friend of the press.

THE following advertisement appears in an up-country paper:—

"GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

"An examination, open to Europeans and Eurasians only, for admission into the Telegraph Training Class at Lucknow, will shortly be held. Candidates, who must be between the ages of 18 and 20, should apply for all further particulars to the Assistant Superntendent of Telegraphs, Lucknow Sub-division, Telegraph Office, Lucknow."

Pray, why should the examination be open to Europeans and Eurasians only, and not to the natives of the soil? Is it because they have a greater right to these appointments than Europeans and Eurasians? Such discreditable acts are certainly not making British rule popular in this country. When the deliberations of the Railway Conference at Delhi were brought to light, they naturally created a great deal of indignation. Lord Curzon then sought to allay public feeling on the subject by declaring that the Government had nothing to do with that matter. All the same, the "Poor Whites" are filling up all important, and many unimportant, posts in the Railway Department. So His Excellency's assurance availed absolutely nothing. Similarly, if the Supreme Government were interpellated on the scandalous advertisement quoted above, the Viceroy would possibly plead total ignorance. But as he is the head of the Government, surely His Excellency should prevent his subordinates from bringing disgrace upon the administration by trampling down justice and morality in this indecent and unblushing manner.

ON Saturday last at the High Court Criminal Sessions, the case known as the Bank of Bengal forgery case, was disposed of. The jury after hearing Mr. R. Mehta, counsel for the accused, and the Judge's charge returned a unanimous verdict of not guilty against all the three accused persons; and the Judge accepting it acquitted all of them. The facts of the case, as alleged by the prosecution, were shortly these. So far back as 30th August 1900 an application was made to the Bank of Bengal asking for a book containing cheques by one of the three accused persons. The application purported to have been signed by an officer of the firm of Messrs. Landale and Clarke. A cheque book was made over to the man who brought the application. On that very day a cheque for Rs. 35,000 was presented to the Bank and the amount was paid, according to the evidence of a clerk of the Bank, to Gopinath, one of the accused persons. It was afterwards detected that the signatures on both the application and the cheque were forgeries. The police were duly informed but no trace of any person in connection with the commission of the offence could be found till June 1903. It was alleged that the 32 notes for Rs. 1,000 each paid in satisfaction of the forged cheque were cashed by accused Gopinath and another person. On certain information from the United Provinces police, the Calcutta police went to Agra and succeeded in arresting the three accused persons whom they brought down to Calcutta and prosecuted before the Presidency Magistrate, who committed them to the Sessions. At the Sessions Court they were twice tried. At the first trial, before Mr. Justice Hill, five distinct charges were preferred against them. After a hearing of several days, the jury returned a unanimous verdict of not guilty in respect of the graver charges and the Judge acquitted them of those charges. But as regards the charges of cheating and abetment the jury were divided in their opinion by 5 to 4. The Judge differed from them and ordered the retrial of the prisoners by a fresh jury. In the meantime Mr. Justice Harington relieved Mr. Justice Hill and the case was disposed of by the former in the manner stated above.

Now this case shows clearly the inefficiency of the police and their corruption in getting up false cases. These three innocent persons were detained in Hajut since August last and they had to undergo considerable expense, not to speak of the bodily and mental torture, worry and anxiety, for no fault of theirs. Although the offence was committed in 1900 the police were so inefficient as not to be able to do anything till the middle of 1903, when a contemplative policeman, on certain information from a relative of his in Calcutta, invented a nice and apparently plausible story, though in the end it proved to be a false and got up one, implicating the three persons. The whole machinery was then moved and a detective Inspector and two clerks from the Bank went to Agra. The clerks took six days to indentify the accused, during which time the clerks and the accused occupied the same house. Further during the investigation no respectable independent gentleman was present. Again no independent gentleman was cited as a witness to testify to the manner in which the investigation was conducted. In fact, the police had everything in their own way. Fortunately the accused persons were able to secure the services of an able counsel like Mr. Mehta, who very ably and clearly pointed out the rottenness of the case, otherwise there is no knowing, these innocent God's creatures would have been incarcerated in jail for long terms simply because the police wanted that some persons ought to be hanged, because a crime was committed. So much for the police, but what of the Crown law officers? How could they go on with the prosecution of a case which was so rotten to the core?

AYUL MIA, a lad of fifteen, was placed on his trial before the Sessions Judge of Tippera on a charge of committing murder. The assessors unanimously found him "not guilty." But the Judge disagreeing with them sentenced the boy to transportation for life. Subsequently the case came on appeal before Justices Amir Ali and Pratt. They held it unsafe to convict the accused on the evidence adduced and accordingly acquitted him. Yet, on the same evidence the Sessions Judge of Tippera did not scruple to subject an innocent boy to life-long misery. We hope the result of this case will have a salutary effect upon the official, and that he will be more careful in sifting evidence when dealing with the lives and liberties of his fellow-beings. Only a short time ago, this Judge adjudged a man to be hanged, who, however, saved his life by appealing to the High Court.

A HIGH official of the Bengal Government was asked whether he could give an approximate estimate of the cost that the creation of a new Province would entail upon the country. In reply he said that the Bengal Government had nothing to do with it, and that the India Government would be able to throw light on the subject. A high official of the India Government was thereupon approached with the same question, and his reply was equally characteristic. He said that Lord Curzon had nothing to do with the cost! His Lordship's mission, said he, was to create a new Province, and it was the business of his successor to find the cost of building it. It is lucky for Lord Curzon that he will not be here when the new province in Eastern Bengal will be built up, and consequently will have nothing to do with the huge amount of money required for this purpose.

The Pathan navy is a good worker but a somewhat turbulent gentleman to deal with unless his little weaknesses are humoured. When, therefore, about thousand Pathans were recently sent to the southern section of the Nushki Railway and the duties of keeping order amongst them was entrusted to fifteen or twenty men of the local Brahui Levies, there was trouble with the gangs. The men, with their customary independence, resented any interference with their liberty of action and serious disputes arose. It could not exactly be said that mutiny broke out, for the term would not be applicable, but the men certainly got out of hand. It would seriously have interfered with work on what is now regarded as an urgent project if their services had been lost, for this might have interfered with the engagement of Pathans at all, who are extremely clannish in the matter of labour. Fortunately the trouble was settled by the intervention of the Railway Staff, and Pathan and Brahui are no longer at loggerheads.—"Pioneer."

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

[*From our own Correspondent.*]

LONDON, FEB. 12.

PHRASE FOR THE WEEK.

"It is the duty of everyone who regards a doctrine as true and important to do what he can towards diffusing it, leaving the results to be what they may.

"Only by varied iteration can alien conceptions be forced on reluctant minds."

—HERBERT SPENCER.

THE WAR IN THE EAST.

I do not propose to say anything about the events that are taking place in Far Eastern waters and will probably be taking place on land by the time that this Letter reaches you, for you receive the telegrams almost as soon as we do, but I feel that I must not omit a reference which appears in to-day's "Daily Telegraph" dealing with the view taken of the Eastern situation in St. Petersburg so late as last Monday evening. The "Telegraph's" correspondent forwards his communication by post; he did not risk its stoppage by the keen official who controls telegraphic messages. The story told shows how the peace-loving Czar has been rushed into war with Japan by his Ministers. They told him that there was peace when there was no peace. Their opinion with regard to the Japanese is identical to that of Mr. Chamberlain with regard to the Boers. It was thought that the Japanese never meant to fight; that they were merely 'bluffing.' While events were rapidly coming to a crisis in the Far East the great White Czar was showing special courtesy to the Japanese Minister at his Court, strong in the belief that the dispute would be settled without an appeal to arms. I summarise an extraordinary message from St. Petersburg which the "Telegraph" publishes this morning. Russia's fateful mistake, it is stated, was to believe what Admiral Alexeieff regarded as the truth, namely, that Japan did not really intend to fight. Very hard things are being said of the Admiral and of his appointment to negotiate with Japan. Count Lamsdorff, in an official communique, on Tuesday last says: "The project of a new agreement with Japan was entrusted to General-Adjutant Alexeieff, with the assistance of the Russian Minister in Tokio." Consequently, the Admiral had all the powers of the Foreign Minister, and this most delicate task of dealing with Japan was placed in the hands of an outsider, with no knowledge of diplomacy or experience of politics, however good his record as a conscientious naval officer might be. It seems, too, that the Admiral was recommended to the Emperor by an irresponsible individual named Bezobrazoff, and was forthwith raised to the highest position in the Empire. No one at St. Petersburg believed that war was in sight. "All will yet be well," said the Czar to the Duke Nicholas, only three days before the actual outbreak. "Japan will calm down. There is no danger of war. I began my reign in peace; I shall continue and end it in peace." The story of how the peace-loving Czar was misled by his trusted officials is painful reading. When Lord Lansdowne and Viscount Hayashi were conferring in London on the imminent outbreak of hostilities and two London financial institutions had been warned, private theatricals were going on in the Winter Palace at St. Petersburg, in the presence of Court dignitaries, high officials, and diplomatic representatives, among them the Japanese Ambassador. On Monday last, misled by the assurances of well-meaning officials who, like Admiral Alexeieff had no knowledge of politics, the Czar visited the Opera; and no one thought of taking energetic measures. "Hesitation and suspense," says the correspondent, "paralysed the activity of the departments of State, which had all along been busied with attempts to impress Japan with an adequate notion of Russia's force than with measures to employ that force." It was while the Czar, who had been received with acclamations and hurrahs by the audience at the Opera, was enjoying the spectacle that the fateful telegram arrived bringing the Admirals account of the attack made upon the Russian ships by the Japanese. The officials at the Palace did not immediately deliver the message to the Czar. It was only when he returned after the performance that he learned the news. "He gave emphatic expression to his anger at the officials' lack of judgment, and," says the correspondent, "when Count Lamsdorff called on the Emperor to report to his Majesty on certain international questions, he found the Czar in tears."

RACE FEELING IN INDIA.

Sir Henry Cotton gave an address last night, at the Westminster Palace Hotel, to the Individualist Club, on "The Attitude of Europe to the Asiatic Races." My own engagements, I regret to say, prevented my presence at the lecture. I am, therefore, indebted to the "Daily News" reporter for the following brief description and summary which I am able to give here. Japan, Sir Henry observed, a generation ago, had sprung, as it were, in full panoply from the head of Jove. It had entered into alliance with Great Britain on equal terms, and was now at war with the greatest European Power. Such a condition of things would have appeared incredible thirty years ago or less, but it illustrated what might, perhaps, be the case with other Asiatic States. Speaking of the present relations between Englishmen and the races of India, Sir Henry said that bitterness of feeling was more marked than in a former generation. As a result of education, there was now a claim to equality on the part of educated natives, and this had done more than anything else to create the friction. It was an offence to many Englishmen to travel in the same railway carriage with an Indian, and the usual thing was for the Indian to be ejected with all his goods and chattels. As an instance which he termed typical of the extraordinary arrogance maintained by the white race in India, Sir Henry stated that a Raja, invited to the Durbar, was travelling to Delhi in a first class carriage when a subaltern, who had been shooting, got in and ordered the Raja to take off his boots and shampoo his legs. The Raja, it appears, submitted to the will of the white man; but on his return from the Durbar, he avoided the repitition of such an indignity by travelling third class. This sort of thing, said Sir Henry, gave rise to great irritation, and it was a serious matter that mutual dislike between the white and the dark races seemed to be growing. The people of India were naturally grateful for kindness shown to them, and by sympathy and friendliness Englishmen could do much to strengthen British rule in that country.

TWO INDIAN BLUE BOOKS.

Two Indian Blue Books have been published during this week. One of them—that relating to the views of the Government of India on the Chamberlain-Balfour fiscal heresies—is sure to have found publication in the "Gazette of India" simultaneously with its issue here. It is not always the case that important State papers find their way to the light at one and the same time in London and Calcutta. But, one may rest satisfied that Lord Curzon has been wideawake enough in the present instance to secure this. So, as you will have had all the say on that subject which you think it deserves, I will not discuss it here. All I will add is that it finds publication here at a very disastrous time for the Protectionists. Not a single ray of sunshine from any quarter lightens their almost abysmal gloom. Mr. Chamberlain's noisy agitation is being rebuffed on all sides, and his leaving England yesterday for two months is a fitting sign of the states into which his loud, unscrupulous, untrustworthy, propagandism has brought him.

As to the other Blue Book which was given up to Tibet, all the leading papers have referred to it in detail, some quoting page after page of its contents. Generally, the journals hold that a case has been made out for the intervention of the Indian authorities in Tibetan affairs. This, however, is not the universal opinion, for, in one widely-circulated journal I find the following observations:

1. "The official papers relating to the Tibet expedition do not place the Government in any better light than do their negotiations in respect of South Africa."

2. "Meantime, rumours were prevalent that a secret agreement had been effected between Russia and China. Some sharp correspondence followed between Russia and England, and at last Lord Curzon urged that the Home Government should assent to the dispatch of a Mission to Tibet with the view to the establishment of a British Resident in Lhassa itself. Other difficulties followed, natural difficulties enough, seeing that we were clearly pushing our way into Tibet against the wish of the people of that country. Amongst the difficulties came the arrest of two British subjects who were subsequently said to have been killed. This was made the excuse for more resolute action, of course. Russia protested vigorously, and intimated very plainly that if we went forward in Tibet, Russia would seek compensation elsewhere—in China. So that all we have done, and are doing is this: making an opening for a paltry trade for ourselves in Tibet and giving Russia justification for acquiring more Chinese territory."

Whether it be correct or not that the Indian authorities have given Russia an excuse to seek compensation in China, during the past few days Japan has so damaged Russia's reputation in Eastern Asia that the Chinese are not likely for a while to be over troubled with Russian attention.

LORD CURZON'S SUCCESSOR.

Already some of the papers are concerning themselves as to Lord Curzon's successor. It is believed by not a few people here that if your present Viceroy does come to England on leave this year, he will not return to India. There is much to give a colour of accuracy to such a surmise. Naturally, a successor must be provided, and the average newspaper man, with more or less of knowledge of the facts, is quite ready to furnish the information needed. So, the Earl of Minto, now Governor-General of Canada, is designated for the post. Were he selected, he would be a great contrast to your present ruler. Take the point of age. Lord Curzon was forty years old when he began to rule. If Lord Minto found his way to India this year, he would be fifty-seven years of age. That is to say, he would begin his labours in India two years beyond the age when it is found necessary to forbid experienced officials in India to continue their work. No; at nearly sixty years of age, I should think Lord Minto would not want to become Viceroy of India, certainly not as successor to so young and so energetic a man as the present holder of this splendid post. Nor would India want so old a man. Nor, again, do Lord Minto's achievements make him conspicuously fitted for so important and so exacting a position. For, with the exception of the present exalted office which he fills——a ruler in form but not in substance—he has had little civil administrative experience. He has done plenty of soldiering; but that is *not* a recommendation for an Indian Viceroy. Therefore, too much credence need not be placed in the report I have mentioned.

SOME IMPORTANT INDIAN QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

Cancer Returns.

Yesterday, in answer to Mr. Weir's questions as to whether cancer cases were to be separately recorded in dispensary and hospital returns by order of the Government of India, Mr. Brodrick replied that the Revised Returns provide a separate column for cancer cases, but he did not know whether they had actually been brought into operation. He added that the Government of India have the matter in hand.

Corn Duties on British Indian Wheat.

Yesterday Mr. John Sinclair asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he would state approximately the amount of corn duties collected on wheat, rice, and other grain from British India during the period while the recent registration charge of the one shilling per quarter was in force.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain replied: "The approximate amount of duty paid on corn and grain imported from British India during the time the corn and grain duties were in force, was £201,000. Of this amount £128,000 was paid on account of wheat, £52,000 on account of rice, £20,000 on other grain, and £1,000 on farinaceous substances."

Indian Contracts and German Firms.

Sir Thomas Dewar has the following question down on the Paper for next Monday: "To ask the Secretary of State for India if he will state the number and value of contracts for railway plant placed by the Indian railways with foreign makers during the last five years, and what percentage of these contracts were secured by German firms?

Officers' Uniforms.

Sir Seymour King will, on Tuesday, ask the Secretary of State for India whether he is aware that under the regulations lately issued regarding changes of uniform in the Indian Army, officers in the supply and transport corps have had to purchase a new uniform costing about £60, which they only wear once or twice a year on official occasions, such as a Viceroy's levee; and whether in view of the official desire to reduce to a minimum the necessary expenses of the officers of the Indian Army, he will consider the advisability of substituting for use in India a simpler uniform of khaki or other material suitable to the climate and less expensive.

In addition to the above, Sir Seymour King has a long question for Tuesday, voicing the grievances as regards promotion and pay of the officers of the Royal Indian Marines.

Agricultural Banks.

Next week Mr. Weir will ask how many agricultural banks have been established in the different provinces of India up to the present time.

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON, ORATOR AND AGITATOR.

One of the most entertaining and instructive incidents in present-day politics is the growth and development of Lord George Hamilton in the very qualities he was hitherto wont to scornfully discard. He has become "possessed" with convictions on a matter which he fully understands, and, behold he is even as the pestilent agitators upon whom he was in the habit of looking with a superior kind of pity. If he had known India as he knows Free Trade, he could have written "'Prosperous' British India"!! Probably, if anything so dreadful as this were said to him, he would indignantly deny the soft impeachment. Nevertheless, denial or acquiescence, the fact remains that, in his ardent advocacy of the Free Trade cause, he is "even as these others," who, in the presence of what stirred them deeply, spoke with the passion and indignation with which he now speaks. He compels a politically hostile critic of Parliamentary proceedings to say that the noble lord's speech was the effort of the evening on Tuesday last. Like all fine speeches, it was from the heart. The old official became an orator. The rather mild, inexpressive face lighted up, the voice broke with indignation, the arguments came out in a flash, like bolts. It was quite uncompromising. "I left the Cabinet," he said, after declining personal explanations, "because I declined to be associated with a movement which, though called fiscal reform, meant Protection, and I should not have remained a member of the Government after the Sheffield speech of the Prime Minister." He had held all his life, he declared, views identical with those of the amendment, under three Tory Governments he had expounded Free Trade in India and in England, and to repudiate it now, he exclaimed, with the utmost passion, raising his voice almost to a cry, "would be to make my life a subterfuge and a fraud." (Great cheering.) The critic goes on to say: "Lord George would have no shuffling about the issue. The contest *was* between Free Trade and Protection. Protection was now made a revolution—as was Home Rule. Supposing the Unionists had gone about saying that the Union was a hundred years old; that Pit's prophecies had not all been fulfilled; and that meanwhile the issue was not the Union, but administrative reform? What poor trifling, then, to talk of fiscal reform to-day! He dealt powerfully with the Indian question, on which Lord Curzon and the Indian Government had finally declared for Free Trade. So long as we maintained our hold on Free Trade, we could maintain equality between the English and the Indian cotton trade. But not for a moment after Protection. As soon as you gave special favours to the self-governing Colonies, you could not deny them to India, and then twenty millions of Lancashire exports would be in peril. Cheap food and cheap money were two Pillars of Empire. What madmen should we be to throw them away!" I confess, as I note the admirable change which honest convictions, based on adequate knowledge, have made in Lord George Hamilton, I could wish William Sproston Caine were still with us and I were able to interview him on the noble lord, in Kipling's line,—"the same as you and me." Mr. Chamberlain's crusade has done one good thing: it has proved that Lord George Hamilton, when he wills, can be a Man "even as these others."

THE ENDING OF A GREAT ENTERPRISE: NEED IT HAVE ENDED?

The wholly unexpected has happened. Mr. Stead's latest venture, "The Daily Paper", which, to nearly everyone, seemed as if it had come to stay, has ceased to exist. Mr. Stead himself throttled his own offspring, and deprived it of life. How all this came about Mr. Stead states in the valedictory article he addressed to his readers in the last issue of the paper. I do not doubt you will transfer it to your news columns. It deserves to be reprinted in every Indian newspaper. With sorrow and with dignity the accomplished journalist tells how he was driven to destroy so promising an existence. The whole article is singularly characteristic of the man. It reveals him as he is—a man of high ideals and of a most trustful faith. Even such a distressing incident as the overthrow of the most cherished ambition of his life does not lead him into repinings. In the very hour of his greatest mortification he is able, cheerily, to say:

"Hence, to my readers, I do not say 'Farewell', but rather 'Auf Wiedersehen'—'Till we meet again.' I have no inner foreboding that my life-work is finished, or that there is no longer any corner in the vineyard in which I may be of some use to somebody, somehow and somewhen. For the present, I am content to wait. So far as journalism is concerned, and especially journalism for the Home, my faith in it is as high as ever; not is it marred or blurred by my poor failure. 'The Daily Paper' will appear no more, but the ideal which I have attempted to mould in clay may yet be carved in marble by more capable hands. For the moment I may seem wrecked in mid-career,

"Yet, the high soul is left,
And Faith, which is but Hope grown wise, and Love,
And Patience, which at last shall overcome."

That is William Thomas Stead as his friends best know him:—Even more than this article do the selections on page 4, under the heading "Matins", reveal, I think, the man as, in his heart of hearts, he really is. With this idea in mind, Mr. Editor, read Mr. Stead's last Matins, and note how and where he gets his confidence.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

With many others, I accept what Mr. Stead has done because I cannot help myself. But, for the life of me, I cannot understand *why* he did it. The circulation was extremely good for so new a journal,—over 100,000 copies per day, I am told. These, at one halfpenny not each, which is, I suppose, what they would bring in, would much more than cover the £1,000 per week which, so far as I can calculate, was the cost of bringing out the paper. From a commercial standpoint, even though the advertising revenue was not what it should have been, the need for summarily stopping does not appear. If one could really get at the back of Mr. Stead's mind, I imagine the fact would be made clear that the end came because, in his nervous break-down, he considered that the paper—good as we who bought it thought it to be—was by no means the ideal he had in mind when he began it. And, though no single issue fell below a certain high standard, "The Daily Paper", as it appeared, did not attain to what it would have done had Mr. Stead, in robust health and high spirits, been at the helm day by day. In that case, not a single day would have passed but newspaper readers would have had something to say of his originality and entertainingness. Indeed, I believe that had all gone well, and had Mr. Stead been as ably served in the commercial, as he was in the literary, department, he would, ere six months had passed, have had a daily subscription list of half a million with three millions of readers. Because he would do too much himself, because he had not sufficiently thought out and prepared—or arranged for some one else to prepare—the commercial side of the enterprise and because his health wholly broke down, William Thomas Stead has failed to fill the place which his friends trusted he would fill. In filling it, he would have been the most powerful moral and spiritual force in the world at the present time. The failure is one more example of the limitations of even a gifted individual and of the unsatisfautoriness of human existence generally. Why had not William Thomas Stead just a little more wisdom, only a very little? To answer the question as, to me, it seems it can alone be answered, would be to strike at the existence and lovingkindness of that Being in whom the sick Editor believes with all his heart and soul and might.

ANOTHER SEVERE LOSS FOR INDIA.

A fortnight ago, two days after leaving Las Palmas, one of the Canary Islands, on his way to the Cape, voyaging for improved health, Major Cecil Balfour Phipson died at sea. His death is a calamity for India, comparable with the calamities caused by the deaths of Mr. W. S. Caine and Lord Stanley of Alderley. For, like the Member of Parliament and the Peer of the Realm, Major Phipson was a worker on behalf of India. Fortunately, though he himself has been called hence, his work remains. And, in the years to come, when really thorough reforms for India are undertaken, the proposals which Major Phipson has put forward in his "Science of Civilisation", and elsewhere, will furnish the reformer with some of the soundest arguments he can desire, some of the most far-reaching and beneficial reforms which the wit of man is able to devise for the amelioration of human woe. During the past few years this new (and too soon lost) friend of India has been in a most wretched state of health, the foundation of his physical sufferings being attributable to undue exposure in a badly-constructed fort, near Plymouth, while engaged in his military duties. He was a profound thinker, and had discerned more deeply than any other living economist with whom I am acquainted, the trend of present-day policies in currency and in trade. Two of his proposed reforms, if carried out, would, at one and the same time, prevent financial crises and ensure a stable and consistent prosperity, while providing for all the needs of a developing country. Had he been a strong man physically, with ample leisure and means, I do not doubt that the proposals would by this time have entered into the warp and woof of our current existence, and have been on the highway to general acceptance. Whether, among those who studied his works and regarded him as a master, one will arise who will carry his views to a successful issue, remains to be seen. Ten days before he left London for the Canary Islands, he was present at a meeting, held at the house of his sister, Mrs. D'Arcy Hutton, at which it was decided to start a small society for the discussion and dissemination of his views. As there happens to be among the number of those who on that occasion discussed the proposal, a young man of considerable energy and ability, with time at his disposal, some practical issues may be realised. Personally, Major Phipson was a man wholly without guile, a thoughful and considerate gentleman, one whose presence radiated nobleness and kindly intercourse, and who made himself beloved by all who had the advantage of his acquaintance, especially by young people. To the writer of this paragraph, his loss is a keenly felt sorrow. In that complementary volume to "'Prosperous' British India," without which the delineation of India's bad economic condition is less than half of a completed project, Major Phipson had agreed to take a part. He had engaged to deal with one or two important phases of India's need, carrying forward some of his own ideas into practical detail. The loss to India by his death is great, for he had not entered upon the task which he regarded as the highest and most important of any duty he had ever undertaken. It is probable that the sequel to "'Prosperous' British India" will never find publication. But, had Major Phipson written his portion of the book, that, at least *should* have found publication, if I had had to beg the cost of bringing it out by 4-anna pieces from everyone I knew. The world is the poorer for the death of Major Phipson, while India experiences a calamity she has not deserved.

A POTENT ANTIDOTE TO MALARIA.

During the ten years, 1892 to 1901, more than forty-four millions of people in India were certified as having died from fever, a large proportion from malarial fever, a larger proportion from weak, ill-nourished bodies which made them especially liable to succumb to the burning destructiveness of a high fever. Of all parts of India, Bengal, the United Provinces, and the Panjab suffer most from malaria, and have to record more deaths from fever. The Panjab, in spite of all the praise bestowed upon its prosperity, is worst of all; the United [illegible] Bengal is third. Cur[illegible]sidency, as a whole, [illegible] fevers as compar[illegible]n India. That [illegible]icken people [illegible]one south of the river, the Central Provinces excepted, where the proportion is again high, ranging between the United Provinces and Bengal. Here the cause cannot arise from over-irrigated land for there is little enough of such land in these Provinces: here the fever deaths are mainly from sheer starvation. But, I do not refer to this subject to-day in order to air my arguments once again on the life-destructive character of the administration of the British Provinces, nor to point out that there must be some serious mistakes in the Madras figures relating to fever deaths. My object is to draw attention, at earnest request, to Mr. Donald N. Reid's views on the means whereby in Northern and Eastern India, at least, the ravages of malaria might be reduced and the productiveness of the soil increased. Mr. Reid refers to the sisu trees which, when a cultivator in that region, he planted on his distributaries in North Behar. These sisu trees were for use as firewood, the ashes to be utilised in supplying the potash which is one of the best possible manures for the rice crop. Moreover, potash salts are an antidote to malaria in the rice-growing districts of India, when used as manure. In the last paragraph of the Report made by Sir William Macgregor, Governor of Lagos, on his visit to Egypt and Italy, in the autumn of 1902 to study the question of malarial fever, he says: "It should be mentioned that Italian observers have not found mosquito larvae in water containing salts in the proportion of as much as one to the thousand." Mr. Reid, therefore, considers that by the use of potash salt as a manure for the rice fields of India, malaria will not only be stamped out in those districts where it is employed, but the yield of rice will be greatly increased. In the manufacture of indigo, nitrate of potash was largely used by Mr. Reid in the steeping vats, the seet-water of which was utilised as a manure for the rice fields of his ryots. The following extract from an article contributed by him to the 'Fortnightly Review" for June, 1894, describes the large returns obtained by this system of irrigation:

"The crops which I raised on poor sandy soil by means of seet-water irrigation were wonderful to behold. Fields which hitherto had only borne scanty crops of Kodo millet were put under rice at my suggestion, and on being irrigated with seet-water from the indigo vats, they produced as much as forty maunds of paddy per acre, with heavy crops of straw." The above quotation shows that it would pay in India to add Kainite, or even the more expensive chloride of potassium to the manure heaps and to the water that is used for the irrigation of the rice fields, since rice is essentially a potash-loving plant. These potash salts—namely, nitrate of potash, chloride of potash, and kainite—contain chloride of sodium (common salt) in large quantities. In Mr. Balfour's "Cyclopaedia of India" (vol. 3, p. 415) it is stated that the "bhull" deposits at the mouth of the river Indus are very valuable for the cultivation of rice. Balfour says: "The bhull are large tracts of very muddy, swampy land, almost on a level with the sea, and exposed equally to be flooded by it and the sea water; indeed, on this depends much of the value of the soil, as a "bhull" which is not at certain times covered with salt water is unfit for cultivation." Proceed from Sind to Lower Burma; a reference to the "British Burma Gazeteer" shows that "the average yield of unhusked rice is as much as 80 to 100 bushels an acre" in the littoral townships of the Rangoon district. But, "north of Rangoon" (in the same district) "the soil is poorer, yielding only from 30 to 40 bushels."

The importance to India of a reduction in malarial diseases and of an increase in the productiveness of the soil are so great that I make no apology for discussing them in this letter.

A REINCARNATED HINDU IN AN ENGLISH BODY.

Surely no mere Englishman would write the article "In Praise of the Cow" which I see in one of the sixpenny weekly papers. Only a reincarnated Hindu could say such complimentary things as are here stated of the animal so deeply venerated in India. And, it would appear, that there is not merely the one reincarnated Hindu, but there must be others scattered throughout the land, seeing that at least two such are described. Of one of these men it is stated that though he was very ugly of feature, "he had an agreeable expression, a sweet benign look in his large dark eyes." This he had gained from the repose and placidity of the cows he had tended. Of another cow-keeper, a Devonshire man living near Ottery St. Mary, it is declared that his cows are the pride and joy of his life. "We went on ahead of the cows," says Mr. W. H. Hudson, the writer of the article, "then, if one stayed too long, or strayed into some inviting side lane, he would turn and utter a long, soft call, whereupon the straggler would leave her browsing and hasten after the others." What pious Hindu will believe that it is of an Englishman that such pious idyllic sentences can be written? Such a view as this would seem altogether out of harmony with the beef-eating Englishman of the East, concerning whose proclivities in the eating of dead cows Sri Ram urged so earnest a crusade a few years ago. Mr. Hudson himself is a great cow-lover. Speaking of "the great emotions and mighty voices of the cattle upon a thousand hills," he says: "Their morning and evening lowing is more to me than any other sound—the melody of birds, the rising and dying gales of the pines, the wash of the waves on the long, shingled beach." But the real Hindu soul which occupies Mr. Hudson's English body manifests itself in the last paragraph, which I quote in full, of the article.

"After leaving the cow-keeper," Mr. Hudson remarks, "I had that feeling of revulsion very strongly which all who know and love cows occasionally experience at the very thought of beef. I was for the moment more than tolerant of vegetarianism, and devoutly hoped that for many days to come I should not be sickened with the sight of a sirloin on some hateful board, cold, or smoking hot, bleeding its red juices into the dish when gashed with a knife, as if undergoing a second death. We do not eat negroes, although their pigmented skins, flat feet, and woolly heads proclaim them a different species; even monkeys' flesh is abhorrent to us, merely because we fancy that that creature in its ugliness resembles some old men and some women and children whom we know. But the large, gentle-brained, social cow, that caresses our hands and faces with her rough blue tongue, and is more like a man's sister than any other non-human being—the majestic, beautiful creature, with the Juno eyes, sweeter of breath than the rosiest virgin—we slaughter and feed on her

When the inevitable crusade against cow-killing in India for the provision of beef for Mr. Thomas Atkins and his superiors again occupies attention, it must not be overlooked that it was an Englishman who wrote:

"..... the gentle, large-brained, social, cow ....." is more like man's sister than any other non-human being—the majestic, beautiful creature with the Juno eyes, sweeter of breath than the rosiest virgin—we slaughter and feed on her flesh—monster and canibals that we are!"

Calcutta and Mofussil.

Small Bills.—A Bill to amend the Indian Stamp Act and another small Bill relating to the Government Stores will be introduced at the next meeting of the Council.

Examination of Compounders.—The next half-yearly examination of Compounders for Behar will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, the 4th April 1904, at the Temple Medical School, Bankipore.

Weather and Crops in Bengal.—Light showers are reported from the districts of Faridpur, Tippera, Chittagong, Gaya, Monghyr, Bhagalpur, Cuttack, and Angul. The standing crops are generally in good condition. Harvesting of rabi crops, pressing of sugarcane, and collection of opium continue. Cattle disease reported from eleven districts. Fodder and water generally sufficient. The price of common rice has risen in five districts, has fallen in ten, and is stationary in the remainder.

Public Works Cess.—The Lieutenant-Governor has determined that the rate at which the Public Works Cess shall be levied for the year 1904-1905 in the districts to which the Cess Act has been extended shall be one-half of an anna in the rupee on the annual value of lands and on the annual net profits from mines, quarries, tramways, railways and other immoveable property (excepting such as may have been exempted under section 2 of the Act), ascertanied respectively as in the Act prescribed.

Nadia Municipality.—In modification of the former order to Government directing that the powers and duties of the Commissioners of the Nadia Municipality should, during the period of the supresession of the said Commissioners, be exercised by Babu Baroda Das Bose, Deputy Magistrate, the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to direct, that with effect from the date of this order, Mr. J. J. Platel, I.C.S., Joint-Magistrate, shall exercise all the powers and duties of the Commissioners of the Nadia Municipality in place of Babu Baroda Das Bose.

Opium Department.—Mr. J. P. Augier, Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, Etawah, is transferred to Allahabad, vice Mr. A. R. Bean, retired. Mr. A. M. Alone, Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, Cawnpur, is transferred to Etawah. Mr. A. W. Ross, Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, Bareilly, is transferred to Cawnpur. Mr. C. S. Delmerick, Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, Budaon, is transferred to Bareilly. Mr. F. W. Harris, Assistant Opium Agent at Moradabad, is appointed to perform the duties of Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, Budaon.

Bengal Excise Bill.—The Report of the Select Committee dealing with the Bengal Excise Bill will probably not be issued until the end of next week. The difficulty of applying the principle of local option, which innumerable memorials have asked should be inserted in the Bill, will probably be set forth as a reason for its non-inclusion. There would be considerable difficulties in mofussil districts, but in the towns and manufacturing centres where we are told facilities for drinking are too numerous the principle could certainly be applied to advantage.

Weather and Crops in Assam.—The following report on the state of the season and prospects of the crops for the week ending the 23rd February 1904, is published:—Slight to moderate rain in all districts. Tea pruning, sugarcane pressing, ploughing for rice and jute and gathering of mustard in progress. Outturn of mustard and sugarcane fair to good, Cattle-disease prevalent in Kamrup and Darrang. Fodder insufficient in parts of Sylhet. and in hills. Water insufficient in hills. Prices of common rice—Silchar 19, Sylhet and Tezpur 18, Dhubri, Gauhati, and Nowgong 16, Sibsagar 14, and Dibrugarh 12 seers per rupee.

Forest Department.—Mr. P. J. Draper, Extra-Assistant Conservator of Forests, in charge of the Puri Forest Division, is granted privilege leave for three months. Mr. T. H. Monteath, Officiating Deputy Conservator of Forests, in charge of the Tista Forest Division, is transferred to the charge of the Puri Forest Division. Mr. H. H. Haines, F.C.H., Deputy Conservator of Forests, in charge of the Singhbhum Working Plan, is transferred to the charge of the Tista Forest Division. Mr. E. E. Slame, Extra-Assistant Conservator of Forests, attached to the Sundarbans Division, is granted furlough for two years, Mr. W. F. Lloyd, Deputy Conservator of Forests, in charge, Sundarbans Forest Division, is granted combined leave for seven months and four days.

The "Assam Gazette."—Babu Narendra Nath Roy, M.A., is appointed temporarily as a Professor in the Cotton College, Gauhati. The undermentioned officers, who were deputed to Palasbari in Kamrup to undergo a practical training in Surveying, are posted to the stations named against each, on completion of the course:— Mr. G. E. Lambour, I.C.S. Asstt Commissioner, Golaghat; Mr. P. R. Hughes, Probationady Extra Commissioner, Dhubri; Srijut Radha Nath Phukan, Probationary Extra Assistant Commossioner, Mangaldai; Babu Sures Chandra Das, Probationary Extra Assistant Commissioner, amganj; U. Dohory Rodmay, Sub-Deputy Collector, Shillong Maulvi Abdur Rahim, Sub-Deputy Collector, Sylhet Sadr; Srijut Suriya Kanta Barua, Probationary Sub-Deputy Collector, Karimgunj; Maulvi Mafizur Rahman, Probationary Sub-Deputy Collector, Dhubri; Babu Mahendra Kumar Dam, Probationary Sub-Deputy Collector, Golaghat; Babu Radha Nath Sen, Munsif, Sylhet, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge of Sylhet and Cachar. Babu Hem Chandra Mitra, B. L. is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Sylhet. Rai Shaib Surendra Nath Gupta, Honorary Assistant Engineer, is transferred from the Lower Assam to Naga Hills Division.

A Police Warning.—On Monday, before the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Babu Narendra Nath Sadhu, on behalf of one Aswini Kumar Saha, made an application against two neighbours of the complainant, under the following circumstances. It was alleged that there was "nautches" in the house of the complainant, on account of a marriage ceremony. Whilst two girls were dancing the two defendants, named Nikunja and Behary Saha began to throw brick bats. One of the bricks struck, as alleged, the fore-head of a nautch girl and she bled. The pleader said that his client was not at all vindictive and asked for an order on the police to warn the defendants. The Court accordingly ordered the police to warn the defendants.

Supreme Council.—At least Friday's Meeting of the Supreme Legislative Council, the probable programme will include the passing of the Official Secrets Bill and the Border Military Police Bill; the presentation of the Reports of the Select Commitees on the Ancient Monument Bill, the Co-operative Credit Society Bill, and the Transfer of Property Bill and also the introduction of two small Bills, the details of which have not been given out, in connection with the Official Secrets Bill. It is understood that the notice of amendments have been already sent in by the Hon'ble Mr. Theodore Morison, the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale, the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Sri Ram, and the Hon'ble Dr. Asutosh Mukhopadhayaya.

Wireless Telegraphy at Saugor.—A statement was recently made in the Calcutta papers that apparently some friction had arisen regarding the installation of wireless telegraphy at Saugor, and that the Bengal Government had stopped the project until the sanction of the Government of India had been obtained. The truth of the matter is, we understand, that one important fact has been overlooked by the promoters of wireless telegraphy in this country. No installation can be put up by anyone in India without the license of the Supreme Government, whose monopoly under Act XIII of 1885 is an absolute and comprehensive one and covers the case of wireless apparatus. The representatives of the Marconi Company will doubtless be able to obtain a license, as Government can scarcely desire to check private Govrnment can scarcely desire to check private enterprise in a matter of this kind, though the Telegraph Department is undertaking the experiment of wireless telegraphy between the Andamans and Burma.

The End Of The Steam Roller Fatality Case.—On Monday before Moulvi Bazlal Karim, the third Presidency Magistrate, the case in which one Francis Feronic stood charged with doing a rash and negligent act and thereby caused the death, by running over a steam-roller a Cabuli in Harrison Road, was concluded. Mr. Manuel, appeared for the defence. Mr. Cowasjie, Engineer and Surveyor to the Calcutta Municipality, said amongst other things that if the deceased was not deaf, it was the earliest possible thing for him to move aside from the "Roller." He could not understand how the man could have been run over, unless he wanted to commit suicide. The noise of the "Roller" was very great. Afted another witness was examined, the Court saw the Steam Roller which was brought into Court. Mr. Manuel then said that it was an unfortunate accident, difficult to understand how happened. The Court held that it was an accident and the deceased was responsible for it and accordingly ordered the discharge of the defendant.

P. W. Department.—Rai Sahib Beni Madhub Mitter, Executive Engineer, Acquapada-Jajpur Division, is granted privilege leave for three months. Mr. L. D. Cross, Assistant Engineer, first grade, is transferred from the Arrah Division to the Orissa Circle, and is appointed to officiate as Executive Engineer of the Acquapada-Jaipur Division, during the absence of Rai Sahib Beni Madhub Mitter Executive Engineer, on leave. The undermentioned passed student of the Royal Indian Engineering College, Cooper's Hill, has been appointed Assistant Engineer, third grade, and is posted to Bengal:—Mr. Radha Madhab Roy. The following promotions and reversions to and in the classes of Chief and Superintending Engineers attached to the Irrigation, Roads and Buildings Branch, are made:—Mr. B. Parkes, from Chief Engineer, 3rd class, temporary rank to Chief Engfineer, 3rd class; Mr. Thomson, from Superintending Engineer, 2nd class, temporary rank to Superintending Engineer, 3rd class; Mr. B. K. Finnimore, from Superintending Engineer, 3rd class, temporary rank to Superintending Engineer, 3rd class.

The Shortage of Rupees.—The Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce have once more addressed the Government of India upon the subject of the maintenance of an adequate supply of silver coinage. They forward a letter in support of their contention from the Exchange Banks doing business in Calcutta and discuss Sir Edward Law's recent minute in detail. They point out that the Government of India have undertaken, not only the regulation of the Currency of India, but have also monopolised the note issue, with the profits therefrom, and they argue that this carries with it the responsibility of meeting all demands. They consider that Sir Edward Law's estimate that, to provide a margin of safety, the proportion of silver coin to note circlation should be taken as about one-third is anything but safe, and point out that such proportion is recognised in banking circles as the danger point. Their conclusion is that what is required is to eliminate the present element of uncertainty, and that this can be achieved by the Secretary of State's making himself constantly prepared to sell Wire Transfers at 1/4 5-32, the same to be protected on this side by provision at all times of a three weeks' reserve supply of rupees to meet such transfers. They consider that such an arrangement would not endanger the stability of exchange and they describe the existing system of keeping the supply of rupees at a dangerously low point as unwise and harassing to trade.

Nothing has been definitely heard yet at Madras about Lord Ampthill going to Simla. Should he go, his children will be sent to Dehra Dun in charge of Major and Mrs. Molesworth.

Mr. Justice Benson, of the Madras High Court, has applied for furlough in continuation of the midsummer vacation.

TELEGRAMS.

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Feb. 27.

The different accounts of the events at Port Arthur are rather confusing, but it is clear that the entrance to the harbour is not blocked, as Russian cruisers and torpedoers have been entering and quitting freely since the 24th. There have been two engagements, mainly skirmishing with much firing and small results. Both sides claim to have sunk one or two torpedoers. The principle of these Japanese attacks is probably to harass the Russians, and keep them diverted from the movements of transports elsewhere.

Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says the Japanese treaty with Korea provides that Japan shall solely be entrusted with the defence of Korea, and may occupy any places she thinks necessary. Korea is precluded from forming an alliance with another Power.

The Japanese Minister has lodged a protest with the President of the Council at the Hague Court of Arbitration against Count Muravieff's speech. It is believed that the only result of the protest will be that a copy will be sent to the Powers represented at the Court.

A Russian warship has searched the steamer "Ben Alder" in the Red Sea.

An official telegram from St. Petersburg states that the Japanese attacked three Russian cruisers at Port Arthur at eleven o'clock on the morning of the 25th instant. Half-an-hour's cannonading by the fleets and forts took place, but was seemingly inconclusive.

It is believed at Tokio that the blocking of Port Arthur has at least been partially accomplished.

A New York telegram from Seoul says that Korea has decided to order Korean troops to join the Japanese in the field.

Reuter, wiring from Seoul, says that Wiju has been opened to foreign trade.

London, Feb. 28.

The report of the War Office Reconstitution Committee is practically completed. It suggests a variety of sweeping changes including the creation of administrative districts, the grouping of regimental into brigade districts, the extension of the territorial principle to oher arms, an adequate General Staff; and it fondemns the existing financial system.

Japanese official accounts state that Russian cavalry scouts appeared before Pingyang but were repulsed.

Reuter's Peking correspondent says that during the last week 10,000 well armed and disciplined troops have been despatched from Paotingfu to the north-eastern frontier.

It is reliably reported at Suez that the Russian warships anchored in the Gulf have seized the British steamers Ettrickdale and Frankly and Norweigan Mathilda laden with coal.

The ex-Minister, M. Lanessan is actively resisting the attempt, fostered by Russian secret money, to drag France into the war.

The latest idea of the conspirators is that France should lend Russia warships to replace

Later accounts state that in the attempt to block Port Arthur all the crews of the sunken vessels were rescued.

those which have been sunk or blocked in Port Arthur.

Lord Selborne in the House of Lords denied seriatim the presistent stories, mostly of Russian and German origin impugning British neutrality; and declared that there was some influence at work on the Continent to misrepresent England's attitude.—"I. D. News."

London, Feb. 29.

A Despatch from St. Petersburg says the situation at Port Arthur is unchanged, and two days heavy gales renders attempts at landing impossible.

Russia has issued war regulations declaring coal, rice and foodstuffs contrabund.

The Trains—Siberian Railway is very congested and a locomotive has disappeared through ice of Lake Baikal.

A general order by the Military Commander at Port Arthur intimates that the Japanese consider the landing and seizing of Port Arthur a question of national honour, and declares he will never give the order to surrender and appeals to the garrison and inhabitants to fight to the death in defence of the fortress.

All the colliers mentioned in yesterday's telegram as seized by the Russians near Suez have been released by order of the Tsar.

The Liverpool collier "Oriel," bound to Singapore, has been seized by the Russians in the Red Sea.

London, Mar. 1.

The "Daily Telegraph" despatch from Yingkow, dated yesterday, states the Japanese squadron kept up two hours' furious bombardment yesterday morning at Port Arthur, and the Novik, Askold and Boyan went out to meet the attack, but were forced to retire, Askold being in sinking condition, Novik badly damaged, and one torpedo sunk; the Retvizan was further damaged. The Japanese then withdrew.

The three colliers seized by Russians in Gulf Suez were detained by them for ten days before being released.

Japanese Steamer Sadomara, coal laden, salied from Cardiff yesterday and probably goes via the cape.

The Russian Cruiser General Admiral has arrived at Tontadelgada. The Dmitridonski has applied for leave to remain at Suez for repairs which would take probably a fortnight.

It is stated at St. Petersburg, that the Russians are massing troops on both banks of the Yalu River.

Different accounts concur in describing the terrible conditions of travelling on the Manchurian railway. Incessant prolonged stoppages and intense cold snowstorms sweep Lake Baikal. It is reported that over one thousand soldiers have been frost bitten in trains, which are drawn across Lake by horses.

Admiral Makaroff has arrived at Port Arthur.

In the fourth test match Australia made 131 runs in the first innings, of which Duff scored 47. England in the second innings has made 50 runs for one wicket.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

TELEGRAMS

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Mar. 1.

The appointment of the Duke of Connaught as Inspector-General and President of the New Board for the selection of officers has been officially announced. The following appointments are announced:—Sir Stopford, Director, Military training J. M. Grierson, Director of operations at Headquarters, J. S. Ewart, Military Secretary of War.

LONDON, MAR. 2.

Japan has issued a reply to the Russian notes of the 23rd and 24th ultimo. Justifying the rapture, at being especially owing to Russia's ever increasing military preparations. The Jauanese announcement on the 6th ultimo that she wold take iudependen action naturally ment that she would poen hostilities

A Japanese guards division and general staff have embarked for the west coast of Korea.

Britain and America ure conferring with a view to concerted action to safeguard their respective interests regarding contraband of war.

It is considered at Berlain that Russia cannot maintain the fiction of the indep ndence and neutrality of Korea aft r the publication of the alliance between Japan and Korea.

Yesterday's telegram to the Daily Telegraph from Yingkow regasding the attack on Port Arthur in belived to be a reechauffe of the action of the 25th ultimo.

In the fourth test match at Sydency England in the second innings has made 154 for 9 wickets, Hayward making 52.

Rain interfered with play.

London, Feb. 27.

Replying at Manchester to a deputation from the British Cotton Growing Association urging greater possibilities for cotton growing in India, Mr. Brodrick admitted that it was necessary to stimulate the Government of India to further endeavour, and he hoped great things from Lord Curzon. He promised a thorough overhauling of the agricultural staff under his control, with a view to quicker and more general improvement in the methods of cultivation, and suggested Burma as a good cotton country. The Association, he said, should, in concert with the Indian Government examine the possibility of cultivation on a large scale in Burma by means of some form of indentured labour. Mr. Brodrick concluded by saying there would be no delay and he would undertake to put his back into it.

The election for the seat in South Birmingham, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Powell Williams, has resulted in the return of Lord Morpeth, the Unionist candidate, by a majority of 3,076 over Mr. Hirst Hollowell, the Liberal candidate, who polled 2,223, whilst Lord Morpeth polled 5,299 votes. The election was fought largely on the question of Chinese labour in the Transvaal.

Altogether three acres of the business section of Rochester have been destroyed by the fire.

Lord Plunket has been appointed Governor of New Zealand.

In the fourth test match Mr. Warner's team were out in the first innings for 249, Knight, unfinished, scoring 70.

LATER.

Australia began her first innings to-day and made 114 for five wickets, A disgraceful scene took place at to-day's play. The crowd resenting the stoppage on account of the rain threw bottles on the field and attempted to rush the ground.

London, Feb. 28.

There is much talk in political circles of dissolution within a few weeks. There have been repeated divisions during the past fortnight and the Govt. majority has gradually dwindled and fell on Thursday evening to fourteen. Although a snatch division, it is regarded as a symptom of growing indifference of the Ministerialists.
ministerialists.

London, Feb. 29.

Army Estimates amount to £28,900,000 sterling being a decrease of £5,600,000 sterling. The total number of men is 227,000, being a decrease of 8,761.

Provision is made for a permanent garrison in South Africa of 21,500 men. The entire rearmament of the artillery, including the reserve batteries, will be complete by the 31st March, 1907, at a cost of £3,150,000 Sterling. India is conceded priority of supply. Under the War Office reconstitution the army corps are abolished. There will be five Generals commanding in Chief troops five districts, also eight administrative districts under Major-Generals; nineteen Brigade districts have been linked. The linked battalion system has been abolished, and the old numbers will be resumed by regiments.

Death is announced of General Power Palmer.

Mr. Pretyman, Secretary to the Admiralty, in introducing the Naval Estimates in the House of Commons, justified the increases on the ground that Great Britain must equal the navies of any two Powers.

Mr. Roberts introduced an amendment in which he urged the Government to communicate with the naval Powers with a view to reducing armaments.

Mr. Arnold Forster replying formally reiterated the offer of Great Britain to consider the proposal of any Foreign Government to reduce armaments, and declared that Government had gone as far as they could in the matter.

The amendment was rejected by 174 against 122.

In the Association football match between England and Wales, each team made two goals.

London, Mar. 1,

Sir William Harcourt has notified his constituents that he will not seek re-erection.

At Kieff on Feb. 12 there were again great patriotic demonstrations, the students of the Polytechnics and the pupils of the middle and elementary schools parading the streets with bands and banners. In the large hall of the University the Rector and Curator of the Educational district delivered addresses to the students. Similar demonstrations, in which several thousand workmen took part, are reported from Moscow.

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INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

Allahabad, Feb. 28.

A telegram dated 27th February despatched from Singapore by the Ascan News Agency says that a striking instance of the steadfast purpose of the Japanese people is the fact that money is rolling in from ali quarters as contributions to the war fund. Patriotism throughout the country runs high and it is of a practical character as evidenced by the fact that all the Japanese are giving their jewellery to swell the coffers of the treasury and the nobles giving their hoards instituted during the feudal ages for the national emergency. Immense quantities of gold are being revealed.

A Tokio official explains Tuesday's attack on Port Arthur as a copy of the strategy which was attempted to block in the Spanish fleet at Santiago.

Allahabad, Feb. 28.

Last night Sub-Inspector Ramcharan Misser of Cannington Police was assaulted by a European within the pavilion of Warren's circus while on duty and attempting to bring to order a noisy crowd. Apparently the European could not forbear the slight disturbance caused by the Sub-Inspector's interference. Consequently he was stopped and dragged away a few yards from the scene of action and his turban fell to the ground. The Sub-Inspector's patience on the occasion was creditable. But although he is a native, is not assault on a police officer in uniform a direct insult to the Crown?

Allahabad, Feb. 28.

To-day's Allahabad "Citizen" severely condemns the Allahabad Collector's holding a procession and Durbars in celebration of the anniversary of Harsisonganj. A market has been established after his name and he is wasting on it large sums of money while hundreds of men are dying of plague and are altogether uncared for.

Chinsurah, Feb. 28.

A meeting of the Sadgop Sabha was held to-day at Chandernagore to express heartfelt regret at the great loss sustained by the Sadgop community and the whole country at Dr. Sircar's death. The meeting was well attended and resolutions were passed sympathising the bereaped family and appointing a committee to raise funds to commemorate Dr. Sircar's memory.

Allahabad, Mar. 1.

The "Pioneer's London correspondent wires under date the 29th February:—

The "Times" correspondent at Wei-hai-wei has received a wireless message from Chemulpho stating that the Japanese have landed 20,000 men at Chemulpho for an advance in the direction of Pingo Yong.

Allahabad, Mar. 1.

The "Pioneer's" Bombay Correspondent writes under date the 28th February:—

The consul for Japan in Bombay writes the following:—Telegram was received last night from the Japanese Government early in the morning of the 24th that three or four old ships assisted by our torpedo boats directly proceeded to the mouth of Port Arthur to block it. The object of sinking them having been accomplished, the officers and crew etreated safely as to our squadron though an official report from the Admiral to go is not yet received. They must remain unimpaired.

FURTHER PARTICULARS ABOUT "MONGOLIA."

According to statements made by the passengers of the "Mongolia" which was chased during its passage through the Red Sea by the Russian squadron the incident occurred on the 10th instant twelve hours before the "Mongolia" got to Perin. It was about 11 o'clock in the forenoon when many of the passengers were on deck and on the horizon was sighted a fleet of five vessels. The "Mongolia" ran up her flags and the next thing observed was that one of the fleet detached itself from the others and tried to cut the "Mongolia" off. The P. and O. Vessel was running parallel to the fleet. The fleet lithe "Mongolia" forged ahead until the boat which was pursuing them ran up a signal calling upon her to stop instantly. The signal was not made until it was seen that the fleet could not catch up the "Mongolia" without trouble. The commander of the "Mongolia" gave orders that the engines should be stopped and this enabled the Russian vessel to come up to within a short distance of the mail boat when it was ascertained that the vessel was a Russian torpedo-destroyer and had the Russian Admiral on board. Before the "Mongolia" stowed down it was noticed that other Russian boats were trying all they could to keep up with the "Mongolia" which at about this time was running at the rate of 16½ knots an hour though quite capable of doing nineteen. The Russian destroyer was probably the fastest of the five other ships but even she was pronounced incapable to do more than 18. On the "Mongolia" stopping, the Russian vessel steamed up to within about two hundred yards and when about amidships turned round and steamed back to its fleet at the same time flying signals "excuse me." From the time the Russians were first sighted til they disappeared behind the horizon they were in sight for about an hour altogether.

ANOTHER VERSION.

Another account states that the usual passage was made through the canal and nothing of any special interest occurred in the Red Sea until the day previous to their arrival at Aden when the Russian battleship and four torpedo-boats were observed on the port bow. They were heading at full speed for the "Mongolia" evidently intending to cut in front of her. They were unable, however, to keep pace with the "Mongolia" although one of the torpedo-boats managed to get within 200 yards and were gradually being left astern when the Russian officers seeing it was hopeless to overhaul them signalled to the "Mongolia" to stop at once. The "Mongolia" accordingly stowed down and one of the Russian torpedo-boats came steaming on ahead. As soon as she had got

TELEGRAMS.

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INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

close enough to see that they had made a mistake and that the boat they had been chasing was an English mail boat they hoisted a signal "I beg to be excused" and turned sharp round and steamed back to join the other part of the squadron. The "Mongolia" then proceeded on her voyage. The excitement on board during the chase was intense and a large number of snapshots were taken of the Russian torpedo-boat which was the most foremost in the chase. At first the incident gave rise to the apprehension amongst some of the passengers on board that England

MORE ABOUT PORT ARTHUR.

On the 26th Admiral Kamimgura reported as follows:—According to the report made our torpedo-flotilla after picking up the crews of the Japanese steamers despatched to block the mouth of Port Arthur. The "Hokoku Maru" went as far as the left bank of the mouth just below the lighthouse and the "Bushu Maru" to her outside and both were blown up and sunk by their own crews. The "Tenshin Maru" "Bujo Maru" and also "Jinsen Maru" were sunk in like manner. On the east side of Laoxte Shan all the crew on the above steamers were picked up and none of our destroyers and torpedo-boats were damaged. From the 24th our fleet of destroyers were engaged in scouting at Port Arthur, Talienxwan and Pigeon Bay and made a [illegible]ck on several points. In the morning of [illegible]th our main squadron steamed toward[illegible] Arthur and from a distance began the [illegible]bardment on the enemy's war vessels and [illegible]e batteries. Shortly after noon the "Novik," "Askold" and "Buyon" were seen retreating i[illegible] th harbour. It appears from this that the blocking of the mouth was not effective. Thereupon our squadron shelled the inner harbour and saw thick smoke and flame coming up. They withdrew after fifteen minutes bombardment. Meanwhile our cruiser fired at one of the enemy's destroyers near Laoxteshan and disabled it. Our crew and fleet are al safe. Admiral Togo is still at his former station. Details will be reported by him later on.

The Consul for Japan in Bombay says that the following telegram was received on Sunday from the Japanese Government:—The official report of the navy department states that five Japanese steamers which were to block the mouth of Port Arthur were proceeding towards the mouth from the south of Laoxteshan at about 4 in the morning of the 24th. The "Tenshin Maru" which led the others directed her course towards the left but as she was disabled by the enemy's shell went ashore herself at a place about three miles south west from the mouth. The rest of the steamers which followed changed their course towards the northest but were baffled by the search light and heavy fire of the enemy. The "Bushu Maru" sustained a heavy wound at her bow and went ashore near the "Tenshin Maru." She was blown up and sunk by her own crew. The "Buyo Maru" was also seriously damaged and sunk before reaching the mouth. The "Hokoku Maru" and the "Jiasen Maru" made desperate efforts and succeeded in reaching the mouth. The "Hokoku Maru" getting pretty close to the "Retvizan" and the "Jinsen Maru" near the opposite bank, the crew on each steamer set fire to dynamite to wreck her and took to their boats raising a loud war whoop when both steamers were sinking. Then they tried to join our torpedo flotilla but their attempt failed and they were compelled to take along round about way to avoid the obstinate search lighting and cannonading of the enemy. At dawn, however, the sea became calmer and after many hardships they managed to join our squadron at about three in the afternoon, 1st March.

RUSSIAN ENCOUNTER AT CHEMULPHO.

The following news has been received from Singapore on 29th February:—The S. S. "Namsing" having on board 264 Russians who formed part of the crews of the Russian warships "Saryag" and "Doreity" which were sunk by the Japanese at Chemulpo have arrived here. The Russians stated that on the 9th instant the Japanese fleet of six warships and six torpedo boats arrived at Chemulpo. Admiral Urin who was in command at once communicated with the Russian commander ordering him to come out of the harbour within twelve hours. In response to this challenge the "Koreitz" steamed out of the harbour but was disabled in ten minutes by long range fire and thereupon again retired into the harbour where she sunk. The other Russian ship "Varyag" steamed out at a speed of 24 knots, being greeted with a sh wer of shelss one of which struck her steering gear and she grounded. The Japanese steamed in linsef column ahead the course resembling the letter "S" and poured in alternate broadsides of the J 140 men who comprised the upper deck. The crew of the "Varyag" no less than fifty were killed while seventy were wounded. The "Varyag" repelled the Torpedo attack and then retired into the harbour where she sank. The crew were rescued. The officers and men on the British ships in the harbour cheered the Russians and praised them for their pluck. Many of the Russian guns were without shields.

MADRAS, MAR 2.

In the case of assault brought by the Officer Commanding the Leicester Regiment against the fishermen of San Thome, his Worship after hearing the evidenee delivered judgment dischargiung the accused. His Worshsp the Chief Presidency Magistrate remarked that from what the witnesses had all spoken it was clear that the soldiers were to blame. The soldiers appeared the worse for liquor and in their intoxication began annoying the poor natives. The conduct of the soldiers was highly culpable and ths evidence of the soldiers themselves did not corroborate the story of the prosecution. Therest of the evidence brought by the prosecution did certainly gh to show tnat the soldiers had not stated in Court what was true. All the evidence of independent witnesses tended to shift the blame to the shoulders of the complainants themselves. The soldiers had certainly seriously misbehaved and had freely used their canes on everybody they chanced to come across. If the moor fishermen had attacked the soldiers it must have been in pure self defendence, for which they there not to blame,

THE POONA MAIL BAG ROBBERY.

Poona, Feb. 27.

The three accused charged with stealing and disposing of the mail bag were placed before Mr. Carvalho yesterday. They are all cultivators of the Marithi caste. The accused were charged under Sections 58 and 59 of the Post Office Act. The Police Prosecutor appeared for the Crown, but the accused were undefend-

VICEROY'S VISIT TO MYMENSINGH.
THE SALAAM EPISODE.

Mymensingh, Feb. 27.

The Magistrate asked the Secretary of the Mymensingh Association whether he issued instructions not to salaam the Viceroy on his way from the railway station to the Maharaja's Palace. The Secretary told the Magistrate that the Police instructed the Chowkidars to stand erect and not to salaam and the Chowkidars instructed the people not to salaam the Viceroy. The Secretary has written to the Magistrate to communicate this to the Viceroy as it is said His Excellency became annoyed owing to the people not salaaming him.

BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Bombay, Feb. 27.

The Hon. Mr. Fulton proposed the second reading of the Bombay District Municipal Act of 1901, and said the Bill was a short one, and was introduced for the purpose of enabling Municipal Councils to fix the weights and measures in their district. The Bill was read a second time. He also proposed the second reading of the Bill for further shortening the language used in the Bombay Acts and for other purposes. This was agreed to.

Sir James Monteath moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Khoti Settlement Act of 1880, and said the Bill, as amended by the Select Committee and its report, rendered it unnecessary for him to refer to the various amendments made in it in detail. Mr. Khare Setalvad and Mr. Mehta complimented the mover on the sympathetic manner in which he had steered the Bill. The Bill was read a second and third time, and passed.

The Hon. Mr. Fulton moved the second reading of the Bill to regulate the use of motor-cars in the Bombay Presidency, and said the rules had been framed in regard to motor-cars, but they would not come into force. They would first be published and discussion invited. With regard to speed, it was not found desirable to limit it. The Bill also provided for the numbering of cars. The mover said the Government had no desire to give a monopoly to any individual or company for plying for hire motor-cars.

VICEREGAL REPLIES UNSATISFACTORY.

Narayangunj, Feb. 27.

At a public meeting held on the 27th February at Narayangunj the following resolutions were adopted:—(I.) That the meeting is of opinion that a careful study of the Viceroy's replies to the several addresses at Dacca, Mymensingh and Chittagong disclosed nothing to allay the public alarm caused by Mr. Risley's proposal of transferring certain Bengal districts to the Assam Administration. (II.) That in the replies no new scheme was definitely formulated. (III.) That this meeting is further of opinion that the alternative scheme, only hinted at in the reply to the Mymensingh addresses, even, if carried into effect, will fail to give satisfaction, as any scheme aiming at a division of the Bengalee speaking people cannot but be highly injurious to the people as a whole.

Several gentlemen were elected delegates to represent the views of this meeting to the Sub-committee appointed by the district delegates' Meeting at Dacca for submission of a memorial to the Government against the said proposal of Mr. Risley.

LORD GAURANGA BIRTH-DAY CEREMONY.

(*From a Correspondent.*)

Vepery, Mar. 2.

Our sympathy is with Lord Gauranga birthday ceremony at Calcutta to-day. Our ceremony takes place here on next "Purnima" day.

Reuter was evidently at fault in announcing that General Sir Ian Hamilton had been appointed as British military attache to the Russian army. Interviewed at Colombo General Hamilton denied the report and deprecated too much being made of his trip to the Far East. He thought there was a great scope for study in the military operations in Korea and Manchuria. He left Colombo last week for Shanghai on the Armaud Behic, and his trip is purely a holiday one.

Reading between the lines, the telegrams from the seat of war show with a sufficient amount of clearness that Port Arthur is in a very bad way, with little prospect of improvement. In the first place we are told, on the authority of the Russians, that the position at Port Arthur is "unchanged," but "two days' heavy gales render attempts at landing impossible," the true meaning of which seems to be that a Japanese landing in force on the Manchurian coast and the consequent destruction of the railway that feeds the Russian stronghold, is imminent. Next we have the intelligence that a general order by the Russian Military Commander at Port Arthur intimates that the Japanese consider the capture of that port a question of national honour, declaring that he will "never surrender," as did the French before him at Metz and Paris, and appealing to the garrison "and the inhabitants" to fight to the death in defence of the fortress. It is almost superfluous to say that this despairing order would not have been issued had Port Arthur not been in sore straits. Then, to add to the Russian cup of bitterness, Reuter states that the Japanese kept up a two hours' furious bombardment of Port Arthur on Monday, and it seems that the continuous shower of bursting shells from the Japanese main fleet was doing so much damage to the town and harbour, that the Russians, as a last resort, sent out the crippled cruisers Novik, Askold (which, by the way, was reported sunk last month), Boyan and the damaged battleship Retvisan to try and draw off the Japanese cannonade. The result proved disastrous for the Russians, for their warships were compelled to retire, the Askold in a sinking condition, the Novik and Retvisan badly damaged for the second time, and one torpedo boat sunk. "The Japanese then withdrew," adds Reuter laconically.

A SCENE IN A MUNSIFF'S COURT.

(*From our Occasional Correspondent.*)

Ranigunj, Feb. 28.

In execution of a money decree, warrant of arrest was issued against a European of Asansole and a Mahomedan peon was ordered to serve the process.

The peon accordingly went to Asansole and, on the indentification of the decree-holder, proceeded to arrest the judgment-debtor who felt offended and gave the peon a good beating.

The peon submitted a report of what had happened and the European anticipating such report from the peon came to the Court of his own accord and volunteered his statement on oath. Among many things he said on being questioned that "the peon followed him as a dog follows his master." His attitude during the time was most disrespectful.

After the statements were recorded, the paper was handed over to him to go through it and say if his statements were correctly recorded. When reading it, he penned through the portion quoted above in an indignant and defiant manner and on being questioned as to why he did alter the records he answered: "Yes, I have well done it." The Munsiff asked him again if he had said "the peon followed him as a dog follows his master," to which his difiant reply was "I refuse to answer." The Munsiff suddenly turned pale and did not like to proceed against the man.

Such things in a Court of justice are most undesirable and the maintenance of its dignity should always be the subject of careful anxiety of every Court.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

Babu Jadu Nath Banerjea, an Assistant Master in the Rajshahi Collegiate School, is allowed privilege leave. Maulvi Haidar Ali, B.A., is appointed to act as Assistant Master in the Rajshahi Collegiate School during the absence, on leave, of Babu Jadu Nath Banerjea.

The following confirmations and promotions in the Subordinate Educational Service, are made:—

Confirmed in class III.

Maulvi Kabiruddin Ahmed, B.A., Deputy Inspector of Schools, Faridpur.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to class III.

Babu Chandra Mohan Moharana, B.A., Deputy Inspector of Schools, Balasore, under orders of transfer as Head Master, Puri Zilla School.

Promoted to class IV.

Babu Hira Lal Mukerjea, an Assistant in the Office of Director of Public Instruction.

Promoted substantive pro tempore to class IV.

Shams-ul-ulama Sadat Hossain, an Assistant Maulvi and Officiating Assistant Head Maulvi in the Arabic Department of the Calcutta Madrasah.

Promoted to class V.

Babu Rasik lal Banerjea, B.A., Head Master, Bethune Collegiate School.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to class V.

Babu Upendra Narayan Datta Gupta, B.A., an Assistant Master in the Cuttack Training School, under orders of transfer as Deputy Inspector of Schools, Balasore.

Promoted to class VI.

Babu Lal Behari Goswami, an Assistant Master (Grammar Pandit) in the Sanskrit Collegiate School.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to class VI.

Babu Umes Chandra Bhattacherjea, an Assistant Master (Head Pandit) in the Hooghly Collegiate School.

Pandit Hriday Nath Tarkaratna, an Assistant Master (Pandit) in the Rangpur Training School.

Promoted to class VII.

Babu Basanta Chandra Das, B.A., an Assistant Master in the Rangpur Zilla School.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to class VII.

Pandit Kanhya Lal Tripathi, Lecturer on Sanskrit, Patna College.

Confirmed in class VIII.

Babu Abhoy Charan Sen, an Assistant Master in the Purulia Zilla School.

Appointed substantively pro tempore to class VIII.

Babu Bama Charan Sen, B.A., an Assistant Master in the Bogra Zilla School.

DINAJPUR NOTES.

(*From Our Own Correspondent.*)

Dinajpur, Feb. 21.

AN EXECUTIVE TRIUMPH.

Babu Bepin Behari De, a Police Inspector of this district, who was convicted and sentenced by the Sessions Judge of Purnea to undergo rigorous imprisonment for 25 years on charges of rape, forgery, etc., has been acquitted on all charges by the Hon'ble High Court in appeal. He was released from jail yesterday and to-day he has been reinstated in his post.

A RAILWAY GRIEVANCE.

Through passengers by 41 up train from Dinajpur to Bhawanipur, Phulbari and all down stations labour under a very great inconvenience as that train oftentimes comes very late and misses connection with the corresponding train at Parbatipur. The poor passengers' patience is very heavily taxed at Parbatipur for he is detained there the whole day for no earthly fault of theirs. The only and earliest train that the said passengers can avail themselves of is the 16 down train that leaves Parbatipur at 9 p.m. in the night. To complete the grievance an excess fare with fine is charged from every passenger for journey from Parbatipur to any down station, as his ticket is not available for the night train. The Railway authorities should direct their attention to it.

A DACOITY.

On the 10th February a dacoity was committed at the house of one Dhir Narain Kabbartta of village Chamunda, police station. Nawabgunj in this district. The dacoits entered the house with lighted torches in their hands and no sooner had the inmates taken alarm and raised a hue and cry, than did the former made good their escape with ornaments, valuables and cash worth about Rs. 5,000. A vigilant Police enquiry is going on.

A BURGLARY.

In Thana Pergunge, in th[illegible] ng burglary was con[illegible] ich Mahomedan go[illegible] and the off[illegible] worth Rs. 2[illegible] of the st[illegible] Crim[illegible] in [illegible]

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

NOTES ON THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

THE DEFENCES OF PORT ARTHUR.

The following description of Port Arthur harbour is given by a writer in the "Broad Arrow," who has recently visited the place:—

There can be no doubt that whoever attempts to take Port Arthur will have an excessively difficult task. The troops there have been greatly reinforced, and the details given in the Russian official Army List do not correspond with the increased strength of the garrison. This probably now stands at about 30,000 men, with, say, 10,000 more at or near Dalny and Choi-iz-yao, under the guns of the fortress. And it would be well for our readers to take the testimony of an eye-witness and believe that, contrary to some of the reports or our Press, the quality of these troops is quite first-class. Port Arthur harbour is a land-locked inlet of a tidal sea, with a great flux. Thus at low tide the room is comparatively small. Much has been done by dredging, under Admiral Alexeieff who is a very capable officer to remedy this unsatisfactory state of things. The total area of the harbour at high tide may be about equal to that of Longston, say two-thirds of that of Portsmouth. Its entrance is very narrow, not more than a quarter of a mile broad at most. On the north side is the steep declivity of Zolotoi Gora, or Golden Hill, with signal station and some eight batteries of heavy guns. On the south side a lower limestone rocky ridge, some 150ft. high, hides the whole harbour from the sea. On this are four great batteries, with from eight to eighteen guns of 7, 10, and 11-in. calibre.

As one steams in almost north-north-west, or north-west by north, a low hill with an estuary to the south-west of it appears facing the entrance. It is covered with rather mean houses, which will in time give way to official residences. Before proceeding far, and slowing down one observes on the north-east, or starboard beam, a low masonry wall at the edge of the water. The sea laps its sides at high tide, leaving a yard or two of mud at low tide. On this are mounted some twenty quick-firing guns with shields. The battery is perhaps 150 yards long, the guns are very close to each other. They would be very deadly against boat attack, as they are trained, so to speak, on one spot, and can be fired night or day without change of aim. Opposite this, on the port side to the south-west, is another quick-firing battery. It was not provided with guns when our correspondent saw it, but should mount some twelve or fourteen. It is immediately below the hill and close to the turn which the harbour makes to the west by south. At this turn is a hard, or spit of land, on which has been built the torpedo boat shed, now in full working order. Here, if boats are not actually built, they are hauled up on slips, and all possible repairs can be made. This shed has all the necessary engines, lathes, shops, &c. It is needless to say that this and the whole fortress, except the outlying forts, are lit with the electric light. At least two 10,000 candle-power projectors send their beams seaward at night, to sweep the approaches with a flood of light.

To the north-east, to starboard, now appears the coal-yard. It is about 350 yards from the entrance to the harbour. It lies close to the shore, and occupies all the space between the outer end of the twenty-gun quick-firing battery, under Golden Hill, and the entrance to the basin. A wall cuts it off from the dockyard on the land side. On the side of the sea ships can come almost alongside. It is in a bad position, as the ground makes a salient, and the heaps of coal are nearly, but not quite, exposed to view of a steamer passing the entrance of the harbour. A boat expedition (like that, for instance, in which Lieutenant William Dalyell, R.N., nearly lost his life at Cherbourg in 1807), regardless of casualties, might set fire to this Cardiff coal, which is stacked in uncovered heaps to the amount, it is said, of 15,000 tons. But this would be a very difficult and dangerous exploit, for there are the electric light, the two quick-firing batteries, the shores lined with riflemen, and the ships in harbour to count with. A more probable danger to the coal is that an enemy knowing its bearings might destroy or knock it about into the basin and harbour by high-angle, long-range fire. All the projectiles so aimed which missed the coalyard would fall into the basin, the dockyard, the Saratoff Restaurant, the Russo-Chinese Bank, and the small shipping at the head of the harbour. The whole dockyard, basin, harbour, estuary, railway station, old, new, and Chinese town are well protected from land fire by the zone of land defences.

THE STRUGGLE IN THE FAR EAST. AN ALLEGORY.

The special correspondent of the "Englishman" at Tokyo writes:—

There was once a big man who had spent many years in building a house. He was surrounded by poor neighbours, and so great was his confidence in himself that he never gave his poor neighbours a thought but want on building. And presently the brick-clay for the house ran out of stock. Then the big man found that he had used up all his own clay, and being so strong he turned to the garden of his poorest neighbour and took clay out of the ground, as much as he wanted, without a thought to the lamentations of the poor neighbours, until it became a habit. Then it so happened that the poor neighbour in the little land remaining to him, which the big man could not touch, since it was enclosed by a deep ditch, found much wealth. So much wealth that in a manner the poor neighbour began to acquire almost as great strength as the big neighbour. And this wealth was stored for one purpose and one purpose only. And on a day as the big man was digging clay in the little man's garden, the little man came to him and said "stop digging here—this is my garden, no one shall dig here but myself." Then the big man, who knew nothing about the new found wealth of the little neighbour, remembered only the past disparity of strength between them, so he laughed and continued the digging. Then all of a sudden the big man became aware of the change which had come in the circumstances of the poor neighbour, how he had suddenly risen from poverty to wealth, and had built even a better, though smaller house, than the great castle at which the big man was still labouring with stolen materials. Moreover the big man discovered that the small man's new domicials had been fitted with military towers and abutments which completely commanded his own finished walls, and unconnected outhouses. Then the big man, as was his nature began to bluster and to bully. But the little neighbour only answered—"Give me back my clay, if you do not give it back to me I shall be forced to take it." Then at last the big man awoke to the true nature of the situation, and tried to satisfy the little neighbour with fair speech. But the little neighbour had suffered too much in the past to be fooled by honeyed words, and the big man suddenly found himself in the position of the man who must either sacrifice his "amour propre" and be diplomatically humbled before all mankind, or imperil the unfinished walls of the most important outhouses of his great mansion—and this at the hands of a small neighbour whom he had never considered.

THE ISSUES AT POINT.

The above of course is an allegory. But as far as I can understand it, it represents the present situation in the Far East. Russia of course is the big man and Japan the little neighbour. If you can find the time, and hark back to the history of the last five years in this part of Asia, you will find that the attitude of Russia to Japan has been that of the big man in my allegory. She has made the cardinal mistake mad by the majority of Europeans. Because the Japanese are a small race and live in small houses, in fact because the first impression of the race is that they are nothing more than a "dollshouse" people, the conclusion has been jumped at that they are not a Power to be reckoned with—a horrible fallacy, which the Russians too late have found out. Ever since the day when England failed them, and they had to sacrifice much of the fruits of their victory over the Chinese, the Japanese have been steeling themselves to one end. That end will prove itself during the next few months. It will be gained either by force of arms, or by a diplomatic victory which in my mind will be more far-reaching in its results than the most magnificent display of naval and military superiority.

THE THOROUGHNESS OF NEW FOUND. STRENGTH.

Although I have only been in the country a few days it is impossible to get away from the conviction that whatever the Japanese put their hands to they will do with a thoroughness which will not be excelled by any western race. The Japanese people and the Japanese Government is determined that it will dictate its policy with regard to Korea, and if Russia will not listen to its demands, it is determined to support the policy by force of arms—and, what is more, they are prepared to do so to the "dernier bouton". Until the last few weeks Russia has never believed this. In their arrogance Russians have deceived themselves with the "dollshouse" assumption. Their present Minister, the Baron Rosen is not the right man to represent the true nature of Japanese probity and progress to his Government. Rosen was out here in his young days, twenty-five years ago, and today he finds it impossible to shake off the impression of the people and their ways which he formed a quarter of a century ago. If the plenipotentiary of a great nation stationed at the capital of a foreign power will not take a people seriously, then how can it be expected that a swash-buckler like unto Alexeieff will be able to advise his Government to beware of a little people whom they are only too prone to despise. Too late Russia has awakened to the true state of affairs—too late she now sees that the "dollshouse" nation is determined to see this difference with the great Power from the north through to a finish, and that she possesses the sympathy of the Western world.

PREPARATIONS.

Now in spite of Alexieff's assurances, Russia has now at the eleventh hour arrived at the conclusion that this little Power is not so mean as she would have considered her. That she herself, strategically, both navally and militarily, is her inferior in the Far East. This awakering has been a rude one, and it has as the whole world can see, been ordering the tone of Russia's diplomacy here during recent weeks. But there must be an end of all dalliance sometime, and we are very near that end at the present moment. This apparent tractability, and tendency to negotiate has been construed by some as a sign of patience on the part of the Japanese. This is quite a false impression. It has been necessity. They are determined that when the rupture comes that they themselves shall have six to four of the advantage in the Far East, and the delay has meant to them simply a consolidation of their naval and military resources. They have taken the lessons of the South African war to heart and are determined that none of the revelations which marked the inception of that campaign shall dwarf or hamper the great chances of success which now lie with them and which may never occur again.

THE NATIONAL ATTITUDE.

Yet the attitude of the nation at the present moment is absolutely decorous and correct. You would have imagined that a country possessed of the fanatical patriotism which has been bred up in Japan during the last twenty-five years would have been carried away by an enthusiasm too bouyant to be curbed at the thought of the great issues at stake. But this is not so, just a few of the journals have a jingoist ring, but that is all, for the rest the nation is composed and quietly determined that whatever the issue of the next few days is to be, they at least will not be found wanting in the hour of national need.

ONE OF THE TRIUMPHS OF MODERN SURGERY.—By applying an antiseptic dressing to wounds, bruises, burns and like injuries before inflammation sets in, they may be healed without maturation and in one-third the time required by the old treatment. This is one of the greatest discoveries and triumphs of modern surgery. Chamberlain's Pain Balm acts on this same principle. It is an antiseptic and when applied to such injuries causes them to heal very quickly. It also allays the pain and soreness. Keep a bottle of Pain Balm in your home and it will save you time and money, not to mention the inconvenience and suffering such injuries entail. For sale by

Smith Stanistreet & Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdul Rahaman and Ab Kareem, Calcutta.

THE TIBET BLUE BOOK.

Sir Henry Cotton, K.C.S.I. writes in "India."

The official papers relating to Tibet are published, and constitute a Blue-book of 314 pages. They are extremely interesting, but at the same time are so voluminous and involve so much repetition that they must repel all but the most voracious readers of political literature. For my part I have been most interested in Lord Curzon's letters. They disclose the grounds on which he has despatched this military expedition across the frontier. It all lies in a nutshell: no nation has a right to make a hermit of itself: if it will not voluntarily encourage commerce, compulsion is justified. "It is," Lord Curzon exclaims, "the most extraordinary anachronism of the twentieth century that there should exist within less than 300 miles of the borders of British India a State and a Government with whom political relations do not so much as exist," and upon whom therefore it is necessary to extend our own ideas of commerce and civilisation by means of force. These views are not often so bluntly or so crudely expressed. But at last we have a Viceroy of India who does not hesitate to preach to all the world the enforcement of civilisation irrespective of the wishes or feelings of the people, and of commerce united with and made to flourish by war. The most striking of Lord Curzon's utterances is, however, that which is contained in the Government of India despatch of the 8th January, 1903, from which I make the following extract:—

"We propose that the negotiations should cover not merely the small question of the Sikkim frontier but the entire question of our future relations commercial and otherwise, with Tibet and we think that they should culminate in the appointment of a permanent British Representative, Consular or Diplomatic, to reside at Lhassa. In our view any country or Government or Empire has a right to protect its own interests; and if those interests are seriously imperilled, as we hold ours to be in Tibet by the absolute breakdown of the Treaty arrangements hitherto made through the medium of China by the obstructive inertia of the Tibetans themselves, and still more by arrangements freshly concluded with another Great Power to our detriment, we hold that the first law of national existence, which is self-preservation, compels us to take such steps as will avert these dangers, and place our security upon an assured and impregnable footing."

There is a strange blend of bluster, bombast, and credulity in this turgid paragraph. Fortunately the Home Government summarily swept aside the fantastic proposal to appoint a permanent British representative at Lhassa. There are those in the India Office who cannot forget the fate of the Cavagnari Mission at Kabul. The allusion to "arrangements freshly concluded with another Great Power to our detriment" ought to have found no place in an official despatch. In the pages of the Blue-book there is the most authoritative contradiction by the Governments of both Russia and China of the wild rumours which all sensible persons had already discredited, but which it was reserved for the gullibility of our Governor-General in India to accept as gospel truth. Again, can anything be wilder talk than that "the first law of national existence, which is self-preservation, compels us to take such steps," etc.? As though the existence of the British Empire, or at least of the British Empire in India, was at stake because Yatung on the Tibet border had been declared a free mart for trade, and trade would not gravitate to that mart.

I find immediately following in this despatch these words:—

"Emphatic assurance might be given to the Chinese and Tibetan Governments that the mission was of an exclusively commercial character, and that our intentions were confined to removing the embargo that at present rests upon all trade between Tibet and India, and to establishing those amicable relations and means of communication that ought to subsist between adjacent and friendly Powers."

If "our intentions are confined to removing the embargo that at present rests upon trade"—an embargo which, by the way, it is not surprising that the Tibetans should have established when they realised the hostile attitude of the British Government—what is the meaning of the high falutin language about the first law of national existence which is seriously imperilled?

Space will not allow me to dwell longer on Lord Curzon's despatches; and I pass on to what is of more importance, the attitude of his Majesty's Government. It was observed by the India Office in a letter to the Foreign Office as long ago as the 25th July, 1901, that Count Lamsdorff had in the most explicit and unqualified manner denied that any political or diplomatic significance could be attached to the Tibetan mission then in St. Petersburg, and it was added:—

"If Lord Lansdowne concurs the Secretary of State for India suggests that his Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg be instructed to inform Count Lamsdorff that the statement he then made has been communicated to his Majesty's Government, and through them to the Government of India; that his Majesty's Government have received this assurance with satisfaction, as any proceedings that might have a tendency to alter or disturb the existing status of Tibet would be a movement in which his Majesty's Government could not acquiesce."

That was the view of his Majesty's Government, and it seems a very reasonable one.

Later on, when both the Russian and Chinese Governments had categorically denied the existence of any agreement with regard to Tibet, the Russian Embassy addressed a memorandum to the British Foreign Office on February 2nd, 1903. After requesting information with regard to certain military movements which it was understood the Indian Government had undertaken in Tibet, the memorandum continued:—

"In view of the very great importance which the Imperial Russian Government attaches to the avoidance of any cause of trouble in China it would consider such an expedition into Tibet as calculated to produce a situation of considerable gravity which might eventually force the Russian Government to take measures for the protection of its interests in those regions."

I confess I find this remark to be very similar in character to that which, from another point of view, had been expressed by the British Government nearly eighteen months before. But Lord Lansdowne was much exercised by it, and took an early opportunity of saying that it "seemed to him to be unusual and almost minatory in tone," and the papers which followed are rendered especially lively by the personal element which runs through them. They are concluded by a despatch to the Ambassador at St. Petersburg, which Lord Lansdowne in describing an interview between himself and Count Benckendorff, closes in these words:

"I added that it seemed to me in cases of this kind where an uncivilised country adjoined the possessions of a civilised Power it was inevitable that the latter should exercise a certain amount of local predominance. Such a predominance as I had before explained to him belonged to us in Tibet. But it did not follow from this that we had any designs upon the independence of the country."

We have only to substitute Manchuria for Tibet, and the meaning of this ingenuous observation may be left to its own application. In reading over the account of these interviews I do not know whether to most admire the unfailing courtesy of the Russian Ambassador or the blunt directness and simplicity of the British Minister.

While on the subject of Lord Lansdowne I recur to the reply made by him in the House of Lords on the 2nd February, 1904, in answer to Lord Spencer. Lord Lansdowne, after referring to the Tibetan war of 1888, then said:—

"We treated the Tibetans with the utmost leniency; we did not deprive them of any territory, we did not ask them for any indemnity. All we did ask for was that they should enter into a neighbourly agreement with us under which the frontier was to be clearly demarcated, and facilities were to be given to persons engaged in trade to cross the frontier."

How I wish that people would familiarise themselves with the Convention of 1890 "between Great Britain and China relating to Sikkim and Tibet," which is the agreement referred to! There is nothing there about the clear demarcation of the frontier, and it is only laid down that the boundary between Sikkim and Tibet shall be the watershed of the mountains. Is it surprising in the circumstances that there should have been bona fide disputes regarding the boundary line? There is nothing there about facilities being given to persons engaged in trade to cross the frontier. It is laid down that Yatung on the Tibetan side of the frontier shall be open to all British subjects for purposes of trade, and that British subjects trading at Yatung should be at liberty to travel freely to and from between the frontier and Yatung, to reside at Yatung, and to rent houses and godowns for their own accommodation and the storage of their goods. The Chinese Government undertakes that suitable buildings shall be provided for the above purposes, and that British subjects shall be at liberty to sell their goods to whomsoever they please, to purchase native commodities in kind or money, and in general to conduct their business transactions in conformity with local usage and without any vexatious restrictions. It is one thing to create a free mart for trade, another thing to attract trade there; and is it surprising that trade has never been attracted to Yatung?

Lord Lansdowne continued:—

"That agreement as entered into has been constantly broken; the boundary pillars have been removed, peaceful traders have been interfered with, our agents have been turned back, our letters have been sent back unopened, and British subjects have been arrested and carried away."

These are the insults to which the British Government has been subjected; but what are the facts? The Government of India has wisely decided that the dispute about boundary pillars was not worthy of notice. I have been able to find no evidence in the Blue-book that British traders to Yatung have been interfered with or that our agents have been turned back, and can only suppose that the reference to agents is to Col. Younghusband's abortive mission to Khamba Jong. It is true that the Viceroy's letters to the Dalai Lama were returned unopened. But what is the explanation given in the papers? It is that China is the suzerain of Tibet, that all political correspondence must be addressed direct to the Chinese Viceroys, in accordance with invariable practice, and that the Dalai Lama was not in a position to communicate with the Government of India direct. Lord Curzon's persistent object has been to negotiate direct with the Tibetans, and to ignore China; and I have no doubt that the receipt of this message from the Dalai Lama occasioned him considerable annoyance; but it is needless to say that no insult was or could have been intended. Lastly there is the charge that British subjects have been arrested and carried away. It sounds serious, and a great fuss was made about the matter in Colonel Younghusband's and the Viceroy's telegrams. Nothing more than this, however, actually occurred: two Natives of Sikkim were trading last autumn in Tibet, as they had an undoubted right to do; they had gone as far as Shegatse, and were then for some reason or other placed under arrest. It was reported that they had been tortured and put to death. Such a statement, however, appears to be quite untrue, and a note from the Chinese Embassy in London on 22nd December explains that they had been set at liberty.

It is not too much to say that it has been attempted to justify the British advance into Tibet by gross perversion of facts. I find, moreover, from these papers—and the point is interesting in the face of telegrams from the "Times" correspondent—that not only the Tibetans but the Chinese authorities have always strongly objected to the deputation of this so-called Mission into the heart of Tibet. The Chinese Commissioners themselves have protested, and the last recorded protest is through the Chinese Embassy in London on 22nd December, 1903.

Turning in conclusion to the constitutional question, I can detect nothing in the Blue-book in support of Lord Lansdowne's statement in the House of Lords that the Government of India had carefully considered the constitutional legality of their action, and were satisfied that there had been no contravention of the 55th clause of the Act for the better Government of India. But I have no doubt that they did consider it, and, like many another offender, decided the issue in their own favour. Has not Mr. Brodrick plainly told us in the House of Commons that it is only a political mission that is being sent, and that no military operations are being undertaken? Still I perceive that we have at least 3,000 troops of all arms now in Tibet. I note that Gen. Macdonald arrived with "a flying column." I find that the Chumbi Valley is occupied by our troops as their base of action, and that the lines of communication, including post and telegraph, are entirely guarded by the military. I find it openly avowed that the despatch of a powerful and well-equipped British force into the heart of the country is intended to have its effect in reducing the obstinacy of the Tibetan authorities. I find that compulsion is the very keynote and object of the mission. I observe that the mission escort approached Phari with all military precautions in skirmishing order, but that the Chinese and Tibetan officials rode out to surrender the fort. The fort was full of old armour and gunpowder, and the gunpowder was destroyed. Is all this consistent with any other hypothesis than a military operation? Surely it is more than a colourable abuse of words to say that such operations are not of a military character. This is apparently the only loophole out of the Act which the Government are prepared to take. But it is a miserable outlet of escape, and I repeat my fervent hope that in justice to the Indian taxpayers, who pay for the expedition, though they have had no part or lot in the deliberations which have led to it, no such evasion will be allowed by Parliament.

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The situation in connexion with the Tibet Mission at Tuna remains unchanged, and no further conferences have taken place between Colonel Younghusband and the Tibetan General. The latter, it now transpires, is not a properly-accredited representative of the Lhassa authorities, and hardly possesses any credentials to carry on the negotiations. It is presumed now that the forward move to Gyantse will be resumed about the middle of this month.

The case, in which two police constables were charged with stealing the halves of Currency notes from the stolen mail bag whilst in their charge again came before Colonel Minchin, Cantonment Magistrate, Poona. The evidence showed that the first accused had two halves of Currency notes for Rs. 100, one on Bombay and one on Madras, and told the second accused, in the presence of a third party, to charge them at a cigar shop. Information was given to the Chief Constable, who had both the men arrested. Both the accused denied the charge. The Magistrate said that, considering the position of trust held by the accused, he would sentence the first accused to two years' and the second accused to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

The last 10 years have so increased our knowledge of Japan that the story about Field-Marshal Count Yamagata, which went the round of Europe during the Chino-Japanese War, now seems as ridiculous as it really was. Excited by the Japanese Commander's ability, the Berlin Press put forward the romantic explanation that Count Yamagata was really the missing Austrian Archduke John Salvator, who in November, 1889, resigned his Imperial rank, and going to sea in a merchant vessel was never heard of afterwards. The German story ran that he had found his way to Japan and placed his military experience at the service of the Emperor, who bestowed on him the Japanese name of Yamagata. The lack of any physical resemblance between the two men and the fact that the life-long career of Count Yamagata was known to every student of Japan did not prevent the acceptance of the legend, which is worth recalling now as showing how recently Jajan was a "terra incognita."

A curious phenomenon, hitherto unrecorded in connection with any mineral, is described by Mr. E. Vredenburg, in the current number of the Records of the Geological Survey of India. It has been observed in specimens of a somewhat rare substance, known as sodalite from Rajputana. Some of the specimens are of a bright blue colour. Others appear, under ordinary conditions, transparent and colourless. It is in the colourless variety that the phenomenon occurs. Some of the pieces, when kept in the dark for a fortnight or three weeks, assume a pink colour which disappears rapidly on exposure to bright daylight, and almost instanteneously in direct sunshine. The phenomenon is particularly brilliant when the matrix rock is first broken in the field, and Mr. Vredenburg says that the large blocks appear on fracture as if suffused with blood. The colour reappears more completely in some specimens than in others, for while its disappearance is very rapid, its reappearance, which constitutes the most remarkable feature of the change, is very slow. No explanation is yet forthcoming.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

RUSSIA, JAPAN AND CHINA.

I.

THE ORIGIN OF THE PRESENT TROUBLES.

(By Sir R. K. Douglas.)

The matters in dispute between Russia and Japan are not of any new origin. For years, and more especially since the Japan and China War and the Port Arthur incident, Japan has watched the advances of Russia in the Far East with regarded anxiety. She has seen that the main object of that Power has been to become virtually possessed of the whole of North Eastern Asia, and she has recognsed with all the intensity of a possible victim, that the accomplishment of such a programme would be equivalent to the extinction of her Island Kingdom as a political and independent Power. The argument which was advanced by Russia to induce Japan to restore Port Arthur to China after the China war is applicable with double force to the present case. If the occupation of Port Arthur by the Japanese was equivalent to upsetting the balance of power in Northern China and to giving them a controlling influence at Pekin what can be said of the position of a Power who would hold Korea in its grasp and thus constantly threaten the existence of Japan which lies within sight of its coast line? No one who is acquainted with the geography of Eastern Asia can deny for a moment that it would be unendurable to Japan to be perpetually overshadowed by the ships and batteries of a formidable Power in such close proximity to her shores.

It may be said that Russia has never threatened to absorb Korea. But neither has she threatened to absorb Manchuria, and in fact she has repeatedly promised to restore that province to Chinese rule, even fixing the day on which her troops were to be withdrawn and yet at the present moment Manchuria is as essentially a Russian province, as is either Kharkoo or Keir. Such an object-lesson has not been lost upon the Japanese, who have learnt to estimate Russian promises at their true value, and to accept them only when they have passed into the stage of fulfilment.

JAPANESE DETERMINATION.

In this fact lies the whole danger of the present situation. Japan has categorically stated her demands which put shortly, amount to the restoration of Manchuria to Chinese rule and to the complete independence of Korea. It is improbable that to neither of these concessions will Russia agree, whatever assertions she may make, or whatever promises she may give. And the Japanese seem determined that she shall either yield these terms or leave them to the arbitrament of war. With that acute perception of the meaning of historical facts which characterizes them, they have long made up their minds that the latter alternative is the one which is ultimately to decide the issue. Not that they desire war; on the contrary they recognise the dangers and horrors of such a contest as may be impending and are anxious for peace. But they love their country more, and are determined to fight to the last man to preserve its independence. The peace-loving nature of the Tsar and his utterances to which publicity has been given, might, in ordinary circumstances, be held to foreshadow a peaceful solution of the controversy. But it is well-known that however much the Tsar may desire peace he is unabe to secure it in opposition to the powerful bureaucracy with which he is surrounded. And indeed events have reached such a point that it would be hardly possible for Russia to yield absolutely to the Japanese conditions, and at the same time to preserve her "amour propre;" and unless she yields she must fight.

THE TREATY WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

It was in full view of this contingency that Japan sought to make a Treaty of Alliance with Great Britain. She foresaw the struggle which was before her, and with a wisdom which has never deserted her in her foreign relations, she allied herself with the Power which of all others was able to give her the congenial support she wanted. The conclusion of this Treaty was a severe rebuff to Russia, who sought first of all to minimise its effect by deriding it, and subsequently showed her appreciation of its importance by making ostentatious professions of friends in for Germany. But the point was gained. Japan got the support she required and incidentally Great Britain acquired increased prestige in the East.

In one sense the Treaty had a disturbing effect. It induced the Russians to push forward their schemes partly by way of "bluff" and partly to secure as much as possible before any counteracting influences could be brought to bear. In these circumstances the Japanese deemed it appropriate to approach the Russian Government with certain proposals for a "modus vivendi." They proposed that the two Governments should agree to respect the independence and the territorial integrity of the Chinese and Korean Empires; that they should mutually recognise the special interests of Japan in Korea and of Russia in Manchuria; and that neither country should interfere with the commercial treaty rights in China and Korea acquired by the other. In these proposals it will be seen that Japan sought no fresh concessions from Russia, but simply a confirmation on paper of her oft repeated assurances. But Russia would have nothing to say to them and insited that Japan had no right to interefere in Manchurian affairs, which were, she held, to be reserved for the consideration of Russia and China alone. Altogether the attitude of the St. Petersburg Cabinet was so distant and haughty that Japan found herself compelled to take a further step.

THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE POWERS.

A meeting of the Elder Statesmen, namely, Marquises Ito and Yamagata and Counts Inoye and Matsu Kata, was summoned to consider the situation and to formulate terms for regulating the situation in Manchuria and Korea. On the 30th of October 1903, these notables, in conjuction with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Commanders-in-Chief of the Navy and Army, drew up a Note which contained formal proposals with regard to the questions in dispute, including the right of China to open the towns of Mukden, Antung, and Ta-tung-kan as Treaty Ports. On the 11th of November this Note, after having been approved by the Mikado, was handed to the Russian Minister at Tokio, who, it is to be presumed, sent it at once to St. Petersburg. That the affair was urgent was admitted on all hands and yet with studied indifference the Russians only returned a reply at the end of six weeks. In aggravation of the long delay the reply showed little disposition to consider seriously the Japanese proposals and the Mikado's Government felt therefore compelled to request the Tsar's Ministers to reconsider their communication. The response to this Note was equally unsatisfactory, and a reply was sent to St. Petersburg in which a request was made for a categorical answer to the proposals made therein. This might well be the final effort which the Japanese Government might make to secure peace. If this fail eventually to extract the necessary undertakings the result must be war.

THE CARE AND PATIENCE OF JAPAN.

No one can accuse the Japanese of precipitancy in the management of these negotiations. They have submitted to aggravating delays, on the part of Russia, and have displayed care and deliberation in every step which they have taken in the diplomatic interchange of Notes. Nothing indeed is more remarkable than the well-balanced assurance with which they have conducted the delicate negotiations which have been in progress, without making a single mistake. There is nothing that they can be reproached with, and in any conflict between the Powers the sympathies of the civilised world will be on the side of the Island Kingdom.

The same deliberation which has marked their diplomacy has characterised their naval and military preparations. Without undue haste and fuss they have buckled on their armour so as to stand ready to take up the gaze which Russia has seemed determined to throw into the arena. For years they have been adding some of the most powerful ships of the world to their fleet, and their army is as perfectly equipped as it is possible for an army to be. It will be remembered that during the recent campaign in North China, the Japanese army drew forth the admiration of all unprejudiced observers. The men were brisk and alert, while their commissariat arrangements were excellent. They were always where they were wanted, and endured hardships gladly. At sea Japan is at present a match, and more than a match, for Russia in the Far East and the two new cruisers which she has just added to her navy will give her a decided superiority. As seamen the Japanese, due to their island surroundings, are renowned throughout the East, and they may be expected to handle their ironclads with skill and daring.

RUSSIAN NAVAL INFERIORITY.

On the other hand Russian sailors are not conspicuous for seamanship-like qualities. Their experience of naval manœuvring is limited, and their ships, if report speaks truly, are not as efficient as they might be. But the great disability under which the Russian fleet suffers in the Far East is the want of dock accommodation. Neither at Vladivostock nor Port Arthur are there the necessary yards for repairing disabled ships, and making good the damages of war, while contrariwise, Japan is at home with all the appliances which she has accumulated at her command. It would seem, therefore, in the chance of war, at least, the first naval engagements are in favour of the Japanese.

On shore, another set of considerations come into view. In numbers, Russia must in the long run have the superiority, but her line of communication is long, and is one which may be threatened at many points, all of which, we may be quite sure, have been observed and noted by the ever-watchful officers of the Intelligence Department at Tokio. —"Englishman."

THE TIBET MISSION.

OFFICAL PAPER.

A Blue-book published on Monday contains papers covering the whole period between the negotiations preceding the Calcutta Convention of 1890 and the despatch of the present Mission. It amply bears out the statement that the Mission was necessitated in a great measure by Russian intrigues. The Czar in October 1900, and again in June 1901 received Tibetan Missions which had for their object a political "rapprochement" with Russia as the only Power able to counteract the intrigues of Great Britain. As a result the British Ambassador in St. Petersburg was instructed to inform Count Lamsdorff that "His Majesty's Government could not regard with indifference any proceedings which might have a tendency to affect or disturb the existing status of Tibet." A similar notification was sent to the Chinese Government. Count Lamsdorff replied that the Mission was chiefly concerned with religion and had no political or dilpomatic object or character. Meanwhile the Indian Government made ineffectual efforts to get into touch with the Dalai Lama. On August 2nd, 1902, is cabled to Lord Lansdowne that there were persistent rumours that Russia and China had signed a treaty for the cession of Tibet in return for the maintenance of China's integrity. Thereupon the Chinese Government was informed that if such an arrangement was made Great Britain would be forced to take steps to protect its own interests. The Chinese denied the existence of such a treaty. Meanwhile the Viceroy reported that he had reason to believe that there was intentional and deliberate delay on the part of China and Tibet. He urged that strong action should be taken. About February 1903 Russia began to threaten, M. Benckendorff using language in an interview with Lord Lansdowne which the latter described as "unusual and almost minatory in tone." Lord Lansdowne replied: "We are much more closely interested than Russia in Tibet and should Russia and a Mission or Expedition there we should have to do the same, but in greater strength." On February 20th, 1903, Lord George Hamilton telegraphed to the Viceroy describing conversations between Lord Lansdowne and M. Benckendorff adding that while the discussions were proceeding between the two Government an expedition in force would be undesirable but he should try to reopen negotiations. A despatch to the same effect was sent a week later. Then follow several communications between Lord Lansdowne and the British Ambassador at St. Petersburg and between the India Office and the Indian Government. On the 17th November last Count Benckendorff again called at the Foreign office and said the invasion of Tibet by British was most unfortunate at the present moment when the Rusian Government were discussing our relations at the various points where British and Russian interests were in contact. Lord Lansdowne in reply expressed great astonishment at the excitement which the announcement of the Mission seemed to have created. Our interests in Tibetan affairs were much greater than Russia's. He remained Count Benckendorff that he had already explained the great provocation we had received. He was firmly convinced that Russia would not have shown so much patience as we had but would have been at Lhassa by this time. Lord Lansdowne proceeded: "I felt bound to add that it seemed to me beyond measure strange that these protests should be made by the Government of a Power which had, all over the world, never hesitated to encroach upon its neighbours when circumstances seemed to require it. If the Russian Government had the right to complain of us for taking steps to obtain reparation from the Tibetans by advancing into Tibetan territory, what kind of language should we not be entitled to use in regard to Russian encroachments in Manchuria, Turkestan and Persia?" Then follow reports from Colonel Younghusband as to the presence of Russian Agents at Lhasa, with their promises of Russian support on which the Tibetans are relying The correspondence closes with a telegram from Mr. Brodrick to the Viceroy that no hostile action must be taken unless the British force was attacked or finds a danger of communications being cut. There are also some communications which passed between Lord Lansdowne and the Chinese Representative in London in one which the latter refers to the difficulty of the position in which China was placed by her obstinate and ignorant refusal.

THE "GAZETTE OF I[illegible]—FEB. 27.

LEAVE.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. P. Hewett, C.S.I., C.I.B., Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, is granted privilege leave for three months with furlough for five months in continuation, with effect from the 17th March 1904, or the subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

The Hon'ble Mr. F. S. P. Lely, C.S.I., Commissioner of the Northern Division Bombay Presidency, and Additional Member of the Council of the Governor General for making Laws and Regulations is appointed to officiate as Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces during the absence on leave of the Hon'ble Mr. J. P. Hewett, C.S.I., or until further orders.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. K. B. Wagle, Dy. Accountant-General, Bombay, is granted privilege leave for six weeks with effect from the 11th of February 1904.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is pleased to appoint Lieutenant-Colonel F. B. Longe, R. E. Superintendent, 1st grade, Survey of India Department, to be Surveyor-General of India, with effect from the 24th February 1904, "vice" Colonel St. G. C. Gore, C. S. I. R. E. who retired on that date.

POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

Mr. M. R. Mahima Dass is appointed to be 2nd Assistant Postmaster Rangoon, with effect from the 1st March 1904.

The following appointments are made, with effect from the 9th November, 1903, and until further orders, vice Mr. Knox Homan, appointed sub pro tempore Deputy Postmaster-General, 3rd grade:—

Babu C. K. Dutt, Superintendent of Post Offices, officiating in the 1st grade to be sub pro tempore in that grade.

Babu Becharam Basu, Superintendent of Post Offices, officiating in the 2nd grade, to be sub protempore in that grade.

Babu Ramani Mohan Ghose, Superintendent of Post Offices, officiating in the 3rd grade, to be sub pro tempore in that grade.

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10. DR. R. A. FERMIE L. R. C. P. & S. etc., says:—".. I used Healing Balm for Gonorrhœa in a number of my patients and found it very efficatious."

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