REG NO. C. 59.

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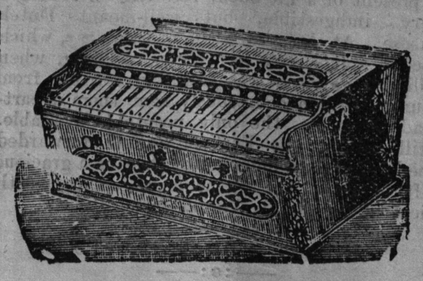

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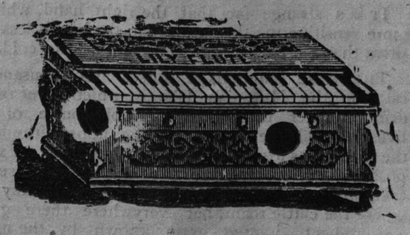

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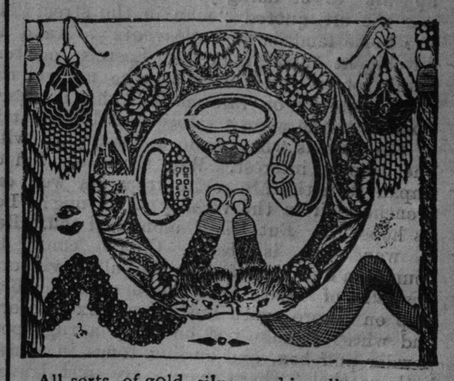

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Dated 4-2-99. (Sd). Nil Kant Majumder,
Professor, Presidency College.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Notes on Russo-Japanese War

—:o:—

RUSSIAN OFFICERS' VIEWS.

The Paris "Journal" publishes a letter, dated February 8, from its correspondent at Port Arthur, who says that the officers commanding the Russian fleet there had intended to make an attempt to destroy the Japanese squadron in order to make the landing of Japanese troops and wad itself impossible. However, in consequence of the strength of the Japanese squadron, they afterwards decided to act on the defensive, and not to go from Port Arthur.

"As a matter of fact," says the correspondent, "as long as the Russian fleet exists, it will be a source of danger to the Japanese, upon whom it can make surprise attacks, and whose communications it can cut. Moreover, its presence in the port will prevent the Japanese from landing in the Gulf of Liaotung, and will oblige them to land in Korea, at some distance from the Yalu, on which the Russians will have sufficient time to complete their concentration."

The correspondent estimates that at the beginning of February there were 200,000 Russian troops between Port Arthur and Vladivostock, Baranovsk, and Blagovestchcusk. These were stationed along the railway and in barracks at some distance from each other. The details of the mobilisation are being kept absolutely secret, and even the officers are unaware of what is going on.

"Russia," says the correspondent, "has been ready for the first fight for a long time. She can put 400,000 Reservists in the field in Manchuria. All she would have to do at the last moment would be to concentrate her means of transport."

In conclusion the writer expresses his belief in the final triumph of Russia. He admits however that the Russian naval officers seem to have less confidence in their ships than in themselves, and that they have the feeling that they will not be fighting their opponents with equal arms.

THE STORY OF THE OPENING BLOW.

The "Times" correspondent, in a letter from Tokio, dated February 19, gives an instructive and interesting account of the circumstances under which Admiral Togo determined upon his method of opening the war by a direct attack on the Russian fleet at Port Arthur, whilst at the same time his fourth squadron, under Admiral Uriu, was escorting transports to Chemulpo. It shows Togo's anxiety lest whilst he was making for Port Arthur with three squadrons, the Russian fleet should leave part and get across to Chemulpo, so as to attack Uriu before he could encounter it; and the account proceeds to describe how the attack was delivered when he arrived within sixty miles of Port Arthur and sent the destroyers on to "go and sink the enemy's squadron."

As the destroyers drew near a Russian vessel showed up at close distance. She was probably on look-out duty, and her presence had almost proved fatal, for one of the destroyers was on the point of torpedoing her. Instead of that betrayal, however, the Russian hail received a Russian answer, and the little flotilla held its course uninterrupted. At 600 metres the column broke in two, the rear half steering westward, the front half eastward, so that each commanded a moiety of the Russian squadron. At 500 metres twenty torpedoes were launched. In a moment searchlights flashed, big guns boomed from the forts, and quick-firers rained a shower of shells from the ships. The destroyers were never brought into the field of the electric blaze nor ever touched by shot od shell. Immediately on discharging their torpedoes the two divisions, heading in opposite directions, steamed away at full speed, and the perturbed Russians, failing to get sight of the foe, naturally failed to injure him.

The correspondent says that the first intimation Admiral Togo received that the Russian fleet was at Port Arthur, where he had sent his destroyers to find it, came from a message intercepted by the wireless telegraphic apparatus—a message in which the one word "Askold" could be deciphered.

The correspondent says that in the fleet attack four of the Japanese ships were struck but the injury inflicted was not great.

AFFAIRS AT CHEFOO.

A correspondent writes to Shanghai paper from Chefoo, under 8th March:—

Although we have received no authentic news within the past four days, from the front, Chefoo has not been without the average circulation of "bunders"—indeed in this commodity we bid fair to rival Shanghai, even in it palmiest days. Tientsin too is coming well up into in this respect, and the correspondent of one well known London Daily appears to be doing yeoman service. What can the oft quoted "man in the street" in the home land, who endeavours to take an intelligent interest in Far Eastern matters think of it all? How can he unravel the conglomeration of "information" that is passed home over the wires? How indeed! The battle of the Yalu is what we look forward to with the deepest interest. Will the hardy son of Japan turn the Muscovite from his well entrenched lair in the vicinity of Antung? Let us hope so. But time alone will tell. But if war news is scarce, Chefoo cannot be counted a dull place for we are full of visitors. Visitors of that type whose male members step on shore with knives and six-shooters, and whose female portion carry a ruge pot, powder puff box, and curling tongs in a neat little satchel. These people are just travellers, and are to be found in most parts of the Far East, where either the Rouble or dollar is in circulaion. One day last week so crowded were our main thodoughfare with these fair creatures, that one might almost imagine oneself in Picca. Dilly circus after closing hours. Last night two Greek gentlemen had a difference of opinion on a financial question with a elderly lady at one of the minor hotels which ended in one of the ruffians drawing a dagger and indeed he would have finished the Proprietrix, had not an English gentleman who happened, to step into the bar promptly clipped in. Stabbing with daggers was then the order of the evening for about two minutes. So you see we have our own little wars here. I am glad to say that the Consular body are taking the matter up, and it is highly probable that our undesirables here will be invited to take a sea-trip—perhaps in the direction of your model settlement. It is high time that vigorous steps be taken by those in authority at the various ports on the China coast to clear from their midst the unsavoury element that is straining every nerve to take root, and whose presence out here dates from the year 1900.

JAPAN'S SEA CAPTURES.

The cases of the following captured Russian steamers and cargoes have been decided by the Prize Court of Japan as lawful prizes; all the interested parties were allowed, however, to appeal to the Higher Prize Court within 30 days from the 2nd March, against the decision of the Prize Court of the first. instance.

1. The steafer Rossia (with its appurtenances) This steamer was captured by the Imperial Japanese cruiser Tatsuta by the Nine Pin Rock in Korea, between 6-30 and 7-30 a.m. on the 7th February.

2. The steamer Moukden, and a chest containing ten thousand roubles (the property of the Russo-Chinese Bank); severel itefs, as per list attached, of provision, etc., belonging to either foreign and Japanese firms. The above steafer and cargo were captured by the Imperial Japanese cruiser Heiyan, at the port of Fusan at 2-45 on the 6th February.

3. The steamer Argun; with 311 roubles owned by the steamer. The steamer was captured by the Imperial Japanese cruiser Adzuma near Pa Kaopu on the south-western coast of Korea, at about 4 p. m. on the 7th February.

4. The whaler Nicholai and Korean coins on board and other currency owned by the Atlantic Whaling and Fishing Company. The abovenamed vessel and specie were captured by the Imperial Japanese cruiser Miyako on the sea, in 35.7' North, 12.915' East, atI o'clock on the 10th February.

5. The whaler Michael and the whales and whale nets attached, etc., as per list. This ship wa captured by the Imperial Japanese cruiser Miyako on the high esa 35.10' North 59.20,, East, at 2 o'clock in the afernoon of the 10 February.

6. The whaler Alexander, and whale oil and two other classes of goods as per list attached. The above was captured by No. 17 torpedo boat in the port of Ihohara in Tsuishima Island, at 2 a. m. on the 10th February.

THE JAPANESE SWORD.

The short sword for which the Japanese are so famous is a wonderful production. First of all, a very thin sheet of steel is fixed to an iron bar that ultimately serves as a handle. To this sheet of steel other pieces of the same size are soldered until the mass is about eight inches long and two inches long and two inches wide. The bar of steel is than brought to a white heat, and is bent in half and hammered until it resumes its original seize. This process is repeated no less than fifteen times. Four iimilar bars are then made and soldered together, after which they are doubled in half, reheated, and hammered out, this process being repeated five times. By this time the sword is brought to the required thickness, the layers of steel have been hammered so thin that the blade contains innumerable sheets of meal. The handle is then formed, and when the finishing touches have been put on the blade, it is heated to a certain temperature and dipped into a bath of oil or water. Togeher with the sharpening, the making of one of these famous swords take about seven weeks. The many thousands of inferior swords which will be used in the war are not, of course, made by this long process.

An Odessa telegram, dated March 11, states:—Among the notable subscriptions to the new fleet and other patriotic funds in Russia the last two days are those of Kursk and St. Petersburg. The Kursk Government Assembly has assigned 50,000 roubles (£5,000) for the "Fleet Fund," 100,000 roubles (£10,000) for the equipment and upkeen of military hospitals, and 100,000 roubles (£10,000) for the families of reservists called up for actve service from within the confines oo the Kursk Government. At an extraordinary meeting of representatives of the St. Peersburg Credit Association yesterday it was decided, "amid thunders of applause," to subscribe 100,000 roubles (£10,000) for the new Fleet Fund, 100,000 roubles (£10,000) for the new Fleet Fund, 100,000 roubles (£10,000) for the sufferers from the war, and to add 50,0000 roubles (£5,000) to the capital which was left over after the Russo-Turkish campaign, thus raising the latter capital to 160,000 roubles (£16,000). Here and there in South Russia Jews also are testifying to their loyalty by patriotic subscriptions for varous amounts.

FIGHTING CONSUMPTION.

His new treatment for the cure of tuberculosis wal described by Dr. Marmorek at St George's Hospitas the other night. A large and distinguished audience listened to his lecture with the keenest interest.

In testing his treatment, the doctor said, he ha chosen severe consumptive cases, for otherwise his results would have been open to the criticism that they could have beeen obtained by any other method.

He detailed the elaborate steps necessary to secure a serum which would act as an antidote to the disease. The principle was to isolate the specific poison of the disease, and by injecting this into horses stimulate them to produce the antidote.

One of his most striking cases was one of so-called "galloping consumption" which came under his care in the third week of the disease. Forty seven injections of his serum were given, and in five months the patient was, to all appearances, cured.

He showed charts and diagrams illustrating the great improvement and apparent cure of several other cases. The patients lost their shortness of breath, and gained in weight and strength, although sanatorium treatment had previously failed to do them any good. Yet no other medicine was used during the time the injections were employed. Naturally, the most successful cases were those where the destruction of the lung tissue was least advanced—that is to say, the acute rather than the chronic cases.

It was necessary to continue the treatment for a long time, as tubercular diseases run a prolonged course, and tend to relapse. Dr. Marmorek has successfully treated tubercular joints and glands, but so far has failed to cure a case of meningitis.

The general feeling at the lecture was that a prima facie case had been made out for the new serum, but that it would be a misfortune, which all the medical profession would deplore, if any exaggerated hopes were based upon it.

CHIVALRY IN WAR.

—:o:—

The humanity which the Japanese are displaying in the present war is not the outcome of any mere transient emotion; they behaved with equal chivalry and consideraton to the conquered Chinese, ministered to their wounded, sent home their prisoners, even pensioned some of the unhappiest cases. Their conduct contrasts more than favourably with that of some European nations. The Germans, for example, not only violated the rules of war by smashing libraries, picture galleries, and sacred buildings at Strasburg in 1870, but were accused of refusing to permit the women and children to quit the city before they commenced their bombardment. Such chivalry as that of the Japanese recalls the good nature of Sir Edmund Lyons at Sebastopol, who sent in to Admiral Machinoff, its brave defender, a present of a fat buck, receiving in return a very indigestible, but well-meant Dutch cheese. At the great siege of Gibraltar, which recent manoeuvres have been recalling, when Elliott's garrison was suffering terribly from scurvy, Crillon courteously sent them a cartload of carots, the only vegetable available. Still earlier, the Earl of Suffolk forwarded the hard-pressed defender of Orleans a gracious gift of fruit, the Frenchman replying with piece of fur for his kindly enemy's cloak.

JAPAN'S WAR EXPENSES.

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Reuter, wiring from Tokio three weeks ago, stted:—The Japanese Cabinet has decided to submit to the special meettng of the Diet proposals for the extension of the tobacco monopoly, to include manufactured tobacco, and the creation of a salt monopoly. These measures will involve a heavy outlay for the purchase of private tobacco manufacturing concerns and salt interests, but the advisers of the Government regard such expenditure at this time as wise.

The Cabinet has decided to suggest increases in the land and income taxes, and in imposts on business transactions in wheat, soy, and sugar and on the Stock Exchange, besides augmenting the stamp taxes, and creating new taxes on silk, piece goods, kerosene, and woollens. It is estimated that the total increase from these sources will amount to 68,000,000, yen.

The expenditure from the commencement of hostilities to the end of March is estimated at 156,000,000 yen, divided into 168,000,000 yen for the army and 48,000,000 yen for the navy. Of this only 50,000,000 yen have been actually disbursed, including the payment for the new cruisers Nishin and Kasuga.

The Government proposes to meet the expnditure to the end of March with the 100,000,000 yen of Exchequer bonds which have just been sold, 25,000,000 yen from the special fund and 31,000,000 yen to be raised by a temporary loan.

The expenditure on account of the war from April to December, inclusive, is estimated at 380,000,000 yen. Besdes the special war reserve of 40,000,000 yen, the Government proposes to meet this expenditure by the issue of 280,000,000 yen of Exchequer bonds, 68,000,000 yen of war taxes, 7,000,000 yen the balance of the ordinary annual receipts, and 25,000,000 yen from the special fund.

LOCUST PLAGUE AT POONA.

—:o:—

STILL CREATING RAVAGES.

Poona, April 8.

These pests continue to swarm all over the station, doing great damage to trees and crops wherever they settle. Every section of the City and Cantonment appears to have had a visit from them since first they made their appearance in Poona just a week ago; and everywhere the trees bear evidence to the ravages of this voracious insect. Wanowrie is at present infested with them, and the trees both there and all the way down to the neighbourhood of Panch Howds were massed with them as thick as bees round a honeycomb on Wednesday evening and yesterday morning. It was a curious spectacle to see hundreds of trees coated thick with locusts, and the air alive with dense masses of the insect spread over wide areas. The large open space of the Wanowrie Rifle Ranges was carpeted thick with them yesterday morning, while the whole plain from Parbatti Road almost up to the tagrets was thick with locusts. Further down Parbatti Road, the trees and fields were red with insects, which kept the cultivators busy the whole morning driving them off the crops. Napier, Phayre, and Cross Roads, not to mention other parts of Wanowrie, were a prey to the insects during the whole of this time. It is impossible to estimate the amount of damage the swarms now infesting Poona are likely to do; but that the evil has exceeded all bounds it does not need any great assurance to believe. Attention was drawn months ago, when there seemed a likelihood of Poona receiving a visit from the locusts, to the damage that was sure to result if once the swarms got over the Ghauts into these parts. Since then they have been gradually spreading themselves over the Poona District, with what results it is easy to imagine. Further dense swarms are now reported in the direction of Chinchwad, and it needs only a continuance of the prevalent heavy breezes to bring them on to Poona. Under these circumstances it will be the wish of most persons that the same ill wind that brings them up will also blow them away, far from our neighbourhood.

Maiwatchin, on theborders of Russia, is the only town in the world exclusively inhabited by men. The Chinese women are not allowed to live in this territory, and are even forbidden to pass the great wall of Kalkan and to enter Mongolia. All the Chinese of this border town are traders.

It is a strange fact that the right hand, which is more sensitive to the touch than the left, is less sensitive than the latter to the effect of heat or cold.

There are hundreds of horses and thousands of cattle in the Hawaiian Islands which never take a drink of water throughout the whole course of their lives. On all the islands the the upper altitudes of the mountains are given up to cattle ranges. Except possibly two or three months in the rainy season there are no streams or pools of water in any part where the cattle roam, but everywhere there grows a recumbent, jointed grass known by the native name of "Maninia." This is both food and drink.

There is a plant in Chili, and a similar one in Japan, called the "flower of the air." It is so called because it appears to have no root, and is never fixed to the earth. It twines round a dry tree or sterile rock. Each shoot produces two or three flowers like a lily—white, transparent, and odoriferons. It is capable of being transported 600 or 700 miles, and vegetates as it dwels suspended on a twig.

THE THIBET EXPEDITION.

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Sir William Wedderburn entertained a number of members of Parliament and others interested in Indian questions at breakfast at the Westminister Palace Hotel on March 23, and subsequently Sir Henry Cotton, K.C.S.I., Commissioner of Assam from 1896 to 1902, gave an address on "The Invasion of Thibet." Among others present were Mr. Leonard Courtney, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, M.P., Mr. Frederic Harrison, Mr. T. Lough, M.P., Mr. C. P. Treveryan, M.P., Dr. Farquharson, M. P., Mr. R. Cameron, M.P., Sir John Jardine, Serjeant Hemphill, M.P., Mr. Schwann, M.P and Mr. S. Smith, M.P. Letters regretting inability to attend were received, among others, from the Marquess of Ripon, the Bishop of Hereford, the Dean of Durham, Mr. John Morley, Mr. Bryce, and Sir Charles Dilke. Lord Ripon expressed deep regret at the revival of the old "forward" policy, "applied to a portion of the Indian frontier which nature has made invulnerable and directed towards one of the most barren regions of the globe."

Sir William Wedderburn said the real crime of the Thibetans appeared to be that they wanted to have nothing to do with us.

SIR HENRY COTTON'S FEARS OF APPROACHING SLAUGHTER.

Sir Henry Cotton, in the course of his address, said the alleged breaches of the Convention on the part of the Thibetans afforded no justification for the present expedition. The underlying reason for the steps taken was dread of Russian interference, which he regarded as a bogey. No doubt it was the fear of Russia which did animate Lord Curzon, together with a sentiment of romance on his part—the idea that it would be a magnificent thing to penetrate to that mysterious city of Lhassa, which had not been visited by any Englishman for 100 years. Other motives than these for Lord Curzon's policy he was unable to discover. How often had it been asserted in the King's Speech and by Lords Hardwicke and Lansdowne in the House of Lords that what had been done had been done with the concurrence of the Chinese Government! The fact was that every protest and every remonstrance of the Chinese authorities had been ignored. The local authoritics practically took no notice of them, and the higher authorities both in India and England declined in any way to modify the policy of advance which had been laid down from first to last. The Chinese Government had been opposed to an armed mission into the heart of Thibet, the Chinese Foreign Office opposed it, the Chinese Minister in London had remonstrated against it, the Chinese Imperial Resident at Lhassa had written to Lord Curzon more than once begging that the Commissio might be withdrawn, and the commissioners appointed by the Chinese Government to discuss frontier questions in dispute repeatedly protested to the BritishCommissioner, Col. Younghusband, against the advance of the mission. Lord Lansdowne had said that no military operations had been undertaken, and that the mission was merely a political one. A reply of that kind was one of the grossest abuses of words it was possible to conceive. The mission was escorted and supported by 3,000 troops, in addition to camp followers. It might almost as well be alleged that the advance of our troops into Johannesburg was nothing more than a political mission. The long halt that had occurred was, he believed, due to the reluctance of the British Government to come into collision with the Thibetans. The telegrams that day, however, showed that we were on the point of advancing, and who could doubt that there would be a conflict? He did not expect the would be any loss on our side, but he feared very much that there would be great daughter among the Thibetans. The latter were an unarmed and peaceful people, and if such a mission, as this was described to be, forced its way with the aid of cannon and rifles and mowed down the obstructing ranks of peaceful people he felt that it would be an indelible disgrace on British arms. (Hear, hear.)

MR. LEONARD COURTNEY.

Mr. Courtney said there was no doubt we were in a very serious position in Thibet. Of course any complaints of the failure to observe the Convention agreed to between this country and China should be primarily directed towards China. He would not dwell very much on that nor on the failure of the clause in the Government of India Act which prevented expenditure on warlike policy on the Indian frontier without the approval of both Houses of Parliament. It had been shown in the present instance, and not for the first time, how easy it was to drive through that clause. He was afraid that many people of authority on both sides in Parliament, under the pretence that this and that was not a military operation, had involved us in difficulties which it was the object of that clause to prevent. But he did not dwell on those points, important though they might be. The Government would plead that the intrigues of Russia were a justification for the intrigues of the United Kingdom. We intrigued as much as Russia; we endeavoured to foil one another in every corner of the world. But what mischief would result to our domination in India supposing that Russia succeeded in gaining a foot-hold in Thibet? The experience of the present expedition showed the absurdity of the fear. We had been compelled to halt because we could not back up the force already in Thibet with sufficient necessities of war to make another step. The effect on the health of our troops and the mortality among the animals employed illustrated how absurd was the anxiety felt, if Russia did get a strong foothold there, as to the consequences it would involve to our position in India. He did not see why the Thibetans should be fonder of the Russians than of ourselves. They were unwilling to allow us to enter into their solitudes; why should they not be equally averse to the Russians? They said, "Let us alone, and we shall oppose as much as we can any attempt on the part of a foreign Power to intrude upon us." And for his part, if Russia desired to go there he showed say let Russia try and let Russia experience a little of the difficulty of such an undertaking. (Applause.)

Mr. Frederick Harrison said he represented was afraid of this matter being discussed.

Mr. Fredrick Harrison said he represented a political and social movement which for 24 years ... continually protested ... st all these forms of wanton aggression and the growth of this dreadful imperialist mania, which was about to ruin the empire and sacrifice our country. But in all those years he did not think we had had one so purely wanton as this attack—for attack it was—upon Thibet; and he was not sure that it was not as dangerous to this country as any of them.

Other speakers included Mr. Schwann, who hoped the question might speedily be taken up in the House of Commons.

LOVE THE DISEASE.

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DR. HOLLANDER'S THEORY.

Dr. Bernard Hollander of Cavendish Square, London, writes as follows to the "Daily Express:—

That love is a disease may appear to many a pronouncement lacking in foundation and may shock their most deeply-rooted conviction. They may well ask—What reasons have we for such a statement? An examination of the symptoms of this universal complaint will soon reveal its abnormality. The lover has a predilection for a certain object, which object to any impartial observer does not materially differ from many others of the same class. When a person is acutely in love the respiration becomes sighing, there is a tendency to suffusion of the countenance, to confusion of thought and language; there may be loss of appetite and insomia. There is a disposition to violent palpitation, an irregular pulse, and a sensation at times as if the heart had been displaced upwards into the larynx. There is often blindness to both physical and mental defects of the object of adoration. The patients are frequently full of fear and anxiety, and may be seen restlessly perambulating, muttering to themselves and the slightest inattention, or a greeting less warm than usual, will cause serious agitation, worry, and misery, lasting for hours, or even days.

On the other hand, a touch of the lips, the action of a second may cause symptoms of exaltation and happy illusions of most enduring character. Influenced by the latter sensation. I have known men to change the habits of a lifetime, to break with their own relations, to dismiss their most faithful servants, to ruin themselves financially, to give up their club and smoking, and even to change their politics and religion. And yet there are people who regard a lover as a reasonable being. Again, many a woman has come to hate her father and mother simply because they have offended the man she adored. Some patients become moody and avoid society; they grow pale and thin especially when their lover stays away too long. Morbid thoughts of self-destruction may arise, and sometimes homicidal impulses at the sight of a rival have been known to occur.

In Italy a woman will stab her unfaithful lover; in France she tries to blind him by throwing vitriol in his face. The practical English woman contents herself with an action for damages. On the other hand, there are cases in which a person ended his or her own life not to stand in the way of a happy union of their lover with a rival.

That love may cause permanent mental derangement is well known. Thus a young lady patient of a highly moral and very romantic nature fell in love, and was carried away by her vivid imagination and pure devotion to which the practical lover not only did not respond, but in the end married another girl. Notwithstanding this fact, her love, though he was gone, continued true to him and she would sit all day sighing for him and whispering his name. Her mind was only occupied with thoughts of love. She died of heart failure. There can be no doubt that love is infectious. It is probably communicated by arrow-shaped germs which emanate from the ocular organs, though at times the infection has been attributed to a gentle sequeeze of the hands. Antiseptics are powerless. Symptoms show that love is a disease affecting the person both mentally and physically; the question arises—What can be done to cure it? Much exercise and application to study are often beneficent when the attack is slight. A change of climate may prove effectual in severer cases. Sometimes the patient can be induced to love two objects at the same time, in which case he is almost sure to get tired of one and lose the other.

But when everything has been done, as a last resource, recourse may be had to marriage. It is wonderful how love changes after possession of the object of predilection has been obtained. Leander, the lover, may swim across the Hellespont for his Hero; but Leander married would scarce swim across a duck pond for her. If they are fortunate, their love changes through the habit of association to mutual attachment, friendship, and affection, but it is not the same love which governed them before they were united as is proved by the fact that marriage is no protection against the outbreak of a new passion. But let no one think that I am against marriage, for "Marry or don't marry—you will regret whichever you do."

The latest information from Tibet was that, some miles beyond the Kalatso, the Tibetans had built another wall and blockhouses, but had evacuated it after a reconnaissance by the Mounted Infantry, in which they lost 6 men killed and some wounded; our casualties were nil.

The Foreign Office has not received any fresh news of the Tibet Mission, except a telegraph dated the 6th instant. The Mission has now gone beyond the telegraph line, and endeavours are being made to push the telegraph wires on with the advance of the Mission. The lines of communication all along are undisturbed, and the attitude of the natives is friendly. They are bringing in supplies. The Mission expects to reach Gyantse within a fortnight. The political position of the Mission remains unaltered, and so far no proposal of any kind to negotiate has as yet emanated from Lhassa. Colonel Younghusband, with the head-quarters staff of the Tibet Mission, have arrived at Chalu all well, and they will move further up to a place called Salu. So far no Tibetan activity has been seen, and the only strategy noticable is a series of small walls across the road. The wounded are doing well.

BEFORE YOU START on a journey, procure bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarhœa Remedy. This may save you much trouble and annoyance as it can not be bought on boare the cars or steamship. For all forms of stomac and bowel troubles thi remedy has no erequa

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Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, APRIL 14, 1904.

TREATMENT OF INDIANS BY EUROPEANS IN INDIA.

THE other day, Sir Henry Cotton, addressing the Individualist Club on "The Attitude of Europe to the Asiatic Races," said that the bitterness of feeling between Englishmen and the races of India was more marked than in a former generation. As an instance which he termed "typical of the extraordinary arrogance which was manifested by the white race," he stated that a Raja, invited to the Durbar, was travelling in a first-class carriage when a subaltern, who had been shooting, "entered the carriage, threw himself down on the long seat, and called on the Raja to take off his boots and shampoo his legs. The Raja, strange to say, performed this act of self-abasment, but, on returning from the Durbar, he, to avoid any similar incident, travelled third-class."

Upon this incident Mr. Blatchford, Editor of the "Clarion," thus expresses himself:—

"I shall not offer any comments upon that paragraph. Comments would spoil it. It has a political and religious significance, but with those we have no concern. I only ask here two questions: What must a man of culture think of the conduct of that British officer, and how much culture does the officer himself possess? Sir Henry Cotton describes that shameful incident as typical. I remember reading a few months ago how an effort was made in India by an English lord to get a clever Indian Prince invited to dine at an officer's mess, and how the cultured and courteous secretary of the mess replied: "If your friend likes to take off his shoes and wait at table like the other natives, he may come. On no other terms will he be admitted. Well, culture, even a very little culture, would make that kind of ignorant-brutality impossible."

There are Englishmen in India who will possibly exclaim, "Surely there is exaggeration in the above stories; at least, instances of maltreatment of Indians by Europeans are rare." Just now a good many men are engaged in experimenting on what is called "Occultism." One distinguished scientist among these experimenters adopted a novel plan of testing the truth of this mysterious affair. He issued a circular to his friends asking whether they had ever come across any incident or incidents showing that occultism was not a myth but had some truth in it. Replies came and an examination of these communications shewed that every nine men out of ten had experience of strange occurrences which could not be accounted for in other way than by the supposition that there is another world, and that this another world has an intimate connection with our own. From the above circumstances the author sought to prove that "occultism" was not a myth.

In the same manner, suppose a circular is issued to a large number of men in India, containing two such questions, namely, (1 whether they have ever come across Europeans; and (2) whether they or their friends and acquaintances have ever been insulted by any of them. As no one is going to issue such a circular, we can only guess from circumstances surrounding the Europeans and the Indians in this country as to what the answers are likely to be. That shrewd observer of the human race, Goldsmith, in describing the Englishman, saw "pride" in his port and defiance in his eye," and he further remarked that Englishmen behaved as if they were "the lords of mankind." This was when the English were only a second class power; for France and Spain were greater than England during the time of Goldsmith. But this naturally proud English race subsequently became the master of one-third of the globe, and occupied the foremost place in the world almost in every direction. This circumstance certainly did not teach the Englishman humility; on the other hand, it only nourished his pride immensely.

But in India, the Englishman enjoys a peculiar position. He comes out here quite young, and finds himself practically in the position of the monarch of all he surveys. He is in the midst of incense; he is persuaded to believe by fulsome flattery that he is a man in a million; he learns from experience that there is none to dispute his will and that he is practically an irresponsible despot. This has the likely effect of smothering his higher sentiments and developing the baser ones. Naturally intelligent, honest, and generous as a rule, he is so trained from the very beginning of his Indian career, that he gradually and unconsciously gets demoralized till he arrives at a stage when he loses much of his sympathy for the people entrusted to his care and begins to regard them as no better than "human sheep." This passion for conviction and punishment in decidedly the most non-criminal and law-abiding country in the world—this passing death sentences with a light heart and sometimes sending a dozen men to the gallows in a single murder case—shows how a good many of these noble-hearted Englishmen have, by the exercise of irresponsible powers, succeeded in deadening some of their finest feelings with which they were endowed by God.

Ask a number of the natives of India who have come in contact with Europeans, and nine out of ten will tell you that they and their countrymen are generally treated as no better than cattle by their European masters. Of course there are exceptions, but this only proves the rule and emphasises the universal complaint.

One of the enthusistic admirers of the Englishman is Mr. B. M. Malabari. He relates in his book a story which very much resembles the one related above by Sir Henry Cotton. He was travelling by railway when a European passenger, an utter stranger, actually made Mr. Malabari's lap as his pillow and slept quite comfortably placing his head upon it, and no doubt complained of the selfishness of the distinguished Parsee when he showed some signs of discomfort!

Here is one of our own experience among several. It was at the Madhupore station. The guard, a European, entered into our compartment and asked us to point out to him our luggages. No sooner had we done it than he threw them out violently, one by one, on the platform! "What was the matter?" we enquired. He condescended to tell us that we were defrauding the Railway Company by using a third-class ticket while we were travelling second class! We shewed him our ticket, which he did not touch or inspect in a regular way but merely glanced at; and realizing that he had committed a blunder, left us with the greatest unconcern possible. And as the train was moving just then, we had no time to make a row over the matter but pay two annas to the coolies to have our things, scattered on the platform, put back into our compartment.

A more disgraceful treatment than the one accorded to our distinguished countryman, Babu Lal Mohan Ghose, cannot be conceived. His carriage was reserved; he had ladies, one of them sick, with him; yet he and the ladies were made to suffer in a terrible way. And when the matter was brought to the notice of the Government of Madras by an interpellation, only insult was added to injury. Even a greater man than Mr. L. Ghose, an Indian Judge of the High Court, was treated in a most brutal manner while travelling first class, not by a Railway official, but a member of the Civil Service, a District Judge and a subordinate of the victim! Of course they were strangers to each other, and the Indian Judge generously forgave the brutal conduct of his subordinate.

The fact is the contempt for the Indian is universal among the Europeans here, from the highest to the lowest. Here are some of our propositions which can be easily proved: (1) A European, who betrays any sympathy for the Indians, is considered a weak man, nay, sometimes a traitor, and is treated with contempt and suspicion by his countrymen. Just see how Sir H. Cotton and Mr. Smeaton were dealt with by the "Pioneer," because, they exposed some of the unjustifiable doings of the Government and showed sympathy for the people of this country. (2) A European, who treats the Indians with contempt and severity, is considered as a man entitled to respect for his strength of character.

Now to the story of Sir Henry Cotton. Why did a subaltern throw himself down on the long seat and ask the other occupant of the first class carriage, who was a Raja and had been invited to the Durbar, to take off his boots and shampoo his feet? Even an African barbarian would not have done such a thing: why should an Englishman do it? Here are the reasons:

(a) He was tired, for he was coming from a shooting trip, and would have very much enjoyed it, if some one had taken off his boots and shampooed his feet.

(b) Luckily for him, for this service there was a "native" present. Of course he was a nobleman and a guest of the Viceroy, but yet he was a "native." That being the case, why should the "native" feel any disgrace to do a piece of service, though humiliating, to an Englishman?

(c) And did not this incident cause the subaltern infinite amusement? Did he not tell his friends how he had badgered a "native" Raja, nay, a guest of the Viceroy, to the infinite delight of his audience? None of his friends surely blamed him for his brutality, but they all congratulated him on his possessing such fine imagination, and on his being able to provide them with such an amusing story. For, to the vast majority of Englishmen here, incidents of this kind will cause more amusement than indignation.

PENNELLIANA.

THE Indians, as a rule, get so little sympathy from Englishmen in India that if they find one with liberal sentiments they thank him in an extravagant manner. The illustrious Bradlaugh received a right royal ovation at Bombay, and so did Lord Ripon throughout India,—the only Viceroy who infused some hope in the despondent minds of the Indians, labouring under the disadvantages of an alien rule. The esential condition of British rule in India was disclosed on many an occasion. It was to the effect that if India was to be retained by England, the higher services must be occupied by Englishmen. Lord Curzon made this point absolutely clear in his last budget speech.

A little consideration will shew what this means. Its meaning is that Englishmen must be imported here at their own price; if they demand an exhorbitant pay, the Government must submit to the demand. In other words, this country should be governed in a way so as to suit the convenience of these English officers, and not of the people. They must have princely salaries, princely pensions and generous leave rules. But this did not affect the people so much as the other condition imposed, namely, that these officers should exercise practically irresponsible powers, and enjoy practical immunity from punishment.

Such an arrangement made one official more valuable than one hundred million Indians. It then comes to this: if England must rule India, she must do it through officials recruited from England. It is the sincere desire of the English nation that English rule in India should be as perfect as possible, but its excellence is bound to be marred by such an unnatural arrangement. It is impossible to conceive an arrangement more disadvantageous to the people of this country.

This foreign official rule means that India is to be governed by one thousand irresponsible rulers, invested with vast and irresistible powers, at their sweet will. Yet there is no escape if one flies from the jurisdiction of one despot to that of another, though they are so many. If divided in every respect, they are united for the purpose of enforcing their authority and maintaining their prestige. A sympathetic official under such circumstances is, therefore, a very dear object to the Indians.

It is easy to determine the effect of such an arrangement upon both the rulers and the ruled. The Anglo-Indian officials know that they are essential conditions of British rule in India. They have thus to care nobody in governing well except the dictates of their own conscience. Yet this instrument in the human organization—conscience—is a very delicate one; it is apt to be spoiled by the slightest abnormal change in its surroundings. The officials come from England as angels with high aspirations. But the enjoyment of excessive powers, specially when young, naturally produces the same effect upon many of them as it had upon Seraj Doula and his grandfather.

The grand-father doted upon this young Prince and demoralized him thoroughly, in spite of his good parts. At last Seraj became reckless, and his grand-father totally helpless. So when the young Prince committed an outrage, the old man sought to soothe the outraged person by the remark, "Don't you mind it; he is a good child, only he is too young." Now this could not of course satisfy the aggrieved, nor could it improve the morals of the young Prince. In the same manner, if you press an young official very hard, the Lieutenant-Governor will tell you, "Don't you see, he is a child; don't irritate him in that way; he will grow a good ruler in time, but he cannot do so, if you criticise his acts."

In the midst of such surroundings arose an official who proved himself just the antidote to the poison which was eating into the vitals of the Indian Administration. Who was he? He was Mr. Pennell, he who was obliged to leave this country by the clamours of his brethren: He had many faults, nay, even his best friends could scarcely bear him. Yet he was a just-minded man, and he made justice the first consideration of his life. It is thus that though he offended his brethren, he made himself the idol of the people by his strong sense of justice. A British Judge like him was wanted to purify the administration which was day by day falling to pieces. How he sought to do it, we shall describe in a separate article.

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YESTERDAY we promised to describe how Mr. Pennell sought to purify public services in India. As the reader knows, it was the two notorious cases at Chupra and Noakhali that enabled him to finger the real plague-spot in the administration of justice in this country. That the executive officers, backed as they always are by the Government, can do anything they like, was universally known. It was also known that no District Judge would care to go against them and thereby mar his own prospects. Mr. Pennell also knew this; but he was prepared to sacrifice himself in order to purge the Service of its impurities by an uncompromising exposure of the present system. And hence he fought single-handed not only with his immediate executive and judicial chiefs—the Lieutenant-Governor and the Chief Justice—but also with an autocratic Viceroy like Lord Curzon. In his Noakhali Judgment he laid down the rule of his life in the following noble words:—

"A Judge has nothing to do with politics or with consideration of political expediency. I have to be just whether or not it pays to be just, whether or not it pays the Government, as well as whether or not it pays me. And I may humbly remind my official superiors that they, as well as I, are servants of the public. So far as official status goes, Lord Curzon differs from me only in this: that he is not, and that I am, a member of the permanent Civil Service of the State, and I have to consult not the interests of His Excellency but the interests of His Excellency's master, the King in Parliament. And I am indebted to a commercial friend of mine for the metaphor that what I am doing may be bad for the Directors, but that it is good for the shareholders."

The principles inculcated above are so true and sound that no honest Englishman will object to any one of them. Why then was Mr. Pennell so hated by his brethren? It was because the vast majority of them had adopted quite different principles for their own guidance. Mr. Pennell said that justice ought to be the first consideration of every official in India; that Directors should work for the benefit of share-holders and not of themselves; but many of the members of the Civil Service think that their own interests claim their first, those of the Empire their second, and those of the people their last. consideration. They wanted an increase of pay and they got it. They wanted a measure like the Official Secrets Act, and even a strong-minded ruler like Lord Curzon had to yield to their clamour. And all this means the furtherance of their own interests, and the sacrifice of those of the people.

Sir John Woodburn did not like Mr. Pennell, and he had of course good reasons for it;—but that is neither here nor there. The following conversation that ensued between Mr. Pennell and Sir John in reference to the Chupra case is recorded in Mr. Pennel's last appeal to the Secretary of State and decloses an important point:—

"Sir John Woodburn said 'You will be glad to hear that "I had not read" your judgment when I passed the order for your transfer.' He then went on, 'I will tell you that reading your judgment I have grave doubts whether you are fit for judicial employment. The judicial officers are my officers just as much as the executive officers and I want them to do well. Mind I am speaking for your benefit and for your guidance . . . . Reading your judgment leads me to doubt whether you are really so impartial as you should have been. The vindictive rancour with which you pursued the policeman and the District officer makes me think you must have had some quarrel with them.'

"On this I interrupted His Honour and asked 'whether these officers themselves alleged that I had any quarrel with them.'

"Sir John Woodburn rejoined, 'I have not seen the policeman or the District officer and have received no communication from them. I can only say that reading your judgment as a perfectly impartial man, I have doubts as to your impartiality.'

"On this I retorted that other people took different views of my judgment—that a friend of mine to whom I had shown it just after delivering it, had told me that a judgment like that was worth two National Congresses.

"Sir John Woodburn replied that I must admit that a friend was hardly the best person to pass an opinion on my judgment: that he was a perfectly impartial man, and that I must admit he was in a better position to form a proper judgment.

"I rejoined that I doubted if he were really as impartial as he said: that as head of the executive he would naturally not like it to be believed that his executive officers had done wrong and that I knew his government had done all they could to prevent the truth coming out.

"On this Sir John lost his temper, and said, 'my Government, be careful, Pennell, you had better be careful what you are saying.'

"I said 'well, at all events, I know this much that you consulted the Legal Remembrancer as to whether the witnesses need appear before me and it was only when Handley told you of course, they must, that you gave way.'

"Sir John replied in great heat, 'yes, and I had every right to consult the Legal Remembrancer. It was a trumpery case, and you were calling witnesses from all over the Province.'

"I replied that except Corbett, all the witnesses were in Chupra, and that an Assistant District Superintendent of Police didn't matter. Sir John then showed signs of a desire to rise and cut short the interview. He said that he had a great deal to do. I stood in front of him, and said 'what you have been saying to me sounds very much like a threat. Have I your permission, if I be so advised to represent the matter to the High Court.'

"Sir John replied emphatically "No, I am not going to enter into a discussion with the High Court. It is my business to say where my officers can be most usefully employed. The Judicial Officers are my officers and not those of the High Court. I am speaking to you privately."

"I rejoined that as a judicial officer I was bound to follow my own opinion and not his as to the way in which I dealt with cases. He rejoined 'Well, at all events, Pennell, you must admit that your judgment was very long. If you had simply acquitted the man and not commented on the executive officers, no one would have minded."

Sir John Woodburn was regarded as a model official, yet see how he and Mr. Pennell differed as to the way justice should be administered in this country. This conversation alone gives ample materials to shew why this self-sacrificing British Judge, though wrong-headed in some respects, was so hated by his brethren. Sir John would not have taken Mr. Pennell so severely to task with regard to his Chupra Judgment if he had not commented upon the conduct of the executive officials. When Mr. Pennell was summoning witnesses for the prosecution in the Chupra case, Sir John Woodburn was consulting the Legal Remembrancer for the purpose of stopping their attendance. He only gave way when he was told that he could not interfere with the course of justice in an open manner. So the Judges here must not meddle with the executive officers, even when they are clearly in the wrong, and this is the main black spot in the administration of justice here.

We may return to the subject in another issue. The executive officials had armed themselves with large powers to lord it over their fellows, from the sole of their feet to the crown of their head. They, were not yet satisfied. That they might do many unjustifiable things without fear of exposure they wanted an Official Secrets Act after their heart, and they have got it. But their own house is in such a bad condition that they could not afford to keep a high-souled official like Mr. Pennell in their midst. They, from the highest to the lowest, began to breathe freely when this man, an Englishman, and not a Bengalee Babu, was expelled out of India with disgrace.

WHEN Lord Curzon in the beginning of his rule in India began to speak sweet words of hope and comfort, we warned him that he would have to make gigantic efforts to keep his fine sentiments unsullied in this tainted atmosphere of India. After five years of rule, we see His Lordship confounding justice with liberality. He talks of the "unparalleled liberality" of the English nation towards the Indians. India has never asked England to be liberal to her; she will accept no liberality, and as a matter of fact, has never accepted a pice from England as charity if we may except the contributions towards famines. Of course Sir A. Fraser is "grateful" to the India Government for having returned to Bengal some of its own money, and the Government is in the habit of making "grants" to this and that purpose. The people are also in the habit of receiving this or that "grant" with "gratitude." No serious meaning is, however, attached to such complimentary expressions, as every one knows that they mean nothing in particular. But it is quite otherwise for a ruler to refer to a historical fact that England has proved more liberal to India than any other foreign Government ever was to its dependencies. If His Excellency had only claimed that England has proved itself more just than other conquering nations of the world, then we could have regarded the statement as a proposition which needs discussion. But when the Viceroy talks of 'liberality,' his statement becomes altogether unintelligible. When A gives his own money to B, which he is not bound to do by honor, law, or justice, he proves himself a liberal man. But England has nothing to give, and has given nothing which it can claim as its own to India. If England lends administrators to India, rahther forces them upon the people of India, the Indians pay for this services perhaps more than it deserves. To say that England is liberal to India, because it has given some money for education or famine purposes is to lay down the proposition that the Indians are mere cattle, and that all the money that they raise belongs to England. Or that the Indians are in the position of Corolina slaves of old, who had no existence or interests of their own and who lived for the benefit of their masters, so the quantity of cotton they grew belonged to those who fed and protected them. If the master gave his slave a new coat purchased from the sale-proceeds of the cotton grown by the latter, he vaunted his liberality to the world. Indian atmosphere is very noxious to those rulers who are endowed with higher sentiments. Even the best of them are seen to confound right with wrong, and might with right.

SIR HENRY COTTON was pro-Indian in his feelings, and for this he was envied by his brethren. They called him names and insinuated that he was hankering after cheap popularity. They characterised him as a sentimentalist and all that. But a clever conspiracy was formed for the purpose of punishing him. The cruellest of imposts in existence is the Choukidaree Tax in Bengal. And it was he who was put in charge of the measure! As an official he could not refuse it, and thus he was made to pass the Choukidaree Bill and stab those whom he was supposed to be in love with! Sir Ashley Eden was the Governor-elect of the Bengalees. His popularity with the people of Bengal was unbounded. He was also punished in the same way. He was offered the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal on condition that he would impose the Public Works Cess in this province in breach of the Permanent Settlement. His ambition triumphed, and he had to undermine the bulwark which protected the estates of the Zemindars whose great friend he was. A better man, a greater friend of the Indians than Sir A. Fraser does not exist. But here is a letter from an esteemed correspondent:—

"Sir A. Fraser has begun his reign with so many bad measures,—some of them revolutionary in their character,—that in the course of a single year he is likely to be more unpopular than all the previous unpopular Governors put together were. Here is a list:—

"(1) The new Provincial Financial Settlement means the starvation of many useful public works, for want of funds.

"(2) The Local Self-Government Bill means further taxation and a tax upon land in breach of the Permanent Settlement as well as the fastening of further duties upon District Boards and the legalisation of the conversion of the Cess Fund into a Government property.

"(3) To hold the Zemindars as much responsible for the supply of drinking water to the millions in the Muffasil as the Boards, though they pay a Cess for that purpose.

"(4) To make the rate-payers of Calcutta bear the bulk of the cost of the City Improvement Scheme.

"(5) To resort to a policy of secrecy, that is to say, to keep himself as much out of touch with the leading men of the Province as possible with regard to public questions, and thrust measures upon the public, cut and dried, when it is useless to offer any criticisms upon them.

"(6) The new development of the partition question, namely, that Bengal should be divided into two Lieutenant-Governorships, is also attributed to Sir A. Fraser. At least, His Honour asked many of those whom he was pleased to grant interviews in connection with the partition question, what objection they could have to the division of Bengal, if Eastern Bengal, like the Western, had a Lieutenant-Governor and a Regulation Government of its own.

"Now every one of the above questions is big with important results, and will create deep descontent and great unrest in the country."

From one point of view, we wish Sir A. Fraser had not accepted the present responsibilities. For, as in his heart of hearts, he is incapable of supporting measures which are disliked by the people, he will find it extremely difficult to serve both his conscience and the Government. Loyalty to a superior is a great virtue, still it is human. The ruler of a province has, however, a greater duty, namely, that of securing justice for his people and protecting them from unjust measures, and this virtue is divine.

THE other day we pointed out that the immediate, palpable and direct result of the Pusa Agricultural College is the provision for half-a-dozen highly-paid Europeans. As regards the expected benefit from it, that is of course yet in the womb of futurity. Here is a proposal for another fat berth for an Englishman. The Viceroy annaunced, while closing his budget speech, that he would press the India Office for the creation of a new Membership of Council for Commerce and Industry. This means an additional burden of sixty thousand rupees or more per anuum upon the starving country. Lord Curzon has already secured another big appointment for a countryman of his as an Educational Member of his Council. And Sir Andrew Fraser threatens us with more English Professors as if there are not Indians competent enough to take charge of Professorships in our colleges. Then, never were the Eurasians and Europeans more largely employed in the various departments under the Government than they have been during the Viceroyalty of Lord Curzon. We pointed out the other day, how all the Managerships under the Court of Wards carrying Rs. 500 and upwards per month are in the possession of Europeans. Then, a good many big appointments in Hyderabad, the biggest Indian State, have been made over to a number of Europeans. It would be an interesting study if a return could be secured showing how many fat berths have been created by Lord Curzon and the various Provincial Governors for the benefit of their countrymen, and how many of the latter have been thrust upon private estates and independent Indian States. The Government has money enough to pay for these highly-placed officers, but its exchequer becomes empty when the question of supplying medical aid, good drinking water and other urgent necessaries to the poor millions is brought before it.

OUR readers may remember that for the purpose of elucidating some doubtful points, we framed questions promising a reward of Rs. 10 for a satisfactory answer of each. In response to our call, we have already received a good many answers. One responder says that if he is lucky enough to gain a prize, he is willing to make a free gift of it for the improvement of this journal. Another proposes the same thing, though in a different language. He says, his answers have been culled from the columns of this paper, and, therefore, he has no right to the prizes if he gets any. Of course we intend to make some profitable use of these answers, though in what way we have not yet been able to settle. To insert them in these columns is impossible for want of space. The answers can be published in a separate pamphlet form and distributed here and in England. For there are questions which involve the interests of Englishmen as vitally as those of the Indians. As for instance here is one: Why should Christian missionaries come out to India to Christianize the country when the number of church-going people in their own country is diminishing day by day. Take another: Would Jesus Christ approve of the practice of some of his avowed servants of taking money by force from the "heathens" for the purpose of spreading Christianity among them and abusing their religion?

THE decision of the Magistrate of Gooty in the case in which an Indian pleader charged a European medical officer of the place with having grossly insulted him need not cause surprise, for it only goes to prove what is well known that, in a case between an Indian and an Englishman, the former has little chance of success in a court of law. The story of the aggrieved party is, that he went to the medical officer and entered into an argument with

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him as to the legality of observing pass-port holders for 10 days. When he was arguing the point, the medical officer grew warm and threatened to kick him out. The medical officer did not deny the charge but pleaded that he used the expression in jest, and the Magistrate, of course, believed him. In dismissing the case, the Magistrate observed that it was "a tempest in a tea-pot" over a jest courted by the complainant himself! But if the pleader had threatened to kick the medical officer in jest, would the Magistrate have dismissed the case and read lecture to the complainant? When a European official of the B.N. Railway "laid a slipper" on the back of a Maharatta Brahmin, it was only "to teach him a lesson in politeness," and similarly when a European Medical Officer threatened an Indian gentleman with "kicking him out," he only jested!

THE Note of the Government Auditors on the accounts of the Corporation for the official year 1902-03 which created something like a sensation at the time of its publication in November last was referred, as the reader is probably aware, to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman and half-a-dozen prominent Municipal Commissioners for consideration and report. The Sub-Committee have completed their labours and submitted a report, which will be taken up for discussion at to-day's adjourned meeting of the Corporation.

WE regret we cannot commend the spirit in which the majority of the Sub-Committee appears to have approached the discussion of the subject nor the tone of their report which can hardly be looked upon as a fair and straight-forward document. Whether it was due to the strong personality of the new Examiner of Local Accounts, one of the ablest and conscientious senior officers of the Accounts Service or to the disparaging criticism of some of the members of the Corporation on the work of the Government auditors during some past years, the fact is that the scrutiny to which the Corporation accounts for 1902-03 were subjected was of a close and searching character; and the defects and irregularities brought to light by the scrutiny were conscientiously pointed out, without fear or favour, in a downright business-like manner. Whatever may have been the real object of the move to substitute a private firm of accoutants as Auditors of the Corporation in place of responsible Government officers, we feel sure that it would not have been accomplished so easily if the audit in past years had been nearly half as efficient as that under the present Examiner of Local Accounts.

THE Note of the Government Auditors on the accounts of 1902-03 drew attention under 49 main heads and 45 minor heads in an Appendix to various irregularities, errors and discrepancies in accounts and illegal payments out of Municipal funds and offered numerous suggestions for remedying existing defects or improving the checks at present exercised on receipts and expenditure. If the Chairman and the Commissioners had shown that these criticisms and suggestions were welcome and honestly admitted the mistakes and defects which had been pointed out, they would have raised themselves immensely in public opinion and afforded a satisfactory guarantee that steps would be taken in earnest to remedy the defects and avoid the recurrence of similar mistakes in future. We have said that the report of the majority of the Sub-Committee is hardly a straight-forward document. The justice of this observation will be apparent on reading the report side by side with the Note of the Auditors. In large majority of instances the Sub-Committee have been constrained to admit either openly or tacitly the existence of the orders, discrepancies and defects pointed out by the Auditors, for it was not possible to do otherwise; but the admissions have been made with obvious reluctance and the report betrays an evident anxiety to belittle the importance of the errors and irregularities discovered by the investigations of the Auditors. The spirit in which the report is worded is openly expressed by Mr. E. Cable, who in signing the report of the majority has made the following significant observation:—

"I entirely agree with the above, and considering the minute and by no means friendly investigation by the Government Auditors, it speaks well for the Accounts Department of the Corporation that so few (and these so unimportant) irregularites have been discovered."

IF we had the time and the space to spare we could have examined the Audit Note and the report of the Sub-Committee in detail, item by item, and shown whether the errors and irregularities pointed out by the Auditors are really so few and unimportant as Mr. Cable and the majority of the Sub-Committee would have us believe—"Few and unimportant" indeed, when an analysis of the report shows that in over 90 per cent of the instances the Sub-Committee have been obliged to admit the errors and defects pointed out by the Auditors—and when even the most friendly critics of the present municipal regime were compelled to admit that the revelations made in the Audit Note were of a startling character reflecting the utmost discredit on the administration of the affairs of this great city.

SOMETIME ago, a case, in which two persons Sanjivigadu and Laksmigadu were sentenced to be hanged on a charge of committing murder came on appeal before a criminal Bench of the High Court, composed of Justice Sir James Davies and Mr. Justice Benson. The Judges differed in their opinion, Justice Sir James Davies being for acquittal and his colleague for dismissing the appeal. The case was then referred to a third Judge, Mr. Justice Boddam, for disposal. He found the prisoners guilty and confirmed the sentence of the lower court. The procedure is no doubt in accordance with law, but since Justice Sir James Davies was for acquittal, the prisoners might have been treated with less severity without offending the majesty of law.

THE report which reached us about the raising of school fees in the school department of the St. Xavier's College to Rs. 10 a month for "native" boys is founded upon fact. This College is a private institution and of course it may do anything it chooses for its internal administration. But is it a fact that the Revd. Father Lafont when approached to by the Parsee community with a request that he may be pleased to reconsider the decision so far as that community was concerned said, that because they joined the Congress movement they must be considered natives of India? If so, how comes it that the Revd. Father condescends to stick to the splendid physical laboratory—second only to the Presidency College laboratory—worth several thousand Rupees, which was presented to the St. Xavier's College by the late Maharajah of Durbhanga who was not only a "native" and a most distinguished one, but what is more, there never lived a man who was more completely a Congressman—every fibre of his being—than the late Maharajah whose gift to the College nobody appreciates more highly than Father Lafont? We should have thought that it would sting the Catholic conscience of Father Lafont and his colleagues of the institution to stick to that laboratory any longer by reason of its having been the gift of a "native of India" and a prominent congressman.

WHAT an awful responsibility do some of our Judges take upon themselves, when they claim infallibility and will not scruple to send their "native" brethren to the gallows, differing from the verdict of the jury. Here is a case, hailing from Austria, which will illustrate the fact. There was a murder of a shop-keeper and two persons were put on their trial for committing the foul deed. The accused were convicted and condemned to death. Fortunately for them, before the death-sentence was carried out, one Mahadhis Kaufman came forward and confessed that he had committed the murder. The result was, that the two prisoners were set at liberty and the really guilty man was sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment.

A NICE story in which the Government of Bengal acted the part of real "ma bap" has reached us from Tangail. Some three years ago, a boy named Safatulla Shiek, was put on his trial before Babu Fakir Chand Chatterjee, the Sub-divisional Officer, on a charge of theft. The Sub-divisional Officer convicted the accused, but taking into consideration his tender age, sent him to the Reformatory School, instead of jail, for correction. In the school, the boy was trained as a tailor; and, on the expiry of the term of his confinement, he was discharged. His father, who is very poor, asked for help from the Government to settle him in life. The Government, to the agreeable surprize of all, took pity on the lad, and actually sent a sewing machine to enable him to start a tailoring business. Unfortunately it so happened that the machine was damaged in transit, and the boy consequently refused to accept it. The matter stands at this stage for the present.

THE Humanitarian League has just published its annual report. The object of the institution is, as its name indicates, to humanize the operation of man-made laws and regulations. In the criminal laws and Prisons Department, the question of corporal punishment always engaged the serious attention of the League and effective protests were made against a number of illegal and "extra-judicial" sentences. If such an institution as the Humanitarian League is needed in England for the benefit of humanity, how much more it is needed in India, where the officials are aliens and have little sympathy with the people of the country!

"ART BLIND" put the following question to the Mysore Government through a local paper:—

"What has become of the experiment in sericulture which was left in the hands of one European specialist who was given special help by the Government. It appears that this gentleman lately applied for certain allowances which the Government did not give. Is there any way of knowing the result of his investigations?"

We may, on our part, put the following question to the Bengal Government: what has become of the agricultural experiments conducted under Mr. Coventry for several years and for which the Indians had to contribute a very large sum? All we know is that Mr. Coventry has been appointed Director of the Agriculture Research Institute and Principal of the Agricultural College at Pusa.

The gross allotted area on the Chenab Canal now stands at 1,773,398 acres. This is practically the maximum that the Chenab Canal can at present irrigate, but fresh extensions of irrigation may be provided by the eduction of discharges in old distributaries which require less water as time advances. An important proposal to introduce mule breeding in the colony, by requiring village headmen on certain conditions to maintain a mare it for mule-breading, has recently been sanctioned by the Government of India, with certain reservations.

Lord Curzon took credit for keeping the balance even in the distribution of public patronage among the Europeans and Indians gave elaborate statistics in support of his statement. The "Hindu" challenges the statistics of His Lordship and has sought to prove by facts and figures that the complaint against the injustice done to the Indians in the matter has real basis. Says the Madras paper: Let us take first the Judicial and Revenue services of the Madras Presidency. It has been proved that in knowledge and the practice of the legal profession Indians are decidedly quite equal to their European compeers. And yet, look at the number of the District Judgeships open to Indians. Only "four" Judgeships are now given to Indians out of the total of 22; and these have been generally given not to the "best" men available. This is a notorious fact and yet they have given satisfaction. Again men like Dewan Bahadur Srinivasa Raghaviengar, Ramiengar, Seshiah Sastrair, Krishnaswami Rao had no scope for their talent in British territory and had to seek service in Native States, and there are many others like them in every branch of the Revenue service. Two Collectorships only, out of the 22 are open to Indians, and yet Lord Curzon argues from his wonderful statistics that wonderful results have been gained during these 30 years. In the other departments, too, we may point out similar facts. There are departments in which the case is even worse.

SCRAPS.

On the 28th ultimo, while the Amir was out snipe shooting at Deh Khridadad, his gun, which he had been in the habit of using regularly, burst. He sustained slight injury to his left hand, a splinter nearly three inches in length just missing his face. The Amir took immediate steps to assure his people that his injuries were slight.

Under the new settlement the United Provinces Government will get only one-fourth of the net receipts from Assessed Taxes, Forests and Registration against one-half in the past, and one-half instead of three-quarters of the net receipts from Stamps; while under Land Revenue expenditure the Imperial Government will for the first time bear half the burden. But the greatest change has taken place under Irrigation. The Government of India have agreed to completely provincialize major irrigation works and to guarantee that if the net earnings in a year fall below 40 lakhs the deficiency will be made good from Imperial revenues.

The latest news from Tibet is far from reassuring. There has been further bloodshed. The Headquarters of the Tibet Mission, with the flying column under General Macdonald, are now well on their way to Gyantse. On reaching Kaletso, where the Mounted Infantry had a brush with the Tibetans, it was found that the enemy had abandoned their position. They had lost six killed and three wounded in the skirmish, and apparently did not consider themselves equal to holding the wall which they had built to block the road. The Mission and its escort accordingly moved on through Salu and reached Kang Ma, about half way between Guru and Gyantse. A Tibetan force is reported ahead, and opposition will probably be encountered at the gorge just beyond Kang Ma. The distance from Guru to Gyantse is 72 miles.

The scene enacted at Bankipur during the Muharram a few years back when a free fight occurred between the police and the processionists must still he fresh in the minds of the reader. A similar incedent, though not of so serious a nature, is reported to have occurred at Bihpur in Bhagalpur. The local paper says that there was a fracas at Bihpur on the 10th Moharram (28th March) last between the police and the processionists of the "tazias." The story goes that on account of the processionists attempting to cut a small branch of a tree near the Thana, which seemed to obstruct the passage of the "tazias," and the police opposing it the dispute arose. We are informed that on account of the "tazias" not reaching the 'Karbala" the finishing ceremony of "Pahlam," which is observed with great religious solemnity, has not been as yet performed. Mr. J. Cowie, our District Superintendent of police, had been to Bihpur to enquire into the matter. He has left his Inspector to make further enquiries.

The Golden Temple at Amritsar presented a scene of great excitement on Tuesday. The "Tribune" describes how it came to pass. A Military officer (whose name and position according to a crrespondent are Major H. Copesmith, of the 11th Lancers, Officer Commanding 5th Camel Corps at Montgomery) came with a lady to visit the shrine. They were about to enter the sacred precincts with shoes on when a Sergeant of Police (policemen being required to be in attendance on Europeans visiting the Durbar Sahib) and some bye-standers pointed out to the gentleman the inviolable rule as to the necessity of removing shoes before going into the "Mandir." On this he took off his own boots, but insisted on his fair companion keeping hers on her feet. For the convenience of "Sahib log" thick socks are supplied at the gate to be drawn over the stockings, and the Officer, while doing as desired himself, pulled the foot-coverings "over the boots" of the lady. In spite of the remonstrances of the people present—who were rapidly swelling in number—the pair proceeded down the stairs of the Clock Tower platform, and along the bank of the lake, to the inner portal "(Darshani Darwaza)" leading to the Holy of Holies, the "Har Mandir," followed by the protesting but respectful crowd. Seeing that the visitors were determined to transgress a regulation which even Royal Princes and Viceroys have never disregarded, the gathering showed more firmness, and forbade them to enter. At last good sense prevailed over obstinacy, and the lady's shoes were taken off.

The letter written by Charles W. McMinn, showing that 11 per cent of the important state appointments were given to the Hindus during the Mahomedan rule in India, has caused heart burning in some quarters. And they are trying to contradict Mr. McMinn, declaring themselves to be specialists in Moslem History. But as they are not mad men, they are conccious of the impossibility of contradicting stern facts. So when they appear in public to perform an impossible feat they must wear masks over their faces. One anonymous correspondent has written a letter to the statesman in reply to which Mr. McMinn says: "The critic states: 'It is not true that Akbar gave eleven per cent of the important posts to people of the conquered races.' This is hardly courteous, but I meekly submit that I quoted the figures which all the authorities give. They are also quoted in Holden's Mogul Emperors: of Hindu "mansabdars" out of 415, which is 11 per cent—see page 172. The same authority notes that in Shabjehan's time out of 609 "mansabdars" 110 were Hndus, so that the percentage had "increased" in two reigns to 18 per cent. The 51 under Akbar had become 109 under his grandson, so rapid was the advancement of the Hindus under the Moguls till the time of Alamgir. Unfortunately there are Persian scholars—and professors too—who know practically nothing of India's political history; but why does not your correspondent, even if he must remain anonymous, state his case in his own language in your columns? It was a principle of the heaven-born Brahmins that their own sacred utterances should not be breathed in the hearing of mere Sudras; surely your Moslem specialist is more catholic. Lastly, your specialist remarks or implies that Akbar must have given these posts to his Hindu subjects 'because he had none but the conquered people to draw upon for the detailed work of Government.' Might I submit that the people conquered at Panipat were Ibrahim the Lodi and the chiefs, who were not Hindus; 'here were thousands of Pathans available."

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

[*From our own Correspondent.*]

London, March 25.

THE BREAKING-UP OF BENGAL.

From the Central News Agency—Reuter appears to have thought the matter beneath his notice—we learn by telegram of the great protest meeting held in Calcutta on Friday evening, a week ago. According to this telegram a mass meeting was held in the Town Hall to protest against the Government scheme for the partition of the Province of Bengal. There was, the message says, an enormous attendance and the enthusiasm and political excitement manifested have not been paralleled within living memory. Many of the great landowners of Bengal and the leaders of various political parties were among those on the platform. Resolutions strongly condemning the Government scheme were passed by acclamation. All this is most interesting to those of us who read the Indian newspapers and know what is going on in Bengal. But, ninety-nine out of a hundred of newspaper readers in England do not know of the agitation, its widespread character, and the fierce resentment which the wanton action of Lord Curzon and his advisers has called forth. What is to be done to enlighten English public opinion, and, if possible, secure help here to overcome the machinations of those who would break up national aggregations in India and thus make the way easy to render non-effective all united action for the public good?

"HOW DO WE KNOW THAT GOD IS ANGLO-SAXON?"

The "present discontent" in India—to adapt to your country an expression which Burke used of his own land,—compels all the paragraphs of this week's Letter to be more or less of one pattern, and to deal with grievances and the redress of grievances, if haply they may be redressed. A few days ago I was favoured with a letter from one of the lady authors of the United States, one who ranks in the first half-dozen of living American writers. The contents of that letter are of remarkable character when read in the light of Courzonian, and, generally speaking, of Anglo-Indian, ideas: that there is only one ruling race—the British; only one set of guiding principles—those evolved from British cogitation. The writer, whose statements I am about to quote, after referring to a recently published work dealing with Indian economics which she had just read, observes: "I deeply appreciate the book, because" (among other reasons) "the subject is one in which I am profoundly interested, and upon which I have ventured, although an American, to form opinions. Several years ago, perhaps ten, Mr. Julian Hawthorne wrote a paper on the Indian famines; it was the first thing that raised in my mind a question of the value of what we call civilisation,—at any rate when civilisation is thrust upon people who do not want it, upon one Race by another Race. 'After all,' I said to myself, 'how do we know that God is Anglo-Saxon?' Since then, I have read all I can find on the subject,—and, to find my deductions (which are, I hope, tentative and modest,) endorsed by this book, is, of course, gratifying.

"Judging from the attitude of most Englishmen to whom I have spoken of British India, I cannot think that the views expressed in the book will be popular, and I may add that the publication of the book seems to me a manifestation of that British pluck which has made the word, *England*, a synonym of Law, and Honour, and Courage. I only wish that a Daniel would arise who, with such a book, would bring the American people to judgment for their sin in the Philippines!"

The notion, to which such graphic expression is given in the foregoing, that the Asiatic Deity worshipped by the British Race has become the tribal God of the Anglo-Saxons, finds sad comment when one notes that the manifestations of God Almighty's teaching are wholly ignored by the Occidental and most faithfully carried out by the Oriental. This fact was strongly impressed upon my mind last Sunday evening when, in the train between Paris and Boulogne, on my way back to England, I read an article in the "Evening Standard" of the previous day. A contrast is there drawn between the family affection and the deeper personal family attachment which characterises the Asiatic in comparison with the European. The family is the unit of civilisation; it is the seed from which alone a really great nation can spring—a nation, I mean, marked by the nobler characteristics of altruism. What attracted the special attention of the writer of the article was the fact that, among the forty odd millions of Japanese, there were not more than twenty-one thousand paupers, most of them children who had lost their parents by earthquakes or other natural causes. To English people, with millions of inhabitants of the richest country on the earth supported by an often harsh and unsympathetic Poor Law, the position is almost unthinkable. There are many other oriental people besides the Japanese who would not understand the institution of the "work house", which is the outward and visible embodiment of the "Christian" Poor Law. The writer to whom I have referred says, truly enough, that Burmese, Malays, Hindoos, Javanese regard the maintenance of aged or invalid kinsfolk as a simple duty, for which no credit is expected. The family is a sacred bond with them. But in all these instances the struggle for life is not nearly so hard as in Japan. . . . . Japan is not tropical. During a great portion of the year, clothes and fuel are necessaries. And the density of the population is such that these small islands support forty-six millions of souls. Nothing is cheap except labour. And yet all the aged, sick, and helpless, are maintained by their relatives, excepting about twenty-one thousand, mostly children, who have lost their nstural protectors. "How," it is asked, "does this compare with the state of things in Christian Europe? Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman quoted a statement in Parliament the other day that twelve millions of the population lived on the verge of pauperism. The Board of Trade estimates the number of "tramps" alone at 30,000, and it has good authority, no doubt. Decidedly our civilisation contrasts ill with that of the Japanese in this matter. The prosecution of grown men and women, well-to-do, for suffering their parents to 'come upon the parish' is no rare incident in British Police Courts; one such case would seem a horror unspeakable in China or Japan—for the Chinese are unsurpassed in filial devotion, as all the world knows. The battle of life there is so desperate that many fail to carry out their obligations. But they are conscious of an unpardonable sin."

I might quote much more to the same purpose, all going to show that in qualities which make for the noblest manhood the Eastern nations are far better fitted to teach the Western nations than these latter are to assume arrogant airs of superiority. A welding of some of the Western qualities with a maintenance of the home ideals of the Indian races—by no means an impossible task—would result in the production of a community which take the first place amongst all the communities of the world. No; neither is God Anglo-Saxon nor Asiatic; but He is nearer to the Asiatic than He is to the Anglo-Saxon.

WILL LORD CURZON PLEASE. READ THIS? IT SHOULD INTEREST HIM.

Before Lord Curzon leaves India, he might, I submit, with advantage, read the communication with which this paragraph ends. It is my privilege to receive, perhaps, a larger number of letters from Indian gentlemen of all races than most people who have lived in India. This arises, perhaps, from the fact that I always reply to any communication which I may receive. Be this as it may, letters come to me from almost every part of the Indian continent. The writers are by no means reluctant to express for my information and guidance the views which they hold on current politics and upon what is happening generally in India. They do this without any expectation of the publication of what they write, and, indeed, not one such letter has been published by me; but many a matter upon whch I have commented has reflected the unsolicited and honest opinion thus kindly placed before me. Lord Curzon has spent a considerable time in India. He has been active—I wish I could say wisely active, but that is impossible—beyond any of his predecessors, beyond even Lord Dalhousie and Lord Mayo. What do the people of India think of their ruler? Has he impressed them with a sense of his fair-mindedness, of his desire to do the right thing by the people of the country, and so conduce to the great prosperity of the Empire? On another occasion, I shall try to answer that question for myself, in my own way, and by the light of the examples he has afforded. To-day, I let an Indian friend, in all the frankness of what was intended for my eye alone, paint the Viceroy's portrait. I invite his Excellency's attention to the plain, unvarnished portraiture of himself and of his policy which is set forth in the following communication:

"I thank you for your kind wishes for my prosperity and long life. Having attained the fifty-third year of my life, I cannot expect to live long. The average life in India is so short that I may say I have outlived my time by thirteen years. . . . . In India, at the present time, Lord Curzon is the best hated man. Our fighting Viceroy has vulgarised himself and proved unworthy of the dignity of the office he holds. His Much Ado About Something Injurious may be admired by "The Times" and by his friends, but his shallowness and impudence are manifested everywhere. The Earl of Lhassa, as Lord Curzon is generally styled, is verbose and pedantic. He is not really courageous, and the European community know how to derive benefit by bullying him. Strong man though he seem to be, he could be induced to shift the position of the Victoria Memorial Hall, after unpleasant and hard words from the European community.

"We have read with avidity Mr. Donald Smeaton's scheme of Home Rule for India. We sincerely thank him for his kind effort on our behalf. It is the very thing we are in need of. The day is far distant when it will be an accomplished fact.

"The new project of the partition of Bengal has created much bad feeling. The argument that it is for the benefit of similar languages is intolerable. Official convenience may be served, but that will not confer a public benefit.

"The power of the High Court of Calcutta is to be curtailed. That Court is now a *quasi*-political institution, mostly for the benefit of Europeans and Eurasians. Sir Francis Maclean, the Chief Justice of Bengal, Justices Prinsep, Sale, and a few others, have inaugurated a new anti-Indian programme. The trial of Bain is not only a mockery, but unjust on the grounds of law. During the trial of Gerald Meares, an indigo planter of Jessore, convicted of the murder of a coolie, all sorts of mean tactics were resorted to by the Anglo-Indians, from threat to supplicating mercy. They were of no avail. The able reply was drafted by Sir Rivers Thomson, then Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal. Sir Griffith Evans, then a leading Counsel, forwarded the Memorial of Meares to the Government of Bengal, expressing his sympathy with the accused. On sending his card to Lady Couch, the wife of the then Chief Justice, it was not accepted. That was in 1874. In 1903, our present Chief Justice took the chair at St. Andrew's dinner, and expressed himself in favour of Bain, puffing the vanity of Mr. Justice Sale. Such is now our High Court, once the great bulkwark of independence!! The intended City Court will be a great relief, curtailing the ruinous expenses of the original side."

The picture drawn of the Viceroy is not a flattering one. Is it not, in its main aspects, a true one?

SOME LINES SUITED TO THE PRESENT DISCONTENT IN INDIA.

The evil days have come,—Indians
Are made a prey;
Close fast the open door,
Stop all exams., let Curzon's wrong
Control the day.
For justice now is crime; the chains
Which bind the Indians sore,
Are forged in racial spite,
Made strong in bloated pride,
From Retrogression's store.
Not yours, Sedition's trumpet-blast,
And threatening word;
You read the lessons of the Past,
Passive Resistance wins at last
More than the sword.
O clear-eyed Faith, and Patience, thou
So calm and strong!
Lend strength to weakness, teach them how
The sleepless eyes of God look through
This time of wrong!
Then! Let us have faith in the wisdom
of right—

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Unfaltering faith to the last.
Let us gird up our loins and go forth to the fight,
With justice and truth as the power of our might,
Where gage of the battle is cast.
With honour our armour, with rights as our shield,
Let every man be at his station
And ready the weapons of justice to wield
Until shall be swept in dire rout from the field
The foes that are sapping our nation.
Let India's army fare forth to the fight
With never a fear nor a falter,
To battle again for the truth and the right,
Determined once more the bright beacon to light
On Freedom's despoiled and cold altar.

THE CRIME OF BEING INTELLIGENT.

"REAL" INDIANS VERSUS "DENATIONALISED" INDIANS.

Underneath the action with regard to examinations taken by Lord Curzon, and especially concealed in the vehement support which that action is receiving from certain parties in this country, lies a great compliment to the people of India. Fea of the bright intelligence and the unwearied stduies of those who qualify themselves to pass the portals leading into the public service, has much to do with the issue of the Viceroy's ukase, and with the spirit in which, and the extent to which, it has been supported. If the Indian people, given a fair chance to display their abilities, were not so abominably clever and so persistently painstaking, there would not be so much objection to examinations as a test for fitness to enter the service of Government. This being the case, the mental alertness and the intellectual activity on the part of educated Indians which have led Lord Curzon to commit the most unjust and at the same time the most stupid act of which any Viceroy could be guilty after many times of trying, should, ere many years have passed, prove sufficient to sweep away the injurious regulations which have been promulgated. The qualities which have led to the committal of this mingled injustice and ridiculousness should have enough force and power in themselves to overthrow "Master's Favour" and restore intellectual acumen and ability. I venture to commend this view of the case to my Indian friends, being quite sure that their nimble minds, if earnestly exercised, will, ere long, kill with ridicule the grossly cruel enthronement of a system which aims to elevate the baser qualities of human nature at the expense of the nobler attributes of the instructed human mind.

Meanwhile, the pack of journalistic hunters who always force their way to the front when there are Indians to be run down, are in full cry. Last week I quoted a number of unsympathetic and derisive remarks concerning the intellectual efforts of Indians; this derision and lack of sympathy, you will have observed, came wholly from that section of the English people who call themselves—they thus designate themselves because, I suppose, no one else could truthfully apply the words to them—the real Imperialists. Their Imperialism is of the character which Lady Lugard, known to fame as Miss Flora Shaw, of "The Times", before she married the present High Commissioner of Nigeria, announces with the screech which excited feminism too often affects, mistaking shrillness for strength. Intervening, in the columns of "The Times" on the Chinese Labour Slavery Dispute in the House of Commons—in favour of which it is a pleasure to note that Sir Mancherjee Bhownaggree, M.P., had the grace not to vote, though he had not the courage to vote against—Lady Lugard loudly asserts that it is the duty of the British people to exploit the brown, the black, and the yellow races of the world. Indeed, it is manifestly the intention of God Amighty that all the races which are not white are to be subordinated in every respect to the smaller number who are though these are many so-called white people who are actually darker than the "black people" they stigmatise as, for example, the late Lord Salisbury was several shades darker than the "black man" of Clerken-well of whose political aspirations he strongly disapproved. Lady Lugard finds the climax of her argument in the following assertion:

> "We want our own white race to be the administering, the ruling race, not only in the offices of Government, but throughout the whole field of industry and enterprise."

Looking through the file of "The Times" which will go to India this week, Lord Curzon will come across this sentence, and he will be very jealous of the woman-writer who so tersely and admirably expresses the Divinely-ordered supremacy of the white over the brown which has been the most characteristic feature of his whole policy. He will wish he had something as good as this on the examination question. Nakedly and unashamed is the policy of the White Man Predominant, in its most crude form of the English Man Predominant, thus states by "The Times's" contributor, and thus acted upon, in another direction, by the Viceroy of India. In like manner is it supported in two of the chief weekly papers, the "Spectator" and the "Saturday Review". Mr. St. Lo Strachey, Editor of the former, who is very ready to acknowledge the obligations of his family (in all its many ramifications) to India, but who never finds time to look at Indian problems from the point of view of the Indian people, publishes a characteristic article in which that wicked (because clever) Bengali is regarded pretty much as if he were compounded all of evil with naught of good even as a spice. In proportion as the iniquities of these provoking people who would pass examinations force themselves upon the writer's notice, the more ardent becomes his admiration for Lord Curzon and his almost supernatural insight and dauntless courage. As a contribution to the real ethics of the question, the article might never have been written. It is purely a piece of partisan and race maliciousness,—that, and nothing more. The "Saturday" paragraphs might have been written from the "St. James's Gazette" or the "Globe;" after saying this, 'twould be a waste of the "Patrika" space to make further reference to them.

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It is, appropriately, in "The Times" that the highest tide of all this flood of rejoicing over the discomfited educated Indian, and especially over the nimble rascal from Bengal, is reached. The day before yesterday, the salaried man in the India Office, who "does" the headed articles on India for the big journal—a man who draws his salary from the necessities of the people he abuses—discusses "Indian Education Reform," which is the official way of describing the means whereby Indians are punished for being intelligent and for making their intelligence active. Of course, the Curzonian changes are "important and far-reaching reforms," but it is admitted that they will "introduce sweeping changes in the existing methods of education in India." Lord Curzon had been preparing the Indian public for "drastic dealings," but, we are told, "few believed that he would have the courage or the strength to carry out his views, and fulfil the ardent hopes of India's best wishers." This is the writer's mode of describing what he and his fellow-officials know will, if it can only be made permanent, fasten an almost purely English service on the neck of the Indian people for all time. A policy which, as they are also very well aware, is contrary to *India's* best wishers, and is only in line with the wishes of the white caste in that land.

"India's best wishers!" Yes, best from the point of view of the white foreigner, whose chief thought is the maintenance of his own supremacy; but, for the educated people of India who, after all, have a right to a few prominent places in their own land, it is the worst conceivable policy. The article before me is animated throughout by a deep dislike for the Bengali, and this gives tone and direction to all that is written. Representing, as I have said, the views which are held in the India Office, the article cannot be too prominently brought to the notice of those whose "best wishers" have considerately shut the door of merit in their faces, shut it, too, with a bang which will be so interpreted, as is hoped as to irritate and annoy those who are shut out. I, therefore, quote it entire below, dividing it into several paragraphs, for the purpose of commenting largely upon it; for I ask the attention of the readers of the "Patrika" to the manner in which Bengal is persistently singled out for animadversion:—

INDIAN EDUCATION REFORM.

The "Times" of March 23rd prints the following from a correspondent:—

The Indian Government is at present engaged upon important and far-reaching reforms, which will introduce sweeping changes in the existing methods of educatiton in India. For somt years Lord Curzon, in his addresses at the convocation of the Calcutta University, has been preparing the Indian public for drastic dealings; but few believed that he would have the courage or the strength to carry out his views and to fulfil the ardent hopes of India's best well-wishers.

If then, the change comes as a shock to the Bengalees they cannot say that they have not been given due notice; and they ought to have recognised that a Viceroy who has successfully taken up and settled old and baffling questions, such as the establishment of the frontier province and the tenure of Berar, is a man who must be regarded as essentially in earnest. I mention the Bengalees, for though the changes will affect all India, Bengal has always posed as the province of education, and the Bengalee Press has always constituted itself the champion and mouthpiece of the student. The published accounts of these reforms lay stress on what is probably only a minor matter—the abolition of competitive examination for the public services, and in its place the selections of candidates on probation. It is probable that after the manner of the East the controversy will rage around this one change, and that the impetus which Lord Curzon is giving to the real method of salvation in India—primary education—and of the generous financial assistance he is affording to the cause of education will be unrecognised and forgotten in the din of voices which will arise in Calcutta. For in Bengal alone, of all India's provinces, the system of entrance examination to the public service has been tried for some years, and in the Provincial Civil Service of Bengal—that is, the service entirely recruited in India—one-third of the vacancies are filled by pure competition. So Bengal will clamorously bewail its loss, and will denounce Lord Curzon as a reactionary.

It is a libel on our countrymen to say, with some critics of Lord Curzon, that they prefer as coadjutor in their difficult and overpowering work the ignorant to the educated.

We cannot administer India without the help of the Indians, and in every local government and in every district there is the keenest demand for Indians of education, industry, and balance. It may, indeed, be that Englishmen prefer the real to the denationalised Indian as a more useful influence in dealing with the people of the country, just as we prefer the real Englishman as an official in the East to the Orientalised or "declasse" specimen. The real point in the controversy is that such development as there has been is in a great measure unhealthy, even dangerous. And it is all to Lord Curzon's credit that, in spite of the bitter opposition which his measure will arouse in Calcutta, he has gone to the root of the matter and as totally relaid the foundations of a movement on which the very life of India depends.

There have been some splendid results of secondary education, notably in Bombay; but unfortunately, after a long and patient trial, the wisest observers, independent education-thoughtful Indian publicists, and sympathetic officials have sadly and reluctantly agreed that there was something rotten in the system. So far as the official need for Indians of real education was concerned, a palliative might have been found in a prescribed curriculum at prescribed colleges. But this would have been a poor half-measure. There is great hope for India. Already, faulty though the system of education has been, there is a marked and most gratifying growth of honesty and self-respect, and the Indian who has entered the service by open competition is often proud of himself and scorns the Oriental vices of corruption and flattery.

But it must not be supposed that the door now closed to open competition will be kept closed for ever, and it seems obvious that when once education has been placed on sound and rational lines, Government will in its own interests bring the bst of India's youth into the official net. But the time is not yet. Open competition has been discussed over and over again. It came under the consideration of the Public Service Commission, and the Government ofIndia in forwarding the report of the Commission to the India Office did not consider that it would be a suitable method of recruitment in present circumstances. These circumstances are still the same. Education does not at present develop and stimulate character. It would be cruel to belabour Indian education. It is a common-place to say that it is faulty, disappointing and unworthy of our mission in the East. The question was again considered when the suggestion of holding simultaneous examinations in India and England was put forward; and in the Blue Book recently published there are some facts which throw a strange light on the difficulties and racial dangers of open competition in Bengal. The Local Government of Bengal comprises Bengal Proper, Behar, and Orissa. From 1884 to 1893 66 candidates entered the public serivce by pure competition. All but three belonged to one class—the Bengalee Hindus. Only one Hindu from Behar succeeded in entering the service, yet Behar contains a population of over 20,000,000 of Hindus as against a population of some 18,000,000 in Bengal Proper; and, though Bengal has a population of over 16,000,000 of Mahomedans, not a single Mahomedan was successful at the examination. Orissa was unrepresented. It is easy enough to raise the cry of reaction and jobbery, but in the East all action is apt to be styled reaction, annd jobbery has no meaning when it is a question of an appointment of Indians by British Officials. We can sympathise to a certain extent with the Bengalees, who for the moment think that a favourite institution is being attacked; but we would bid them be of good cheer, for the day will come when they will be grateful to the courageous statesman who helped the cart out of the rut.

Bengal Clamorously Bewailing Its Loss:—"If, then, the change comes as a shock to the Bengalis," . . . . . "So Bengal will clamorously bewail its lot, and will denounce Lord Curzon as a reactionary." The uneasy conscience of the writer leads him into the fault which is described in the French proverb: "He who excuses himself accuses himself." For, without any occasion save that, deep down in his heart of hearts the writer knows that gross favouritism will be exhibited by Anglo-Indian officials and, as a consequence, equally gross sycophantism will spring up on every side, he says:

> "It is a libel on our countrymen to say, with some critics of Lord Curzon, that they prefer as coadjutors in their difficult and overpowering work the ignorant to the educated."

I quite agree with this sentiment. But my agreement is founded only on the principle annunciated in the *obiter dictum* attaching to the libel proceedings, "The greater the truth the greater the libel." In this sense, and in this sense only, is the sentiment so gratuitously introduced a libel.

The Real Indian and the Denationalised Indian:—"We cannot administer India without the help of the Indians," . . . . .

> "And it is all to Lord Curzon's credit that, in spite of the bitter opposition which his measure will arouse in Calcutta, he has gone to the root of the matter and has totally relaid the foundations of a movement on which the very life of India depends."

How pretty it is to play on the words "real Indian" and "denationalised Indian." An Indian "denationalised" is an Indian who, educated according to the English notions, becomes a most capable public servant, like Mr. Romesh Chunder Dutt, C.I.E., a lawyer of probity and eminence, like Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, a public-spirited leader of his people, like the Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore, to mention only three instances. The more of such Indians there are, the less need for the "white race" eulogised by Lady Lugard. The "real Indian is the Indian who, not recognising that the over-ruling authority has declared, in face of all the world, that British principles and British practices shall prevail in the administration of India, does not master those principles and practices, and is content to hew wood and to draw water for such officials as Mr. Clements, late Special Magistrate at Poona. Indians will be very foolish, and will play into the lands of those who wish to keep them down, if they allow such shallow claptrap as this contrast of "real Indians" with "denationalised Indians" to turn them by so much as a hair's breadth from their determination to prove themselves capable of successfully administering the land of their birth, their life, their death, the land of their forefathers, the land of their children, the land made sacred to them as once the abode of the high Gods they worship.

A Strange Confession:—"There have been some splendid results of secondary education, notably in Bombay;" . . . . . "and the Indian who has entered the service by open competition is often proud of himself and scorns the Oriental vices of corruption and flattery."

Let the reader carefully note that it is the "denationalised Indian" "who has entered the service by open competition" who, in so doing, becomes the best of Administrators. By these few sentences, the writer—somewhat stupid in the use of his illustration—justifies "the most strenuous opposition which Indians may give to this, the latest and the worst of the Curzonian reforms."

With the insincerity which marks nearly everything that comes from the India Office, the writer of the articles acclaims, in his last paragraph, the time when open competition will be restored, and "the best of India's youth will be brought into the official net." (That, by the way, is an unfortunate metaphor. Creatures caught in a net are at the mercy of their captors, and are generally "pousta-ed", or killed.) "But, the time is not yet."

This is ever the tyrant's plea for restricting freedom. A particular race of men may not have freedom granted to them because they are not fit for it, nor may means be employed whereby they shall be able to fit themselves for freedom. A benevolent Government in Laputa forbids those of its people who cannot swim to venture into river or sea, and, at the same time, prevents any one of them from learning the art of swimming. This remarkably enlightened policy is that which commends itself to the rulers of India. Naturally, the rulers of India are everywhere acclaimed as the wisest and noblest of men. Why, certainly!

Because of its general sentiments, and especially because of the highly illuminating remark that

> "jobbery has no meaning when it is a question of appointment of Indians by British officials,"

a remark of colossal assurance seeing it predicates that British officials are wholly perfect in their selection of subordinates and could not be influenced by aught but the highest motives in every instance—because of these things I must quote the remainder of this *quasi*-official deliverance.

Bengalis Bidden to be of Good Cheer:—"But it must not be supposed that the door now closed to open competition will be kept . . . . "but we would bid them be of closed for ever . . . . . good cheer, for the day will come when they will be grateful to the courageous statesman who helped the cart out of the rut."

You see, respected reader of the "Patrika," in whatever part of India you may live, this question which is (or ought to be) stirring Indian public sentiment to its depth, is all a matter of that wonderful Bengali. Very flattering to the Bengali, no doubt! But, to the astute Mahratta, to the very successful Tamil Dewans who have served in every part of India, and to the learned pundits of the United Provinces, not very flattering, nor true. The new policy is bad, root and branch, trunk and leaves. If Indians should allow it to become accepted doctrine and supinely adopt it, they will be committing national suicide. Should they really deserve the compliment contained in these drastic measures to render their innate ability of no effect, they will use their ability to such successful purpose as shall make Lord Curzon regret that he ever entered this road of retrogression.

Calctta and mofoesil

I. G. of Police.—Mr. A. V. Knyvett, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Northern and Western Range, is appointed to act temporarily as Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces.

Commissioner of Dacca.—Mr. R. W. Carlyle, C.I.E., Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, is appointed to act as Commissioner of the Dacca Division, during the absence, on deputation, of the Hon'ble Mr. H. Savage.

Education.—Maulvi Tabrez Ali, Additional Deputy Inspector of Schools, Midnapore is appointed to act as Head Master of the Anglo-Persian Department of the Calcutta Madrassa, during the absence, on leave, of Maulvi Amjad Ali.

Legislative.—The Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to nominate Mr. Charles George Hillersden Allen, Officiating Chairman of the Corporation of Calcutta, to be a Member of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

The New Post Card.—A correspondent writes to point out that the new Post-card contains the instruction that the address of the addressee alone is to be written on the front, whereas, according to Clause 55 of the Indian Postal Guide, the name and address of the sender and the date of posting may also appear on that side.

Application for Letters of Administration.—At the High Court on Monday, before Mr. Justice Sale, Babu Girendronauth Bose, of Messrs. Orr, Dignam and Co., applied for letters of administration on behalf of the Administrator-General of Bengal in the goods of Thomas Scott Goss, late a traffic inspector in the employ at Saidpore in November, 1903, leaving assets within the jurisdiction of this Court to the extent of Rs. 16,000 and odd. His lordship granted the application.

A Sensational Case.—A sensational occurrence took place on the premises of the District Board Office, Durbhanga, on the 15th ultimo. About seventy ferry contractors assembled at the office, it being the "bidding day," for possession of ferry ghats. They were divided into two parties and a quarrel arose between them which culminated in a hand to hand fight. The Magistrate Mr. Heycock, immediately proceeded to the place, accompanied by Mr. Waini, the Police Inspector, and the alarm bell was rung, in answer to which a body of the Reserve Police force arrived immediately. Ten of the offenders were arrested and the rest fled. The captured men were, however, released after giving "ezahur."

The Adelphi Hotel Case.—At the High Court on Monday before Mr. Justice Henderson the hearing of the case of A. J. Bridge and others vs. T.E. Madden, and L.E. Madden was resumed, when the plaintiffs produced further evidence. In this case, it will be remembered, the plaintiffs, who carry on business under the name and style of G. F. Kellner and Co., sued the defendants as trustees of the Adelphi Hotel and also in their personal capacity for the recovery of Rs. 4,457-2-0, being the price of wines, spirits, and other goods supplied between November 1897 and May 1898 for the use of the Hotel. The plaintiffs having closed their case, the second defendant Mrs. L. E. Madden addressed the Court, on behalf of the defence after which she cited evidence. Mr. Bagram for the plaintiffs was then heard in reply, and had not concluded when the Court rose for the day.

A Livelihood Case.—At the High Court on Monday before Mr. Justice Ameer Ali and Mr. Justice Handley, Mr. K. Chowdhry applied on behalf of one Hari Charan Sircar for a rule calling upon the District Magistrate of Krishnaghur to show cause why certain proceedings taken against him under section 110 of the Code of Criminal Procedure should not be quashed, or why in the alternative the case should not be transferred to the file of the District Magistrate or any other competent Magistrate to whom he might make it over. It appeared that as early as July 1903 a petition was put in before the Magistrate of the District by one Kalipodo Sanyal, alleged to be a son-in-law of the District Superintendent of Police, for the taking of proceedings under section 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The Magistrate thereupon ordered the Police to enquire and report. This enquiry and report turned out to be in petitioner's favour, and thereupon the trying Magistrate Babu J. C. Sen proposed to hold a judicial enquiry. This was held on one day in September last and on another day the following October, but without notice to the petitioner who was unable therefore to attend and cross-examine witnesses for the prosecution, nor was he able to call any witnesses on his behalf if necessary. Matters remained in abeyance till the 11th March 1904 (that is, for over five months) when at mid-night the petitioner was called out of his house, and arrested upon a warrant issued by Babu J. C. Sen, Deputy Magistrate, and subsequently released on bail. Their lordships, after hearing Mr. Chowdhry, directed a rule to issue in the terms prayed for, and ordered further proceedings to be stayed.

Foreign Department.—The Governor-General in Council recognises the appointment of Mr. L. Grommers as Acting Consul for the Netherlands at Calcutta during the absence of Mr. Dikoster.

Financial Department.—Mr. Kelly, Assistant Controller of the Post Office, is granted one year's combined leave, and Mr. Ghattak officiates for him in Bengal. The services of Mr. G. R. Clarke, C. S., are replaced at the disposal of the Home Department. Mr. Doran is appointed Postmaster-General, Madras.

New Municipal Offices, Calcutta.—A move is to be made immediately towards the occupation of the new building by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Deputy Chairman, together with their and the Secretary's Offices. The existing office building has to be altered and adapted and joined on to the new building by means of connecting passages.—"Indian Engineering."

Court Martial.—At a District Court Martial held at Fort William, on the 2nd April, the prisoner, Private J. Thomson, 1st King's Own (Royal Lancaster) Regiment was arraigned upon charge, of having been discharged with disgrace from a part of His Majesty's Forces, enlisting into the regular forces without declaring the circumstances of his discharge. He was found guilty and sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for fifty-six days.

A Correction.—We regret to state that in the report of our Ulluberia Correspondent published under date April 3 and under the heading "Our New Subdivisional Magistrate" a mistake crept into the sentence which dealt with the disposal of cases with a view to the clearance of the file. The sentence, as it was written by our correspondent runs as follows:—"His methods of administration prove beyond doubt that he belongs to that class of Magistrates who only try cases and not to that class of Magistrates who merely dispose of cases with a view to the clearance of the file."

A Dangerous Brother-in-law.—On Monday, Syed Mohamed Khan Bahadur, Deputy Magistrate of Alipore tried a case in which one Bissumber Chuckerbutty, a young Brahmin of Jeerut was charged with having murderously stabbed his brother-in-law. The complainant and accused married the two daughters of a gentleman of Bistoopore and were fast friends for some time and on the alleged day of occurrence the former made a bad report against the character of the latter to his father-in-law. The accused on hearing this was so enraged that he called at the house of his brother-in-law and severely stabbed him with a knife. The accused was sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

Public Works Department.—Mr. T. P. Farrell, Deputy Examiner of Accounts, attached to the office of the Government Examiner of Railway Accounts, Calcutta, is transferred to the Office of Examiner of Accounts, Eastern Bengal State Railway, when Mr. W. C. Davis, Examiner of Accounts is transferred from the office of Examiner of Eastern Bengal State Railway, to that of Examiner, Public Works Accounts, Bengal. Mr. H. W. Schmidt, Deputy Examiner of Accounts, attached to the Office of Examiner of Public Works Accounts, Madras, is ganrted privilege leave for three months in combination with furlough for six months. Mr. R. B. Scott, Assistant Examiner attached, to the Office of Accountant-General, Public Works Department, is temporarily promoted to the Superior Accounts Branch, with the rank of Officiating Deputy Examiner, and is posted to the Office of Examiner, Public Works Accounts, Madras.

Application for an Order.—At the High Court on Monday before Mr. Justice Sale Mr. Robinson, instructed by Babu Charoo Chunder Bose, applied on behalf of the plaintiffs in the suit of H. Elias Solomon and others vs. Moses Judah, who carried on the business of Hatters in Lindsay Street in Calcutta, for an order that the Receiver appointed is this suit might have liberty to complete the unfinished hats and to make hats with the materials that are in the shop and by purchase of such articles as might be wanting and then to sell the stock-intrade, including the said hats, either in one lot or retail either by public auction or otherwise. Mr. K. Chowdhry instructed by Mr. Gillanders, applied for the defendant, and said that he did not object to the order prayed for being made, if the hats were sold in their present condition. There are various kinds of hats and helmets now in the shop, many of which are in an unfinished state, and if these hats were allowed to be completed, it woud not only cost a large sum of money, but would take some time to carry out the work. If, however, his lordship was disposed to grant the order, he (Mr. Chowdhry) would ask that they should be at liberty to bid at the sale. Mr. Robinson said that he had no objection to this being done. His lordship then made the order in terms of the plea.

Saturday's Storm in Calcutta.—The storm, which broke over Calcutta on Saturday evening has caused immense havoc to trees and damaged the overhead tramway wires necessitating a temporary suspension of tramcar traffic, along Chowringhee, Kidderpur and other important Sections of the service. In the town the electric lighting arrangements suffered somewhat during the prevalence of the storm which raged for upwards of an hour. The electric lights in many of the houses went out, but these were soon set right. The Chowringhee and Kidderpur cars were unable to be worked owing to interruption caused all along the lines by the wires being overlapped by broken branches of trees. The progress of the car to the High Court terminus, was altogether stopped. A huge tree was dislodged from the ground, and fell on the overhead wire, which was wrecked. At the Kidderpur section there was a pitiable scene. A cooly after the cessation of the storm, ventured out of his house, to collect the branches of trees for purposes of fuel. He got hold of a large branch and got it between his legs in order to carry it away with ease, when suddenly he fell writhing in agony. He tried to extricate himself when his arm came in contact with one portion of a broken electric wire and his agonies were increased to such an extent that he expired in a few minutes. The body was removed to the morgue for the purpose of a Coroner's inquest. This wire, it is said gave way through the bracket in which it was made secure having collapsed during the storm. No further accidents have as yet been brought to light.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

TELEGRAMS.

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, April 8.

All was quiet at Port Arthur yesterday. The inhabitants are preparing to celebrate Easter, but expect an attack from the enemy, who has again appeared in Port Arthur waters.

The naval reserves at Sebastopol have been mobilised, partly to reinforce the crews at Port Arthur and Vladivostok, and partly for the Baltic vessels.

The Japanese Consul General in London has forwarded £11,000, being the first instalment of the London fund in aid of Japanese widows and orphans.

Reuter's St. Petersburg correspondent says that General Kuropatkin has decided to make Fonchuangcheng his first line of defence proper, though he intends engaging the Japanese as soon as they cross the Yalu. A strong force is entrenched at Haichang to block the Japanese advance if they land at the head of the Liaotong Gulf.

London, April 9.

Much anxiety is felt regarding the insanitary condition of Harbin.

Reuter's correspondent at Seoul says that the Japanese Minister has officially informed the Korean Government of the Russian retirement across the Yalu and the Japanese occupation of the frontier, and requests the Government to facilitate engaging coolies to expedite the Seoul-Fusan Railway.

London, April 10.

Captain Grigorovitch, Commander of the Tsarevitch, has been promoted to Rear Admiral for gallantry in the presence of the enemy, and also appointed Commandant of Port Arthur.

London, April 11.

Reuter's correspondent at Nuichwang says that the garrison were preparing for the possibility of a Japanese attack on the forts yesterday, and scared the inhabitants by heavy firing. It is officially explained that the garrison misunderstood the Customs flash signals, giving the depth of water at the mouth of the river, enabling ships to go to sea, and accordingly fired on the pilot boats and outgoing merchantmen. Nuichwang is practically closed to commerce, and merchantmen are leaving without discharging.

London, April, 12.

A Chinese steamer arrived at Chefu yesterday from Niuchwang and reports that eight large Russian warships stopped her and examined her ten miles from Port Arthur.

GENERAL.

London, April 8.

The Anglo-French agreement has been signed.

It is stated in Paris that, under the Anglo-French Agreement, the functions of the Caisse of the Egyptian Debt will be reorganised and the present excess of its revenues over interest on loans, to which it is assigned will be placed at the free disposal of the Egyptian Government, while arrangements are made for safeguarding the interests concerned. Russia and Germany have given verbal assurances that they will not oppose the change. The convertibility of various debts, some of which might be converted in 1905, is deferred to distant dates. French schools are to be free and the Antiquities Service is to continue under the direction of a Frenchman.

London, April 9.

The Turko-Bulgarian Agreement has been signed after prolonged negotiations which at one time threatened to result in a rupture of relations.

The death is announced of Isabella, late Queen of Spain.

Imports for March show an increase of £1,775,751, and exports a decrease of £8,56,398.

The Budget forecasts give an increase in the income-tax and the sugar duty and possibly on tea.—"Englishman."

London, April 10.

The conviction prevails at Constantinople and Vienna that the Turco-Bulgarian agreement although excluding the Bulgarian demand for the extension of the Reform Scheme to the Vilayet of Adrianople, will improve the situation in Macedonia, and release the Sultan from the embarrassing position, showing he is able to arrange matters in Bulgaria direct and not merely at the command of the Powers.

Advices from South-West Africa state that the Germans have had a severe, but successful encounter with the Hereros near Okaharai in which the Hereros lost ninety-two in killed, and the Germans lost one officer and thirty one men killed and one officer and fifteen men wounded.

The Cape assembly had an all night sitting until noon due to the stubborn opposition of the Bond to the representation of a bill in increasing members, the motion to shelve the bill has been rejectd by 48 to 41. The bill has been sent to Committee.

London, April 11.

A Morning Post telegram from Chifoo says there is an increase in the anti-Foreign policy permeating Pekin, and there is a grave possibility of China's neutrality being broken soon, despite official assurances to the contrary, by a general upheaval of the people.

The Standard's Tokio correspondent says the Marquis Ito announced at dinner the complete attainment of the object of his mission to Korea, and said he had returned with the strongest assurances from the Emperor of the Koreans' complete good faith and unchanging good-will.

Five British officers leave England to-day for Macedonia to participate in the reorganisation of the gendarmery.

The Standard's Vienna correspondent says it is anticipated that the result of the meeting between Count Goluchowski and M. Tittoni at Abazzia will be that the agreement between the two countries relating to Albania will be extended to the whole of the Balkans.

Renewede fighting took place in South-West Africa on Saturday. The Germans dispersed three thousand Hereros after eight hours' fighting. The Germans had three officers and twelve men killed and wounded. The Hereros' losses were heavy.

A telegram from Tiflis received at St. Petersburg states that Alaeddauleh, Governar-General of Tsar, has been dismissed for not going to between Ching and Anju in Northern Korea.

TELEGRAMS.

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

Lord Curzon's ship to meet him on the occasion of his visit to the Persian Gulf.

London, April 12.

The official text of the Anglo-French agreement in reference to Siam says that the two parties disclaim all ideas of annexation of territory and are resolved to abstain from anything opposed to existing treaties. They agree that action shall be exercised freely in the spheres of influnce east and west of the Menam and Basin respectively.

Kaiser Willaim is staying at Malta since Saturday sight-seeing and participating in a series of most cordal luchions, receptions and dinners ashore and on board the Hormenzollern and on the British warships. Yesterday he also witnessed various drills of tre fleet.

Senhor Maura, the Svanish Premier, when leaving the Palace of the Council General at Barecelona to-day, was attacked and wounded by a dagger. King Alfonso, yho is still in Barcelona was present.

Mr. Balfour in the Commons said that the action of Tibet necessitated asking the House to sanction the employment of Indian troops beyond the Froniter. He thought there should be no delay in the discussion. A Resolution will be brought forward on Tuesday. Mr. Brodrick said that no despatch of any importance had been sent to Lord Curzon regarding Tibet since the 6th November. The opposition intend raising the question regarding the excessive bloodshed in Tibet.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

Colombo, April 7.

Russia has protested against the despatch of Chinese troops outside the Great Wall, and has threatened that, if persisted in, China will be treated as a belligerent, and the Russians will immediately march on Peking. It is understood that China refuses to recall her soldiers.

The Mikado, in opening Parliament, referred to Russia's insincerity in the recent negotiations. He said that Japan could not now hesitate until the object had been attained. He commended the loyal valour of the troops under unwonted hardships and privations, and hoped that his subjects would co-operate in perfect unity for the enhancement of the Empire's glory.

The House of Representatives expressed extreme gratification that war had been declared, and promised loyal legislative co-operation.

Captain Irokoff has been executed at St. Petersburg for selling Russian army organisation plans to Japan.

The "Daily Express" states that Russia is sending overland to Port Arthur ten torpedo-boat destroyers in sections. Three thousand skilled artisans will accompany the consignments.

The Russians have constructed elaborate barbed-wire defences on the land side of Port Arthur. The Japanese naval officers about Port Arthur state that it is a terribly hard nut to crack.

Telegrams received at St. Petersburg state that the Japanese attempted to land at Helena Bay to the south of Niuchwang, but that the weather prevented the success of the operations.

The Russians are preparing to make a great stand at Liao-Yangchan if expelled from Niuchwang.

The "Times'" correspondent reports that the Japanese fleet has cabled to Admiral Togo that, although passive, it is keeping up a close blockade of Port Arthur with cruisers and destroyers.

When Vladivostok was bombarded, the forts were unable to reply, because the Japanese ships, although within range, were skilfully placed beyond the arce of the training of the guns.

During the fight at Port Arthur on the 10th March, the Russians got close enough to throw an explosive shell on the bridge of a Japanese destroyer. The shell did not however explode. The Japanese vessels used six-pounder guns and the Russians three-pounders. The Russians fought with desperate bravery. The commander of one boat was killed early in the fight, and the Lieutenant, who succeeded him, was wounded in botr legs, and later he died. Just as the vessel was almost safe the Japanese towed her out under a heavy fire from the forts, and found thirty dead on the deck, terribly mutilated by burst shells. Out of a crew of 55, all were killed except four. Two sailors locked themselves, in the conning tower and refused to come out, being drowned as the vessel sand.

It is reported that civilians are deserting Port Arthur wholesale.

Immense snowdrifts have blocked the Manchurian Railway. Several bridges have collapsed.

A Reuter's despatch from St. Petersburg states that the Czar will go to the front about August next.

Reports have reached Niuchwang that the Japanese have crossed the Tatung Pass, 40 miles from Haichang, a post on the Manchurian Railway, about 40 miles north of Niuchwang. Collisions have occurred between the Japanese and Russians, who strongly hold the Metienling Pass on the Antung—Mukden road, about 40 miles south-east of the Russian Railway post of Lio-Yang. Several trains of Russian wounded have passed the Taxhichie Railway station near Niuchwang proceeding to Liochung. Two regiments of Cossacks with six heavy guns have reinforced Niuchwang.

The "Daily Telegraph" states that a Tokio paper published on Monday a highly circumstantial account of the capture of Port Arthur. It stated that a Japanese division landed on the Lioatung Peninsula on the 19th instant, and attacked Port Arthur in the rear. Sixteen warships simultaneously bombarded the town. The action is said to have begun at 6 o'clock in the evening, and continued till 10, Sunday morning, and resulted in the capture of the fortress. The report has not been confirmed.

It is reported at Tokio that a sharp encounter has taken place at Changsieng on the Korean side of the Yalu River, and that the Russian casualties numbered 600.

General Zillinsky, telegraphing from Mukden on Monday, state that all reports of the Japanese landing are inventions. He reports increased activity on the part of the enemy

OUTRAGE ON A SESSIONS JUDGE.

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(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Hooghly, April 8.

Yesterday, the Hooghly Court was a scene of great commotion over the tact that a most dastardly assault was committed on Kumar Gpendra Krishna Deb Bahadur, our popular district and Sessions Judge. On that day the Judge with the help of a jury tried a dacoity case in which one Kichri Dome and 3 others were the accused, and accepting the unanimous verdict of guilty of the jury, convicted and sentenced all the accused persons to long terms of imprisonment. After delivering judgment, as the Judge was about to leave the Court for his chambers, Kichri Dome suddenly shied a large brick at the Judge, which he had concealed about his person. Fortunately the brick hit the punkha, and refounding hit the Judge slightly on he arm. The prisoner after throwing the brick began to abuse the Judge. He was immediately secured by the Police. The Judge picked up the stone and handed it over to his Peshkar. To-day he was placed before the District Magistrate, Mr. Hdlifax, on his trial for his most cowardly assault on the Judge the day previous. The court-room was crowded to suffocation, for the unfortunate incident had created the wildest sensation in the town. On being asked by the Magistrate why he had thrown the stone to the Judge, he man said that he gave a "Salami" for his just decision. The Magistrate sentenced him to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

NOTES FROM BURDWAN.

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(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Burdwan, April 9.

A SENSATIONAL SESSIONS CASE.

You have, I see, already noticed in your local columns the sensational case of brutally violating the modesty of a young woman, which was committed to the Sessions by the Sub-divisional Officer of Kutwa and concluded the other day. The following are the particulars of the case: Dewanat Sheik is a poor inhabitant of village Jhikra under thana Ketugram withir the Sub-division of Kutwa. He was a pretty wife of about fourteen summers named Lal Bibi. On the 22nd of May last (the day of first occurrence) taking advantage of her husband's absence from home, five persons named Ganu Meah, Amed Meah, Kader Meah, Secunder Sheik and Tinu Sheik, entered her house at dead of night, caught hold of her while sleeping, gagged her mouth and having forcibly carried her away, committed criminal assault upon her. She was then taken to Gunu Meah's parlour and kept there confined for three days during which time she was very cruelly and brutally handled by each member of the party, who kidnapped her. On the fourth day, she was made over to her husband and father-in-law, who were making a vigilant search for her in every possible place. The poor husband of the girl made a complaint against these offenders and another man named Mari Meah to the Sub-divisional Officer of Kutwa. On his return home from Kutwa, the persons complained against came to him and proposed amicable settlement. But on his refusal, the unfortunate man is said to have been beaten by them. Nor did they stop here: They again forcibly carried away his young wife from his hut on the 2nd of June last, kept her concealed in different places and took undue advantage of her helpless condition. At last when her health gave way to their diabolical doings they brought her back to the place of her husband and left her lying close by it in a most pitiful and deplorable condition.

Of the six abovementioned accused persons, only Mari Meah was discharged for want of sufficient evidence against him by the Sub-divisional Officer of Kutwa who presided over the preliminary trial and the remaining five were committed to the Sessions charged with the offences under sections 365, 366, 497, 498 I. P. C. The trial at the Sessions Court was presided over by Mr. Walmsley, Officiating District and Sessions Judge. At the conclusion, four of the Jurors found all the accused guilty of all the charges and the learned Judge agreeing with the majority sentenced them each to undergo rigorous imprisonment for ten years.

AN EXTENSIVE FIRE.

At mid-day on the 15th of the current Bengali month, a fire broke out at the house of one Makhan Lal Ray of village Kendoor under the Khondaghosh thana. The origin of this fire has not yet been definitely ascertained, but it is attributed to the carelessness of cerain labourers in a sugar-candy field. Though originally a small one, the fire began to be fanned by the strong winds which were blowing at the time and gradually assumed formidable proportions; nay, it developed into a regular conflagration. Inspite of their best endeavours the villagers failed to check its progress. Ninety-two dwelling houses have been entirely gutted and eighteen families rendered completely homeless and helpless. Such was the violence of the fiery element that the inmates could get out of their houses only with he clothes they had on The value of the gold and silver ornaments destroyed is estimated at Rs. 20,000. About one hundred "marais" (barns) of paddy, each containing about 300 maunds, and straw worth about Rs. 1,000 have been reduced to ashes. The fire ultimately died out of itself for want of aliment. The old people of the village attributt this dire calamit- to divide vengeance.

A PUBLIC MEETING.

At 5 p. m. on the 7th instant, a public meeting was held at the Bungshogopal Town Hall to express sympathy for Japan and to collect funds for wounded Rai Nalinaksha Bose Bahadur was in the chair. Besides the Chairman, Moulvie Abdul Kasem B.A. and Babus Surat Chandra Bose B.L., Mohini Mohun Mitra MA., B.L., Manmatha Nath Chatterjee M.A., B.L., also addressed the meeting. Rs. 35 were subscribed on the spot, of which Rs. 20 were contributed by the Rai Bahadur.

NOTES FROM TANGAIL.

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(From our own Correspondent.)

Tangail, April 9.

ASSAULT ON A WOMAN.

One Kamana Maijhine of Hakimpore, police station, Ktlikati while going to Ellenga Bazar to sell milk, through a pathway between two hemp fields, was indecently assaulted by one Darbari Sheik of Hyatpur. The scream of the woman drew a number of men, at which the ruffian bolted. The womtn lodged a complaint against the offender, who was hauled up for trial before the Sub-Divisional Officer. The Magistrate has sentenced him to undergo rigorous imprisonment for three months.

ALLEGED FALSE PERSONATION.

Under the jurisdiction of the Jagunnathgunje Police, Bahadur and Jahed Box disguised in the dress of a Writer-constable und a Constable once molested the people of the local Bazar. They were both duly apprised of, and are undergoing trials.

A BOLD GANG OF INCENDIARIES.

Incendiarism has become rife here. Every night some portion of the town is either burnt down or is attempted to be burnt. The gang have grown so bold as to yrite letters to the S. D. O. telling him of his foolish projects in qutrtering police to detect them. They have come with a set purpose of reducing the whole town to ashes. It is indeed funny that the police have up to date failed to detect the ruffians.

WEATHER AND HEALTH.

Suddenly, after most trying weather, the atmosphere has considerably cooled down, after a heavy downpour of more than an hours. This has considerably improved the outlook of the next harvest Sowing has commenced in right earnest. The heelth of the Municipal town is air. The Municipal authorities are energetically trying to come to he service of the rate-payers.

Correspondence.

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ALLEGED ASSAULT BY SOLDIERS.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—I have heard of cases of unprovoked assaults committed upon defenceless Indians of both sexes by European soldiers on the Grand Trunk Road, Barrackpur, between the Barracks and the Gwaltoly. But I could hardly persuade myself to give credit to such stories. For, why should Tommy Atkins assault poor passers by on the road without any cause or provocation? They being human beings, are possessed of the same sentiments as we have. And hence they can not possibly find any pleasure to see their fellow-beings in distress, unless there be some charm in His Majesty's uniform which blunts the finer sentiments of the wearer. But my personal experience has removed what I once found it difficult to believe. My way to home passed through the road alluded to above. On the evening of 4th instant I arrived Barrackpur by the Goalundo passenger a few minutes before 8-30 and was proceeding to Dhitarah by the aforesaid road. When I had proceeded about 200 or 300 yards from the Barracks, I met 3 soldiers in uniform and without taking any notice of them I passed them by as quickly as possible. But hardly I could leave them a few spaces behind, one of them, who was carrying a big bamboo club, struck me on my left arm, with the lathi with all the strength he possessed, then came the second, followed of course by the third! I was certainly no match for him, and even if I were, I could not have dared touch the sacred body of His Majesty's solider-in-uniform. For if I had raised a finger in self-defence, the whole machinery would have been moved against me and some public bodies who had lately shown such over abundance of love towards British soldiers would have voted a halter gratis to me. Indeed, such is the unfortunate and helpless position in which the British subjects in India find themselves now. So I had no other alternative but to save my life by running as fast as I could. I can, however, assure you, Sir, as I remember my experience quite well, that if I had not taken this wise course and waited longer for gathering more facts for your columns, it would have been all over with me and even the ablest detective officer could not have traced out a clue of the perpetrator of the dark deed. It is, however, much to be regretted that it was not a moonlit night, and I could not get an opportunity of seeing the face of my "gallant" assailant for the sake of identification! The people of Barrackpur and its neighbourhood most fervently hoped since the murder of the late lamented Dr. Suresh Chunder Sarkar, that some vigorous steps would be taken to afford the poor Indian subjects of His Majesty protection from the violence of these human brutes, but I now find that we are as much in their mercy as we were before. Lord Curzon is credited with adopting measures for the protection of the Indians from the violence of a class of Europeans, but alas in vain. I appeal to the authorities through your columns that they may be pleased to adopt some effective measures to guard the Indians against such outrages of which I was a victim.

K. P. BISWAS.
Editor, "Barta."

It is a matter for congratulation and encouragement, says the Ceylon Observer, to find that Ceylon Para rubber, the cultivation of which is, comparatively speaking, a new industry there, has secured the highest prices ever obtained for this product. It is still more satisfactory, however, adds our contemporary, to find it stated on so good authority as that of Messrs. Lewis and Peat that if producers maintain the high quality consumers will contiue to pay the higr price.

Sir Charles Rivaz opened the Leper Asylum at Tarn-Taran, which mission ti lepers has been built with Government and private aid. The huts previously existing have been re-Rs. 50,000. The management was formerly placed by improved quarters, which will cost in the hands of the Municipal Committee, but was transferred by the Government to the Rev. Mr. Guildford on behalf of the Mission to lepers. The Mahomedan Assistant Surgeon, who had charge of the Asylum for eighteen years, has been awarded khillatt and land on the Jhelum canal.

Calcutta Gazette, April 13.

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Mr. F. S. Hamilton, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Purnea, is appointed to be District and Sessions Judge of Dinajpur.

Mr. F. R. Roe, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Burdwan, on leave, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Muzaffarpur, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. A. E. Staley.

Mr. A. N. Moberley, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Bhagalpur, is appointed to act as Deputy Commissioner of the Sonthal Parganas, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. C. H. Bompas.

Mr. E. P. Chapman, District and Sessions Judge on leave, is appointed to be District and Sessions Judge of Purnea.

Mr. H. Luson, Magistrate and Collector, Midnapore, is apointed to act as Commissioner of the Chittagong Division, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. R. S. Greenshields.

Mr. W. A. Marr, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of that district, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. H. Luson.

Mr. J. A. Hubback, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Midnapore, is appointed to have charge of the Rampur Hat subdivision of the Birbhum district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. A. J. Laine.

Babu Satis Chandra Ghose, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Parganas, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Sonthal Parganas district.

Mr. F. H. Tucker, District Superintendent of Police, Purnea, is appointed to act as Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Northern and Western Range, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. A. V. Knyvett.

Lieutenant F. S. McNamara, Assistant Superintendent of Police, on special duty, is posted to Purnea on the expiration of his special duty, and is appointed to hold charge of the police of that district, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. F. H. Tucker.

Mr. R. J. Hirst, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Purnea, is appointed temporarily to hold charge of the police of that district.

Babu Davendra Nath Basu, Professor, Krishnagar College, class VI of the Provincial Educational Service, is promoted to class V of that Service, vice Babu Khirod Chundra Rai Chaudhuri, retired.

Miss E. E. Greene, Head Mistress, Dow Hill Girls' School, Kurseong, class VII of the Provincial Educational Service, is promoted to class VI of that Service.

Mr. C. Fisher, District and Sessions Judge, Dinajpur, is allowed combined leave for six months, viz., privilege leave for six weeks, and special leave for the remaining period.

Babu Braja Durlab Hazra, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed leave for two months, under article 336 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him.

Mr. C. W. Bolton, C.S.I., I.C.S., has been granted an extension of furlough for seven months.

Mr. R. R. Pope, Judicial Commissioner, Chota Nagpur, is allowed combined leave for eight months, viz., privilege leave for one month and twenty days under article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. R. S. Greenshields, Officiating Commissioner if the Chittagong Division, is allowed combined leave for six months, viz., privilege leave for two months and twenty days, and special leave for the remaining period.

Mr. A. J. Laine, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Rampur Hat, Birbhum, is allowed combined leave for six months, viz., privilege leave for three months and special leave for the remaining period.

Babu Mahendra Nath Mukhoti, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Backergunge, to be ordinarily stationed at Bhola, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Banamali Sen.

Babu Janoki Nath Mukherjee, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Saran, to be ordinarily stationed at Chapra, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Ambica Charan Mozumdar.

Babu Kali Dhan Chatterjee, Subordinate Judge of Backergunge, is appointed to perform the functions of a Court under section 3, clause (d) of the Land Acquisition Act, 1 of 1894, within the local limits of the original jurisdiction of the District Judge of Backergunge.

Babu Suresh Chandra Ghose, Subordinate Judge, Backergunge, is allowed privilege leave for one month and fifteen days, viz., eight days under article 274 of the Civil Service Regulations, and the remaining period under article 271 of the same Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him.

Babu Umesh Chunder Chuckerbutty, Munsif, under orders of transfer to Ranaghat, in the district of Nadia, is allowed leave for one month, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Ramapati Dey, late Munsif of Ranaghat, in the district of Nadia, is allowed leave for one year, under article 326 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Nirmal Chandra Sinha, Munsif, under orders of transfer to Pirojpur, in the district of Backergunge, is allowed an extension of leave for five months and six days.

Babu Mon Mohon Neogy, Munsif of Chittagong, is allowed leave for one month in extension of the leave granted to him.

Babu Asutosh Banerji, Munsif of Jessore, is allowed leave for fifteen days, in extension of the leave granted to him.

Babu Rajendra Lal Sadhu, Munsif of Comilla, in the district of Tippera, is allowed leave for thirty days.

Babu Prosanna Kumar Gupta, Munsif of Lakhmipur, in the district of Noakhali, is allowed leave for eight days, in extension of the leave granted to him.

Babu Surja Kumar Guha, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Rajshahi Division, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class on being relieved of his settlement duties in Bihar.

Babu Pulin Behari Bose, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Buxar, Shahabad, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Hooghly district.

The order of the 11th March 1904, posting Maulvi Imdad Ali, Sub-Deputy Collector, on leave, to the Rajshahi Division, is cancelled.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE MAHARAJA OF BARODA AND THE

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VICEREGAL DICTION.

It is not known whether the Maharajah of Baroda had read Lord Curzon's budget speech when His Highness said at Bombay that 'he believed it was incumbent on every Government to allow its subjects to share in the Government of the country." If His Highness had read the speech he would have, in deference to the viceregal dictum, modified his observation, making an exception of British India whose people are, indeed, treated better than the Asiatic subjects of Russia and the inhabitants of Java, Cochin-China and Tonking. The Maharajah's maxim does not apply to subject populations like those of India. But His Highness has the excuse that Lord Curzon is the first Viceroy who has called attention to the limitation with which the people of India have to be content. His Highness was thinking of the Queens' Proclamation and the Acts of Parliament. But under Lord Curzon the Queen's Proclamation no longer holds the place which it once was supposed to do. His Excellency is one of the most accomplished British statesmen of modern times; and his study of the Asiatic problem has made him wiser than the wise Queen andher wise ministers. Next time when the Gaekwar speaks. His Highness will duly modify his assertion according to Lord Curzon's dictum, and say that India's salvation does not lie in political reform or concessions to the people, but in the development and exploitation of India's resources by British capitalists. The Maharjah will soon find the mistake he has made in establishing Panchayet Courts and Municipal Boards in his State when his people's needs lie in a quite different direction.—"Hindu."

LIVING IN LONDON ON A

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SHILLING A DAY.

London cheapest hotels form the subject of a chatty article in "Cassell's," by W. B. Robertson. He opens by remarking on the strange fact that hotels which have the enormous profit of intoxicating liquors to draw upon are always more expensive than temperance hotels. He says in the Metropole the cheapest bedroom one can get costs 4s. 6d. a night, attendance 1s. 6., breakfast 3s. 6d. Even in Whitechapel a bed-room in a licensed hotel costs 3s. 6d. and close against the docks the cheapest room is 2s. 6d. But in a Covent Garden temperance hotel, fitted with every modern improvement, the charges are—bedroom, bosts, and attendance, 2s. 6d.; breakfast, 1s., total 3s. 6. A licensed victualler explained this by saying that if they lowered their charges to the rate of the temperance hotel, they would be flooded with guest, whose only desire was to drink all night.

Mr. Robertson says "I know at least a dozen hotels in London replete with every convenience, where one can be well-bedded and well-breakfasted for 1s. 6d., and even less." He cites one at which he stayed in Clerkenwell which cost: bed-room and boots, 1s. breakfast, consisting of a pot of tea, rasher of bacon and an egg, bread and butter, 6d.—total 1s. 6d. The bed-room was "as good as any plain man wants." At another such hotel in the Borough he had a small but comfortable bedroom and a breakfast for a total of 11½d. Had he been a weekly guest his daily bill would have been still smaller. He had in addition a share of the coffee-room, writing-room and smoke-room, the latter being particularly attractive. The way cheapest "hotel" accommodation he eber heard of was provided in Edinburgh, and was known as the "Bawbee Lean." For a halfpenny, or a bawbee, a man was allowed to stand in a long room leaning or bending against a rope stretched from end-to-end. "In the morning, when, in the opinion of mine host, his guests had had enough for their money, he simply united the end of the rope, and allowed the force of gravity to do the rest." But it is in the Rowton House that the writer finds those who have been initiated into the mystery of living on something about 1s. per 24 hours. Bed 6d., boots ½d., breakfast 2d., dinner 3½d., tea 2d.,—1s. 2d. altogether. "4d. a night, with Sundays free to weekly tenants, is the cheapest bed a European can get in London."

The writer closes with the remark that "London has a reputation for being a dear place to live in. It is a reputation, however, she scarcely deserves. True, one can live in London more expensively than anywhere else; at the same time, one can command plain comfort more cheaply."

A NIGHT FUNERAL IN TIBET.

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C. H. Lepper recounts, in "Blackwood" for February, one night's experiences in Tibet. He was sleeping in the open, 16,000 feet above the sea, when his faithful Tibetan Karma woke him to tell him that a funeral was wending its way up the heights. Master and man at once took cover amid the rocks, fearing death were they discovered. The writer remarks, by the way, that the people of Tibet have a deep and well-merited hatred for the priestly caste, a hatred such as a foreign Power could turn to enormous account. If sure of being for ever freed from their tyrants and their Lamasseries, the people would not stir in defence of caste or country. Two corpses were being carried in long procession up the height. Having reached the plateau, one body in a sack was placed on a pyre of wood soaked in butter. The priests, each with a revolving prayer-wheel in hand, tramped round the blazing pyre in a circle, in full view of the crowd. The spectators occupied themselves beating gongs, and every now and then joined in a wild chant, led by the choir-masters and literati encircling the pyre. The flashing, smoky torches, now that the moon had set, lit up the scene below me with an effect quite indescribable."

The other body was laid out on the snow and stripped. The betaing of drums was the signal for the wild dogs and vultures to draw near.

When a four-footed crowd had assembled —the highest functionary advanced towards the corpse with slow and stately stride. Stooping, he proceeded to dissect the body into pieces no larger than filberts. The dogs in the meantime were kept off by the attendants. When he had concluded the dissection, the dogs were permitted to approach nearer, and then bit by bit, he throw morsels to hem repeating with each morsel the Ineffable Prayer. When nothing but the big bones remained, these were powdered up in a mortan and mixed with meal brose (Tsang Pa), and then the officiating priest threw the mixture, as he had thrown the rest—absolutely nothing must be left unconsumed. He then did that which, while it confirmed Karma in his opinion of the exalted rank of the deceased, as it is only done for the very highest personages, formed a fit climax to this gruesome rite. Without washing his hands, the officiating priest next deliberatley and with all solemnity, mixed a cup of (Tsang Pa) brose made of meal mixed with broth or the national drink, buttered tea, which brose is the national dish and is always mixed with the fingers and then —ate it himself!"

WHOOPING COUGH.—This is a very dangerous disease unless properly treated. Statistics show that there are more deaths from it than from scarlet fever. All danger may be avoided, however, by giving Chamberlain's Cough Remedy It liquifies the tough mucus, making it easier to expectorate, keeps the cough loose, and makes the paroxysms of coughing less frequent and less evre. It has been used in many epidemics of the disease with perfect success. For sale by

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

£1,000 FOR SLANDER.

A "doggy" atmosphere pervaded the Lord Chief Justice's court on 23rd March.

Mrs. Charlote Frances Culpeper Clarke, a well-known fancier of buildogs, of Withdean Farm, Patcham, Sussex, was awarded £1,000 damages for standers uttered by Mr. Walter W. Main, of 30, Kettering-street, Stretham, who was at one time her kennel-man.

As she appeared in court, the plaintiff gave the impression of a middle-aged travelling English gentlewoman, of iron constitution girt for an early spring pedestrian tour in the wilds of Sicily. As for Main, eonugh an ex-kennelman, he bore a faithful resemblance to the scanty-haired septuagenarian scorner of dogs that he showed himself to be in the witness-box.

Mrs. Clarke's complaint was that the defendant made serious moral reflections upon her character.

She is a lady with an income of over £2,000 a year, and, according to her counsel's opening statement, after eight years' married life with her husband, Dr. Robert Henry Clarke, of Brighton, she left him as the result of a difference, and went to live as the wife of Mr. Septimus Clarke, her husband's first cousin.

HUSBAND'S THREAT.

The lady employed Main as her kennelman until she left her husband. Then the defendant took the dogs to Bromley, where had to have them boarded out, as her husband threatened to shoot them. Main looked after the dogs for some time, and then left, but he again became her kennelman at Patcham, where she had a cottage.

In May 1903 the defendant gave plaintiff warning late at night, and she said it was not a proper time to give notice to leave. The defendant the next day went to London without leave for a day, and when he came back Mr. Septimus Clarke dismissed him.

Rumours having come to her knowledge about certain statementts which the defendant had made, Mrs. Clarke caused inquiries to be made, and it was ascertained that at the Ladies' Kennel Club show at the Botanical Gardens, at the Worthing Dog Show, at the Royal Aquirium show, and elsewhere, before, in some cases, defendant left the plaintiff's service, he had made statements reflecting upon her character.

DECLINED TO DIVORCE HER.

In cross-examination Mrs. Clarke said that she had lived with Septimus Clarke as his wife since she left her husband, because the latter declined to divorce her Her position was known to every one, without telling them of it.

Septimus Clarke had worked for her husband as his secretary in regard to books he was writing. She had no bitter feeling against her husband if he would leave her alone. She had not said she had offered her husband £500 a year if he would divorce her. She had never made such a proposal, and did not recollect authorising such an offer.

Her lawyers had instructed detectives to watch if Main communicated with her husband, because the defendant had boasted that her husband was going to pay his costs. She found out after Main had left that he was untruthful, and she would not believe him on his oath.

Dr. Clarke, the lady added, ceased practising when he married her. By the settlement he had £1,000 a year settled on him, and it was a first charge on her income. At that time she had £2,000 a year, and he arranged to have £1,000 a year settled on him, and he received it still.

MILLER BY TRADE.

The actual slanders complained of were four in number. On one occasion the defendant had told Mr. James Wilson Churchill, a noted breeder of buldogs that Mrs. Clarke frequently came to his cottage and misconducted herself with him. Another time the defendant said to the veterinary surgeon who had been lunching with the plaintiff, "I suppose you have been misconducting yourself with Mrs. Clarke." Fourthly and lastly the defendant had said of Mrs. Clarke to another lady dog fancier, "She is worse than half the women, who walk Regent-street."

Mr. Walter William Main, the defendant, said he was seventy-two years of age and was by trade a miller. He had bred dogs for forty years. When at Merstham Mrs. Clarke came to him and said she was leaving her husband, an dhe said, "I hope, madam, you are considering wht you are doing." She said they could not live comfortunably together.

The plaintiff asked witnesses to stand by her; but when he heard she was living with Mr. Septimus Clarke he said he would not do so. He emphatically denied that he had made the statements attributed to him.

These statements, he declared, were made against him through the jealousy of "doggy" men.

In entering judgment with costs for the £1,000 awarded Mrs. Clarke by the jury, the Lord Chief Justice issued an injunction forbidding the defendant to repeat the objectionable statements.

THE SCRATCH OF A PIN may cause the loss of a limb or even death when blood poisoning results from the injury. All danger of this may be avoided, however, by promptly applying Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It is an antiseptic and nequalled as a quick healing liniment for cuts bussies and burns. Forsale by

Smith Stanistreet a nd Co., Wolesale Agents B, K. Paul and Abdool Rahaman and Abdool areem, Calcutta.

EXPENSES OF DIVORCE.

"I want to show that the fault is not Messrs. Slater's. There has been a conspiracy in the case on the part of men who had left Slater's, and the King's Proctor has fallen into it."

Such was the statement of Mr. Bargrave Deane, who appears for the defence in the case in which the King's Proctor is intervening to prevent the decree nisi granted to Mrs. Pollard being made absolute.

The remark made during the course of Mr. Osborn's evidence.MMr. Osborn is the solicitor of Slater's Agency, and the King's Proctor seeks to prove that he, in conjunction with Slater's, conspired to manufacture a false charge of misconduct against Mr. Pollard which secured the decree nisi. Mr. Osborn was in the witness-box, whole of the day His evidence cast many additional sidelights —all interesting and some surprising—on the ways of private detectives. It was a glimpse behind the scenes of divorce proceedings in the preliminary stage.

Continuing his evidence-in-chief, Mr. Osborn said that with a photograph of Pollard in his possession he travelled to Plymouth. He prepared a statement and went to an hotel, where he met Maud Goodman, Louio Ford and several others. He asked Maud Goodman to sign the statement. She giggled, and refused to do so at first. They crossed over to another house, and eventually in the public bar there she initialled the photograph with a pencil and signed a statement to the effect that she had misconducted herself with Pollard.

THRILL OF ANTICIPATION.

It was at this juncture that Mr. Deane interrupted with his charge of conspiracy against Slater's. The witness referred to men being discharged from the agency, and alluded to Simmonds's Detective agency,.

Sir Francis Jeune: We are no concerned with imon's agency.,

Mr. Deane: We submit that they are at the bottom of this matter.

A thrill of eager anticipation passed through the crowded court as Sir Edward Carson rose to cross-examine Mr. Osborn. Not much time was wasted on Preliminaries.

He had never troubled hlmself about the Jersey incident, the witness at once admitted. It was a disgraceful affair, but he was not concerned and took no interest in it. He denied hotly that he had gone to Plymouth on detective business. He wanted to find out a definite fact, and went to the various houses to get the photograph of Pollard recognised.

He had been told of Maud Goodman, and he then prepared the statement which was eventually signed. He did not think it unprofessional to get it signed in a public bar, although it might not be usual.

WHO WAS KNOWLES?

Mr. Osborn went on to say that his firm was concerned in as many as fifteen or twenty cases for Slater's in the course of the year, and his offices were connected with those of Slater's by a private wire. No other solicitor is so connected with them. One day he had been summoned on the telephone, and he went to Slater's office and saw Knowles there.

"Who was Knowles?" asked the Solicitor-General.

After some hesitation Mr. Osborn said that he was a gentleman of independent means, not engaged in business. He was no relation to Mrs. Pollard. Knowles had paid the whole expenses of the case. His (witness's) firm had charged £677, although the case was undefended. He had asked for that sum, and it had been paid, but no items had been furnished. He was entitled to obtain as much from his client as he could get; all professional men did the same.

He believed that Slater's had received £2,300 for their part of the business. The Pollard case was a very good one, and he would not be nearly so well remunerated for other similar cases. He charged fifty guineas a day, and was allowed twenty pounds expenses for each of his journeys to Plymouth.

Sir E. Carson: I am sorry to say that having got all this money you did not give my friends Mr. Deane and Mr. Barnard (counsel for Mrs. Pollard in the divorce case) a very great sum. The fees were very modest, and I refrain from mentioning them.

Sir Farncis Jeune: We are all aware that there are some disproportions in this world.

THE PRESIDENT INTERPOSES.

Questions now harked back to Maud Goodman's association with the suit. The material for the petition consisted solely of her statement, and he had not thought it necessary to suit it. She had only admitted misconduct upon one occasion with Mr. Pollard.

The Solicitor-General: Then why did you allege frequent misconduct?—My clerk drafted the petition.

You were receiving £677 for your work, and you let the petitioner swear an affidavit which was false?—I am entitled to get anything I can.

You also make a general allegation of misconduct in the petition? That is purely formal; it is the constant practice of this court.

Here the President interposed. "But the evidence was purely imaginary," he said, "and there was nothing to support the allegations. You allowed your client to swear to the best of her belief an affidavit which you had not read yourself and the contents of which were not supported by any evidence. There is no such practice in this court as you suggest."

"I thought the evidence was sufficient," was the witness's reply.

A SHARP PASSAGE.

He denied paying the girls to give evidence, but he thought that he would have been entitled to pay if he could not get their evidence without.

Sir Francis Jeune; Oh!

Sir Edward Carson: What, sir! to buy their evidence! What do you mean, sir?

Mr. Osborn: What I say!

What! In dealing with a woman of this class to give her money to give evidence if you cannott get it without?—I should say I was entitled to do it if she is telling the truth.

But how can you tell she is telling the truth?—I have to be guided by what she tells me.

The President: Remember, you must not do such a thing in the future.

Before the identification of the photograph the witness had written out a statement to be signed. If the facts were known, it was usual to prepare a statement beforehand.

Sir E. Carson: I only ask you whether you christetned the child before it was born.

The case was again adjourned, the cross-examination not being concluded.

FORTY MILLION KISSES.

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WIDOW'S ACTION FOR BREACH OF PROMISE.

When Mrs. Georgina Ada Frazier, widow, entered the witness-box in Mr. Justice Darling's court the other day these seemed to come with her the voice of spring.

She carries on a costumier's business at 97, Shaftesbury-avenue. Her age, Mr. Gill, K.C., her counsel, stated, is forty-six of forty-seven; her father was a licensed victualler; her husband died in 1891; and she augments her income by means of a tobacconist's business (also in Shaftesbury-avenue), which plays no unimportant part in the history of the breach of promise action which she is bringing against Mr. James Outridge Spindelow, of Southbrook-road, Lee.

Mr. Spindelow, who rejoices in a chestnut-coloured moustache, first entered into Mrs. Frazier's life in the unsympathetic guise of the rent collector. But he is more than that. He is clerk to the solicitors who are clerks to the justices of the Soho division. He is parish constable, sexton, sub-inspector of nuisances, coroner's officer, verger, vestry messenger and licensing clerk.

But, above all, according to Mr. Gill, Mr. Spindelow is a man.

And being a man, he went into Mrs. Frazier's premises a rent collector and came out a devout lover. He began to call two or three times a week at the shop—much too frequent visits to be tolerated from a mere rent collector.

A Curious Document.

By degress Mrs Frazier became the confidante of all his domestic woes. He told her, said Mr. Gill, that he could divorce his wife "and he would." But he did not lest it might give offence to the church people, especially his vicar, upon whose good graces depended the tenure of some of his numeraus offices.

So—to follow counsel's opening—he babbled to his lady-love of his conjugal discord and his "tips" and his investments, and of his great love for her; and he prevailed upon her to go through a form of marriage. Her cousin read the marriage service, and the following document was drawn up:—

I, James Outridge Spindelow, do take oath that I love you, Georgina, and no other, that I love you sincerely and devotedly and no other, and that I shall be kind and loving to you always, sharing with you your joys and sorrows, and shall keep to you and you only so long as we both shall live.

This was in 1898. A few weeks later Mr. Spindelow gave Mrs. Frazier a document which had a colourable resemblance to a marriage certificate. In it, said Mr. Gill, he was described as a "widower," and it stated that he and Georgina Ada Frazier were married by license at the parish church on June 2, 1898.

She Could Shoot Him.

But his own wife did not die until 1901. He was still profuse with his promises of marriage, said counsel, and gave his prospective father-in-law intimate details as to his income, which he represented at the rate of £1,660 a year.

Then came the inevitable cooling process which of necessity precedes all these actions. And at last he told her she could shoot him or take any other steps she liked, but he would not marry her.

Last October he married some one else—a lady named Cocito, employed at the Hippodrome, to whom he was introduced by his daughter, who sold programmes in that establishment.

A number of curious letters were read. In one Mr. Spindelow wrote that he could scarcely conceive the years he had looked to her with longing, while he thought she was beyond his reach. In another he took exception to people going into the cigar shop and flirting with her. He said he was one of "the gallant 600 patrons of the tobacconist's shop," and was like "a fly buzzing about a jampot and occasionally getting a bit."

Love Unkind.

In another letter he declared that if this love of his was not reciprocated he must die, notwithstanding his success in life.

"Love to me has not been kind," he wrote. "It seems to be the one thing that crippled me. It seems to break me to pieces, and won't let me rest. It haunts me night and day, and unfits me for my daily task."

Once he wrote from "my pretty little house in the country," and spoke of the garden seat, on which there was room for another. "A little maid steps out," the letter went on. "Shall I ask her to sit with me? No, I must not. It is forbidden fruit."

Still another letter referred to the mighty deeds that had been done in the name of love. Mr. Spindelow declared that this was the explanation of Nelson's splendid pluck and what man would do for the applause of woman.

Then came a moan. "What a life I am living," Mr. Gill read out in a rich full voice. "Quarrelling with you in the daytime, and starting again at night with the rag-bag."

The Judge (puzzled): The rag-bag?

Mr. Gill: That was his wife.

"I want to be your silly little baby and spoilt darling," cried out Mr. Spindelow in another missive. And in yet another he sent Mrs. Frazier forty million kisses.

"Weary Jim."

Mr. Justice Darling: What puzzles me is that anyone could keep such rubbish.

Mr. Gill: There is a time in everyone's life —I mean I am instructed that there is.

Mr. Justice Darling: You have missed a letter. He complains that he has "no one to love and smoke cigarettes and tell me fairy tales." It is like the Sultan Haroun al Raschid.

Mr. Gill read a further letter requesting the plaintiff to fetch his moustache powder, with "love and kisses, from your very weary Jim."

In the witness-box Mrs. Frazier stated that early in 1898 the defendant came to the shop to say good-bye, stating that he was going to shoot himself. She asked him to come in and wait awhile, thinking that he would change his mind. He cried, and said that his children were dirty and had been turned out of school. Nobody loved him, and he would be better dead.

She said, "We here like you." He retorted, "You do not love me." The witness replied, "I do love you." She explained that she did not want the "poor man" to kill himself. He then kissed her, or she him, and he did not kill himself.

Cigar Shop Incidents.

Mrs. Charlotte Turner, the plaintiff's cousin, in cross-examination denied that "physical" compliments passed over the counter of the cigar shop between the plaintiff and customers. It was true that a gentleman offered to buy the plaintiff a pair of stockings. He bought the stockings, and the plaintiff told him to use them himself. The gentleman said she was very sharp, and threw the stockings on the counter.

The defendant referred to the incident in a letter: "Oh, what a horrible feeling it is. It kills me to think of others fondling you and kissing you. What would your feelings be if you could see other women doing the same to me?"

This witness also denied that the plaintiff was on several occasions "up the pole," which in her neighbourhood meant being drunk. She further gave a contradiction to the statement that the defendant was unceremoniously flung out of the shop or that he and the plaintiff were always wrangling about her "mashers."

The hearing was adjourned until to-day.

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WITH THE TIBET MISSION.

MEDICAL.

Tuna, Tibet, April 3.

The treatment of the wounded at the recent fighting at Hot springs and Guru attracts special attention to the medical arrangements of the Mission and escort. The arrangements are under the supervision of Colonel L. A. Waddell, C.I.E., the administrative medical officer. A considerable medical establishment is necessary to provide for the contingencies of battle but also to combat the disease and accidents incidental to a military force, with its hosts of followers, engaged in road making and the large army of several thousand transport coolies and mule-drivers employed in pushing up food and other supplies from Siliguri through the tropical Teesta Valley across the most difficult and inhospitable mountains in the world for a distance of over 150 miles, particularly in winter when the climate is for the most part Arctic, inducing especially pneumonia and frostbite Up to the present the daily sick list has averaged about 100 fighting men and twice as many followers.

The medical establishment up to the present consists of sixteen executive officers, 31 assistant surgeons and hospital assistants, a large staff of nursing orderlies and hospital assistants, with ambulance, transport, tentage, stores, comforts and other paraphernalia of hospitals in the field. From the base hospital at Siliguri, whence the invalids are sent back to India, all the way up to the front where the mission is at present located, there has been established at each chief stage a section of a medical hospital, and at the smaller intervening posts a hospital assistant with medicines. At each of these stages hospital huts are now being built to replace the tents in view of the onset of the tropical rains in the lower valleys, to afford better protection against the cold and snow of the higher tracts, and better shelter by the way for the sick and wounded invalids proceeding down to the base.

The ambulance transport forms a host of followers in itself. In addition to the eight stretchers per regiment, there are about fifty doolies each carried by six bearers, also ambulance chairs, riding-ponies, and for the cart road along the Teesta Valley over a dozen bullock-tongas. As the Indian dooly-bearers were not considered suitable for carrying work in the cold and at such excessive altitudes, some 300 Tibetan dandy wallas and Sikhimese coolies were engaged in place of Kahars. Although these uncouth and turbulent mountaineers have not proved altogether a success and have deserted in considerable numbers those who now remain are certainly inured to the Arctic cold of these upper regions and are ever so much sturdier porters than the Indian Kahars. So far they have not carried out their threat to desert in the event of hostilities with their kinsmen of Tibet.

Our medical arrangements not only provided for our sick and casualties ,but also as a civilised power for medical aid to the Tibetans and to their wounded in the event of fighting. For this the military medical authorities sanctioned an extra supply of drugs and appliances, so that at the action at Guru, after our own wounded had been attended to, our medical officers were able to render much help to the enemy's wounded, many of the dying received water or brandy, or had their pain eased by morphia, while about 180 of the wounded, after being dressed, were carried in our doolies and otherwise from the battlefield to Tuna and Guru villages, so as to be near our hospitals in order to receive further treatment. In this humane work General Macdonald has taken a keen interest, providing transport and some food when it could ill be spared, and visiting wounded Tibetans in their temporary hospitals outside our camp.

The excellence of these arrangements reflects the greatest credit on Colonel Waddell and his executive staff.—Henry Newman in the "Englishman."

Mr. W. Gollan, Superintendent, Government Botanic Garden, Saharanpur, reports to the Asiatic Society of Bengal that the chestnut has taken kindly to the Dehra Dun valley, and it also exists on a small scale in the Kulu Valley, but nowhere else. The nuts now found at Dehra Dun and those which appear in the Bhamo bazaar every season from China are identical in general appearance. Both are like the sweet chestnut of Europe, but are not so well-filled and do not keep so long. Mr. Gollan has tried both plants and seeds of chestnuts from Europe, and in the course of over 25 years has only established one plant. He believes that the European strain of sweet chestnut has failed everywhere in Nrothern India. What success has been obtained is though seeds or trees of Chinese origin introduced by Fortune and established by Jameson.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

U. P.-LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber, on Friday, the 8th April, 1904, at 11 a. m., H. H. Sir James La Touche presiding. Among those present were Mr. Hooper, Mr. McRoberts, Raja Pasadook Rasul Khan, Raja Sham Singh, Rai Sri Ram Bahadur, Rai Nihor Chand, Pandit M. M. Makviya, Munshi Madholal, Mr. Cruickshank, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Marsh, Mr. Porter and Mr. Gill.

The Hon'ble Lala Nihal Chand' put five questions to the Government.

The first runs as follows:—

"In continuation of my question asked on the 9th November 1903, will the Governm.. be pleased to give details of the amount of Rs. 2,10,14,570 of the expenditure on famines in these provinces during the last 24 years?"

Mr. Holms referred the hon'ble member to the Report of the Famine Commission. The second question was as follows:—

"Will the Government be pleased to mention whether it is aware that the rule under which departmental sub-registrars are required to defray the cost of all contingent charges including the country stationary petty repairs of furniture, &c., hot weather charges, i.e. pankha coolies, tatties, &c., and clothbastahs' is felt as a hardship by the sub-registrars, and that sometimes country ink of the most inferior kind is used in writing the registers and endorsements upon documents which are intended to be kept as a permanent record?"

The Hon'ble Mr. .orter said in reply that the contingencies covered all the expenses and that the Inspector-General of Registration would be asked to report if there were any complaint under that head.

The next question ran thus:—

"Will the Government be pleased to mention whether there is any intention of raising the pay of muharirs getting the petty pay of Rs. 10 a month in the registration department, and to what extent rule 48 of the Registration Manual under which deserving and competent men should be entered on the graded list of officials in the civil courts has been carried out?"

Mr. Porter replied that rule No. 48 was optional and that the questions of raising the pay was under consideration.

Question no. 4 was as follows:—

"Will the Governmen be pleased to mention whether there is any special reason why no pension is allowed to the employes in the educational department for which the department is not so attractive as it ought to be?"

Mr. Porter said that the question of a provident fund for the employers of the Education Department was before the Government.

The last question ran as follows:—

"Will the Government be pleased to mention whether the sale of grass on the road sides is not a source of trouble and hardship to the cultivators of the soil adjoining such roads and to the cattle passing them?"

In reply Hon'ble Mr. Porter said that the grass on roadside was necessary to protect roads and was sold to have some sort of control over cutting the overgrowth cultivators; could protect adjoining fields by means of fences.

The Hon'ble Mr. Holms then explained the Financial Statement.

The Hon'ble Mr. Marsh opened the discussion with an account of the progress made by irrigation in these Provinces; he also gave an account of the work done by irrigation in Bundelkhand. Of the schemes that are under consideration, the principal of construction of the Surdah canal in Oudh to irrigate parts of Hardoi, Unao, and Lucknow districts at hte cost of one crore and 26 lakhs, the papers of which were ready and after consulting the Taluqdars of Oudh would be submitted to the Secretary of State.

The Hon'ble Mr. Hardy, referring to the proportion of land revenue which these Provinces would get under the new contract, observed that there was not much hope of increase inasmuch as the settlements of almost all districts had been recently completed. The assessment he knew was moderate and quoted figures in support of this statement. Mr. Hardy spoke highly of the Tehsildars on whom the burden of collecting revenue fell and said the Government had done well in giving them promotion in the organisation of the new cadre of Deputy Collectors which benefitted no less than 64 Tehsildars. He was glad that arrangements were being made for giviny them accommodation in future.

The Hon'ble Munshi Madho Lal said that in as much as his two colleagues, Pandit M. M. Malavyia and Rai Nihalchand, were going to make exhaustive remarks on the budget he would not occupy the time of the Council by trading the same ground and confined himself to one remark on the budget. The Finance Secretary had said that increase in the revenue under excise showed continued prosperity of the agricultural population. This in his opinion could not be correct as the increase was mostly in towns and not in villages and had been due to increased consumpmore than the ratio fixed by State and gave tion by non-agricultural people.

The Hon'ble Pandit M. M. Malaviya in a speech made a survey of the financial situation of these Provinces. He did not feel himself justified in congratulating the Government on the new financial settlement. He said that the United Provinces were yet unjustly treated, because they got still less than what other provinces had. They contributed over 12 crores to the Imperial Treasury and got not even four crores. This starving of the Provincial finance resulted in putting off every reform the principal of which was education; on this he eloquently dwelt and showed how the U. P. were backward in primary and higher education.

The Hon'ble Rai Nihal Chand, in a long speech, dwelt upon the land revenue policy of the Government and showed that the Government share of the land revenue was generally instances from different districts showing how the Government share varied from 60 to 65 per cent of the net rental. Showing that in permanently settled districts the people were more prosperous and that in the last census while there was a falling-off in the population of temporarily settled districts of these Provinces, there was increase in permanently settled districts. He analysed the figures of the excise report and showed that the use or drugs and liquor was on increase but not because the prosperity of the agricultural population had advanced.

The Hon'ble Rai Sri Ram Bahadur dwelt upon the financial arrangement and said these Provinces had not got their fair share of revenue. He thanked the Imperial Government for special grants and asked the Government to take steps to raise the Medical School at Agra to the status of a College. He spoke of the increased need for primary education and expressed his regret that the excise revenue should have shown any increase which meant increase in consumption.

The Hon'ble Raja Sham Singh drew the attention of the Government to the needs of his district, specially to the want of good roads.

The Hon'ble Raja Tasadook Rasool Khan also congratulated the Government and attributed the increase of excise revenue to the increase in consumption due to the prevailing idea that liquor was a preventive against plague.

The Hon'ble Mr. McRobert expressed his entire satisfaction with the Provincial contract, at the decrease of income from sale of jail goods and combatted Hon'ble Pandit Malavyia's theory about polution of rivers and asked the Governm entto grant funds for laying the Queen's park at Cawnpur.

The Hon'ble Mr. Hooper gave a very interesting report of the effects of the working of the Bundelkhand Encumbered Estates and Land Alienation Acts and said that the measures had been so far popular.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, in summing up the discussion, spoke chiefly of plague and then of education, his remarks being in the main a reply to the observations of the Hon'ble Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya. But before doing so, Sir James La Touche first spoke of the new Provincial settlement. He expressed the opinion that it was entirely satisfactory from the point of view of provincial finances. In his opinion the Government of India treated the United Provinces liberally, and no complaint could be made in the matter. The net result of the new settlement was that the Provinces would henceforth be better off than before by 10 or 11 lakhs a year. His Honour speaking of the Hon'ble Mr. Malaviya's remarks on education, declined to make primary education compulsory by legislation. But the chief interest of the speech laying his remarks on plague policy. He repudiated the claim made by the Hon'ble Mr. Malaviya that the Government should do more than what was being done at present; said that the honourable Pandit was mistaken in holding that it was the duty of Government to do everything for every body, and defined Goverumental functions as being rather of the nature of helping the people to help themselves; spoke of his want of faith in inoculation and of the inefficacy of disinfection to permanently rid a place of plague as had been proved by the experience of Allahabad, and of the impracticability of evacuation on any extensive scale. In Sir James LaTouche's opinion the only permanent remedy for plague lay in the observance of hygienic and sanitary principles by people in their homes and in this regard the Government could do nothing. In the end His Honour expressed his intention of adhering to the policy enunciated in his Government's Plague Resolution of last year, and asked people to help themselves rather than abuse the Government.

After the Lieutenant-Governor's speech was over, the Hon'ble Mr. Porter introduced a Bill regarding the collection of certain cesses in the domains of the Maharaja of Benares. The Bill was referred to a Select Committee. A Bill proposing certain verbal amendments in the Oudh Honorary Munsiffs Act was then introduced and passed. The Council then stood adjourned "sine die."—"Advocate."

A SENSATIONAL CASE.

The Ranipet correspondent of the "Madras Standard" writes—A somewhat sensational case seems to be pending before the Sub Magistrate of Wallaja. It seems a station House Officer in a charge sheet for nuisance filed before a Magistdate has called a woman names and she has applied for sanction to prosecute this Station House Office for defamation. As the matter is "sub judice" I refrain from making any observations or setting forth fudther details.

At the Bombay police court Mr. W. Chas Lewis, Ticket Inspecto of the G. I. P. Railway, charged Baboorao Narayan, a circus manager, with defrauding the railway by travelling first class without a ticket between Currey Road and Dadar Stations. The accused pleaded that as he was pressed for time he could not purchase the ticket and intended to pay the fare at the destination. Mr. Lewis proved that the accused had no intention to pay the fare at the destination because, after alighting from the train at Dadar, he crossed over to the other platform and sat on a bench. He was then asked for his ticket when he failed to produce one. His worship held the charge proved and fined the accused Rs. 20. Mr. Lewis then charged E. C. Moore and five others with travelling without tickets by local trains and they were all fined Rs. 5 each.

The appeal prefered by Mr. V. Kodandarama Sastri, son of the late Mr. V. Subramonia Sastri, District Munsiff of Poonamalle, against the decree of the Hon. the Chief Justice of Madras in a suit brought by him against Mr. R. Sadagopachariar, Vakil, High Court, Madras, and others was posted to-day before Justice Sir James Davies, Mr. Justice Benson and Mr. Justice Moore for judgment. The suit was against the defendant executors for alleged negligence as regards the management of the plaint properties and one of the assets on which considerable arguments were adduced 'pro' and 'con' was a debt due from the Kalahastri Zemindari. **The facts of the case have already appeared in these columns. Their Lordships dismissed the appeal without costs as against the second and third respondents. They recorded the compromise and directed that a decree be drawn up in terms of the compromise between the parties.**

WHOOPING COUGH.—This is a very dangerous disease unless properly treated. Statistics show that there are more deaths from it than from scarlet fever, All danger may be avoided, however, by giving Chamberlain's Cough Remedy It liquifies the tough mucus, making it easier to expectorate, keeps the cough loose, and makes tho sparoxysms of coughing less frequent andless evre. It has been used in many epidemics of the disease with perfect success. For sale by Smith Stanistreet and Co. Wholesale Agents, B K. Paul and Co, and Abdool Rahaman and Abdool Kareem Calcutta.

EXTRAORDINARY HAIL-STORM.

A coorg correspondent writes:— On the afternoon of the 24th ultimo a part of the District was visited by an extraordinary hailstorm, the centre being about 3 miles East of Pollibetta. Many of the stones were of the size of pigeon's eggs, and they laid piled two and three inches thick over the ground In sheltered hollows stones were to be seen even the next morning. One of the oldest planters, who has been both in Ceylon and here, said he had never in his life seen such hail. Fortunately it came at a time when the bud was not forward enough for it to do any harm. On the other hand it has done a great deal of good as is evidenced by the fine blossom which is the result. The area of the hailstorm was circumscribed, embracing some seven or eight estates, but several others on the outskirts got sufficient moistude to start their blossom. The largest quantity of rain gauged was 1.30 inches; but this cannot possibly represent the amount of moisture received by the soil from the melting hail. It will serve to show the local character of the storm when it is stated that about one mile or so beyond Pollibetta on the opposite side there had not been a drop of rain.

HOW TO PRESERVE EGGS.

A correspondent recently wrote to us asking how to preserve eggs, and several replies have been forthcoming; but it has remained for one to send us a cutting from a home paper which describes a new preservative. It is called "Water Glass," and we are told that housewives who used it "had eggs equal to new laid ones all the winter A Lady writes:—"The bird has just been hatched from an egg which was laid in April, 1902, and placed in a solution of Water Glass for preservation. In April 1903, (12 months after), the egg was put in an incubator, and the subject of the photo is the result, it is quite a strong, healthy little chick." This extraordinary substance is made by Boots, the Cash Chemists, and a tin containing sufficient "Water Glass" to preserve 200 eggs can be had for 6d. Whether the preservative would be effective in the heat of India we cannot say. Mr. Khan Sahib says that "eggs simmered in slaked lime water for a second or two (that is to say that when the water is added to unslaked lime and when it is in boiling condition) will be found fresh for some time, but they will not be hatched."—Madras "Mail"

The Dewan Bahadur Krishnasawy Row, late Dewan of Travancore, has accepted the office of President of the Provincial Conference, to be held at Ranipet, in the North Arcot District next month.

A BIG PYTHAN.

..."Maximus Natu" writes to the "Madras Mail,—In your issue of the 28th ultimo "H. L." enquired whether a python, which when skinned, measured 14½ft. long and 16 inches broad in the widest part "is not a good sized one"? Possibly your correspondent wishes to know whether the snake referred to constitute a record? If so, I may mention, that the write shot a python in the teak forests, about five miles east of "Moola Wullay," Police Station and toll gate, on the Sultan's Battery—Goondepet line—which taped over 14 feet unskinned, while another was killed on the Woodlands Estate, in South Wynaad, which measured upwards of 18 feet, and that Major-General R. H. Beddome when Conservator of Forests in this Presidency, informed me that he bagged a snake of the same species (when riding along the Government road during the night) somewhere near the foot of the Coonoor old Ghaut, which on measurement exceeded 20 ft. in length unskinned.

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2. R. NEWGENT, L. R. C. P. R. S. (Edin.), says:)—"R. Lagin's Healing Balm, for obstinate Gonorrhœa, has been proved to be only medicine that that will effectively cure the patients and fulfil which is claimed for it.

3. DR. K. P. GUPTA, Col., I. M. S., M. A., M., D, F, R. C. S. (Edin.) D. Sc. (Cambridge,) P. H. D. (Cantabl.), late Sanitary Commioner of Bengal, etc., says:—" . . . Healing Balm is almost a specific for Gonorrhœa. . . . and may be safely and strongly recommended for tht troublesome and obstinate disease."

4. DR. B. K. BOSE, Surgeon-Major, M. D., I. M. S., etc., say:—" I have tried Healing Balm in cases of acute Gonorrhœa with success."

5. DR. U. GUPTA, M D., M., (Edin.), F. C. S. (London), etc., says:—" . . . I tried R. Laugin & Co's Healing Balm, an ound it a really very excellent medine for both chronic and acute Gonorrhœa."

6. DR. G. C. BE BARUA, L. R. C. P. (Edin.), F. L. P. (Glasgow) and L. M., etc., late Civil Srgeon, British G a says:—r" . . . Healing Balm is a splendid remedy for the diseases of Genito-Uurinary tract and it acts like cham."

7. DR. R. G. KAR, L. R. C. P., (Edin.), Secretary Calcutta Medical School, says:—" . . . Healing Balm has given me immense satisfaction in cases of Gonorrhœa."

8. DR. T U. AHMED, M. B., C. M. L. S. A., (London), His Majesty's Vice-Consul, "says:—" . . . I can recommend this Healing Balm strongly to the suffering public.

9. DR. R. MONIER, M. B. C. M. (Edin.), Resident Surgeon, rk Street, Government Charitable Dispensery, says—" . . Healing Balm was used by me in several cases of Gonorrhœa and was found successful."

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

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