

THE AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA JANUARY 27, 1898.



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THE AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA, JANU ARY 27, :898.

THE Amrita Bazar Patrika. CALCUTTA, JANUARY 24, 1898.

SOME WORDS ABOUT THE SERIOU STEP THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO TAKE.

On Monday Mr. Chalmers put his sedition law amendments before the Select Committee. We hope, he will not hurry the Bill through the Council. There, is no need for hurry ; he cught to be able to give this satisfaction to the people of this country that they had at least an offertunity of saying their say on the subject. "What is the good," Mr. Chalmers may declare, "for, we are determined ?" Indeed Lord Elgin himself at one time confessed that he was only a clerk to carry out the orders of the Secretary of State ! But this can never be. A Viceroy is the representative of the sovereign ; he. can never be reduced to the position fight the Government. Patna was a hot-bed of a mandate-obeying clerk, if he will and centre of sedition. A Viceroy was only assert his positior. If his Lordship will exercice his influence, he will see that the English people will support him as the supreme authority on the spot. If we can convince his Excellency that the proposed measure is inopportune, nay, dangerous, and if he says so, Lord George Hamilton will find himself obliged to yield to him.

What we urge is, that the measure that the Government seeks to introduce, contains not merely some verbal alterations, but it means a revolution. So, let the authorities beware how they take the step with their eyes open, which may prove eventually very inconvenient, if not positively dangerous.

before 1870. And, why? Sir James Stephen called it "over-sight." But can it be possible for an alien Government legislating for a conquered country and forgetting its vital and incompetent, and less generous than their first interests, viz, that of providing for its predecessors were? own safety? No, the omission was deliberate. When Sir James Stephen advanced not pay ; if newspapers at all exist, it is bethis ridiculous theory of "over-sight," the London Spectator of August, 1870, while closing their grievances. If this is taken making a few observations on General away, no mere literary or non-political Vaugan's panic at Allahabad, remarked :---Mr. Stephen is hurriedly preparing a law Indeed, Mr. Chalmers' measure, if passed, against sedition a law, we are told, forgotten will deal an irreparable blow at a means when the Penal Code was framed, but, as we believe, designedly omitted, in pursuance of the dignified theory of the earlier Anglo Indians, that under the circumstances of India rebellion was only civil war, and should be punished only when it appears in arms. In creating this new crime in India, "attempting to excite feelings of disaffection" (too much like the sinister French phrase, "hatred and contempt") Mr. Stephen has been a little misled by false analogy analogy. We shall, however, explain why that see tion was omitted. The country is governed by aliens-a country of the masses-inhabited by myriads of people, differing in religion, customs, and civilization. The Government wanted light enough to be able to govern the country. That light the wiscr statesmen, who built this Empire, sought to find in a free native press. In short, what they wanted was to make the native papers serve the purpose of "a free intelligence department " to the State. They felt that any restriction would spoil the plan. Nay, what they felt was, that the more the native papers expressed themselves openly, the more they would throw light on the affairs of the country and thus enable the authorities, not only to rule the country without blunders, but also to provide against all possible dangers that must always surround them in a foreign country. As a matter of fact, the policy proved eminently successful in every way. The native papers sought to take the fullest advantage of the privilege accorded to them, and kept the Government fully informed of the innermost wishes of the people, Possibly they used inelegant language ; but, with real powers in hand, the rulers might have been less sensitive, and ignored it. In a country like India, governed by aliens, a free press is a necessity to the people also. For, it is through native papers their rulers. Thus newspapers came into existence. Thus native papers flourished, though they never paid. They said boldly what they felt, to obtain relief ; others disthe native papers alone enabled the Secretary of State. to rule India from England.

alone that they can come in contact with official high-handedness. closed national secrets, to gain favour and policy was to extend the aegis of his more than once. to forestal a rival. And in this manner protection to an official, found fault with . We shall relate an instance how native Charles Elliott accord him his protection ; papers disclosed national secrets. Let us and the result was unfortunate. For,

select an instance which is old. When the many officials, feeling absolutely secure native papers are sent to the Court It means the disobedience of the ru road cess was sought to be imposed, and under such a system of rule, became to watch the proceedings. Let us here orders, or process of a court of just had just then arrived, had suspended the to prove this. operation of the Act for a month to

study the question and pass his final orders, a project was made to besiege his palace with fifty thousand men from the moffusil with their representations. Every thing had been arranged. But one paper called the Purna Chandrodoy, disclosed the

fact, and the project was spoiled. Indeed, when Sir James Stephen was led to add this omitted section to the Penal Code, his object was not to interfere with the liberty of speech, but to provide against a danger which had then caused a good deal of alarm and anxiety in the country. When the Mutiny was suppressed, the Wahabees commenced their crusade. They epenly preached sedition, even in and around Calcutta. Mussalmans from Barisal, Farid pore and Jessore flocked to Sittana to murdered, as also a Judge of the Calcutta High Court. The labours of detectives and able Magistrates disclosed the startling fact that these conspirators had established a wide-spread net which covered about a half of India! It is to provide against that danger that the sedition law was subsequently added. not in any way to interfere with liberty of speech. And it is to make this clear that Sir James provided that criminal intent and incitement to violence, were essential conditions to constitute the offence of edition. anounterminiter anitar

We have, in the above, given a short history of sedition measures in India. Why do the authorities, after a rule of First of all, there was no sedition law one hundred and fifty years, now disturb the arrangement? Why do they now take upon themselves the odium of a possible suggestion that they are more

The newspaper enterprise here does cause of the freedom they enjoy, of dis paper will have any chance of existing. of educating the people by newspapers. Is this something to be desired? And how are the people to come in contact with their rulers when they have a grievance, if the press is gagged? Why will newspaper editors serve the Government with intelli-So Mr. Chalmers' measure, if passed, will

the then Viceroy, Lord Northbrook, who reckless. We can supply many instances We have, however, no need to furnish

some check is necessary to keep them in order. This check is necessary for the good of the Empire, of the people, and of the officials themselves.

The people ought to have some protection from official high-handedness. It will not do to let loose officials, strangers to the country and oftentimes too young to be sober, among millions of helpless people. Good government is essential for peace, order, and prosperity of the Government. The officials must be sober, for the safety of the Empire. A set of disorderly officials can bring the Empire itself into eopardy. It is to the blunders of reck less officials that we owe many of the calamities that overtook the country. I is, therefore, necessary, that they should be kept absolutely under the control of some central authority, so that they may not have everything in their own way.

Then, some check also must be imposed ipon the officials for their own good. Leave a young man alone with the task of governing millions without let and hindrance, and he will naturally, step by step, become sometimes not only useless, but dangerous to society. He becomes sometimes conceited, impatient of all control, self-willed, oppressive and reckless. And we have shewn that it would not serve the purposes. of the Empire to create a set of selfwilled and reckless body of administrators, for governing a foreign country like India.

In the interests, therefore, of all parties concerned, the officials, though entrusted with irresistible powers, ought to be kept in check. That check must be fully adequate to the powers they possess.

At present, the Secretary of State rules the Viceroy, the Viceroy, the local rulers, and the local rulers, their subordinates. The officials keep themselves in touch with each other by reports, secret and public. The village chowkidar submits his report to the Police station ; the Police send their report to the Magistrate; the Magistrate, to the local ruler; the local ruler, to the Viceroy; the Viceroy, to the Secretary of State ; and the latter submits an annual report to Parliament. This is the official arrangement. The other side remains unrepresented. And it was thus that the native papers came into existence. The native papers were required gence, with a halter round their necks? to present the non-official or rather the opular version of the affairs of the State. What these official reports are, we all know. They cannot be otherwise than what they are. The Magistrates say, it is all right, and this is echoed in Parliament. It is the native papers alone that represent the popular version, that raise the discordant protest. There are many occasions when they deny the perfect accuracy of the reports sent by officials. Thus the officials and the native papers do not agree. The native papers once silenced, there will be none left to throw any doubts upon the absolute accuracy of official reports. And hence, Mr. Chalmers' proposal came to be approved by officials universally ! If now the native papers are silenced, (1) the people will lose the only means they have, of appreaching the rulers, who are aliens, with their complaints and wishes; (2) the efficials will be relieved of that healthy check which kept them sober, and prevented such of them, as were so disposed, to act in a reckless manner ; and (3) means of knowing whether the reports that

refer to the case of the Mahant and Mr. or the use of language likely Branson, the Magistrate of Mirzapur. It impair the respect due to its author was through the services of the reporters So it may be laid down that "e instances to prove self-evident truths. The of the native papers that the true facts of the tempt means disobedience of auth officials have absolute powers now. But case were brought to light, and the Government enabled to protect the Mahant. The and does not include a mere expression officials love the reputation of the Service they belong to. Alas ! they know not how much they all owe to this keen eriticism of these native papers. Without the native

> the Service to which they belong. Thirdly, the extinction of freedom of speech will put the Government into diffi- in British India and does not include culties. When the plague rules were enforced, some in India knew that the people were groaning under their operation. The native papers, however, disclosed the fact. They at first did it in mild language ; gradually they grew in warmth, and latterly they became offensive. But the object was all along laudable -- it was to draw the attention of the Government to the doings of the plague authorities. for each to not

If the Government had paid the least heed to these representations, Messrs. Rand and Ayerst would not have been murdered, and the country convulsed in this manner. If again the Government commits a blunder, similar to the one that was done at Poona, there will be none to raise the warning cry, if the press be gagged.

DEFINITION OF HATRED, CONTEMPT, &c.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Chalmers has introduced four vague words, in addition to the fifth, disaffection, in his amended sedition. section. They are (1) Hatred, (2) Contempt, (3) Enmity, (4) Ill-will. The Law Member is bound to admit that, as a legi jator with a reputation to maintain, eithe he must define them so that their meanings may be plain to the meanest apprehension, or, if he can not do that, he must cut them out. In what queer confusion will things be placed if he leaves the words undefined, can better be imagined than described. We shall, however, try to convey some idea of the situation. On opening a dictionary, we find Mari zam

(1) The synonyms of Hatred are ill-will enmity og annor olde

(2) The synonyms of Ill-will are enmity, aborned ans-giving this hat, district 308

(3) The synonyms of Enmity are hatred ill-will &coy add lo (4) The synonyms of Contempt are dis dain, scorn, &c., which is only a milder form

of ill-willed the stemmer sider add It then comes to this : (a) What is the meaning of Hatred?

as established by law in British Inc feelings of indignation." (2) Hatred means malevolent intolera

of authority established by law in Bri India, and does not include a mere feel papers, some of them would have disgraced of opposition.

(3) Enunity means opposition to exercise of authority as established by mere expression of hostile feeling. (4) Disaffection means disloyalty, want of allegiance, or all feelings incom tible with a disposition to render obed to the lawful authority of the Governm and to support the lawful authority of Government established by law in Brit India against unlawful attempts to subor resist that authority.

Ill-will being the same as Hatred or mity, may be omitted altogether. The words, Contempt and Hatred are rowed from the English Law on Sedition Mr. Chalmers; and the meanings we have ached to them in the above, tally with the which have always been put, upon them English Judges when deciding cases seditious libels. For instance, Mr. Justi Cave, when charging the jury in the celet ted case of Burns and others, said : "S tion has been described as disloyalty action, and the law considers as sedition those practices which have for their obj ton excite discontent or disaffection, create public disturbances, or to lead civil war ; to bring into hatred of contem the Sovereign or the Government, and ge fally all, endevours to produce: public d order." tont on insertial

In the above, we have italicised the wor Hatred and Contempt. Now, read with th whole context, they clearly mean disob dience of authority established by law Indeed, there is no safety for meedenic writing and speech if the words are left a they are, and not defined in the way don by English Judges invariably when tryin seditious libels in England.

THERE is not one section in the Pena Code, containing vague or indefinite expre sions, which has not been sought to b clearly defined, by explanations, illustration or exceptions. What we beg to ut; why should there be an exception in the cas of such an important section as 124A The section, as it stands, is clear enoug but if it is the intention of the Law Membe to make it still more fucid; let him do this in such a manner as to make its m

be followed by a cimmerian darkness, intellectual and physical.

Let not the authorities, in their passion and prejudice, forget the services that the native papers are doing. Without a free native press, every official, who has brought unpopularity upon himself or who fancies that he has brought it, will have to live in a state of constant alarm, and . sleep with loaded revolvers under their pillows. Stay your hand,-there is no need for hurry. Look around you before you take the jump. India lies helpless; and if it is necessary that the press should be gagged, it could be done any time. But both sides of the question should be thoroughly discussed before the inauguration of a revolution,-a revolution which will serve to erect an impassable barrier between the ruled and the rulers.

A FREE PRESS, AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY.

WE have always admitted that the policy of vesting officials, who really rule the Empire, with unlimited powers, has its advantages. What we, however, contend the authorities will be deprived of the only for is this, that if, on the one hand, the officials are to be entrusted with absolute they get from their subordinates, are correct powers and placed beyond the reach of the or not. people, the latter ought also to be protected, whenever the former are found to be abusing their opportunities." The people at present have no adequate protection from

Previously, the superiors used to keep their subordinates in check. But that to see with surprise and repentance that practice was given up entirely during the Magistrate had erred and caused the the rule of Sir Charles Elliott. His loss of human lives. This has happened by native newspapers. The more an official was exposed, the more warmly did Sir

Our first contention is that the people will suffer. There is a famine in the land ; the Mugistrate, however, says, there is none. The people clamour through the native papers, and at last get a hearing Subsequently, the Government/ comes

Our second contention is that the officials will suffer. Now the native papers keenly watch the doings of the rulers of

the land. Whenever a sensational case (1) Contempt :-- Now we have such an moves the public mind, reporters of th

Ans. Ill-will, enmity, &c. diadaons non (b) What is the meaning of Ill-will? Ans. Hatred, enmity, contempt. (c) What is the meaning of Enmity? Ans. Hatred, ill-will &c., (d) What is the meaning of Contempt i Ill-will, Schulen genulen 38 officia

That is the position in which the bewild ered Indian will find himself, if Mr. Chalmers do not choose to define the expressions he has sought to introduce into his section. And is this position very different from the following, in which a not very over-educated village school-master and his pupil figured ? The inquisitive lad asked his teacher as to the cause of an earthquake, and the following interest-

ing dialogue took place between them : Q. How is an earthquake produced ? A. When the thousand-headed snakegod, Vasukee, on which the earth rests, transfers its burden from one head to an other, the consequence is an earthquake. Q. Upon what does the snake-god rest?

A. Upon a tortoise.

Q. Upon what does the tortoise rest? A. Upon the earth, surely !

So, you see, our good Law Member will only create a laugh against his measure, if he allows the interpreters of his section to fight amongst themselves by construing Hatred to mean ill-will, and Ill-will to mean hatred ! We think, the best course for the Law Member is to take out the above words altogether and leave the existing section with the Explanation undisturbed. If he is, however, determined to have them, we think the difficulty may be removed, to some extent, by giving the following definitions of the words in question and providing, as in England, two years' imprisonment for the offence of sedition :----

plain to the meanest comprehension. If he cannot do it, then, as an intelligent man he should leave the section undisturbed for, there is no doubt of it that the Govern ment is actuated by the best of motive in proposing the amendments and not by any sinister design of taking away free dom of speech and writing. Let us see what are the expressions in Mr. Chalmers section, which require definition. Here i the section :--

Whoever by words, either spoken or written. or by signs, or by visible representation or otherwise, brings or attempts to bring into hatred or contempt, or 'excites or attempts to excite disaffection, to Her Majesty or the Go vernment, or promotes, or atten feelings of ennity or ill-will between different classes of Her Majesty's subjects, shall be punished with transportation for life or any shorter term, to which fine may be, added, o with imprisonment which may extend to te years, to which file may be added, or with fine In the existing section, only one-word re quired definition, namely "disaffection and this was done as clearly as possibl by that master of lucid English langu Lord Macaulay. In the amended section in addition to disaffection, we have got the following expressions to be defined, namely "hatred", "contempt," "enmity" and "ill will". Mr. Chalmers has, however, not only not defined them, but made confusion wors confounded by his two Explanation

For instance, in his Explanation, he say the expression, 'disaffection', includes "diloyalty, and all feelings of enmity on ill-will." But what is disaffection? He does not say. What he says is, that is includes disloyalty. But we want to know what it means, and not what it includes And then, what is disloyalty? Mr Chalmers is silent on the point. But he loes more. He does not explain " disaffec tion." He says, "disaffection" includes dis loyalty, without defining what disloyalty is And he ends by saying that "disaffection includes also "all feelings of ill-will," But what is "ill will?"-he-does not exp And what are " all feelings of ill-will?" The Law Member vouchsafes: no answer.

His second Explanation brings to the front other elements of confusion. We are old that comments on the measures of the Government do not constitute an offence when they can be made without offence here as contempt of court. exciting or attempting to excite. " hatre



THE AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA, JANUARY A27, 91898. HI

searches in vain for their meanings either in the section or the Explanations supplied by Mr. Chalmers

If the Law Member is d termined to thrust his measure down the unwilling throats of the people, let him define the words intro-duced by him into the section, namely "disaffection," "enmity "hatred" "contempt" and " all feelings of ill-will." If he cannot do it, let him not disturb the existing section.

THE country has at last begun to speak. The people of Baranagar and Kasipore were the first to publicly protest against the Sedition Bill, and Madras has now respond-ed to the call. The British Indian Asso cistion has already submitted a well-argued memorial on the subject. And in addition, they to held a meeting of the representatives of all classes of the com munity On Tuesday to emphasise their of the opposition from the whole country.

the Government of Bengal on the question of the sedition law brit

With reference to paragraph 3 of my letter, No. 53-98, of 1⁻th January, in which the opinion of the Committee of the Bengal 124A). I am directed by the Committee to state that, at the time of writing their first, letter, they did not realise the fact that this amendment had the effect of giving Magis-trates the power of dealing with cases which involved such a punishment as transportation for life-cases, in fact, which should only be dealt with by a Court of Sessions and a jury. Under the circumstances, the Committee with-draw the statement they made to the effect that they had no objection to the amendment that they had no objection to the amendment alluded to in paragraph 3 of the letter, now under reference

This is very honest. But who led them to the blunder ? Alas ! for Mr. S. E. J. Clarke.

Is it a fact that two Government servants ment stand in the way of a man who thinks his duty to contribute his mite to the defence of a man who was sentenced to jail, simply because that man happens to serve

"contempt," or "disaffection." But what large numbers, and all well-armed, to over-is "hatred" and what is " contempt?" One come the opposition of the householders. And it is not Thana Baruipur alone that seems to have become a hot-bed of serious seems to have become a hot-bed of serious crime against life and property. There is a village called Gangapur near Baraset. Peo-ple are very much unwilling to pass through this village for fear of being robbed by a gang of Mahomedan budmashes. All this certainly looks bad enough, and does not reflect much credit on the present administration of the Police Department. Mr. Henry should pay a little more attention to the protection of life and property in the mofussil. And while this insecurity reigns abroad, a considerable number of constables and chowkidars are being employed on the delectable duty of puckrowing the plague at every railway station in the province !

IF there is no rose without its thorn, there is also no evil without its good. The plague rules brought in their train a lor g list of disasters. Not only lakhs of men suffered terribly from the operation of these representation. A requisition is also rules; but the rulers lost their temper and in course of circulation for obtaining signatures, with a view to convene a public of which was never seen before, and which, inaugurated a policy of repression the like meeting at Calcutta on Friday the 4th February through the Sheriff. It goes trous in the end both to the ruled and the without saying that this meeting will be attended by all the leading men of the town and the suburbs. The disnary result in some important centres where the Hindus and Mussalmans have been at triet towns are also going to say their say on the subject. The Hon'ble Mr. Chalmers will see that if he passes his measure, he will have to do it in the teeth had the bitterness of feeling between the two communities been so acute as at Bans Barrielly. The following account, sent to THE Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce has thus further addressed Provinces, will show the remarkable changes brought about in the attitude of the Hindus and Mussalmans of Barrielly towards one another when the plague rules were announced in that town :--

The plague rules have had the effect of Chamber of Commerce was given upon an amendment, which it is proposed to make in the Criminal Procedure Code (Schedule 11 of Bans Barrielly. It is well known that column 8, in the entry relating to section a great many years past there existed 124Å). I am directed by the Committee to ill-feelings of the worst possible nature be-state that, at the time of writing their first tween the Hindus and Mahomedans of this town. The reconcilation, strange enough, has not pleased some officials; and it is understood that one of them, who occupies a very high position in the Service, sent for the representatives of the Hindus and Mahomedans, and asked the latter the reason why they were going to abandon the rights and privileges they had secured after much trouble and difficulty in connection with the *Ecd* festival, which, the Hindus said, wounded their feelings. A Mahomedan stood up and said : "we have seen the result of qurrelling amongst ourselves—the thrusting of these rules upon us. Let us now see the fruit of making it up and living on friendly, and brotherly terms" This remark, of course, was not agreeable to the official, and the repesentatives were dismissed. Since then the Hindus and Mahomedans have been in the Public Works Department, Bijapur, have been dismissed for having subscribed to the Tilak fund ? Why should the Govern-living on the most amicable terms possible, each partaking in the festivals of the other. The Hindus took part in the Mohorrum as zealously as the Mahomedans—giving *shirbut*, distributing alms, etc. and the Mahomedans followed suit on the occasion of the Kali festivals of the Hindus. simply because that man happens to serve the State? They were given pay for a cer-tain quantity of work. We don't think, the masters had any right to dismiss servants for performing what they thought a charitable act. We think, the Government should intervene; for, we can scarcely point out a more flagrant instance of encroach-tout a more flagrant instance of encroachupon brotherly terms. This is a time when unity and co-operation between the two communities is the first and last condition requisite for the advancement and progress of India, Another city where the friction between the two communities was very pronounced, was Patna. The same thing also happened when the plague rules were promulgated there. This is what a gentleman of leading other, the mischievous rumour spread from mouth to mouth that the zenanas of the Hindus all the way from Calcutta to witness the solar eclipse, it is clear that he did not return much wiser after what he saw there, though, of course he would not admit that he went mans, generally speaking, were affected by the scare, and their first act was to send away their wives and daughters into the villages in the in-terior. The male Hindus and Mussalmans then assembled together, and concerted their plan of defence. They said that, in view of the impending danger, they must forget their old differences and offer united protests against the measures. As an earnest of their sincerity they vowed not to proceed against one another in the courts of justice ; and thus many a Hindu withdrew cases pending against their Mahomedan brethren, and many the totality of the eclipse, nor was any light required to recognize things around him. As regards other matters, only the Venus and that some of the cases were not compound-one or two other stars, which can be seen in the twilight of morning, were visible. The carona was nothing like what it was expect. thus get the cases struck off ! Indeed, for some time, Patua presented a novel sight, namely the Hakims were either dozing in their chairs or closing their courts early for want of cases, and Pleaders and Mooktears spending their time without any work. There is no doubt of it that the plague measures opened the eyes table kingdom, nothing tangible was discern-ible, no flowers showing any tendency to close their petals. We have received several letters from Baruipur and the neighbouring villages, describing the panic that has seized the people of that locality on account of the account of disastrous results might have followed. the recrudescence of serious crime, We As we said before, the sedition mea are told that within a single fortnight there sure has also brought about a unanimity are told that within a single fortnight there have been three torch light dacoities, each attended with cruelty and assault. Many families have moved in to Calcutta, not toxing when they might be victimised toxing when they would appear

THROUGH the intervention of the Madras High Court, a man has just been saved from the gallows. It would appear that the accused in this case was declared to be innocent by the Assessors; but the Sessions Judge of Madura, differing from their view, convicted and sentenced him to the extreme penalty of the law. The case came up before the High Court on reference; and Justices Davies and Benson held it extremely doubtful that the death was the result of arsenical poisoning, but that it was due to natural causes. They also observed, it due to natural causes. They also observed, it was curi us that the Sessions Judge should have overlooked the material points in the case, and convicted the prisoner on meagre evidence. They, therefore, reversed the conviction and sentence, and ordered the prisoner to be released So, the Assessors were right, and not the Sessions Judge, who, hencere did not feel any hesitation to send a however, did not feel any hesitation to send a fellow-being to the gallows, even when two persons, who had sat with him at the trial, declared him to be not guilty,

FROM a Chittagong telegram, published else-where, it will be seen that the representatives of the various Municipalities in the Division, at a meeting held on the 21st instant, have no-minated Babu Jatramohun Sen, Junior Govern-ment Pleader of Chittagong, to a seat in the

the places of some of the Civil Assistant Sur-geons to be filled up by officers of the Military Assistant Surgeon class, so that they may be available for field duty in times of war. The particulars of the proposed inno-vation are not yet before us; but in some future issue we will shew how very deeply the contemplated change will affect us.

IF the Advocate of India is to be credited, well might those, who had gone to Buxar at great expense and trouble to see the solar eclipse, envy the Bombayites, though the sun was only partially eclipsed there. The northern wing of the Crawford Market, which is a mena-perie to a limited extent presented no unusual gerie, to a limited extent, presented no unusual sight at the commencement ; and the birds, ducks, fowls, monkeys and other animals were as merry as could be expected, in their caged confinement. As time passed and the darkness increased, they seemed somewhat affected. The nost noteworthy thing was that the chirping of the canaries and other small birds and the chattering of the monkeys diminished, and was almost hushed between half-past twelve and one o'clock At Jeur, the spectacle was grander. The last phase when the moon's shadow sweeps over the earth, came on with awe-inspiring rapidity. Then sprang out the marvellous corona, pidity. Then sprang out the marvellous corona, streaming away into space for three suns' sphe-res. The decoration that Emperors fight for, was pale silver-blue, and its duration exactly two minutes. The stars sprang out and all was deadly still, the crying of birds and lowing of beasts stopping.

PROTEST AGAINST THE SEDITION BILL. uits his report

A CONFERENCE AT THE BRITISH INDIAN

Association Rooms, THE Conference or the semi-public meet

INDIA AND ENGLAND.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.] dinom a tol tol. of LONDON, JAN. 7.

MR. R. C. DUTT ON THE SEDITION LAW.

Mr. Romesh Chander Dutt, who has now retired definitely from the Civil Service, has determined to take up his residence permanent-ly in London. He has been appointed by the London. He has been appointed by the London University to a lecturership on Indian History, and intends to devote his rare literary powers to the service of his country which he has served so long and so honourably. Mr. Dutt is a thoroughly sound, if somewhat moderate Congressman; and he forms a very important addition to the little coterie of able men who are trying to interpret real India to the British people. He has so far declined to join the British Congress Committee, preferring complete liberty of action; but I under-stand he is to be an important contributor to the columns of the new weekly issue of

"India". Mr. Dutt this week has written a very timely letter on the Sedition Law of India in the columns of the Daily News, - a journal that A STRANGE tale reaches our ears. We hear that some military enthusiast has proposed the places of some of the Civil Assistant Sur-geons to be filled up by officers of the Military Assistant Surgeon class, so that they may be available for field duty in times of war. The particulars of the proposed inno-vation are not yet before us ; but in some future issue we will shew how very deeply the contemplated change will affect us. and often stated it in my official communica-tions to Government, which have been publish-ed, that much of the bitterness of race feeling would disappear if the English press in India would write of the Indian races and their leaders with the sum of the Indian races and their

India would write of the Indian races and their leaders with the sympathy and respect, due to the fellow-subjects of the same sovereign." Mr. Dutt justly maintains that sedition finds no place whatever among the educated people of India: it has been killed by English education. They know and thoroughly grasp the immense power of Britain, and the bene-volence which characterises, on the whole, British Indian administration. The func-tion of educated India is to strive to tion of educated India is, to strive to improve administration by pointing out defects, and to demand for the people a large share in the administration of the country. He argues that public criticism may irritate, but it is bound to improve administration ;) and the asserts, to improve administration ; and he asserts that administration is purest in those provinces of India where such criticism is strongest. Mr. Dutt denounces the proposed amendment of the Sedition Law as a mistake, which must in-evitably embitter the minds of the people. As an old servant of the IndianGovernment, he de-places the unsumpathetic and unwise correlated plotes the unsympathetic and unwise coercive policy which is now being pursued in India, as a worse blunder than the Frontier War, cal-culated to change loyal and contented India

into what Ireland was a generation ago. There is some talk of finding Mr. Dutt an opportunity of entering Parliament at the next General Election.

THE ENGLISH PRESS ON THE CONGRESS.

The *Times* takes exactly the same unfair advantage of the London Indian Society's Resolution, and manages, in a long article, to confuse the Congress Resolutions with t. The writer contrasts the quiet tone, and indignant repudiation of the charge of disloyalty to British Rule, of the Congress Resolutions, with the "silly and spiteful tone" of the other; and indeed goes so fai in his desire to injure the Congress, as to declare that, in spite of this contrast, there is inter-nal evidence to suggest that they are the out-come of common deliberations, though there are certain differences which are not without significance. There is, however, no need to give you any more of the sour criticism of

the Times. The St. James Gazette gives ten lines to the Congress Resolutions, and the rest of a long article to that of the London Indian Society, closing it by saying that "perhaps the most getmane commentary that is to be made upon this contrast between the sucking dougs of the Lodon Compress and the seditious doves of the Indian Congress, and the seditious talk of the London Conference, is that while it is no longer safe to talk disloyally in India, that kind of language can be hold with im-punity in England." The Morning Post follows the same dishonest line of argument. It says that the so-called National Concress breather publing but lovality

National Congress breathes nothing but loyalty in its Resolutions. Unfortunately, however, for its professions, the meeting held in London was marked by a different tone, and Mr. Naoroji and his friends make no appeal to the judgment of those who would be glad to hear frank criticism of the Indian Government, The article then runs off on this track, and the Congress is ignored in favour of the utterances of the London Indian Society.

It is refreshing to turn from the disingenuous criticism of the Tory press, to that of the Daily News, whose editor declares that, while no conceivable body could "represent India" no conceivable body could "represent India" the Congress undoubtedly represents an import-ant and influential section of highly-educated Indians, Mussalmans as well as Hindus. The President insisted upon the loyalty of the people and the Congress to British Rule, and that loyalty is undeniable, and has been recognised by successive Viceroys. The men who attend the Congress, have been trained on the British system and are imbued with on the British system, and are imbued with Western ideas. With acquiescence in our methods, there comes inevitably criticism, and it is foolish to disregard such moderate and temperate protests as those made at Amraoti. Nothing could be more reasonable than the way in which Mr. Sankara Nair deplored the Poona policy, and resented the continued de-tention of the Natu Brothers, —a procedure not likely to increase native respect for British

Justice. The Newcastle Leader is a powerful Liberal provincial organ in the north of England. Mr. Edith also refers to the meeting of the Indian Society, and deplores that the opening day of the Indian National Congress justice. opening day of the Indian National Congress was chosen for the meeting of a conclave which, unlike the Congress, cannot claim to be heard in the name of any considerable section of our Indian subjects, and which only appears to have been convened that "certain glib and ill-conditioned persons" might foolish-ly fulminate against the British Government in India. The Indian National Congress certain-ly represents a large and influential section of educated natives, and its deliberations and decisions are much too important to be disdecisions are much too important to be dis-regarded by thoughtful Britons. It is a pleasant relief, says the Editor, to turn from the threatening, held on Tuesday at the hall of the British Indian Association to protest against the Sedition Bill and the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, was a most brilliant one. The pick of the Calcutta Society was there. Indeed, there are few representative men who did not attend the meeting. The chair was occupied by Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore who explained, in a short speech, the object of the Con-ference. Earnestness was depicted on every countenance, and it was very clear that those, who attended, were fully alive write about this meeting last week, for I more worthy of attention, and his remarks upon thought it wiser to ignore it. The long, windy the present tendency to panic legislation un-and illogical Resolutions which was eventually doubtedly deserve more serious consideration doubtedly deserve more serious consideration than unfortunately they are likely to receive. than unfortunately they are likely to receive. The Bradjord Observer, the most able and advanced Liberal paper in Yorkshire, writes very sympathetically about the Congress, and L will quote the closing sentences of the article, verbation, for, they voice the general convictions of thoughtful Liberals in this country. "We have fought with greater or less success through famine and plague, and repaired the ravages of earthquake; but these have been of the nature of disastrous accidents merely. The real problems which have to be faced, are graver and more momentous, and are not to graver and more momentous, and , are not to be tided over by half measures of provisional discussion of Indian politics. Unhappily, 2 of 3 discussion of Indian politics. Unhappily, 2 of 3 rather foolish lads make a point of airing their eloquence on every occasion. It does no harm unless reporters happen to be present, whose to the end of permanent solution and settle-motive chances to be a desire to ridicule, when the solid talk is suppressed, and the gassy when the solid talk is suppressed, and the gassy emphasised. Dr. Mullick appears ling experiences, have had at least one good result in bringing fairly home to the nation many truths as to the conditions under which we control the destinies of these millions of people, and in correcting, it is to be hoped, many illusions under which our easy optimism and placid vanity had long been labouring. We have learned, for instance, to appreciate more clearly the precariousness of our tenour in India-that we have to do with a people who, in proportion as they have profited by our own work in the past, can no longer be herded as cattle or driven like sheep, but must claim from us an increasing consideration. We have learned to realise somewhat bitterly that the national pride in its Anglo-Indian administration was very imperfectly founded in the admirable achievements of a few notable men, and that in narrowness and rigidity, in inadaptiveness, in want of foresight, even at times, in the want of a little wholesome courage, our system and its administrators stood far too frequently condemned. We have realised too that we have to do with a country the great masses of whose people are poor almost to the starvation limit; that we have been and are steadily draining from it such wealth as it has ; that our methods tend to become increasingly oppressive and our demands more burdensome, side by side with an increase in the power to perceive accurately wherein the oppression and the burden consist ; that we are fostering a sullen and menacing discontent, while at the same time educating and drilling the people towards a point at which they will be able to give it effective expression. The Manchester Guardian which has now taken a foremost place in Liberal journalism in its sound appreciation of the Congress movement, writes quite the best article of

ment on private rights than this alleged action of the local authorities. Anota of alt that is in the state of the third is another

THE latest news from Bombay states that Mr. Tilak has lost considerably in weight, which is now 112 lbs. We are, however, somewhat relieved to learn that the authorities have at last been pleased to make arrangements for a better and more suitable diet for him.

FROM what we could gather from conversation with a gentleman who ran to Buxar all the way from Calcutta to witness the solar of course he would not admit that he went on a fool's errand. The poetic description of previous total eclipses had naturally raised romantic ideas in his mind. The appear-ance of mid-night at mid-day with concommittant effect on nature ; the stars twinkling in the sky; the birds going to their roost; the cattle lying down with eyes closed for sleep; and flowers shutting up their petalsall these marvellous phenomena he expected to see. Imagine his disappointment then, when he found that neither it was pitch-dark during corona was nothing like what it was expected it would be. No birds fell asleep, though a few crows were seen to caw on a tree in evident perplexity. Some elephants also swang their trunks, but this they do also when there is no eclipse. As for the effect on the vege-table kingdom, nothing tangible was discern-

that those, who attended, were fully alive to the importance of the subject which had brought them together. Amongst others, we noticed the following noblemen and gentlemen present at, the meeting : Maharaja Sir Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore, Maharaja Sin Narendra Krishna, Prince Buktyar Shah, Rajah Peary Mohun Mookerji, Raja Ranjit Sing, Maharaj-Kumar Prodyot Kumar, Babu Rama Nath Ghosh, Hon'ble Joy Govind Law, Mr. W. C. Bonnerji, Mr. R. D. Mehta, Mr. W. C. Madge, Babus Sita Nath Roy, Chandi Lal Sing, Kali Prosanna Ghosh, Kali Nath Mitter, Devendra Chandra Ghosh, Mr. A. Choudhuri, Mr. J. Choudhari, Babus Kishori Lal Sircar, Hirendra Nath Dutt, Amrita Krista Mallik, Norenda Nath Mitra, Dr. Lal Madhab Mookherji, Babus Panchkari Bannerjee, Kali Prasanna Kavyavisarad, Jotirindro Nath Tagore, Gaganendra Nath lagore, the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Ananda Charlu, Babu Nolin Behari Sircar, Babu Lal Behari Bysack, Mr. S. C. Biswas, Mr. A. P. Ghose, Babu Charu Chander Mullick, Babu Radha Charan Pal, Rai many others.

A draft memorial was read before the Conference ; but, as it was considered to be not exhaustive, it was decided to appoint a Sub-Committee for the purpose of re-casting it and submitting it to the Government of India before Saturday next. It was also decided to submit the memorial as separate from that of the British Indian Association. The following are the members of the Sub-Committee : Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, Rajah Peary Mohun Mookerjee, Mr. J. Choudhury, Mr. W. C. Madge, Babus Moti Lal Ghose and Kishori Lal Sircar, with Rai Raj Coomar Sarbadhicary Bahadoor as Secretary. The same . Committee was entrusted to draft a memorial on the Criminal Procedure Bill later on.

With a vote of thanks to the chair, the meeting separated.

THE Duchess of Cleveland, mother of Lord Rosebery, who is on a visit to India this cold weather, was to have been at Delhi on the 21st nstant last. cule and abuse of Congress pretensions, as in-terpreted by Mullick.

and illogical Resolutions which was eventually carried, with a foolish amendment whose ob-ject was evidently to show that "sedition" could be safely indulged in here, stands out in marked contrast to the solid, well-constructed, states-manlike Resolutions of the Congress, and the Tory press have not been slow to take ad-vantage of rt. The matter would never have obtained publicity if Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, in the kindness of his heart, had not presided over the meeting. The London Indian Society consists mainly, if not entirely, of young stu-dents, and its meetings are convened for the discussion of Indian politics. Unhappily, 2 or 3 rather foolish lads make a point of airing their when the solid talk is suppressed, and the gassy nonsense emphasised. Dr. Mullick appears to have advocated open rebellion, and to have declared that unless India got her rights, then "they must show that another America night take place in India, and that Bombay harbour might become another Boston harbour," and much more such childish fustian, which the Tory papers have been quite clear enough to fasten on Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji. The *Pall Mall Gazette* speaks kindly and with measured approval of the Congress Resolu-tions, declaring that it had "acknowledged in the handsomest mumor that the Congress Mullick, Babu Katha Charan Tab, Kar Pran Sanker Chowdhury of Teota, Mr. J. Ghosal, Rai Raj Coomar Sarbadhicary Bahadur, Babus Mati Lal Ghose, H. C. Mullick, Charu Chander Mullick, and ment had confronted difficulties with energy, and in particular, that it had fought a good and in particular, that it had fought a good fight against famine, with the help of the people." The Editor then says that he is most thoroughly in accord with one, at any rate, if the Resolutions of the Indian National Congress, and expresses the earnest and confident hope that Parliament may see its way to deal in a generous spirit with the question of a substantial contribution from Imperial funds to the very heavy Frontier Expenditure. The Editor declares that he is Expenditure. The Editor declares that he is "satisfied that it will be discussed and treated in no narrow or niggardly fashion, and with a single-minded desire to do justice to our Indian fellow-subjects. The moral effect in India of affording it help either by effect in India of affording it help either by a grant of money or a loan without interest would be incalculable, and we shall be disap-pointed if the Session of 1898 passes without practical steps being taken in that direction." But having said so much, the articl swings off from modified praise of the sensible Con-gress Resolutions to a violent attack upon what he sarcastically calls "Mullickatawney," and spends himself in a couple of columns of ridi-cule and abuse of Congress pretensions, as in-



THE AMRITAU BAZAR PATRIKA, JANUARY 127, 1898.

all ; and I am glad do see it re-produced full in the columns of the new issue of "India where, I hope, it will be read by thousand of Indians. The Editor deftly treats the Congress as one of the best fruits of the exertions of the Indian Government and wonders why the Tory press are so scandalized every year by the news that the Indian Congress has met. Why, he urges, find fault with the success which has followed the long toil of success the Indian Government to make the Hindu lie down with the Mahomedan? Here at the Congress, are not only Hindus and Mahomedans, but Christians, Parsees, Jains, Sikhs and Jews, all meeting in peace for the common weal of their common country, and to proclaim their loyalty to Queen Victoria as their Empress. It is worth while to become an annual subscriber to "India," for the sake only of reading this charming and stimulating article.

article. • The Star severely rebukes the Tory press for the torrent of contemptuous abuse which they pour annually upon the Congress move-Tory Editors are never tired of saying ment. that India's millions are dumb, and straight way pour a stream of sneering invective upon the thousands who are not dumb. It declares its preference for the account given by a distin-guished Tory politician, Sir Richard Garth, one of the best examples of the Anglo-Indian statesmen, and quotes at length his well-known and favourable opinions of the Congress. The Editor closes an able and Congress The Editor closes an able and sympathetic article with a solemn, and much-needed warning : "There is no lesson which more needs to be learnt by Anglo-Indian. officers in India, and English critics at home, than the lesson that sympathy tells. The opposite theory—and still more, the opposite prac-tice alienates from British rule precisely those classes of Indian society who a priori are most disposed to make the best of it. One would have thought that in this year of accumulated disaster, even our Jingoes could have accorded to the spokesmen of educated India an attentive and respectful hearing. They do nothing of the kind. Their notion apparently is that studied insult is a good cement of Empire-just as, beyond the frontier, they act upon the paradox that the best way to make friends of the tribes over the border, is to occupy their territory, build forts in it, and make roads through it. Quem Deus vult per-dere, prins dementat."

The "Speaker," which is the accepted weekly organ of the high official Liberal party, says that the Indian National Congress has this week displayed a loyalty disappointing to pre-judiced critics-which they have not been slow to show-and the Editor cannot quarrel with any of the Resolutions passed, though he takes exception to some of the implications, and doubts if the Congress in any way represents the real people, or rather peoples, of India at all. He thinks that most of the Resolutions will be accepted in principle by the majority of the Liberal party of this country, and thinks they contrast very favourably with the effervescence, of the speeches made at the Conference of the London Indian Society under the presi of Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji. But adds the Editor : "One cannot hastily introduce democratic institutions among the most minutely-stratified and generally-heterogeneous population in the world, and we cannot feel much confidence that the educated Native Indians, who form the Congress, really represent the great speechless masses of the varied peoples of the Indian Empire. The National Congress at present supplies us with ideals. Cannot the acute intellects of the Natives of Indian empire mentioned of the Natives of India supply us with schemes

Calcutta and Mofussil.

SIR W. LOCKHART.—As arrangements stand just now, Sir William Lockhart is due at Calcutta on the 31st instant,

MONETARY .- Exchange rates were steady on Tuesday, and closing quotations were 1-4-1-4 for six months, and 1-4 for demand.

NEW BRIDGE. - The Government of India have under consideration certain suggestions regarding the construction of a per manent road and rail bridge across the Hughli along the site of the present floating bridge

THE MAHAKALI PATSHALA .- The omnibus service in connection with the above instituservice in connection with the above institu-tion having been a complete success, and the small house, in which it had bitherto been located, having proved too small for the daily increasing number of pupils, it has been re-moved to a commodious building at No. 69 Sukea's Street.

A ZENANA MISSION CASE. We learn from A ZENANA MISSION CASE. We learn from several vernacular contemporaries that a party of missionary ladies, who reside all the year through at Mankar, recendy got mixed in a ra-ther sensational case. They wanted to con-vert a Hindu girl to Christianity; but the mat-ter got wind, and a relative of the girl with the balm of friends, remeved har from the mission help of friends, removed her from the mission house and put her out of reach of the missionaries. They thereupon sought the protection of the law-courts ; but the trying Deputy Ma-gistrate acquitted the accused.

A FAMILY DISPUTE On Tuesday Babu Rajendra Kumar Bose, the Second Sub-Judge of Alipore, delivered judgment in the case in which Babus Girija Prosonna Mukherjee and Ganada Prosonna Mukerjee, the well-known Zemindars of Gobardanga, sued their brothers, Babus Annoda Prosonna Mukherjee and Promoda Prasana Mukherjee, praying for an injunction to demolish a wall built by the defendants on the terrace of the *Takur* Dalan of the parties and thereby blocking up the southern and western doors and win-dows of the bed-rooms of the plaintiffs. The Judge granted a mandatory injunction upon the defendants to remove the wall built by them.

THE L. G'S TOUR .- His Honour the Lieuenant-Governor inspected Buxar Jail on the morning of the 23rd and went by special train in the afternoon to Chausa, where he inspected the plague camp and saw the Punjab mail train being inspected. His Honour and party afterwards returned to Buxar. The next day His Honour and party left Buxar by special train at 7 A M. for Dumraon, where a State visit was paid to the Maharani, and the school and hospital were inspected. At eleven o'clock, His Honour proceeded by train to Arrah, and was received by the local offi-cials and native gentry. At the station an address was presented to His Honour by the Municipality, to which he briefly replied. Later, a deputation attended with regard to the plague precautions. During the afternoon His Honour inspected the town and offices, and attended a garden-party at the Judge's, leav-ng by the 18 P. M. train for Bankipur.

COLLISION ON THE E. I. RAILWAY,-In for putting them into practice ?" These few sentences, written by the Editor of the most intellectual exponent of official Liberalism, are lamentable comments on the ignorance which prevails from top to bottom of that great Party with whom the entire destinics of progressive India must always rest, and emphasises, what I am for ever insisting upon, that the education of that Party in sound Congress principles, is the Party in sound Congress principles, is the thrown off and received severe injuries, which first and most crying need for the services of the British Committee, which spends most of its money in educating the members of the reported that the Station Master of Russalpore allowed his signals to remain lowered after allowed his signals to remain lowered after No. 174 goods-train had passed his station, instead of raising them to "danger," and the driver of No. 54 down, seeing the signals lowered, passed through without stopping, causing the collision. The morning was foggy, the driver has no time to avoid the collision, and he and his fireman narrowly escaped by jumping off their locomotive just in time. The down line was blocked and trains had to pass on the up line. The work on the double line was not resumed till 7-15 A.M., the down mail being detained ten minutes in conequence. VITAL STATISTICS .- The total number of deaths registered in the town during the week ending 15th January was 251, against 269 and 263 in the two preceding weeks, and lower than the corresponding week of last year by 32. There was one death from cholera, against 11 and 4 in the two preced-ing weeks ; the number is lower than the average of the past quinquennium by 126. There were no deaths from small-pox during the week. There was one death from tetanus against nil in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 73 and 30 respectively, against 76 and 31 in the preceding week. The general death tate of the week was 280 per mile per annum, against 33'?, the mean of the last five years. The total number of deaths registered in the suburbs during the same week was 208, against 158 and 195 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 52. There was one death from cholera, against 2 and nil in the two preceding weeks. The number is lower then the average of the past quinquennium by 14. There were no deaths from small-pox during the week. There were 2 deaths from tetanus against nil in the previ-ous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel complaints amounted to 50 and 56 respectively, against 54 and 28 in the preceding week. The against 54 and 28 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 50'4 per mille per annum, against 43'6, the mean of the last five years. The general death-rate of the combined area, is equal to act

to "Government" simply. The word "Govern-ment" is defined by the Penal Code to ordinary daylight each separate tile was quite "the person or persons authorised by law to administer Executive Government in any part of British India." This includes a Deputy Magistrate of the lowest grade and probably includes a real policeman and his satellite, the chowkidar. Under the wording of the section, to say of a Deputy Magistrate that he is corrupt, as was said of Mr. Fordyce at Dacca the other day, is to bring into contempt the "Government" and to render yourself liable to ten years' transportation. The statement is not a comment on the measures of the Government with a view to obtain their alteration by lawful means, and so within the Explanation. By the new aniendment of the Criminal Procedure Code, the same Deputy Magistrate, if of the first class, may bind a person down for twelve months for discussing his character. This may seem an absurd event ; but in the present system of amateur law all over India, the most impossible results may ensue and do ensue from the plainest language. With the example of Mr. Kirk-wood, District Judge of Patna, and of twenty-five years' standing in the service, read-ing the words "shall examine the witness' to mean shall send a woman witness for compulsory medical examination as to her chastity pulsory medical examination as to her chastily, in order to test her story, what can be expect-ed of an ignorant Deputy Magistrate? There is where the difficulty comes in. There is really nothing too absurd in the way of con-struing a statute, to be achieved by Deputy Magistrates, or even District Magistrates occasionally, as is well known to anybody acquainted with the matter. Bad law has more to do with discontent in India than most

things; and the bad law is caused by such an amount of complicated legislation as deters the wisest and most honest Magistrate from following the dictates of his common sense. -I. D. News, this drive bound to the disc



VIZIADRUG, JAN. 22. JUST before totality, there was a considerable fall in the temperature, much quivering of the air and a complete change of the direction of the wind. At the moment of totality, the scene was one of exquisite beauty. The solid, inky blackness of the beauty. The solid, mky blackness of the moon was surrounded by a corona of daz-zling brilliancy, especially in the lower portions. Four equatorial extensions of pearly luminosity radiated from the eclipsed sun, and two prominences blazed like fiery blood-spots. Owing to the clearness of the atmosphere and the brightness of the corona, the shadow phenomena were not so well marked. Venus and Mars shone out, but only three other stars were visible. Sir Norman Lockyer, on being interviewed, said the expedition had done everything they set themselves to do. A triumphant success was recorded along the twenty-one lines of observation.

JEUR CAMP, JAN. 22. THE san was totally eclipsed from 19 minutes and 35 seconds past one to 21 minutes and 35 seconds past one. The sun and moon behaved in a manner, pleasing to the astronomers. No clouds were about, and calcula-tions were out by only two seconds. The planet Venus only was visible to the naked eye, but with the telescope, Mars and Mercury were also seen. Before noon the body of the moon becau to encroce the second to the second to the moon began to encroach upon the surface of the sun, and at about 12-30 an the observers stood to attention. Totality was heralded by the sudden disappearance of light, the spec-troscope revealing the exact moment, by disappearance of the dark lines and the flash-Professor Naeganivala and about 30 by Pro-fessor Campbell. The darkness was not very intense, and no lamps, which were in readmess was brought into requisition. Those whose observations did not tie them down to instruments, enjoyed a magnificent view of the corona which they describe as consisting mainly of which they describe as consisting mainly of four streamers of silvery radiance of great brightness. Venus remained on view 20 minu-tes after totality was over. The meteorolo-gical observations showed a marked fall of temperature from 100 to 78 degrees. The fall of temperature was perceptible fully half an hour hefere totality. The chadron back an hour before totality. The shadow bands an nour before totality. The shadow bands were observed and measured, and the effect of the eclipse on plants and animals, which began a considerable time before totality, were carefully noted. No war-comet was visible during the eclipse.

ordinary daylight each separate tile was quite visible. The shadows grew fainter, and every thing looked cold and grey, while the bodily feeling of chilliness became more marked. A seven minutes past two, the fainter crescentic run of light was visible at the extreme north east upper margin of the sun's disc, the dark-ness came on very rapidly, and the thermometer marked 71°, a fall of 4° degrees Fahrenheit. Suddenly the darkness swept down upon the earth, but it was never intense; at the moment of totality, there was still light enough to see to write by, while the general appearance around was that of a moonlight night, save and except that there were no shadows. This absence of shadows was striking and weird. The reason appears to be that what light there was, was equal in all directions. And now the phenomena of the eclipse which we had all come so many miles to see, were before our eyes. There was the dark black central portion of the moon's body, with a marginal portion of a less deep black; surrounded by a circle of glowing yellow light, extending for about a twentieth of the diameter of the moon's disc ; beyond this, shooting out from the bright rim, the pale-yellow cornocations of the corona, extending principally in a northeasterly and south-westerly direction, as glow-ing rays or tongues of fire. This same yellow-ish light surrounded the black disc of the moon on all sides; but while on the north-east and south-west the rays extended from 11/2 diameters on the north-east to 2 diameters on the south-west, they did not, on the east and west, extend to more than two-thirds of a diameter, while their extent in the N.-W. and S.-E. was little more than half a diameter in the moon's disc. At one spot a little to the south of east, at the extreme margin of the sun's disc, appeared a very bright circular spot or prominence, while diametrically opposite to this, some observers described an ill-defined flame of a magenta colour.

There was little visible change in the appearance of the corona during the totaity, the chief permanent appearance was lity, the chief permanent appearance was the brilliant pale yellow circle of light sur-rounding the globe of the sun; no colours could be seen by the naked eye outside the sun's disc, nor were there any colours arranged either in layers or radially. The rays appeared of an uniform pale yellow tint, while the spaces between them appear-ed of a greyish black. The dark rifts did ed of a greyish black. The dark rifts did not extend to the moon, but seemed to stop short of the bright denser layers of the chromosphere. The rays were brighter near the moon, and as regards their comparative brightness, the bright ring near the sun, the rays, and finally the outer corona, came in this order.

It was a magnificent sight, though the hun-dred seconds it lasted, was all too short for the ordinary observer to get more than a general impression of the phenomena. After the many highly-coloured descriptions of the phenomena fightly-coloured descriptions of the phenomena of a total eclipse, the impression left upon a large majority of those who witnessed this, was one of disappointment; and it seems probable that all possible phenomena of different total eclipses under varying atmospheric conditions, have been described as invarible concomitants of all total solar eclipses. There were certainly none of the brillian iridescent colours which have been described iridescent colours which have been described. Still the phenomena were most striking and were well worth a longer journey than that from Calcutta to Buxar. South west of the eclipsed sun, Venus was plainly visible, rosy pink in hue; Mars was also visible, though less plainly; but Mercury could not be seen at least with the naked eye. Not the least striking part of the eclipse was the first return of light from the south-west lower quadrant of the sun's disc, bursting forth with an intensity of brilliancy, rendered all the more striking by its being conrendered all the more striking by its being con fined to just the one spot and succeeding to the total blackness of a moment ago

TELEGRAMS.

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CHITTAGONG, JAN. 22. The representatives of the Municipalities the Chittagong Division met yesterday an recommended the nomination of Baboo Jatr. mohum Sen, Vakil, High Court, practising a Chittagong, to a seat in the Bengal Cour He has resigned the lunior Government P dership here and intends joining the Hi

(FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.)

LONDON, JAN. 22. The prospects of the British loan to Chi are discouraging. The Lancas hire Fusiliers from India ha anded at Suez.

Mr. Gladstone is extremely weak althou he now takes drives. His neuralgia continu and he is reported to have expressed a h wish that all was over with him.

LONDON, JAN. 22 Mr. Campbell, the Unionist candidate, I een elected for St. Stephen's Green, Dubl n place of Mr. Kenny, who has been appo ed a Judge, and defeating Mr. Plunkett, tl Nationalist candidate, by 131 votes. Th polling was as follows: Campbell, 3,525; Plu kett, 3,387.

LONDON, JAN. 22. The despatch of a Japanese squadron China is regarded as highly significant the fact that Great Britain and Japan a acting unitedly in the Chinese question. The French war vessels Vanban and Bru have been ordered to China.

Her Majesty's battleship Centurion, flagship of the China Station, has Nagasaki. Her destination has not been m known.

PARIS, JAN. 22. Indescribable scenes of uproar and co fusion took place in the Chamber of Deput to-day, arising from the chamber of Deput to-day, arising from the interpellations the Dreyfus affair. M. Jaures, a Socia Deputy, called N. Bernis, a Conservat Deputy, a scoundrel, when the lat attacked, him and a general melée follo ad blows being frach ed, blows being freely exchanged on all si Similar encounters took place among spectators and in the reporters' galleries. I sitting was then abruptly closed by President, and troops were summoned he lobbies.

LONDON, JAN. 22. The Engineers' Union advised the men accept the masters' conditions, and a gene resumption of work on the 31st instant thus probable.

• It is officially announced at St Petersbuthat the British men-of-war have received orders to quit Port Arthur immediately. is understood that this is in consequence representations made on the subject by ussian Ambassador to the Foreign Office London.

LONDON, JAN. 24. Numerous anti-Semitic demonstrations to Numerous anti-Semitic demonstrations to place in Paris last evening. The streets we strongly guarded by the police, who pr vented serious disorder. Serious riots hav taken place in Algiers, where the Jewis shops were pillaged, and several killed ar injured on both sides. Frequent cavall charges were made, but these failed to restor ordering ada Ili

LONDON, JAN, 23. General Gatacre and the Warwickshires hav left Assuan for Wady Halfa. The troops in Paris are confined to barrack It is stated that this is to prevent them from participating in the demonstrations.

LONDON, JAN. 23. an entity definition of the sent of

Congress in India, and preaching their gospel to the converted.

I send you a number of other articles, which I need not quote at length, and you will see that in almost every case, the unfortunately coincident meeting of the London Indians, is used with fatal effect by the hostile Tory press, to discredit the Congress movement. The incident was unavoidable, and the excellent young fellows who constitute the Society, are not to be blamed for seizing the opportunity, nor for the way in which their proceedings have been twisted into a weapon for damaging the Congress movement. The great bulk of them are sensible and practical men, and they ought to be able to control their wilder spirits. If the Resolutions passed had been on all fours with those of this Congress, and Mr. Naoroji had publicly rebuked Mullick and his fellowgasometers, all would have been right, and good would have been done. As it is, 2 or 3 mischievous fellows have been able to give a bad colour to the proceedings.

THE Secretary of State for India has sanc-tioned, a revised estimate, amounting to Rs. 31,01, 194, for the construction of a permanent bridge over the Indus River at Kotri, including the approaches extending from Kotri to Hyderabad, a length of 5'30 miles, in con-nection with the Kotri-Rohri Railway.

A TIGER was shot on Saturday, the 15th instant, near the Vehar Lake, the source of the Bombay water-supply. The tiger measur-ed, from the head to the tip of the tail, 9 feet, and its height was 3 feet 8 inches. There are a number of panthers, leopards, and hyen-as in Salsette, but tigers have not been seen in these parts since the days of Mr. Mullock, the well-known tiger-killer.

THE total value of the currency notes in cir culation in India on the 7th of January wa Rs. 24,12,30,775, less some 59 lakhs with drawn from circulation by foreign circles and in course of remittance to circles of issue The reserve in coin and bullion amounted t Rs. 13.21,31,379, but to this must be added Rs. 9,99,99,946, the price paid for Government securities of the nominal value of Rs. 10,20 securities of the hominal value of KS. 10,20 S1,500 held under section 19 of the Indian Paper Currency Act, and 35 lakhs advanced to the Bhopal State under the Bhopal Coinage Act, making a total of Rs. 33,53,31,325. It may be noted with regard to the advance to Bhopal that Bhopali rupees equivalent to about 16 lakhs in Government rupees have

combined area is equal to 35'1.

"LEZE MAJESTE."-One of the curiosities of Mr. Chalmers' amendment of section 124A, of which, we understand, to his credit, that he is not the author, but which should be labelled "Made in Bombay," is the alteration of the words been received and are in course of coinage. by law established in British India" down the tiles of a roof at about a hundred yards

BUXAR, JAN. 22. RETURNING, we sat in the shade of the trees and waited for the expected time to arrive. There was a slight appearance of haziness towards noon, but the sky was blue and cloudless. As time wore on towards one o'clock, the observing party took up their positions, and we armed ourselves with our pieces of glass, smoked with camphor, or blue, red, or green as choice or opportunity had decided for us. As choice of opportunity had decided for us. Precisely at forty-seven minutes past twelve (Calcutta time), the first encroachment upon the bright disc of the sun became visible through smoked glass, as a slight upward indentation in the disc towards the lower edge of the lower right hand quadrant, that is to say, from the south-west in a direction to say, from the southwest in a direction towards north-east. By the end of ten minutes there was a quite perceptible arc of obscuration, which increased steadily, until by three-quarters of an hour after commencement, fully half the sun's disc was obscured. At this time, it was not hour 'after commencement, fully half the sun's disc was obscured. At this time it was notic-ed that the shadows on the ground 'cast by trees and houses, looked much greyer in tint, and the contrast between light and shade was not nearly so marked as usual. At ten minutes to two, the body of sun, seen through smoked class had the appearance of a decressent moor glass, had the appearance of a decrescent moon, the shadows on the ground were still greyer than before, while the surface of the glass look-ed ashy-grey, instead of green as before. There was also a distinct fall of temperature, quite perceptible to the surface of the body, while the thermometer shewed a fall of 2° Fahrenheit, from 75° to 73°. It finally fell to 69°. As the obs-curation increased and approached totality, the sky lost its blue tint and became greyish-green a hazy appearance set in the atmhsphere as glass, had the appearance of a decrescent moon, a hazy appearance set in the atmhsphere as though there were a faint mist. A great loss of detail was noticeable in the surrounding objects,

Daily News.

THE plague mortality of Bombay still remain very high. There were 129 attacks and 131 deaths reported on Monday. The total deaths from all causes were 248 as against 235 on the same date last year, and 79 the year before.

THE telegraph steamer, Patrick Stewart left for Pasni at 5 P. M. on Saturday, accom-panied by a dingy; the two conveyed 9 horses, 89 mules, a number of transport followers, one hospital assistant, one native officer, and 88 men of No. 4 Hazara Mountain Battery, under com-mand of Lieutenant Paine, R. A. The steamer s expected to return to Karachi in four days. THE greatest excitement prevails at Delhi. At a meeting specially convened on Sun-day afternoon at the Deputy Commissioner's, he stated that he thought plague might come to Delhi, and announced that stringent measures were to be taken. All persons attacked, would be taken to a plague hospital, and segregated, while the inhabitants of the whole Mobulla would be quarantined, during which time the houses would be left open and immovable houses would be left open and immovable property guarded by the police. It is thought by Europeans, that if these rules are enforced it will cause a serious disturbance, especially if the whole Mohulla is closed, as it will stagnate business. The Mohulla in Delhi contains over one-fifth of the population.

A VIENNA correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says that a German Doctor claims to have discovered the secret of controlling birth Dr. Schenk is the name of this scientist who alleges to have devoted twenty years of his life to the solution of this mystery—how to exercise sufficient influence over animals and men to fix the sex of their ehildren. Dr. Schenk, it is urged, will place the result of his work before the Vienna Academy of Science, and refuses to publish his secret before scientists have given their opinion. All that he discloses is, that his theory is based on the nature of the food con-stimed by the female. The Professor says that in the course of years he has ex-perimented with friendly families, where, by advising the wives what food they should take, boys or girls were born just as they desired. He began his researches with the lowest kind of invertebrate animals sufficient influence over animals and men to fix the sex of their children. Dr. Schenk, it is

r Knchener has wired to Cairo tha is not now necessary for special service offic to proceed to the front, as there is no likelihoo of an advance being made until the high Nile The Canadian Parliament will be asked set aside a sum to provide a training ship as nucleus for a Naval Establishment.

ADEN, JAN, 23. The P. and O. steamer Caledonia, with th mails of the 14th instant, left here for Bomba at 11 P. M. to-day.

LONDON, JAN 24. The Times states that Germany intenopening Kiaochau to the commerce of the world in the same way as Hongkong is. It is officially explained that the visit to and departure from Port Arthur by the British fleet

departure from Port Arthur by the British fleet are merely ordinary cruising movements. LONDON, JAN. 24. Herr Von Bulow, Minister for Foreign Affairs, stated in the Reichstag to-day that Dreyfus never had the 'remotest connection with German Agents. This confirms the belief that Russia is the Power implicated in the Dreyfus affair, and hence the reticence of the French Government for fear of impairing the alliance

Herr Bulow also stated that the economic policy regarding Kiaochau was based on the principle of " live and let live."

Mr. Gladstone's neuralgia is better.

Lord William Nevill was to-day charged with fraud at the Bow Street Police Court. The charge arises out of the case of Lewis versus lay. He was bailed for £2,000.

The death is announced of Mr. George Dixon, member for the Edgbaston Division of Birmingham, d. ad

as they desired. He began his rescatches with the lowest kind of invertebrate animals and gradually went on to higher class ani-mals and finally applied his theory to wo-men. A number of scientists have been in-terrogated on the question. Many uttered sceptical opinions. Many other *savants* in Vienna, however, look upon the discovery as serious. They say that as so many other secrets of nature have been discovered, the law on which the sex of future individuals in the dimer tittle-tattle which the wording would pro-bably cover. One day a man suggested over the dimer table that a third person, not present, was illegitimate. This, Sir Comer Petheram punishable a ruling which ought to frighten people from going out to dimer. The Privy construed like English Acts of Parliament, which are interpreted with a good deal; of local fetish, -I. D. News.



THE AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA JANUARY 27, 1898.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

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THE Paris correspondent of the Celogne sette says that the scheme for the raising Chinese loan in Paris under a Rusguarantee has fallen through, and that other attempt is being made to negotiate toan in London. The British Government ims that an Englishman shall be placed the head of the body controlling the enues hypothecated for the loan, that the cessor to Sir R. Hart as Chief of the stoms shall be an Englishman, and that

ere shall also be a concession of territory. On iaquiry in banking circles in the City, atter's Agency learns that nothing is known any direct negotiations proceeding in Lonn with any banking Corporation or private pitalists for the conclusion of a Chinese . There is, however, good reason to be-

ve that the question is now under the con-leration of the British Government. he Times in a leading article, says :

ina is the greatest potential customer in world for certain classes of European goods classes of goods in which we can hold our own ainst all rivals with a fair field. But that field must secure for ourselves, and the City, as ght have been expected, sees that an adce to China in the present conjuncture may ord us a powerful weapon of self-defence, if is made upon proper conditions. In finan-il circles it is felt that such a transaction onld be unobjectionable from a monetary int of view, and "positively desirable" on ditical grounds. The purchase of the Sucz anal shares has taught the nation that opera-ons of the kind, if prudently conducted, may of the utmost international importance. ir statesmen might do worse than reflect turely upon that precedent to-day.

The press Association is officially assur that there is no truth in the published atement emanating from Germany that the ritish Government insists on a cession of

hipese territory. THE "LEASE" OF KIAO-CHAU. Our Peking correspondent says that Gerany leases Kiao-chau for 50 years, and that eports are current that a French occupaon of Hai-man is imminent.

The Berlin Imperial Gazette of Wednesay says a telegram has been received from eking announcing that Kiao-chau is to be ded on a lease for a considerable time Germany together with a considerable a of adjacent territory; and the Geran Government is at liberty to erect withthe ceded territory all necessary buildings, nd to undertake the requisite measures for heir protection. The Chinese Government has ransferred to the German Government, for the riod of the lease, all its sovereign rights in the ded territory and in the event of Kiao-chau ot meeting the requirements of Germany, it is ipplated that she shall receive a more suitable More TROUBLE WITH GERMANY.

The German Minister in Peking has demand-d the dimissal of General War, the Chinese ommandant at Tsao-chau, in the Shang-tung Peninsula, for having threatened some German missionaries, and declared that if his request ere not immediately complied with, he would we Peking.

A Reuter despatch from Peking says that General Wan has not been summoned to Peking, and it is understood that the difficulty with Germany has been smoothed over for the present; but the German Minister is thought to be only delaying matters till the arrival of Prince Henry. A Reuter despatch from New York states

that, according to Peking advices, Li Hung Chang has been recalled to power, as his assistance is required in the present diplomatic crisis

The Hamburg-American Line announces the establishment of a regular monthly steam-er service between Hamburg and East Asiatic ports.

ILWAY SCHEMES,

aggressions of the last few weeks in China as a flagrant violation of international law. Mr. Davis adds:—"A vigorous query will be put by the United States to any European Power occupying any one of our 20 or more treaty potts? ports.

THE FLEETS IN CHINESE WATERS.

The admiralty states that the present disposition of the British squadron in Chinese waters is as follows:-At Chemulpo, the Centu-rion, Undaunted, Narcissus, Pique, Rainbow, Daphne, and Algerine; and at Port Arthur, the Immortalite and Iphigenia. The report that mercantile cruisers or naval reserves on the China Station were being brought into active service, is absolutely untrue. The British cruisers, Powerful and Edgar, have arrived at Hong-kong for service on the China Station. The torpedo boat destroyers will remain at Singapore until the monsoon moderates. Her Majesty's cruiser Grafton has left Hong kong for the north, According t a native report, a British squadron has appeared off Chusan. Great activity is reported to prevail in the naval yard at Hong-

Intelligence has been received, of the arrival of the German cruiser Kaiserin Augusta at

Kiao-chau last Thursday. The French second-class cruiser Pascal will leave Toulon in a few days for China, and, the Jean Bart, being already on the way thicher, Admiral de la Bedolliere's force way thither, Admiral de la Bedolliere's force will consist of five cruisers, two of them old-fashioned, and two gunboats. The *Debats* contrasts this force with the 25 English, the 16 Russian and the seven German vessels. "More particular information concerning the Russian Pacific Squadron shows that it now comprises the battle-ship Imperator Nicolai I, the cruisers Rurik Rossia (lately despatched to join the flag), Pamyat Azova, Dmitri Donskoi, Admiral Kornil, Admiral Nakhimoff, Kreysser, and Zabiaka, the gun-boats Gremiastchy, Otvajny, Korletz, Mandschur, and Slvoutch, and the torpedo-gunboats Vsadnik and Haldamak. The ar-moured cruiser Vladimir Monomach, which has received a new armament, is outward bound received a new armanient, is outward bound to the Pacific. It has been stated that the Admiral Nakhimoff and Kreysser would return. The French division of the Extreme Orient is composed of the Bayard, flag, the cruisers Descartes and Eclaireur, and the gunboats Sur-prise and Comete. The second-class cruiser Jean Bart, relieved of her fighting masts, has Jean Bart, releved of her fighting masts, has been commissioned at Brest to join the flag, and the Cecille will probably follow. Prince Henry of Prussia's flagship, the Deutschland, in company with the Gefion, will join in Chine-se waters the Kaiser, Irene, Princess, Wilhelm, Arcona, and Cormoran. The Oldenburg has proceeded to the Levant."

HOW BIRDS HOLD COURT.

OBSERVERS from time to time have assured us that birds hold meetings that have all the appearance of assemblies for a definite purpose, such as discussion or the meting out of justice to an offender. In Our Animal Friends, George Ethelbert Walsh, gives an account of some of these assemblages, part of which we quote below. Of a field near the palisades, where, according to him, thousand of crows, congregate for this purpose, he says : "Here the birds hold their courts of over

and terminer, and dispense justice according to their notions of right and wrong. A few days ago, an offender against the crow tribe was brought before this court and sentence duly passed upon the unfortunate bird. What the offence of the criminal was can only be conjectured, but the proceedings of the trial were conducted in the noisest manner pos-sible. Every member of the court seemed anxious to speak at once, and the cawing was deafening. Even the sentinel on a neighbouring rock became so interested in the proceedings that he failed to see the stealthy the proposed railway route to Port Arthur. approach of a stranger. The crows wer assembled around a barren rock on which stood the criminal and a large black crow, who seemed to be the leader of the flock. The criminal hung his head and fluttered his wings occasionally, as if anxious to escape. "After half an hour's wild cawing, the decision of the court was appacently made, for, suddenly there was a wild commotion, and the whole flock pounced upon the criminal and kitled him. Then, as if satisfied with their proceedings, they returned to their various duties, or gathered in small groups, to talk over the results of the trial. Suddenly the sentinel gave a warning cry, and the flock took wing with a loud flutter and clatter. "Another time a hardened criminal was apparently being tried by the court, when proceedings were interrupted by the offender stealing a march up on his accusers. When the cawing was at its height, the accused bird suddenly jumped into the air and flew away toward the Hudson River as fast as his wings could carry him. A dozen pursuers started after him, but he had a good start, and was still far in the lead when he passed out of view. "The sparrows also hold criminal trials and punish offenders against their own tribe. They rurely kill a criminal outright, but they inflict such severe punishment that the offender is not likely to repeat the crime. These birds are as noisy and quarrelsome as the crows, and court proceedings are conducted in a manner that treaty rights and will claim for herself privileges granted to others. The New York Times calls it a great and memor-able declaration, and says :—"In the po-sition now taken up Great Britain is not tile champion of British interests alone. She is the champion of civilisation and humanity and deserves the support of all markind, especially of the United States. Our interests in the East are the same as hers. The Herald says :—"Americans know well where American interests the," repeating that Germany Rus would distract any human judge. When the sparrows may be seen hovering on the out-skirts of many flocks. Occasionally other ac-cidents may have caused the loss of the fea-thers, but usually the 1 ird is one that has been punished for some offence."

THE SEDITION MEASURE IN COMMITTEE.

(Englishman.)

THE time has evidently come for the Government of India to carefully reconsider its position in regard to the proposed alterations in the law bearing upon sedition, and to debate whether those alterations are all of them desirable; if not, which are the most justified by recent events; and, thirdly, whether, even if any of them can be considered of a kind likely to promote the welfare of the community, it might not be well to defer for a time at least the process of placing them upon the statute book. When we accorded a conditional support to the measure introduced into the Viceroy's Council in one of Mr. Chalmers' happiest speeches, we were prepared to find it hotly opposed, not only by the native element that went without saying-but by other interests, the representatives of which might consider themselves threatened by its operation. It has has evoked. Beginning with the comments of practically the entire Indian press, both European and Native, a running fire of adverse criticism has been kept up on all sides, and has been renewed in each expression of opinion elicited from the various public bodies consulted. Where the Bill was not condemned out-right, it was damned with faint praise, and that faint praise was for the most part bestowed when nobody was listening. The guarded approval of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce was immediately withdrawn the moment that body had had time to reflect what was implied in the powers with which Mr. Chalmers proposed to endow the first-class magistrate.

The expressions of disfavour occasioned by the introduction of the measure are clinched in the letters from the European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association which we published yesterday and to-day, the former of which describes the clause relating to cases triable by magistrates as "not only without precedent, but unnecessary and uncalled for." In its second letter, which appears in another 'Whoever by words, either spoken or written, or by signs or by visible representation, or otherwise, brings or attempts to bring into hatred or contempt, or excites, or attempts to excite, disaffection towards Her Majesty or the Government, or promotes or attempts to promote feelings of enmity or ill-will between different classes of Her Majesty's subjects, shall be punished, etc." Then follow explanations showing that "disaffection" includes "dislovalty and all feelings of enmity or ill-will," and that comments on the measures of Govern nent with a view to obtaining their lawful alteration, and that "without exciting, or attempting to excite hatred, contempt or disaffection," do not constitute an offence. The disaffection," do not constitute an offence. The Association's remark upon this proposal is that it would seriously curtail the freedom of the press, and that "much legitimate criticism would in their opinion come within the section as being intended to some extent to excite ill-will." The Assocriticism would in their opinion come within the section as being intended to some extent to excite ill-will." The Asso-ciation here appears to look upon ill-will as something relative and abstract, whereas it has proved in all experience to be con-crete and absolute. But let us pass on to what Mr, Madge has to say about the pro-posal to alter section 505. The change sug-gested is a subtle one. The original section

Russia having assured the United States that her ships are stationed in Port Arthur tem-porarily. Mr. Davis, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, regards the aggressions of the last few weeks in China as does right unless by accident. We fear that he condemnation which has already been pro ounced upon the Bill in this country will pale before the storm of execration which is matruing in England. Already the first thunderous mutterings have been heard. These denunciations come, too, at a time when the Government, both here and at home, is in the worst possible position to withstand them. Neither Lord Salisbury nor Lord Elgin can afford to commit one more blunder. The forward policy, persisted in in spite of every dissuasion, and culminating in disaster and ridicule, has exhausted the public patience, which had already been heavily drawn upon in respect of previous errors of omission and commission. All the recent bye-elections are so many warnings to the Home Government that it is losing ground. At such a moment nothing would suit its opponents better than the cry that it was countenancing repressive and unneces-sary legislation in India. When that cry is-raised Lord Salisbury will probably find it converient to throw the Government of In-dia overboard; and a "mandate" from Lord George Hamilton will, for the fourth or fifth time in the history of the present administra-tion humiliate it in the eves of the world. been probably, however, a source of even greater surprise to the Government than it has to ourselves to realise the extent and unanimity of the opposition which the Bill suggest that its passage should be for a time at least de'ayed.

FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

NEWS from Jamrud states that the Zakka, Aka, Kuki Khel and other sections of the Afidis held a conference at China, in the Bazar Valley, on Saturday, to consider whether hostilities should be continued or not. In connection with the opening of the Khyber for traffic, it is understood, that it has been decided that if caravans move on fixed days under proper escort, the pass at the same time being picquetted, there will be no objection.

THE wire was cut on Sunday night three and-a-half miles from Jamrud. One post was knocked down, and 130 yards of wire stolen. The road pickets retired through each other and were well supported. There were no casualties.

THE Zakka Khel may, at any moment, repeat their tactics of attacking piequets and convoys in the Khyber. It was feared they might des-troy the memorial put up to mark the spot where General Sir H. Havelock-Allan was killed, but no damage has been done to it so far.

THE alleged murderer of the late Pundit Lekh Ram, who was arrested at Srinagar, has been let off for want of evidence.

THE Railway authorities in the Rawalpindi District have granted an increase of pay equal to 25 per cent. to all the menials employed in that district during the rush of traffic.

THE Tibetans have sent in to our local fronier officials everything that was taken, from Mr. Savage Landor when he was arrested and roughly treated some months ago. There seems to have been no desire to keep back a single article, arms and money, both highly esteemed in Tibet, having been returned.— Pioneer.

GAZETTE NOTIFICATIONS,

Maulvi Mohammad Serajul Huq, Dy. Magte and Dy Collr, Saran. is transferred to the headmarters station of the district of the 24 erganas.

Mr. Henry Charles Woodman is appointed to be an Asst Magte and Collr and is posted to the head-quarters station of the Saran district.

Babu Sashi Sikar Dutt, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Nadia, is allowed leave for one month, under articles 377 and 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Chandra Narayan Gupta, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Sonthal Parganas, is allowed leave for two months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. J C Twidell, offg Jt Magte and Dy. Collr, Saran, is transferred to Muzeffarpur.

Mr. A. W. Warde-Jones, offg Dy Magte and Dy Collector, Hazaribagh, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the district of Lohardaga

Maulvie Abdul Khalik, Dy. Magte and Dy Collr, is posted to the head-quarters station of the district of Lohardaga.

Maulvi Abdus Salam, Dy. Magte and Dy Collr, under orders of transfer to Purneah, is allowed leave for fifteen days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave already granted to

Babu Kally Prosonna Sircar, Dy. Magis-trate and Dy Collr, Faridpur, is allowed leave for one month, under articles 377 and 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Hari Bhusan De, offg. Dy Magte and Dy. Collr, Dacca, is transferred to Faridpur.

Babu Akshay Kumar Chatterjea, Dy. Magte. and Dy. Collr, Bangaon, is transferred to Burd-wan, Babu Juggobundoo Bhuttacharjee, Dy. Magte. and Dy. Collr, Birbhum, acting for

Maulvi Abul Khair Mahomed Abdus Subhan Dy Magte and Dy Collr, is posted to Birbhum.

Babu Bangshi Dhar Rai, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Birbhum, is transferred to Berhampur. Mr. A. E. O'Sullivan, Proby Asst Supdt of Police, Dacca, is allowed leave for fourteen days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave already granted to him.

Mr. R. A. D. Bignell, Dist Supdt of Police, Birbhum, is transferred to Muzaffarpur.

The following gentlemen are appointed to be Probationary Asst Supdts of Police, and are posted to Bhagalpur:-Mr. James Algernon Stevens, Mr. Alexander Tollemache Halliday, Lieut Douglas Cyril Percy-Smith.

Babu Girindra Chunder Mookerji, Asst Supdt of Police, 24-Parganas, is allowed leave for one month, under article 291 of the Civil Service, Regulations.

Maulvi Abdul Karim, Asst Inspector of Schools for Muhammadan Education, Presi-dency Circle and Orissa Division, is allowed leave for one month, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Chundra Nath Bose, Bengali Transla-tor to Government, is allowed leave for two months and twenty days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations. Babu Narayan Chandra Bhattacharyya, M.A., acting for him, Babu Akhoy Kumar Sen, Lecturer in the Chittagong College, is appointed to act as a Professor in that College.

Rai Koilas Chandra Das Bahadur, Genera Manager of Wards Estates in the district of Chittagong, is allowed furlough for one year under Article 371 of the Civil Service Regulations.

It is reported at St. Petersburg that the Chinese Government has given its consent for surveys to be made by Russian engineers of According to this plan, the line to Port Arthur would be a branch of the Russian Trans-Manchuria Railway, and not a mere extension of the Chinese Ten-tsin Railway, to be joined by a branch from the Russian line through Manchuria.

Advices received in Vienna from Shanghai state that the Chinese Government has ordered 4,000 tons of steel rails from the Cockerill Company in Belgium, and 10,000 casks of cement in Germany in pursuance of its railway construction schemes. KOREA.

According to advices received from Scoul, a compromise has been effected between Mr. M'Leavy Brown, the Chief Commissioner of Korean Customs, and M. Alexieff, the Russian nominee, whereby they have agreed to work side by side. The six British war-ships which have arrived off Chemulpho are sinps which have arrived off Chemulpho are present for the purpose of giving the moral support of Great Britain to Mr. M'Leavy Brown's position. Reuter's Agency learns that the contract under which Mr. M'Leavy Brown was en-gaged by the Korean Government was for

five years, and that some 18 months 'of that term have still to run.

AMERICAN OFINIONS.

A statement has been telegraphed to New York that England will refuse to recognize special concessions by China in violation of treaty rights and will claim for herself interests he," repeating that Germany, Rusinterests he, repeating that Germany, Rus-sia, and France will each set up a mono-poly, each for its own behalf. England will set up free trade, admitting American products as freely as English. The *World* declares that the protest of England will stop the proposed spoliation of China and "be endorsed by the conscience of the civilized world." There are Jinko papers which still write of "Fundames ame of arch." and world world is in " England's game of grab," and would write in the same vein whatever England said or did. But the best and strongest American opinion is the other way.

Mr. Sherman tells the Herald, a propos of the

gested is a subtle one. The original section presupposed on the part of the culprit a deliberate intention of creating public discontent by circulating false statements, Farm is to success of his malicious purpose. The new section makes it penal to write or say anything "which is likely to cause" discontent, or mutiny, over an area of sixty miles. or anything 'whereby they (the public) may induced to commit an offence against the State or against the public tranquillity. In this way, says the Defence Association, "the whole character of the section is radically changed and its scope indefinitely and dangerously widened." The Association further protests against the exception contemplated when the rumour or report is made, published, or circulated without such intent as afore-said." This, as the Association puts it, is equivalent to "throwing on the accused, at the time when he is being with a such as a such the time when he is being tried, the onus of proving what it must always be impossible for him to prove, viz, the absence of an intent n his mind at some past time, instead of re-quiring the prosecution, as in the existing law, to prove his intention, or reasonably to infer it from his acts."

This is no sparing criticism, and it comes from a quarter which the Government cannot afford to ignore. It is not the vapour-ing of Congresswallas. It is a deliberate expression of opinion on the part of a body which has British supremacy more body which has British supremacy more closely at heart than any other institution in the country except, perhaps, the Government of India itself. The most significant feature about these letters of the Defence Association is that they challenge the new measure at every point, They do not merely attack the dangerous powers which it proposes to entrust to Presidency and District Magistrates, although the provision referred to opens up an endless vista of petty prosecutions, heart-burnings, and the steady growth of discontent in out-of-the-way districts. They oppose it because they regard it as a useless and perilous innovation upon what Sir James Fitzjames Stephen once desal system of criminal law than any other with which he was acquainted." They look upon it as endangering the freedom of the press, and as generally inimical to the liberty of the sub-

A COMMITTEE assembles next week at His ser to decide whether the Government Cattle Farm is to be done away with or not. In all probability the farm will be given over to and the punishment to be meted out to him was measured by the extent of the the Remount Department and a stud farm started there in its place. The farm contains 6,000 cattle, and the grazing extends

> THE case against the two gunners is pro ceeding at Poona. The first accused in his statement before the Court on Tuesday repeated that he sawia hyena at a distance and went to shoot it. He heard the cry of Clarke for help. He ran back and in the scuffle with the villagers which followed, his gun went off, and the man was seen to fall. He reported the occurrence on arriving in camp to Brigade-Sergeant-Major May, and was ordered to show himself to Surgeon Lieutenant Kiddle, who trented him for injuries. The second accused, Gunner Clarke, was discharged, and then put in the witness-box, when he confirmed all that Piper had said. The medical evidence alone remains to be given.

OUR Cairo correspondent expresses the opinion that the final advance on Khartoum will be deferred until July or August, which agrees with the telegram Sirdar Kitchener has just sent from the front. There is at present no continuity of water transport possible between Berber and Khartoum, or even up to Metonimeh, and the Nile is too low to permit of our gunboats rassing the cataracts near the mouth of the Atbara. It will be seen also that while our London military correspondent predicts that Sir Francis Grenfell will be sent out to take command, the Cairo letter pronounces such a report to be absolutely groundless.-Pioncer.

"DON'T hold court at night," was the parting advice given by Mr. Marjoribanks to the Sta-tionary Sub-Magistrate at Negapatam, at the Railway Station, when leaving this place to join his new appointment in the Secretariat. The advice does not seem to have been seriously acted upon in the least, as the Magistrate still continues to hold court till a late hour in the night, which practice, it is needless to state. causes no small inconvenience and annovance to parties and them Vakils, who have to dance After a story of some blue-birds who buried alive a sparrow who had taken possession of a box inhabited by two of them, Mr. Walsh goes on to say: "The offences which deserve punishment among the birds differ according to the species. Some are born pilferers, and robbery is looked upon by them as legitimate; but most of our some birds respect the rights of property.

B. Lag 15 appointed to act as a Munsif of Netrakona.

Babu Jagan Mohan Sarkar, Munsif of Patiya Babu Jagan Monan Sarkor, Munsir of Fatiya is allowed leave for thirty-five days viz, eight days under arricle 308 of the Civil Service Re-gulations, and the remaining period under article 306 (δ) of the same Regulations. Babu Promotho Krishna Singh, Munsif of Netrakona, is allowed leave for sixty days, under article 306 (b) of the Civil Service Regulations.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Babu Mohendra Nath Bagchi of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate of the Sadar Independent Bench in the district of Howrah.

Babu Amrita Lal Rai Chaudhuri is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Independent Bench at Gopalganj, Faridpur, and is vest-ed with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Maulvi Kaekobad Ahmad is appointed to be t. Sub-Registrar of Phatikchari at Kazirhat, Chittagong.

Maulvi Abdur Rashid is appointed to be Jt ub-Registrar of Raojan at Lumbur Hat, Chittagong.

Kazi Bazlul Haq is appointed to be Jt. Sub Registrar of Hathazari at Fatheyabad, Chittagong.

Babu Mana Ranjan Das is appointed to be Sub-Registrar of Satkania at Darvesh Hat Chittagong.

Maulvi Chaudhari Adbul Ghani, Rura Sub-Registrar of Rosera, Darbhanga, is ap-pointed to be Rural Sub-Registrar of Bagaha, Champaran. Mr. Syed Azizur Ruhman, Jt. Sub-Registrar of Samastipur at Warisnagar, Dar-bhanga, acting for him.

Maulvi Muhammad Saeed, Rural Sub-Regis trar of Bagaha, Champaran, is appointed to be Jt, Sub-Registrar of Samastipur at Warisnagar, Darbhanga.

PREPARATIONS for the coming durbar at Allahabad are every brisk. Lala Ram Charan Das, Rai Bahadur, and his co-adjutors are equally busy about the evening party to His

THE present Registrar of the Allahabad High Court, Mr. Tnnose, is going on two years' leave out of India and that his office will be filled by Mr. Benjamin Lindsay, C.S., the present officiating District and Sessions Judge of Jaunpur.

THE Kashmir Durbar have decided to push Some are born placters, and in the nature of things can desire nothing more prestige of the prestige of the prestige of the maintenance of the prestige of the prestige of the Anything like this would be a great relief to all, Anything like this would be a great relief to all, Anything like this would be a great relief to all, at any rateit will not necessitate the presence of suitors in the court premises from 10 A.M. to the Kashmir Valley and also be of great benefit.



CHOICE THEMS. AN AERIAL TRAMWAY.

MR. G. H. M. HYDE, Chief Engineer of the Colombo Commercial Company, left recently for Travancore, the object of his trip being to draw up estimates for the construction of an aerial tramway for Messrs. Finlay, Muir, and Company on one of their estates in that district. The line will commence at an elevation of about 2,000 ft., and will be in two sections, while the elevation at the other end will be about 600 ft. Between the two sections of the line there will be a middle-station at which water-power will be provided for both sections. The tramway will commence at the western end of the district near Cochin, and is intended chiefly for the transport of rice, etc., to the eastern end of the district, as great inconvenience is felt at present in using the existing cart road.

AN ARTIFICIAL LAKE

A SCHEME to dam the Bangunga liver, near where it issues from the hills, about three miles to the east of the old town three Ramgarh, and to form an artificial to be used for irrigation purposes, lake, has long been before the Jeypur Durbar. The work has now been sanctioned, and will be shortly begun. The lake will cover an area of six miles, and in the deepest parts there will be seventy feet of water. It is calculated that the area, commanded for irrigation purposes, will extend to 130 square miles.

A SPEAR HEAD IN AN ELEPHANT'S TUSK. A vry singular find is recorded in a London magazine. Some ivory-cutters, while at work upon an elephant's tusk, discovered the head of an assegai or African spear embed-ded in it. This tusk was being cut up for knife handles. It is surmised that the spear was thrown at a young elephant and that the head broken off and lodged in the hollow part of one of its tusks. Then, as the tusk grew, the spear-head was pushed further and further towards the tip, and at length the ivory grew round the steel blade its lf.

COWS IN SPECTACLES.

THE idea of cows wearing spectacles, seems most ridiculous. Nevertheless there are cows that do wear spectacles and these may be seen on the plains or steppes of Russia, which are covered with snow more than six months of the year. The cows subsist on the tufts of grass which crop criminality and the vagueness in the definition above the snow and the rays of the sun of slander is such, that no two persons would on the snow are so dazzling as to cause blindness. To obviate this calamity it occurred to a kind-hearted man to protect the cows' eyes in the same way as those of human beings, and he manufactur-ed smokecoloured spectacles which could be safely worn by cattle. These spectacles were a great success, and are now worn by upwards of 40,000 head of cattle, who no longer suffer from the snow blindness which once caused such untold suffering amongst

the search and a search and a search and ORSI'S HOURS AN AIR-SHIP FOR KLONDYKE.

INVENTION fever is evidently on the increase, During the last mail week there were 740 appli cations for patents at the London Office Mr. Hiram S. Maxim, the inventor of the Maxim gun and lately of a new and valuable electric gun and lately of a new and valuable electric lamp, is now busy with the construction of an air-ship to serve for the conveyance of passengers from San Francisco to Klondyke. The trial trips of this new flying machine are reported by New York papers to have been successful; and it is said that the company intends constructing them on an extensive scale. The machines are constructed entirely of aluminium; they occupy 106,000 cubic feet of space, and are intended to travel at the rate of more than 60 miles an hour, the propellers being driven by a naptha engine of 105 horsepower. Each machine will

for the present how a law as section 124A of the Indian Penal Code could be lost sight of at the final discussion, it appears that Mr. Bethune had suggested for section 113 two sections, namely, 131 and 132 of the revised Code, thus:

"131. Whoever, by words spoken, written or printed, maliciously counsels the resistance force of any law or lawful authority, is liable to transportation or imprisonment for seven years, and in either case, also to fine. 132. Whoever by words spoken, written or printed, or by signs or drawings, maliciously stirs up or endeavours to stir up any per-son to disobey the Law, is hable to imprisonment for three years, or to banishment: and in either case, also to fine." On these two sections, Sir Lawrence Peel, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, at Fort William, remarked:-

"The proposed Law as contained in these articles, appears to me objectionable in not distinguishing between instigations to disobe dience of the Law in grave and in slight cases in the latter the punishment is far too severe. If a man is liable to pay a sum of money under a decree of any Court, and one advises him not to pay it, he instigates to disobedience of the Law, and it would seem that in legal contemplation under this Act, "he would have reason to believe" that which it is inexcusable not to know, for ignorantia legis non excusat. But whether this be the intention, may be doubted : assuming the meaning to have been that it must be a knowing insligation to the disobedience of the Law, still such an indiscriminating mode of legislation seems highly

objectionable, for instance, a liability to be banished for instigating a man not to obey a summons, but to keep away, would never be enacted by a Legislature dealing with that offence simply." Referring to clause 113, Mr. G. Norton,

Advocate-General at Madras, said:-"As regards the object of defining the mode of slandering Government—'as by words either spoken or intended to be read, or signs, &'and of defining what shall constitute slandering, namely, 'the exciting feelings of disaffection, as contrasted with the exciting only feelings of such a 'disapprobation of measures of Government as is compatible with a disposition to render obedience and to support its lawful autho-rity against unlawful tattempts, etc.,' I con-ceive the composers of this Code are as unfortunate as all others have been in that effort. Words spoken and signs made, and words written, with a view to sedition or of exciting disaffection, are of very different effect and probably agree in their sense of it. But the greatest objection appears to me to be the enormous severity with which the most trivial slander against Government, by the most trivial sign of communication, may be visitedextending, as it may, to banishment for life added to unlimited fine."

Mr. J. Cochrane, the Standing Counsel at Calcutta, gave this opinion on clause 113;

"I think that as a mere matter of public policy, every Government should avoid punishing mere words, unless such be accompanied by ing mere words, unless such be accompanied by acts injurious to the interests of the State. But this clause does not only apply to words, but is in fact a direct attack on the public press. The expression 'as is incompatible with a disposi-tion to render obedience' which is the qualification of the clause, appears to me of a very dangerous tendency, and calculated to place men's rights and liberties in the discretion of each particular Judge."

He was also opposed to the clause, because of the severity of the punishment. Mr. W. Hudleston, Judge of the Sudder Court at Madras, thought the clause wholly indefensible. We will next give the observations of the

Law Commissioners : "The offence which the clause is intended to punish, is that of attempting to excite feelings of disaffection to the Government; and to guard against too wide

'even in common and unadvised discourse, 'amount to a misprison punishable by fine and corporal punishment,' as well as by imprisonment, and by special statutes, persons advisedly speaking against the constitution

on certain points, are liable to punishment, by forfeiture of lands and goods, and im-prisonment 'at the King's pleasure, or as other authorities have it during life,' which the Criminal Law Commissioners propose to change into imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years, (the maximum term of imprisonment specified in the clause under consideration as the alternative for banishment,) and fine at discretion.

By Article 5, section 3, chapter 11, of the Digest of the English Criminal Law Commissioners, 'public speaking' is specified together with 'the exhibiting of flags, inscriptions' &c., as means of 'exciting in the minds of the subjects of the realm hatred or contempt of the person of Her Majesty, or of her Government, or of the Constitution of United Kingdom,' &c. The exhibiting of flag' is a mode of using 'signsor visible representations' within the scope of the definition in clause 113. With regard to Mr. Cochrane's objection

that the provisions of this clause, (touching 'words intended to be read,' we presume,) are an attack upon the public press, we have only to observe that the objection appears to apply equally to the Law of England which the equally to the Law of England which the 'composing, printing, or publishing' a seditious libel, tending to bring into contempt the person of Her Majesty, or her Government, &c., is a penal offence. 'Publications tending to degrade and vilify the constitution, to promote insurrection, and circulate discontent through its members, would,' says Russel, without doubt, be considered as seditious and criminal.' Such publications only, under the explanations subjoined to clause 113, would, we conceive, be liable to punishment by the provisions thereof.

In England, in cases of this nature, the first offence, it appears, is punishable at Common Law. For a second offence, the punishment is by statute, the same as in cases of high misdemeanours, that is, we apprehend, by fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the Court. Formerly the offender might be sentenced to banishment for such term of years as the Court should award, but this part of the law has been repealed. The punishment proposed by the English Criminal Law Commissioners in their Digest, is imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years.

Before we conclude our remarks upon this Chapter, we wish to advert again to the suggestion made by the framers of the Code as to the expediency of the interposition of the Imperial Legislature to pass a Law of High Treason for the territories of the East India Company. We conceive that offences of a treasonable nature, committed against the Government of India, must, in contemplation of law, be considered as offences against the Crown. And we have consequently very grave doubts whether the Council of India is not excluded from all legislative power on the subject, by that part of the 43rd section turned from the window cold upon her heart. they shall not 'in any way repeal, vary, suspend or affect, 'any part of the un-written laws or constitution of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, whereon may depend, in any degree, the allegiance of any person to the Crown of the United Kingdom, or the sovereignty or dominion of the said Crown over any part of the said territories..' On the Chapter of Punishments, they, among

other things, remark: -

"We have remarked that there are only three clauses (113,114, and 290) in which banishment from the territories of the East India Company offences. In commenting upon clause 113 we reserved our opinion upon the propriety of the punishment of banishment for the offence of 'attempting to excite feelings of dis-affection to the Government,' therein defined, until we should have maturely considered the apter of ive now to submit our opinion that it would be an unwarrantable severity to inflict the punishment of banishment for life upon a Native of the Territories of the East India Company, constantly domiciled there from birth, for the offence in question. Probably the extreme sometimes politically expedient to banish a temporary inhabitant, convicted of attempting to excite disaffection to the Government, for life. But we do not think it consistent with the principles upon which the penal provisions of the Code have been constructed generally, to extend the punishment beyond the measure of the offence upon any such consideration. We think, the punishment of banishment is a fit punishment for the offence; but we would recommend that the term be limited to 5 years, as the term of simple imprisonment, which may be inflicted in the alternative, is limited to 3 years.

" MANY WATERS CANNOT QUENCH your wife ; and so when I grew to have, see LOVE."

KATHERINE MCAULAY sat at her desk, leaning her pretty face between her hands. A very pretty face it was, with its wilful, red mouth and clear, large eyes of Irish blue ! Katherine's lover, a fair-haired foreigner, stood a little distance from her, looking down very tenderly on his bride-elect.

"You made me a promise, dear," he said. She had been looking up at him, fearlessly; now her eyes dropped with an expression that vas in some wise shamed.

"Suppose, I will ask you to release me from that promise?" Her voice was half pet-ulant, yet with a tremor running through it, like the sob that sometimes wavers in the wind. "You shall have but to ask it" he said, and, drawing closer to her, laid his hand kindly upon her head. My pet, my pet, do you think that I cannot trust you?"

"How do you know you can ? How do you know what or who I am ?" The girl's face was sharp and hard as she spoke, but her over might not doubt those innocent eyes. He bent down till his cheek touched hers. "I know that you are everything that is per-

fect," he said. She put out her hands against him as if she would repulse him, then change her purpose all as suddenly, and caught him to her

m a passionate caress. "If there were any man or woman standing between us, we could be parted," she said, in a whisper.

"But nothing else could separate us-no-thing else ! Tell me that again, my dearest,

tell me that again. " He could feel her little hands trembling. He could see the look of fear that was white upon her face.

"My poor child," he said, with infinite pity, "why distress yourself so? I have asked for no disclosure of anything in your past. You yourself offered it. I but reminded you of that offer because I think if a disagreeable thing is to be done, the sooner it is done the better." She freed herself from his embrace, and leaving her place at the desk, went to the window and stood there, looking out and up into the far, dim sky. Oh, there were visions in the mist above, where the darkness brooded. First, a dun waste of bog, with the moon-light falling elfishly upon it, with the still pools gleaming out blackly, with the grey osiers drooping pallidly here and there by the water's edge. And an agonised the water's edge. And an agonised cry shivered through the silence: "The child ! The child !" Then there was a lumbering barge creeping alone a winding canal, and a strange, dark city, and after weary wanderings in the rain, kind voices and helping hands for the little unknown vagrant who was the jetsam of the storm. With a memory of the wretched cabin squat on that bog, with a memory of the unclean rags of that forlorn, strayed child, Katherne turned from the window with the dark reserve

Then someone came tapping at the door, and an expostulatory voice accompanied the interruption. "Dear, dear, an' to think me little girl lives in this gran 'place." Katherine had not heard that voice fo

eighteen years, but she recognised its firs intonation, and stood breathless, watching the opening door with love and fear and an-guish darkening in her eyes. But in an nstant a comely peasant woman was in her presence, meeting her with a long, question-ing stare, and then there was a cry strangely like that long-past cry sweeping in the mists, and the girl cast herself upon the elder woman's breast. "Mother ! Mother !" she said, [and hid her

face.

In the midst of all this grave excitement, Katherine's lover could scarcely refrain from smiling. So this was the secret the foolish tragi about ! But the smile faded on his face, as the peasant woman slipped down hopelessly, though the frail arms of her long-lost daughter, slipped down, with broken sight and straining breath, to the earth that she was become one with. 'Mother, dear mother, can you not hear me? penalty of banishment for life was not intended to be applied to persons of this description, but to temporary inhabitants. It might perhaps be you" !

enough to repent of my madness in runnin away from home, I dared not set thin right. But at least, I kept my mother fro poverty But I was bad, bad—" He took her into his arms, and kisse that tear-stained, quivering face. "Many wate cannot quench love," he whispered, the floods drown it." if

SEDITION LAW OF INDIA.

THE following letter has been addressed y Mr. R. C. Dutt to the London Dail News:

Sir,-Will you permit me to say a few word on the proposed amendment of the Crimina Law of India with regard to sedition ? I hav served the Indian Government for a quart of a century, and have tried to the best my ability to explain to my countrymen the wise and benevolent objects which character ise Indian administration; and 1 have also attempted to place before the Government of the day the loyal and legitimate aspiration of my countrymen for reforms.

It is proposed to modify Sec. 124A the Indian Penal Code so as to provid that it amounts to sedition to prom feelings of ill-will between different class of Her Majesty's Indian subjects. My ence is that the Press of India, both En and native, habitually refrain from all writin calculated to promote such ill-feeling; th English, the Hindu, and the Mahommeda newspapers habitually write with caution, s as not to excite race-hatred. Nevertheless expressions are sometimes used, which creat bad feeling and widen differences; an the English Press in India sins in thi respect not less frequently than the Native Press. When an English newspaper write of a section of the Indian people as "no torious for their cowardice," it embitters race-feelings. Will the Indian Governmen venture to prosecute Anglo-Indian newspape for such writing, or is the proposed law in tended for Hindus and Mahommedans alone I have always felt it, and often stated it in my official communications to Government which have been published, that much of th bitterness of race-feeling would disappear if the English Press in India could write o the Indian races and their leaders with th sympathy and respect, due to the fellow-subject of the same Sovereign.

It is proposed to modify Section 505 of the Indian Penal Code, making it punishable to make false statements, conducive to public mischief. The sources of information which Inischief, The sources of information which Indian newspapers command, are notoriously defective; and to punish every such statement, which proves on inquiry to be incorrect, would be to kill newspapers. Would it not be more equitable and just to punish only such state-ments as are published with the knowledge that they are false? Section 100 of the Criminal Broading

Section 109 of the Criminal Procedure Code is meant for the worst class of crim nals in India, - men who live by habitual theft and robbery and extortion. For years past I have applied that section to the cases of men who were the terrors of villagers, who burnt down houses, insulted women, and committed other outrages for the purpose of extortion, or who lived by theft. Is it fair to class journalists, who are sometimes betrayed to intemperate style in this class ?

In spite of all that has been written lately I state without hesitation that sedition does not exist among the educated people of India; English education has killed sedition in India. There was a time, some forty years ago, when I was a boy, when there were leaders of men and chiefs of influence who harboured the thought of overturning the British rule or rising against the British Government. Forty years of English education have killed this idea. Educated people know the immense volence which characterises English administration in India ; the thought of rising against the British power does not exist in educated India. What educated India strives to do, is to improve the administration of India by pointing out its existing defects, and to demand for the people a larger share in the administration of the country. This is con-demned as "sedition," as "disloyalty," or as "disaffection ;" and officers whose administiation is attacked, desire to stamp out criticism and constitutional agitation under the false and constitutional agriation under the faise name of secition. It is the old story of giving a dog a bad name and hanging it. As an administrator myself, I have been attacked, not unoften, my acts have been questioned, my administration of a turbulent district has been condemned as "reign of terror." But such public criticism did no harm it did me good by making me careful in taking coercive action except when really administration, though it may irritate sensitive men; and administration is purest in those provinces of India where such criticism is brownices of finitial where such criticism is the strongest. For the rest, the educated people of India who agitate and who write to the newspapers, are the strongest friends of the British Govern-ment in India. They seek to reform, not to weaken, the administration. They are the leaders of their countrymen, interpreters between the rulers and the people, loyal by their own interests, men who have staked everything on the continuance of the British rule, men who have everything to lose by the severance of India from England. It is an unwise policy to discredit them or to treat their criticism as "disaffection." The present policy of prose cutions for "disaffection" is a mistake, and is embiltering the minds of the people. The proposed amendment of the Sedition Law is a mistake, and will sow the seeds of real disaffecthe strongest. mistake, and will sow the seeds of real disaffec-tion in India. As an old servant of the Indian Government which I have served during the best years of my life, I deplore the unsympathetic and unwise coercive policy which is now being pursued in India, which is a worse blunder than the Frontier War, and which, if continued for a generation, is and which, if commuted for a generation, is calculated to change loyal and contented and peace-abiding nations in India to what Ireland was a generation ago.—1 am, Sir, your obedient servant.

o dollars only. We are not told whether Mr. Maxim has ventured aloft in one of his own cars. Instantantes estar :

THE SEDITION SECTION OF THE INDIAN PENAL CODE.

SECTION 124A of the Indian Penal Code. was added, in 1870, at the instance of the late Sir James Fitzjames Stephen, then Hon'ble Mr. Stephen and an ordinary member of the Governor-General's Council in charge of the Law Department. He founded that section -section 113 of the Penal Code of 1837,-usually known as Lord Macaulay's Code, which ran thus:

"113. Whoever, by words, either spoken or intended to be read, or by signs, or by visible representations, attempts to excite feelings of disaffection to the Government established by law in the territories of the East India Company, among any class of people who live under that Government, shall be punished with banishment for life or for any term from the territories of the East India Company, to which fine may be added, or with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, to which fine may added, or with fine.

"Explanation.—Such a disapprobation of the measures of the Government, as is compatible with a disposition to render obedience to the lawful authority of the Government, and to support the lawful authority of the Government against unlawful attempts to subvert or resist that authority, is not disaffection. Therefore, the making of comments on the measures of the Government, with the intention of exciting only this species of disapprobation, is not an offence within this clause." Mr. Stephen's section is substantially

the "124A. Whoever, by words, either same:-spoken or intended to be read, or by signs, or by visible representations, or otherwise, excites or attempts to excite feelings of disaffection to the Government established by law in British India, shall be punished with transportation for life or for any term, to which fine may be added, or with imprisonment for a term which may ex-tend to three years, to which fine may be added, or with fine."

Explanation-(The same as in Macaulay's draft).

During the debate, which was confined to himself, on the Bill proposing section 124A, Mr. Stephen made the statement "that there was a section to the present effect, which ought to have been submitted to the Council, and to have been passed, and that it was omitted through a mistake or oversight which it was

and to give free scope to that kind of tem-perate discussion and criticism of public term. measures, which is conducive to the public good, an explanation is subjoined declaring that by 'disaffection' is not meant, 'such a disapprobation of the measures of Government as is compatible with a disposition to render obedience to the lawful authority of Government against unlawful attempts to subvert or resist that authority." It seems to us that by this explanation the discretion of the Judge is pretty well guided and limited, and that there is by no means so much danger of his transgressing the just line as Mr. Cochrane apprehends As to the ways in which the attempt to excite disaffection may be made 'by words either spoken or intended to be read, or by signs, or by visible representations,' the terms expressing them are the same as are used in the definition of defamation, and we presume that the same reasons which determined the authors of the Code not to make a distinction between written and spoken defamation, determined them likewise not to make a dis tinction between seditious words spoken in order to excite disaffection in the hearers, and

seditious words written and intended to be read, the object being the same. These reasons are ably stated in the note to the Chapter on "Defamation." As to sedition there can be little question, we conceive, that the object of exciting feelings of disaffection to the Government may be effected tion to the Government may be effected more easily, more suddenly, and therefore more dangerously, by an inflammatory de-clamation on a popular topic, addressed to a multitude by a skilful orator, than by the circulation of written or printed papers. Mere vague words spoken at random, ought not, indeed, to be brought within this clause: but as in the Direct of the English clause; but as in the Digest of the English Criminal Law Commissioners it is laid down that words spoken shall not be deemed to constitute an overt act of any treason, unless they be words of advice, direction, or persuasion, tending to effectuate some traitorous act or design, so here must be understood significant words of advice, direction or persuasion, tending to excite the people to whom they are addressed, to a degree of disaffection incompatible with a disposition to render obedience to the lawful authority of the Government, etc., and spoken under circumstances indicating a design to cause such excitement, or under circumstances from which the speaker must have known it to be likely

that the words spoken by him would cause such excitement.

It seems that by the Common Law of England, 'generally speaking, any words, &c; tending to vilify or disgrace the King, or to ifficult now to account for." Leaving lessen him in the esteem of his subjects' England,

AT the Thanesar Fair over eighteen lakhs of people visited the sacred tanks on Saturday in connection with the eclipse.

LARGE orders for bhusa have, we hear been cancelled by the Commissariat, which looks as if the Tirah expedition is in truth at an end.

FIVE or six Brahmin boys of the Royal School, who, on completing the course of study prescribed for the school, had to leave it, to continue the same elsewhere, have been allowed a monthly scholarship of Rs. 10 and 15, for having been companions to the young Maharajah.

LORD AND LADY METHUEN contemplate a visit to Burma before leaving for England at the end of February.

In India soldiers appear to be most liable to catch the enteric fever: indeed, it is their monopoly. Now report comes in of the malady having broken out at Lucknow—the 18th Hussars stationed there being the worst sufferers.

MESSRS. D'ANJIEHOY AND SONS have now arranged to run daily tongas from Peshawar to Bara in one direction, and to Landi Kotal in another. The latter service commenced from the beginning of the last week, and the formertwo days later.

COLONEL H. WYLLIE, C. S.I., Resident in Nepal, who has been appointed to officiate for Mr Barnes as Agent to the Governor-General in Baluchistan, has made over charge of hi, office to Surgeon-Captain W. E. A. Armstrongs until the arrival of Colonel Curzon Wyllie from

The dead lips almost smile in their silence. The dead face settles deeper in its sleep. "Ah, I know now how you must have sought

Katherine went on, self-reproachfully. me." "I know how many a time you must have looked along that old, dark canal, and wondered if it were your dar-ling's grave. I, your pet, who hid away from you because you were humble I, your darling, who let you and poor. break your heart, and kept my wicked si-lence. Oh, thank God you are dead before you knew my vileness to you, for, that had been worst pain of all. And you"-she turn-ed round fiercely on her lover - "you know now what I am." He was trying to force some brandy between the pale, dead lips, but had time to lift his eye to Katherine with one sweet look of love.

"It's no use," he said, after a moment.

"It's no use, he said, after a moment." The doctor came, and hemmed and hawed. "Syncope, poor thing," he said to Katherime, with whom he was acquainted. "An old servant of yours, I suppose?" "She's my mother." Katherine would proclaim it on the house-tops in her wild compunction. The doctor's eyes grew round; he had always understood that this young artist who was quickly attracting the attention of the public, was an orphan. He stole a glance at Harry Howard, the lover.

"Miss McAulay's mother only arrived in London this morning," said Harry, answering the look.

"She was coming to be present—he put his hand on Katherine's shoulder—at our marriage next week. "H'm, indeed; very sad, very sad." The

doctor bustled away.

They buried this mother whom love had made a wanderer in strange cities, in the city graveyard, where the fog lies thicker than the mist on a Connaught hill. And here the winds keened her, and the city noises were but a quiet crooning to hull the

tired heart into deeper slumber. "You will not keep any more secrets from me, dear," said Harry to Katherine, a few days later.

"I so feared to lose you." Katherine plead-ed, holding his hand close. "I dreaded that you would not take a peasant's daughter for

ROMESH C. DUTT. Late Offg. Commissioner of Orissa Division

CLERKS' QUARTERS .- The Bengal Government has sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 5,000 for the construction of quarters for clerk and peons of the Bergal Secretariat in the compound of the Moin Collage at Daries





Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

cms.