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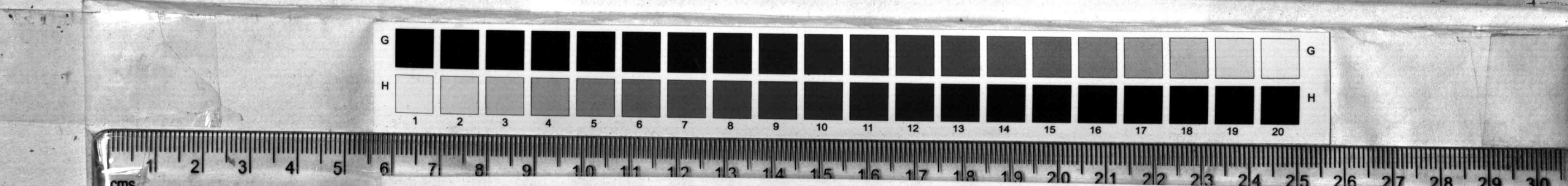
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THE Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 30, 1898.

SEDITION IN THE ENGLISH PRESS.

REFERRING to the demands of the Congress, the "Pall Mall Gazette" says:—

And as the outcome of all this verbiage, we get the educated native putting in his claim for full British citizenship. The demand, as the educated native is fully aware, will never be granted, so long as the Indian Empire endures.

Be not, however, too sure, Mr. "Pall Mall." The destinies of men and nations are not exactly in the hands of the "Pall Mall." There is a saying that "man proposes but God disposes." Perhaps the "Pall Mall" does not believe in it. But discarding God altogether, we believe we can yet prove satisfactorily that the "Pall Mall" and its constituents have no right to hold the opinion that the destinies of India are exactly in their hands. Thus the "Pall Mall" itself discloses, in the following, one of the reasons why the Indians have no chance of obtaining the right of British citizenship:—

Fortunately, the differences between Indian and Indian are as deep as the ocean and as ancient as the hills.

Let the Mussalmans, who left the Congress for selfish purposes, take note of the above declaration of the "Pall Mall." To proceed, however. So, the Indians are to be permanently deprived of political rights not because the "Pall Mall" wishes it, but because they themselves cannot agree!

But, unfortunately for the "Pall Mall", what if they at last come to see their folly? Suppose they at last come to see it and agree to agree,—what then, Mr. "Pall Mall"?

But, then, the Indians have another way of gaining their ends. The "Pall Mall" itself admits that the Indians can obtain British citizenship if, by forgetting their mutual differences, they stand united for their rights. But, as we said, there is another way to secure the same end, viz, if the majority of the English people agree in sticking to the promises of the Sovereign given in 1858.

In England there are two parties holding quite different views in regard to India,—one party is for giving British citizenship to the Indian, the other, not. This last party, represented by the "Pall Mall", has just now the ears of England, and, therefore, that paper boldly takes upon itself to foretell the everlasting destinies of India.

But what if the party, represented by the "Pall Mall" be at last discredited? There is good reason for this supposition. Let us analyse the sentiments that move the party represented by the "Pall Mall". The idea that the people here are quarrelling, gives it delight. The Bible says that "blessed are the peace makers"; but the "Pall Mall" says that the sight, of the disorganised people of India fighting amongst themselves, gives it great pleasure. The "Pall Mall's" pious wish is that the Indians should thus go on fighting for ever! What refreshing candour! Why does not the "Pall Mall" pray to God that this "luck" may continue for ever and ever?

Possibly, the "Pall Mall" is not a praying man; certainly, he is not a Christian, that is to say, he has no faith in the doctrine that peace-makers are blessed. Suppose, it at last moves Jesus Christ to take the great sinner under his protection, and extend his mercy to the "Pall Mall" and open his eyes to the brutality of his sentiments, what then? Suppose other Englishmen, who think in the way the "Pall Mall" does, are similarly blessed. Suppose they are made to see that, as men are for a short time in this world, material gain can never compensate for the wrath of Heaven, which is sure to overtake a creature who, forgetting His Fatherhood, takes upon himself to keep his brethren for ever under political bondage for some fancied advantages? Then, surely, the "Pall Mall" itself will come forward to help the Indians.

Mr. Chalmers will stop sedition in India by law. What is his provision for stopping sedition in England, and in India, too, by English writers? We have the Proclamation of the Queen where it is promised in the name of God, that the Indians are entitled to all the rights enjoyed by British subjects. The "Pall Mall" comes to declare that the Proclamation is a delusion and a snare, that the Indians have no hopes whatsoever under British rule, and that they must remain political slaves for ever and ever, that is to say, as long as British rule endures! Will such

sentiments endear British rule to the people

of this country? We think, no amount of foolish writing in the native papers is likely to move the Indian public as the sentiments set forth by the "Pall Mall."

If the native papers were to inflame the minds of the Indians by telling them that the British Government does not wish them well, and there is no hope for them while it lasts, it would be sedition. But yet, other Indians would demand proofs for such an extraordinary statement. But, if a respectable English paper,—one which guides the morals of the English public,—were to disseminate similar sentiments, would not the people feel disposed to think that, since it is put forth by Englishmen themselves they must be right? Thus if Mr. Chalmers is providing against the spread of sedition by native papers, there is no provision against the worse sedition by the English and Anglo-Indian press.

It is, however, satisfactory to observe, from the confessions of the "Pall Mall" that even bitter opponents of the Congress like itself know that the organization is loyal and harmless, because it only desires to be British subjects, and that they misrepresent its aims and objects with a deliberate object, only to bring discredit upon it.

SEDITION IN INDIA.

We shewed that the press in England can and does inflame the minds of the Indians against the British Government. The "Pall Mall" emphatically declared that as long as the British rule endures there is no hope for the Indians. Of course, the "Pall Mall" is a false prophet; but, are not such writings much more mischievous than those for which some editors are now rotting in jail? The English papers here have frankly confessed that Europeans have nothing to fear from the sedition measure proposed by Mr. Chalmers. The result will be this, that while the gagged native papers will have no opportunity of saying out their say, English papers here and in England will have ample opportunities of, not only inflaming the minds of the Indians against the Government but also against the English race. For, when the law is passed, they will have everything in their own way.

Here is a precious paragraph from an Anglo-Indian paper. It is from a correspondent of the "Indian Daily News", who calls himself "E. C. R."

We see now the fruits of our labours. The ancestors of these ungrateful Indians were formerly tillers of the soil, and through our benevolence and liberal spirit and our duty as a Christian Government, we spent money in educating and making them civilized. They have succumbed, however, to the disease of heridity; and to the end of all time under the most lenient of rulers, these blood eruptions will show out. We should have followed the treatment of the Americans toward the Red Indians—exterminated the whole show.

We thank our contemporary very much for having inserted the above letter. For, it will prove our contention that if Indian writers ever offended by violent writing, there were English writers who are worse offenders in this respect than they. Strange as it may appear, the writer seems to be really sorry that his is a Christian Government and that it has a duty! This, according to the writer absurd, sense of duty led Englishmen "to spend money" for the education of the Indians and give them the benefits of civilization. We disagree with him, however, when he says that, "we spent money in educating and making them civilized." Our notion is that the sums expended for education here, were paid by the people themselves and not by the Government. And, secondly, as to our being civilized, we deny it. We have not been able to assimilate the civilization of "E. C. R." and we are not at all sorry for it.

As regards his remarks that it was a mistake to let the Indians live, and that they ought to have been exterminated, we beg to bring to the notice of the writer that such a pious consumption by "a Christian Government" would have not served the purposes of Englishmen at all. For, if Americans annihilated the Red Indians, the former lived and thrived in the country of the latter. If the black Indians of this country had been in the same manner destroyed, the country could have been denuded of population; for, Englishmen could not live and thrive here. It was thus not a mistake to let the black Indians live and till the ground. For, had they not been allowed to live, who would have found the means for "E. C. R." to make his pile?

So, it is clear that the fact that the Indians

have not been exterminated, is not exactly due "to the benevolence and liberal spirit and sense of the duty of a Christian Government." The earlier British "Indian" administrators did a wise thing in allowing the Indians to live. Does "E. C. R." mean that the mistake committed before, should now be remedied,—that is to say, the Indians now exterminated? That is his suggestion, however. If his suggestion were carried out, it is not the Indians that would suffer, but Englishmen. What is it to the Indians whether they live or not? But it will mean much to the race to which "E. C. R." belongs, if the Indians now cease to exist. And "E. C. R." claims to be a very civilized man, and he is very proud that he has been able to give us a bit of his civilization!

It comes to this, then. The "Pall Mall" says that so long as British rule endures the Indians have no hope. And an English writer says in the columns of an Anglo-Indian paper, that it was a mistake not to exterminate the people of this country. Mr. Chalmers is providing only against sedition by native papers; for, the English papers flatly deny the jurisdiction of his amendment over them. What we now want of him, is to show one instance in which an Indian writer has used language, so much calculated to inflame the minds of the people against British rule as those furnished above.

Some Anglo-Indian papers have in distinct language declared that the proposed amendment has no jurisdiction over them. This is attributing partiality, and—we must say—a little meanness, too, to the Government. It is in a manner declaring that the Government has one law for Indians and another for the Europeans,—one for the weak and another for the strong. We hope, Mr. Chalmers, when he finds again an opportunity in the Council of speaking upon his Bill, will be pleased to make this point clear, viz, whether this amendment will only gag the native papers and let the European papers free to write in any sort of language, however inflammatory and brutal, or is it meant for both?

Of course, "E. C. R." is an Englishman who does not represent the better classes of his countrymen. While he regrets that the Indians were not exterminated, the Anglo-Indian community have come forward to condemn the sedition measures of Mr. Chalmers.

A MEASURE WITHOUT A SUPPORTER.

The last pillar, the *Pioneer*, has come down; and Mr. Chalmers' superstructure is just now absolutely without a support, hanging like the moon in space. The *Pioneer* says that Mr. Chalmers' arguments are not as convincing as those of his predecessors who framed the Press Act. This is, of course, a reply to the *Englishman* which said that Mr. Chalmers delivered one of the happiest of speeches. But in spite of the compliment, the *Englishman*, as an honest paper, has withdrawn the support that it previously accorded to the measure.

The *Pioneer* says that the Press Act of Lord Lytton was better than the proposed Sedition Bill. In this opinion we fully agree. For, the Press Act meant prevention, but the present measure means punishment and dissemination—dissemination, because the punishment is sure to be followed by the growth of sedition which the measure is intended to suppress. Thus, the punishment awarded to the editors in Bombay, has surely not extinguished sedition, but has rather supplied more fuel to the fire.

Why the Press Act was put aside, by the Government and the present measure introduced, has been explained by the *Liberal* press. They say that it was the Duke of Devonshire (Lord Hartington) who repealed the Press Act. He is now in the Cabinet. If, therefore, the Press Act is revived, he will withdraw, and the result will be that the Cabinet will fall to pieces.

So, you see, in India, a measure is not always judged by its merits. Personal considerations decide the fate of many. Sir James Stephen had engaged a cabin in a ship bound for England, which refused to wait for him. And the Legislature had to pass his measure hurriedly, to suit his convenience. The Press Act cannot be revived, because then, the Duke of Devonshire will resign! The present measure cannot be withdrawn, because in that case Lord Elgin will be humiliated.

But Lord Elgin can extinguish self, and then he will have no necessity to maintain any prestige. Is he not, by his own confession, a clerk to carry out the mandates of the India Office? Besides, the Government ought to be above all petty human passions. It can introduce a measure only when it is beneficial. It is bound to withdraw it when it is proved to be not so. The feeling of this administrator or that, has nothing to do with the question. What can be a greater merit than honesty? Who is a greater man than one who has the courage of his conviction? How will a ruler, who holds the destinies of millions in his hands, justify himself before God and man if he sticks, for his own private sake, to a measure which is inexpedient or mischievous or which has been rejected by the people in a body?

Besides, every body knows that it is not a measure of Mr. Chalmers or Lord Elgin. It must have been forced upon them by the India Office. For, the measure means an innovation and a revolution,—a measure which is *prima facie* unworthy of an enlightened ruler. Why should Lord Elgin and his ministers voluntarily take upon themselves the odium of being its authors? One great reason for the statement, that the amendment is not the work of Mr. Chalmers, is to be found in the fact that it is all a jumble. Is not Mr. Chalmers a first class lawyer? Is it possible for him to make use of expressions which he cannot define? One of the ablest of administrators has, it is said, damned the innovation with faint praise. He says that he does not know how to define the new words introduced into the section, and that he has expressed a hope that the clearer intellect and superior scholarship of Mr. Chalmers will enable him to do the impossible. Is it possible for a lawyer like Mr. Chalmers to make a law with expressions which he cannot define?

It was a strange spectacle to the people of this country, that of an independent English paper, the *Englishman*, supporting the gagging of the press. But the same paper has now made up for its past negligence, and has even outdone Indian papers in its condemnation of the measure. Referring to the opponents of the measure, our contemporary says:—

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 outright, 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 depth of the feeling of disapproval, which the measure has evoked, can be gleaned from one single fact. Maharajah Sir Jotendra Mohan Tagore has almost given up his connection with politics; yet he was led to preside at the meeting, held on Tuesday at the rooms of the British Indian Association, where the *White* of Calcutta were present. Referring to the uncompromising attitude of hostility, presented to the measure by the Anglo-Indian Defence Association, the *Englishman* further says:—

If such be the view of the most loyal and the most well-affected body in India,—a body which, in the nature of things, can desire nothing more than the maintenance of the prestige of the Government of India,—what, we should like to know, will be the probable attitude, towards the measure, of those whose pre-disposition is less favourable? We mean, of course, the Radical members of Parliament and all those numerous individuals at home, who firmly believe that the Government of India never does right unless by accident. We fear that the condemnation which has already been pronounced upon the Bill in this country, will pale before the storm of execration which is maturing 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 warrings 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 unnecessary legislation in India. When that cry is raised, Lord Salisbury will probably find it convenient to throw the Government of India overboard and a "mandate" from Lord George Hamilton will, for the fourth or fifth time in the history of the present administration, humiliate it in the eyes of the world, and bring about the forcible withdrawal of the measures. Under the circumstances we suggest that its passage should be, for a time at least, delayed.

That strong memorial will be found elsewhere. No measure has been so universally condemned as this introduced by Mr. Chalmers.

THERE are some among our rulers, who do not find anything meritorious in the Hindu nation. The Moghuls, however, regarded them in another light. This is how Abul-Fazl, the great author of "Ain-Akbery" who flourished during the time of Akbar described the Hindus:—

The Hindus are religious, affable, courteous, prone to inflict austerities on themselves; lovers of justice, grateful admirers of truth, and of unbending fidelity. Their character shines brightest in adversity. The soldiers know not what it is to fly from the fire of battle. They believe in the unity of God and although they hold in ages of great veneration, they are by no means idolaters as the ignorant suppose.

The Moghul Emperors trusted the Hindu with high appointments, both in the administrative and military departments; and hence they came to realize the true worth of the latter. Those of the rulers who treat them with suspicion and distrust, do harm not only to the Hindus but to the Government also. The same Abul-Fazl, speaking of Bengal and the Bengalee Hindus, says:—

The soobah of Bengal is situated in the second climate. From Chittagong to Kurbeh is 400 *cos* difference of longitude, and from the northern range of mountains to the southern extremity of Sircar Madarun (Beerbhoom) comprehends 200 *cos* of latitude. When Orissa was added to Bengal, the additional length was computed to be 43 *cos* and the breadth 20 *cos*. Bengal was originally called Bungal. The soobah of Bengal consists of 24 Sircars and 487 mahals. The revenue is 14,961,482 Sicca rupees, and the zemindars (who are mostly Kayesthas) furnish 23,330 cavalry, 801,151 infantry, 170 elephants, 4,260 cannons and 4400 boats.

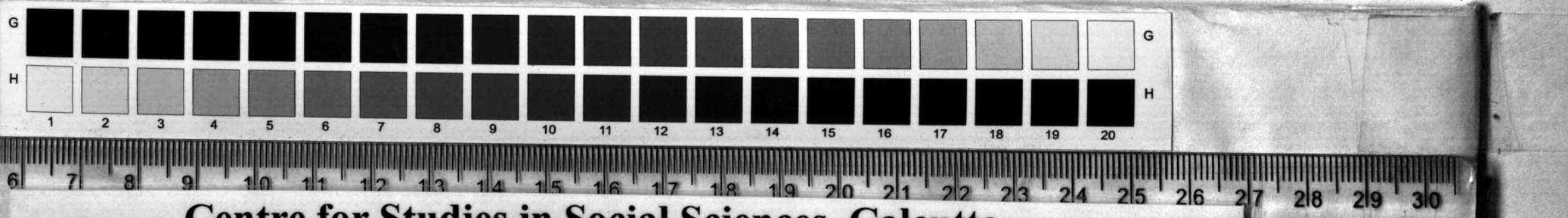
When Abul-Fazl wrote the above, Akbar was in the zenith of his power; and it is admitted by all that he was one of the most enlightened and powerful Emperors of his time. Yet his army consisted of eight lakhs of Bengalee soldiers and twenty-three thousand Bengalee cavalry. These were supplied by the zemindars, and they were all Kayestha Hindus. The Kayesthas in Bengal were thus a powerful and martial race. Indeed, one of them, Protap Aditya, the King of Jessore, worsted the armies of the Delhi Emperors in many a pitched battle, when they invaded Bengal. It was by treachery that Rajah Protap-Aditya was at last captured, and Bengal conquered, on behalf of the Emperor by his General, Man Sing, who was a Hindu. The present generation of Kayesthas who, like the Brahmins and Vaidyas, are important factors in Bengal society, are the descendants of those who played such important parts during the time of Akbar and his successors. The *Englishman* taunted the Bengalees with their "proverbial cowardice." It will be seen that they were not always cowards, but a fighting race like others in India. If they have now become emasculated, it is because they have had no opportunity to show their martial instincts.

In a memorial, protesting against the Presidency Magistrates' Bill, it was hinted that the Government might utilise the power which that measure was to confer upon it, for private purposes. To this Sir Charles (now Lord) Hobhouse indignantly replied that the suggestion did injure to Government whose position was too lofty to be affected by such considerations. The *Englishman*, however, holds a different view of the character of the Government. Speaking of the embarrassed position of the Government in regard to the Sedition Bill, it says:—

When that cry is raised Lord Salisbury will probably find it convenient to throw the Government of India overboard; and a "mandate" from Lord George Hamilton will, for the fourth or fifth time in the history of the present Administration, humiliate it in the eyes of the world, and bring about the forcible withdrawal of the measure.

The *Englishman* evidently ascribes human failings to the Government, when it talks of its humiliation. But is not Government above passion and prejudice, as Lord Hobhouse said? Such being the case, how can it feel any humiliation when it withdraws from a position which it afterwards finds untenable and unjustifiable? In forming an idea of Government, some Anglo-Indians conjure up a giant in the form of a burly military man with long bushy whiskers, upon whose likes and dislikes depends the fate of the vast Indian population. If this be the correct representation of Government, where would the 300 millions of India go for protection? An intensely despotic Government has no excuse if it harbours human failings. Despotism is justifiable under the supposition that the autocrat is above such weaknesses.

The *Sangit Samaj*, or the Musical Club, recently started in Calcutta, was formally opened on Thursday under the presidency of H. H. the Maharaja of Durbhanga. Mr. Justice Gurusdas Bannerji proposed the Maharaja to the chair with an excellent speech, and the proposal was seconded by Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore. The Secretary of the *Samaj*, Babu Jotindra Nath Tagore, gave a short history of the formation of the Society, and then the Maharaja of Durbhanga declared the *Samaj* open with a neat little speech. The Hon'ble Mr. A. P. Ananda Charlu proposed a vote of thanks to the chair, and took that opportunity of entertaining the audience with a beautiful speech. Then musicians came one after another, and discoursed various forms of instrumental and vocal music, to the delight of the assembled company. The hall of the Club was beautifully lighted and decorated, and the audience consisted of...



needless to say that those who came, went away pleased with all they saw and heard. The Samaj has, no doubt, a brilliant future before it, when it has got such men of eminence as the Maharaja of Durbhanga, Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore and the Maharaja of Nattore to back it.

In these days of keen competition and struggle for existence, any enterprise which aims at opening up new avenues for wealth and giving employment to our starving people, deserves well of us. We believe, our unfortunate land has to import every year a few crores of rupees worth of chemicals, including drugs, dyeing materials, soaps, candles, matches, toilette requisites, &c., most of which can be locally manufactured at considerable profit.

The Postal Department has always shown great zeal to punish persons who, taking advantage of the value-payable system, have cheated other people. These offenders have always been prosecuted and criminally punished. We would suggest that an arrangement might be made to recover the postage on unregistered packets from the addressees. We have ascertained that there will be no difficulty for the Post Office to introduce this suggestion; while, an unscrupulous person will not be able to cheat a book-seller by ordering for it and not accepting it.

SPEAKING of the "Saraswati Pooja," the "Indian Daily News" says:— It is stated, we know not with what truth, that many of the prayers offered to her yesterday had for their object the discomfiture of the Hon. Mr. Chalmers and the wreck of his Seditious Bill.

Yes, prayers were offered to the Goddess, but not with a view to discomfit Mr. Chalmers, but to move him to take a more liberal and statesmanlike view of the measure.

When the sedition measure was introduced, the nation was thrown into despair. "The temper of the Government was very bad," said the leaders. "We dare not hold a public meeting," said the leading members of the British Indian Association.

Then, who is to do it, if not the leading political Association of the country?—was the rejoinder. The members said that the public meeting ought to be convened by the Sheriff.

So, it was not correct to say that when the question was discussed, whether a public meeting ought to be held or not, it was decided to have no public meeting at all. At the first Conference held, it was decided by the majority that a public meeting should be held, but it ought to be convened by the Sheriff, and not the British Indian Association.

It is now believed that the temper of the Government is better. There is no doubt of it; the Anglo-Indians have done an immense service to the Empire on this occasion. We said that when the measure was introduced, the country was filled with despair; but the attitude of the Anglo-Indian community has again encouraged the people to hope that all is not yet over with them.

We are deeply obliged to the Anglo-Indian community for their help on this occasion. They have done a good service to the Empire. The supporters of the Bill may not agree; but really, if the measure is passed, freedom of speech would be gone. There are possibly administrators who may not agree that a free press is essential for the government of this country. But this view is wholly erroneous. Without a free press, it will be simply impossible for the Government, composed of aliens, to avoid the pit-falls that surround them.

editor of the *Pratoda* had invented the whole thing when he said that a manifesto had been circulated by a Canadian Society for subverting British rule in that country. The manifesto was published in our columns, and we expressed wonder at the folly of those Canadians who desired the change; for, they have not only benefited by their connection with England, but are actually fattening at the expense of the latter. Indeed, Canada is as free as England itself, but has not to spend one penny for its defence. It is the English people who defend the country at their own expense, and get a very small sum in return. In short, all the troubles are England's, and all the enjoyments are Canada's. A copy of the *Patrika*, containing the manifesto, was shown to the Bombay Judges, but they would not be satisfied unless they had seen the original. It is believed that their Lordships would have given a still lighter punishment to the editor of the *Pratoda* if they could have been convinced of the genuineness of the document. The following telegram from a New York correspondent, published in the *Morning Post*, and dated December 24th, shows that the movement against British rule in Canada is not a myth:—

The Dominion Government has taken an emphatic step regarding the disaffection movement in Canada. It has never been very pronounced, and certainly is not now serious enough to merit official interference on its own account; but the complete liberty allowed in expressing and publishing opinion in Canada, has apparently had undesirable effects elsewhere. Ever since the famine, plague, and frontier troubles in India brought the seditious spirit into prominence, an unwarranted and almost inexplicable connection has been made between the Indian native movement and the agitation of Canadian independence politicians. This has now resulted in the Dominion Government, at the request of Great Britain, ordering the confiscation of seditious matter. This applies in particular to the contents of mails passing from Canada to India, and results in the suppression of public discussion of the questions of annexation to the United States or absolute independence. The embargo is so strict as to put a stop for the present to all discussion of various schemes of Commercial Union with United States. Any offenders who infringe this new ordinance, are amenable to the law of the late Sir John Macdonald's Government, which punishes with imprisonment such treasonable offences. The action is believed to have been taken by the Colonial Office at the instance of the India Office, as the result of outspoken circulars, published by the Canadian Republican Committee, reaching India and stimulating disaffection among the leaders of the discontented natives.

The *Morning Post* is a Tory paper, and hence it sees "an unwarranted and almost inexplicable connection between the Indian native movement and the agitation of the Canadian independence politicians." It should have occurred to the intelligent writer that the Indians are not exactly fools; for, they have the sense to understand that their connection with the seditious movement in Canada means nothing but unmitigated mischief to themselves, as they know not whether the seditious Canadians will be able to protect them or not, but they know that they are enjoying peace and order under British rule. It is, however, quite true that newspapers or leaflets, printed either in Canada or America, and containing abusive articles against the British Indian Government, are now and then circulated in India. One such leaflet contained the manifesto, which we published in our columns and upon which the *Pratoda* editor commented and thereby brought troubles upon himself. The friends of the *Pratoda* editor might now move the Judges to reconsider the punishment they inflicted upon him under the impression that the manifesto had no existence at all, in the light of the extract from the *Morning Post*, published above. If the Judges could be made to express an opinion to the effect that they would have dealt with him still more leniently if the prisoner could have produced satisfactory evidence to prove the genuineness of the document, the friends of the editor, armed with such a certificate, might appeal to the Government to exercise its prerogative of mercy in his favour.

The following telegram appears in the *Englishman*:— Hari Ramchandra Natu has been removed from the House of Correction at Byculla to the Thana Jail. This action of Government has been prompted as a precautionary measure on account of plague prevailing so badly in Bombay.

The fact is, the Natu brothers have contrived to prove a source of very great trouble to the Government. If the action of the Bombay Government in respect of the sudden deportation of the Natu was extraordinary, the fact of a Damodar turning up and confessing to his guilt, has certainly made the position of the Government embarrassing in the extreme. If one of the Natu were now to die, it would fill the Government's cup of troubles to an overflowing. By-the-by, what about the mystery of a cobra being found in Damodar's cell? And what, if the cobra had bitten Damodar and killed him?

OUR Dacca correspondent writes to say that it has now been definitely settled that the next Provincial Conference will be held at that historical town. The promoters are now busy arranging for the same. They say "good cometh out of evil." Let us suppose that the opposition of a certain section of the Mahomedan population of Dacca,

Calcutta and Mofussil.

I. G. P.—Mr. E. R. Henry, Inspector General of Police, Bengal, is now touring in Kuch Behar.

THE BUDGET DAY.—The date of the introduction of the Budget has not yet been fixed; but it will probably be about March 21st.

AN ENTERTAINMENT.—We learn that Sir Francis Maclean, K.C.I.E., the Chief Justice, intends shortly entertaining His Excellency the Viceroy.

GRANT OF EXTRA PAY.—The Port Commissioners of Chittagong has recommended a grant of three months' salary to the menial servants in their employ.

THE SUPREME LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.—The Merchant Shipping Bill is one of the measures which will shortly come up for final disposal in the Imperial Legislative Council.

GRANT OF MEDAL.—The Secretary of State for India has sanctioned the grant of an India 1895 medal with the "Relief of Chitral, 1895" clasp to Captain C. F. Minchin, of the Political Department.

THE I. F. COMMISSION.—The Indian Famine Commission returns to Calcutta on Thursday next and leaves again for Madras on Saturday, via, Cuttack, Bezwada and Gun-takool by steamer. The office goes by rail.

AN UNVEILING CEREMONY.—The ceremony of unveiling the portrait of the late Mr. Maneckjee Rustomjee will be performed by His Honour Sir Alexander Mackenzie at the Town Hall, at 4-45 P.M., on Tuesday next, the 1st proximo.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING FOR CALCUTTA.—The Government of India have decided that the Board of Trade regulations on the electric lighting may be accepted by the Bengal Government in connection with the electric lighting of Calcutta, at its own discretion.

ROBBING A PASSENGER.—On Friday at the Alipur Criminal Sessions, presided over by Mr. Handley, District and Sessions Judge, one Shiek Abdul was tried on a charge of having robbed a Railway passenger at the Dum-Dum Cantonment station. He being an old offender, the jury found him guilty and the Judge sentenced him to five years' rigorous imprisonment.

SUSPECTED POISONING.—On Wednesday, a young married woman, living with her husband in Shampukur, complained of feeling unwell, went to her room and bolted it from inside. An hour after, the door of her room was forced open, and the inmates of the house found her in an unconscious state. Immediately two medical gentlemen were called in, but to no effect. She died at 7-30 P.M. the same day. It is believed that she had died from the effects of some irritant poison.

PICTURES BY TELEGRAPH.—One of the latest American inventions is a device by which photograph can be sent from place to place by telegraph quite as easily as an ordinary message. The inventor is a jeweller of St. Paul. He believes the instrument will be especially valuable in helping to catch criminals fleeing from justice, by scattering their photographs over the country with the speed of electricity, instead of the comparatively slow medium of the mails. The *New York Herald* publishes some photographs reproduced by this process, which show very good results.

A BEAR ON THE SIMLA ROAD.—A few mornings ago a party of *scorajis* were coming along the Simla road on their way to Sultapur, and had got within a mile of Dilani, when a bear swam the Beas from the jungles on the Mundi side, and without any provocation charged the party, mauling the three men in advance, who were brothers, goldsmiths by caste, so badly that one of them died almost immediately, the other two being very seriously injured. The brute then bolted up hill. The spot where this catastrophe took place, is an open treeless hill, a most unlikely place for a bear.

A THIEF IN EUROPEAN COSTUME.—On Friday Baboo Dhonesh Chundra Ray, Deputy Magistrate of Alipore, disposed of a funny case in which one Upendra Nath Dass was charged with theft. It appears that the accused was in the habit of dressing himself in all sorts of costumes, as when his house was searched, costumes of various nationalities were discovered therein. On the night of the occurrence the accused, dressed in the costume of a European, broke open the windows of a house situated in Budge Budge, entered it and was in the act of removing certain articles when he was caught hold of by a servant. The accused, to effect his escape, severely beat him on the arm, causing him thereby to let go his hold. He was sentenced to eighteen months' rigorous imprisonment.

"MAILED FIST."—The expression, "mailed fist," used by Prince Henry, when he was sent on an enquiry expedition by the young German Emperor, caused a good deal of merriment throughout the world, and has now become a by-word. But if the father of the expression was a German Prince, it was left to the editor of the "Indian Daily News" to utilize it in connection with the Seditious Bill. Says our contemporary: "When there is a Radical Government at home with a Tory Viceroy over here, we have not the slightest doubt that any action, which may now be passed, will be repealed without the slightest hesitation. We ourselves have never swerved from the position that under the present system of Government, control from home is really absolutely necessary to prevent Mr. Chalmers shaking his 'mailed fist' at public opinion."

THE CONTROL OF KHYBER.—When Parliament assembles next it will have to decide the question of the control of the Khyber. It is believed that all questions connected

TIGER AT TEOTA.—A correspondent of the *East of Dacca* says that a large tiger has made its appearance at Teota; and though many attempts have been made to bag him, none has succeeded. The beast is said to be doing great havoc among domestic animals.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION.—His Honour the Lieutenant Governor notifies that the Fourth Election of Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta will take place on 12th March next under the usual conditions. As the 12th will be a Saturday, the Jewish voters will be allowed to record their votes on the 11th.

A MEETING OF ASTROLOGERS.—Rai Bahadur Rankishen Das, C. I. E., a well-known and highly-respected native gentleman of Delhi, invited to his house, on the 10th instant, all the principal astrologers and Pundits of the place to inquire whether there was any truth in the rumour of a catastrophe in the shape of an earthquake between the 29th and 31st instant. An unanimous negative reply was given.

PLAGUE RETURNS.—The examination of passengers to Calcutta is being continued at the different plague observation camp, of which there are now five, Chousa having been added to the original number since the 23rd ultimo. From the last statement submitted we learn that 1,159,453 persons, have been examined since the camps were opened, of whom 17,192 were detained as suspects. So far there have been no deaths from plague.

A RECORD CAPTURE.—With reference to the Dacca, Kheddah operations, the *Englishman* learns that a second surround and drive was made on the 18th instant, the entire herd of 203 elephants, being captured. Mr. Sanderson's record catch in the Garo Hills was 133. The herd was originally surrounded on the 6th instant, and after a hard fight, the Kheddah party was beaten back. The elephants escaped, and the pursuit was kept up night and day till the 13th, when they were again sighted.

THE LATE MR. MONOMOHUN GHOSE.

THE UNVEILING OF HIS PORTRAIT.

A CEREMONY, both melancholy and pleasing took place On Friday night last in the hall of the Calcutta University Institute, College Square, for unveiling a portrait, subscribed to by the Student Community of Calcutta, of the late Mr. Monomohun Ghose, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Institute. As late as the 25th November, 1896, a meeting was held in the hall of the Institute, under the presidency of the Hon'ble Mr. C. W. Bolton, with a view to determine how best to perpetuate, by the students, the memory of the deceased; and in the result, a Committee of students was formed to raise subscription for the purpose. The outcome of the Committee's labour was the portrait which was unveiled. Mr. S. N. Tagore presided; and besides the students who mustered strong on the occasion, there was a good attendance of friends and admirers of the deceased. Among those present, we noticed the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bannerjee, Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, the Hon'ble Mr. Chitnavis, the Hon'ble Mr. Surya Koul, the Hon'ble Pundit Biswambhar Nath, the Hon'ble Kali Churn Banerjee, Dr. Lal Madhub Mukerjee, Babu Nilmoni Mukerjee, Mr. P. L. Roy, Mr. H. E. A. Cotton, Mr. K. N. Sen Gupta, Mr. K. G. Gupta, Mr. B. L. Gupta, Mr. Mohi Mohan Ghose and many others. Mr. Justice Gura Das Banerjee, as President of the Institute, asked Mr. Tagore to unveil the portrait. In doing so he spoke at considerable length, to the great qualities of the head and heart of the late Mr. Ghose, which made him an ornament to his profession and an ornament to his country.

The President before he acceded to the request, gave an outline of the principal incidents in the life and career of the deceased who had been a friend to him from his school-days. He said, Mr. Ghose's early education took place in Krishnaghar Collegiate School. He next came to live in Calcutta and stayed with the family of the President. That was in 1861. He then joined the Presidency College, Mr. Palmer who was his teacher in those days, used to remark with reference to Mr. Ghose that he carried an old head over his young shoulders, and that was a very true remark. At that time he used to contribute to some newspapers in Calcutta, and himself started a fortnightly paper. In the following year, they formed the project of going to England, to compete for the Civil Service Examination; and after a series of difficulties and obstacles they crossed the Rubicon together, but unfortunately Mr. Ghose failed at the examination. His failure was, however, a distinct gain to himself in the end, and to the country at large; and he often remarked to him, the speaker, that he had no reason to regret his failure to pass the examination. In 1867, he was sworn in as an Advocate of the Calcutta High Court. The President proceeded on to refer to his career subsequently, which is known very well, and said that the object to which he devoted many of the later years of his life with conspicuous and unflagging zeal, was the scheme of the separation of the judicial and executive functions.

The President then performed the ceremony of unveiling the portrait. The portrait which is a beautiful work of art, was painted by Babu Bamapada Banerjee. Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the chair. In doing so, he availed the opportunity of advising the students to emulate the examples of the late Mr. Monomohun Ghose who was well known for his tenacity of purpose and single-minded devotion to his work, besides his many other admirable qualities to which reference had been made by previous speakers.

Mr. H. E. A. Cotton seconded the motion on behalf of the Student Community. In doing so, he referred to the many acts of kindness which he had received at the hands of the late Mr. Ghose.

The motion was carried with acclamation. The meeting then dispersed.

The rehearing of the Satara police torture case concluded on the 27th instant when the Sessions Judge acquitted the head constable and his assistants of the charge of causing death and of torturing, with a view to extract the confession on which they were found guilty two months ago.

The *Daily Mail* of London informs its readers that India is represented at Eton by Rajah Rajendro Narayan, of Cuch Behar, and Nawabs Mir Ekram Hussain Khan and Mir Mukuram Hossain Khan, both sons of the Judicial Minister of Hyderabad. These young noblemen have the young Mr. Tenny-

VERDICT OF ASSESSORS UPHELD. The hearing of the appeal, preferred by Sheik Kuntu and six others against the decision of the Additional Sessions Judge of Purneah who, differing from the assessors, convicted them of rioting and sentenced them to various terms of imprisonment, concluded to-day. Their Lordships after hearing counsel on both sides, delivered the following judgment:—

The appellants now before us were placed upon their trial before the Sessions Judge of Purneah, sitting with assessors, on the charges under sections 302, 149, 148 and 143 of the I. P. Code. They have been acquitted, by the learned Sessions Judge, of the graver offences charged, but have been convicted under section 147 and sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment in the case of the first appellant and one year's in the case of all others. The assessors were of opinion that the prosecution had altogether failed to establish any case against the accused, and the learned Sessions Judge himself has, in more than one passage in his judgment, expressed his inability to accept the story told by the prosecution in many of its most material details; and indeed, he has, in order to sustain the conviction of the accused persons, been constrained to adopt a case which the prosecution never made. It seems unnecessary that we should now enter upon a detailed consideration of the evidence in the case, which is very voluminous; but we have given it our very careful consideration, and we feel it impossible to say in the face of the many material discrepancies in the evidence of the witnesses for the prosecution and the numerous falsehoods which they have put forward in support of the case for the prosecution, that the offence, of which the appellants now before us have been convicted, has been established. It is quite impossible for us to form any clear or definite conclusion on the evidence as to the circumstances under which the occurrence in question took place. We agree in the view of the case which was taken by both the assessors, and for which they appear to us to have given sound reasons; and we accordingly set aside the conviction and sentence, passed upon the appellants and acquit them.

INDIAN NEWS.

MR. TAPP is reported to have shot a tiger in the Bogadga forests, which measured twelve feet four inches.

MR. WALKER, the Postmaster of Madras, has been recommended by the Director-General of Post Office for another year's extension of Service.

At the anniversary meeting of the Royal Society a royal medal was awarded to General Sir Richard Strachey for "investigations in physical and botanical geography, geology and meteorology," and special reference was made by Lord Lister to his having been the first to treat scientifically of the physical geography of the Western Himalayas and Tibet.

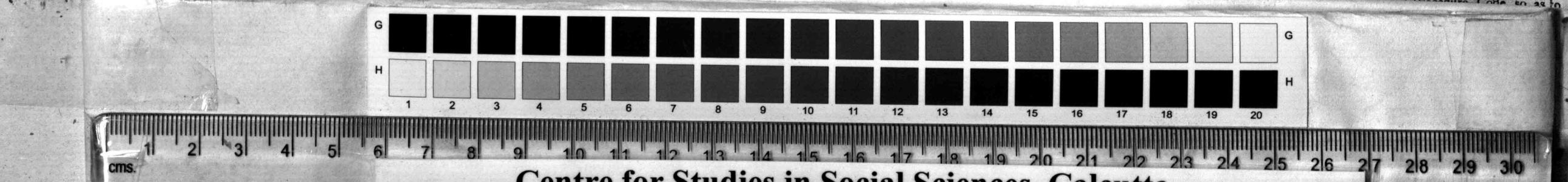
In order to strengthen the Nizam's position and enable him to hold his own after British troops have accomplished their work and returned, 40 sabres of the Khan's camel corps and 40 rifles of the State troops, also 100 camels, have started via the Bolan Pass for Mekran. They are expected to arrive at Kaldtak in about thirty days. The Bazango Sardar has, it is believed, already despatched assistance to the Nizam.

NEWS comes from the Tinnevely District, of a ghastly murder perpetrated at Vijayarapuram, a village near the Zemindari of Ettayarapuram. On the 15th instant, the Police of the place discovered the remains of one Mari Tevan on the public road leading to Thoottankolam, the head severed from the body. It is said that the deed was done about midnight. The Police have arrested one Appavoo Tevan and some of his relatives on suspicion, as it is understood that a long-standing feud existed between them and the deceased. The village and the neighbourhood form a stronghold of the Kalka and Maravar communities, who are up to any and every kind of violence.

MR. DEANE, an assistant in the firm of Messrs. Wrenn, Benett and Co., was testing a revolver previous to issue, in the gun-testing room of the firm, on the Mount Road, Madras, and finding some difficulty in closing the breach, he had to use some force, when a loaded cartridge, which was in the chamber, exploded, and the bullet struck a peon, named Siviahannan, who was standing near Mr. Deane. The peon was at once picked up and was found to be wounded in the throat. He was conveyed to the General Hospital, Mr. Rajarathnam Moudaliar, Fourth Presidency Magistrate, attended the Hospital at night to take a dying declaration; but this he was unable to do, as the injured man could not speak and died at 5-30 next morning from his injuries.

ANY apprehensions which may have been entertained as to the acceptableness to the Magh Mela pilgrims, of the artificial confluence of the Ganges and the Jumna, recently constructed under the orders of the Government, have been entirely dispelled by the event. The purpose in cutting a canal from the Ganges to the Jumna was by establishing a temporary confluence, four miles nearer to Allahabad than the natural confluence to facilitate the otherwise impracticable task of supplying filtered water from the Municipal reservoirs to the huge assembly which gathers every year on the apex of a shifting sand formed by the two rivers. So far from rejecting this artificial confluence, the pilgrims have utilised it to the almost entire exclusion of the natural confluence; and although on the great day of the Solar Eclipse, the immense throng of bathers proved too heavy a tax on the limited capacity of the work, the surplus thousands overflowed peaceably along the northern bank of the Jumna, east and west of the canal, content to perform their ceremonial ablution in sight of, if not in contact with, the actual mingling of the two waters.

THE Council of the Bombay Presidency Association has submitted a long representation to the Government of India on the Indian Penal Code Amendment Bill and the proposed amendment of section 108 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The Council prays that the Select Committee and the Viceroyal Legislative Council will be pleased (1) to recast section 124 A so as to give effect to the perfectly intelligible and clear principle which was laid down by the Indian Law Commissioners and the Hon. Mr. Stephen according to the digest of the English Law Commissioners, thus bringing it into conformity with the lucid and unequivocal definition of disaffection given by Justice Parsons in the *Pratod* case, and with a clear text explicitly recognised in explanations to the section; (2) to omit the amendment rendering offences under section 124 A triable by Magistrates; (3) to amend section



make it applicable to trials by High Courts and thus assimilate the Indian procedure to the machinery of the English law...

THE ARMIES OF THE WORLD.

It is now more than 23 years since the first of Colonel von Lobell's annual reports on the changes and progress in military matters was issued...

fortress battalions were to be made into fortress regiments, each of two battalions. By an Imperial Order of June, 1896, the 13th and 14th Cavalry Divisions have been formed into Cavalry corps...

Efforts are proceeding in the direction of allocating the Turkish Army into seven areas for distribution and recruiting.

For the first time, we believe, reference is made in the annual to the forces of the Emperor of Abyssinia. The military forces of the country will in coming years be materially increased...

The existing organisation of the Afghan Army was commenced by the present Amir in 1855. During recent years, and especially in 1896, great activity was displayed in its organisation...

No changes or progress of importance occurred in the Military organisations of either Spain, Italy, Austria-Hungary, or any of the Balkan States.

In concluding the Post Office Administration Report, Mr. Fanshawe says: "Since the end of the year the Department has been deprived, by death, of the services of two of its best native Superintendents..."

TELEGRAMS.

(INDIAN TELEGRAMS.)

(From our own Correspondents.)

GAYA, JAN. 26. His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal arrived here yesterday, and to-day at a Conference with the leading gentlemen of the town, expressed his willingness to modify the plague rules...

FARIDPUR, JAN. 27. The Faridpur People's Association telegraphs to the Secretary, Legislative Department, Supreme Council, its protest against the Criminal Procedure and Seditious Bills...

A NEW LAW COLLEGE. BOMBAY, JAN. 28. At yesterday's Senate meeting, the new Law college was recognised, though the Europeans mostly opposed.

MR. JUSTICE RANADE'S RESOLUTIONS. Mr. Justice Ranade's resolution, referring to the question of examination by instalments, was declared out of order, owing to insufficient notice.

THE PLAGUE AND STUDENTS. Students attending Colleges in plague-stricken towns, were exempted from the keeping of terms at the discretion of Principals.

THE PLAGUE. There were 162 attacks and 131 deaths from plague reported to-day, the total mortality being 267 against 219 on the same date last year, and 707 the year before.

Yesterday afternoon the twelve year old son of Superintendent Brewin, of the Bombay Police, was attacked with plague and removed to the plague ward of the European General Hospital.

PUBLIC MEETING AGAINST SEDITIOUS BILL. To-morrow a public meeting will be held to protest against the Seditious Bill under the auspices of the Presidency Association.

SATARA POLICE TORTURE CASE. In the Satara Police torture case, all the prisoners have been acquitted.

A SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A S. D. O. MAHIGUNG, JAN. 27. There is great commotion at Gaibandha. The students of the Gaibandha School were celebrating the Saraswati Puja this year...

There is great commotion at Gaibandha. The students of the Gaibandha School were celebrating the Saraswati Puja this year as in previous years, at the school premises, amidst rejoicings, when the school duffri was suddenly arrested by a Sub-Inspector of Police under the orders of the S. D. O. Babu Brojendra Nath Roy.

THE PURI LITERARY CLUB. PURI, JAN. 28. Babu Radhacharan Das, the Sunhat Zemindar and Chairman of the Balasore Municipality, having come here to look after his Zemindari...

Writing of Captain Walter Goodridge, R. N. the newly-appointed Director of the Royal Indian Marine—an English correspondent says:—He is a distinguished record, and although he has difficult task in following a Director so popular and so capable as Sir John Hext, those who know him anticipate for him a successful career in India.

POONA, JAN. 28. To-day's plague returns show ten cases and five deaths in the City, two cases and one death in the Cantonment, and two cases and one

THE "SARASWAT UTSAV."

MYMENSING, JAN. 28. The twenty-first Saraswat Utsav was celebrated from Tuesday to Thursday. A Sanskrit procession preceded the meeting, presided over by Babu Mahendra Nath Ray...

ARRIVAL OF THE MAIL.

BOMBAY, JAN. 28. The English mail steamer was signalled this morning at 5.40. The mail is expected to arrive in Calcutta on Sunday, at about 3.50 A. M.

THE SEDITIOUS BILL.

BARISAL, JAN. 28. A public meeting was held yesterday and adopted a memorial to the Viceroy, protesting against the Hon'ble Law Member's amendment of law of seditious, and praying for withdrawal of changes proposed.

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, JAN. 25. Witnesses to be called by M. Zola will include the Secretaries and Military Attaches of the Russian, German, Austrian, British and Italian Embassies; General Billot, ex-President Perier, besides ex-Ministers and prominent officers.

Reuter wires from Peking that the British and Russian Ministers continue to negotiate with Tsungliyamen. It is stated that the Chinese loan depends upon which exerts most pressure.

There are fifteen Indians among the 64 students to be called to the Bar to-morrow.

PARIS, JAN. 25. In consequence of the interpellations regarding the Dreyfus case, a vote of confidence in the Government was passed by the Chamber to-day by a majority of 243. France generally calming down after the late excitement, owing to the military precautions taken by Government.

LONDON, JAN. 25. A reassuring statement has been published regarding the situation in the Far East, according to which no Power contemplates the seizure of any territory, and therefore the talk of war is altogether inappropriate to the situation.

It has been arranged that Princess Beatrice shall visit the wounded soldiers from India at Netley on behalf of Her Majesty, who visits them in person later on.

Letters from Uganda, dated the 25th of November, state that the Sudanese are still holding Fort Lubwas, and that disaffection is spreading. It is reported that 71 friendly Baganda were killed and 188 wounded in an attack on Lubwas.

ROME, JAN. 25. Owing to an agitation arising from the dearth of bread, the Italian Government has decided to call out the first class reserves, reducing meanwhile the duties on cereals.

The Italian cruiser Marco Polo has been ordered to China.

LONDON, JAN. 26. Mr. Curzon, speaking at Bolton, said that Government hoped to accredit a direct representative to King Menelik. Our Indian frontier policy, he said, was not a needless annexation, but a pacific control.

The Gazette publishes a despatch from Sirdar Kitchener to Mr. Grenfell, dated 9th December, describing the capture of Abu Hamed and the occupation of Berber. Mr. Grenfell's covering despatch mentions the brilliant services of Sirdar Kitchener, whose untiring energy and skilful dispositions have recovered and pacified the Nile Valley and Eastern Sudan.

LONDON, JAN. 26. The gunboat Lapwing has seized the steamer Baluchistan off Muscat for attempting to land arms and ammunition. The British Consul has confiscated the cargo.

The German cruiser Gefion, accompanying Prince Henry to China, has returned to Perim for coal.

Princess Beatrice is visiting Netley Hospital. The Rifle Brigade from Hongkong has been ordered to land at Malta.

LONDON, JAN. 27. It is reported that the Tsar at a private gathering of officers said that events in the Far East had weighed heavily on his mind, especially regarding the difficulties with Japan, but that, thank God, all had cleared now.

It has transpired that the Gifon returned to Perim to fetch colliers to re-coal the Deutschland.

The murder of a German sailor at Kiaochau is officially confirmed.

The death is announced of General Francis Moberley.

GOOD FOOD—GOOD DIGESTION—GOOD CHEER.

"MORAL character is located in the stomach," says a recent writer. He is wrong; but there is a shade of truth in the idea he throws out. Napoleon was often willing to trust others to look after the arms and ammunition of his armies, but the commissary department he looked after himself.

That's why we are not surprised to find Mr. William Jones saying that at a certain time he was in a low and desponding state of mind. He gives the reason himself in three words. "I was weak." And why was he weak? He explains that, too.

"I was always strong and healthy," he says, "up to January, 1892. Then I had a severe attack of influenza, followed by congestion of the lungs. After this I never got up my strength, and I was low, weak, and desponding. I had a bad taste in the mouth, my appetite was poor, and every morsel of food I took gave me intense pain at my chest. After every meal I was sick, vomiting a green filthy fluid, which was often mixed with blood."

We shall have no trouble to understand this special phase of Mr. Jones' illness. The green filthy fluid was mucus mingled with bile, and the blood came from some of the small blood-vessels, which were ruptured in retching and straining. The bile was "out of its place"; that's why nature tried to get rid of it. But how did it get out of its place? Wait a bit; we'll come to that presently.

"I had," continues our friend, "dreadful attacks of cramp in the stomach, and the gnawing pain was well nigh unendurable. At night I got but little rest; sometimes none at all—cold, clammy sweats breaking out all over me, and in the morning I had barely the strength to raise myself. When I went out of doors my breathing was so bad I had to stop and rest every few yards."

[The cramp was caused by the gas arising from the fermented food, and the short breathing by a partial paralysis of the nerves, created by the poisonous acids which had entered the blood from the stomach. The nerves were also enfeebled by the enforced starvation—like all the rest of his body.]

"As month after month went by," says Mr. Jones, "my relatives and friends could see me wasting away and apparently sinking into the grave. I became as thin as a lath, and you could see through my hands. My legs and face were attenuated to the same extent, and as for my muscles they seemed to be all completely gone."

[Now, inasmuch as when people waste away the fat goes first, and the muscles and other tissues last, you can perceive how far advanced in a decline our good friend really was.]

"Yet I continued in this condition," he says, "altogether for over seventeen months. I was attended, off and on, by four doctors, but their medicines had no good effect on me. I also used lung tonics and cod-liver oil, but to no purpose."

"In June of this year (1893) I first read of Mother Seigel's Syrup, and my wife got me a bottle from Mr. Cole, the grocer, at Grosmont. After taking it a few days I was relieved, my appetite improved, and the sickness (the nausea) left me. Keeping on with the Syrup I gained strength every day, and in a month I could walk and ride, and was soon as well and strong as ever. Your remedy saved my life, and I wish others to know it. You can refer enquirers to me. (Signed) William Jones, Bridge Inn, Kentchurch, Herefordshire, October 31st, 1893."

The case of Mr. Jones and his recovery as set forth by him are well known in his neighbourhood. His wife says that one of the doctors told her that all hope was gone. But happily the doctor was mistaken, as the best of us sometimes are. His disease was chronic inflammatory dyspepsia, and that only. But that was enough, mercy knows, and a fatal end to it was not far off when Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup had a chance to do its healing work.

Our friend is cheerful now because he is strong; and he is strong because this remedy set his digestion to rights.

DR. BISWAS'S ACIDITY PILL

ACIDITY and DYSPEPSIA are the two most common disorders of the day, and very few are so fortunate as to declare their immunity from these. In view of the fact that though apparently harmless in the embryonic stage, Acidity and Dyspepsia shatter and undermine the constitution in the end, and lead to its total wreckage, it must be held that they are dangerous in their insidiousness.

After years of incessant toil and experiment, I have discovered a medicine which, I can confidently say, will cure the patient of acidity, and its worse stage of Dyspepsia in a short time, effectively and radically. However chronic and long-standing the complaint, however violent its attack, the Acidity Pill will give instant and permanent relief, as has been proved in hundreds of cases. Here are a few unsolicited testimonials:—

Babu P. De, B. A., Head-Master, Shipbary, H. C. E. School, writes:—Dr. H. Biswas's Acidity Pill is a sovereign remedy for Acidity and Dyspepsia in general. I am prepared from innocent drugs, and therefore, perfectly harmless. Those that have been suffering from Acidity and Dyspepsia find in the said Pill a speedy and permanent cure. Dr. Biswas deserves the patronage of the public at large.

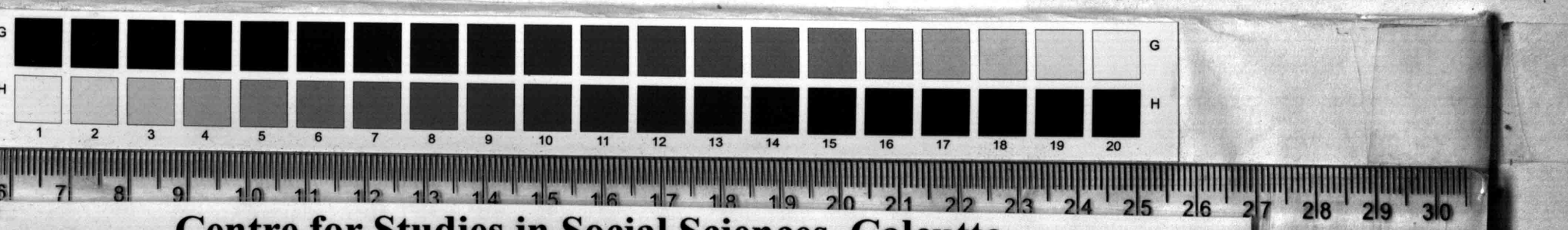
Kumar Hemendra Krishna of the Sovabazar Raj family, writes:—"I am glad to state that I have derived much benefit by the use of a box of your Acidity Pills. Really I did not expect so happy a result. Kindly send me two more boxes."

The Amrita Bazar Patrika says:—Dr. H. Biswas's Acidity Pill has an extraordinary digestive power so that men suffering from Dyspepsia may give a fair trial. It is exclusively prepared from some antiseptic herbs and hence is perfectly safe.

Babu Sarasi Lal Sarcar, M. A., writes:—"I have tried Dr. Biswas's Acidity Pills, and found them to be of great use not only in the case of Acidity but in general Dyspepsia. The medicine, it seems, is prepared solely from indigenous herbs, and is perfectly harmless. Dyspeptic persons will find it to be a great boon for curing this dread disease."

Babu Nitraya Gopal Dutt, Zemindar, Mozilpur, writes:—"I have used your Pill and can bear testimony to its marvellous effects. Before I had used your Pill for a week I was free of acute Acidity, which all other remedies failed to cure. Pundit Satya Charan Sastri, the well-known author of the lives of Pratapaditya and Sivajee, writes:—"I have hardly seen a more efficacious medicine than Biswas's Acidity Pill. It not only cures acidity and dyspepsia, for which it is a sovereign remedy, but it also proves of great use in cold. I believe every household should keep a box by him."

The Acidity Pill is a vegetable preparation. We guarantee a cure and Refund the Price in case of failure. Price Rupee one per box. V. P. charge applied. Do not fail to give it a trial when every other kind of patent or prescribed, has failed to give you relief. It will realize its worth by its own use.



THE LAW OF SEDITION.

THE following letter has been addressed to the Government of India by the Committee of the European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association...

2. The Council find that the Indian Penal Code, including section 113, now section 124A, was the work of the Indian Law Commission...

3. According to the scheme of this Code offences against the State, offences against public tranquillity, and the offence of defamation are dealt with in separate sections of the Code...

4. The Council also find that Sir A. Cockburn, late Lord Chief Justice of England, was in 1879, strongly of opinion that causing enmity and ill-will between sections of a community was an offence against the public tranquillity...

5. The Council submit that any change that may be required in the law as to setting one section of the community against another ought to be made by amending section 153 of the Code...

6. The Council are strongly of opinion that no amendment is required in section 124A beyond the addition of a definition which they think might run as follows:—Feelings of disaffection mean all feelings incompatible with a disposition to render obedience to the lawful authority of the Government established by law in British India...

7. In regard to the proposed amendment of section 505 the Council submit that the introduction of the single word 'false' before the word 'statement' and the omission of the word 'which he knows to be false' after the word 'report' would meet the avowed object of the proposed change...

8. The exception which it is proposed to introduce, viz., 'It does not amount to an offence within the meaning of this section, to make, publish, or circulate any such statement, rumour or report, as aforesaid, when such statement, rumour or report is true, and is made, published, or circulated without such intent as aforesaid...'...

9. The Council would also observe that subsections (b) and (c) both deal with offences against public tranquillity, which, having regard to the objections already advanced in paragraph 4, and supported by the high authority of the late Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, ought not to be mixed up with offences against the State...

THE Government of India have sanctioned Rs. 24,000 for the extension of the model dairy farm at Umballa, and Rs. 8,000 for the improvement of existing Government dairies in the four commands.

Effect Is Marvellous.

SO says THOMAS C. FLASHMAN, Esq., the well-known merchant and proprietor of FLASHMAN'S HOTEL, RAWALPINDI, when speaking about some instances where he gave Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera, and Diarrhoea Remedy.

He said: "I have much pleasure in testifying to the beneficial results I have experienced from Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera, and Diarrhoea Remedy. Whenever I had occasion to use it, it has never failed to check diarrhoea, and often one dose was enough. The effect is marvellous. Have given it to travellers passing through my Hotel, and to my servants many times, and it has always proved efficacious."

CHAMBERLAIN'S COLIC, CHOLERA, AND DIARRHOEA REMEDY sold everywhere. Price Re. 1 and Rs. 2. GENERAL AGENTS: Smith Stanistreet & Co. and Paul & Co., Calcutta.

THE NEW SEDITION BILL.

(Pioneer)

AS soon as the amendments to the Indian Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure, by which the Government hope to establish a more effectual control over the seditious press, were introduced into the Imperial Council, we expressed the opinion that the Government were going the wrong way to work...

At the present time when the amendment which the Government of India propose to introduce in the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure with a view to curbing the licence of seditious writers, it is interesting to contrast the attitude taken up and the methods adopted under similar circumstances in 1878.

"It will, perhaps, be said that the proper course is to amend the Penal Code, and to provide therein suitable penalties for those who, without advising rebellion, inflame the minds of the people against their rulers. I am sure that the Council will not for a moment suppose that this very natural question has not been deliberately considered by the Government; but, after the most careful reflection and consultation with our Law Officers, and with the Local Governments, the conclusion which we have arrived at is, that no such amendment as could be made in a Penal Code, which is necessarily of general application, would adequately and properly meet the peculiar requirements of the present case."

It would, of course, be possible to introduce into the Penal Code a provision rendering penal all writings calculated to inflame the minds of the people against their rulers, irrespective of the intention of the writers; but such a provision must be of general application, and like the rest of the Penal Code, it must be essentially punitive. The principle of the Bill which I desire to lay before the Council, is a different principle. Its machinery of checks rather than of penalties. Its object is to check mischievous writings of the nature of those to which I have alluded, not by penal sentences, but by requiring the offenders, or those in regard to whom it may be apprehended that they are likely to offend, to engage and deposit security for their good behaviour, or by merely warning them; and it is only in the event of the engagements being broken, or the warnings being disregarded, that the penalties which the Bill provides, will be put in force.

It Is Remarkable.

SAYS MR. W. WILSON, the popular Chemist at RAWALPINDI and MURREE, "How Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has attained a prominence in this district, and though it has only been introduced a few months it has taken the lead. From remarks made by my customers, who have used this remedy, I am convinced that it possesses exceptional qualities. I never hesitate to recommend it to all who are in need of a good cough mixture."

case adequately; and this remark applies, not only to that class of cases, which, as I have said, is not covered by the Penal Code, but also to those cases to which the provisions of the Penal Code are expressly applicable. Even if it were perfectly certain that in every case a conviction would be obtained, the political effect of such trials would be bad. They would be certain to create a good deal of excitement, and would invest the accused with a fictitious importance in the eyes of their more ignorant countrymen, which it is desirable to avoid.

"My Lord, I will not pretend to say that this part of the question is perfectly plain and simple, or that, in advising the course which we have determined on after very careful consideration, we are not laying ourselves open, in some degree at all events, to the charge of class legislation, and of making what by many will be regarded as an invidious distinction. It would have been very easy, but I do not think that it would have been just, to make the application of the Bill general, and for the sake of not laying ourselves open to the charge of creating invidious distinctions, to include the English press in its operation."

"The evils to which I have adverted are, I fear, too wide-spread to be checked or suppressed by prosecutions under the existing law; and even if it be assumed that prosecutions would be effective in repressing them, it must be admitted that much time would be lost in applying such remedy and realising its salutary results. As time is of the very essence of every remedy by prevention and restraint, I am entitled to assert that prosecutions for all practical purposes will be found unavailing. It follows then, that in conformity to the principles I have enunciated, this Legislature is under the necessity of making provision for the better protection and security of Government and for the public welfare in a manner suited to the emergency, so that the remedy may be summary and its application immediate. The Bill before us contains provisions which, I think, are well calculated to supply the desired remedy; and I maintain that the time has fairly arrived for action—further forbearance may be fraught with danger. It may probably be alleged that the provisions of the Bill are stringent; but I consider that the means to be used for the suppression and extinction of the evil courses to which the newspapers under notice have resorted, should be as powerful and as effective as if the Government were called upon to deal with a plague, a pestilence, or other grievous calamity. In the course of my professional career, I have been a zealous and unflinching advocate of the freedom of the Press; and I have the satisfaction of believing, that, in according my support to the present Bill, I am in no way departing from a firm adherence to the true principles which regulate that freedom. To protect and encourage journalism conducted with ordinary care and for honest purposes, might be deemed a privilege. To curb by reasonable and necessary means the unbridled license of obnoxious and degraded publications which seek to spread disaffection and dissatisfaction, and which may be used by wicked and designing men to produce discontent amongst the poor and ignorant to their own detriment—and to denounce them fearlessly should be considered by every right-thinking man and by every true citizen an imperative public duty."

"The Hon'ble Mr. Paul said:—'The evils to which I have adverted are, I fear, too wide-spread to be checked or suppressed by prosecutions under the existing law; and even if it be assumed that prosecutions would be effective in repressing them, it must be admitted that much time would be lost in applying such remedy and realising its salutary results. As time is of the very essence of every remedy by prevention and restraint, I am entitled to assert that prosecutions for all practical purposes will be found unavailing. It follows then, that in conformity to the principles I have enunciated, this Legislature is under the necessity of making provision for the better protection and security of Government and for the public welfare in a manner suited to the emergency, so that the remedy may be summary and its application immediate. The Bill before us contains provisions which, I think, are well calculated to supply the desired remedy; and I maintain that the time has fairly arrived for action—further forbearance may be fraught with danger. It may probably be alleged that the provisions of the Bill are stringent; but I consider that the means to be used for the suppression and extinction of the evil courses to which the newspapers under notice have resorted, should be as powerful and as effective as if the Government were called upon to deal with a plague, a pestilence, or other grievous calamity. In the course of my professional career, I have been a zealous and unflinching advocate of the freedom of the Press; and I have the satisfaction of believing, that, in according my support to the present Bill, I am in no way departing from a firm adherence to the true principles which regulate that freedom. To protect and encourage journalism conducted with ordinary care and for honest purposes, might be deemed a privilege. To curb by reasonable and necessary means the unbridled license of obnoxious and degraded publications which seek to spread disaffection and dissatisfaction, and which may be used by wicked and designing men to produce discontent amongst the poor and ignorant to their own detriment—and to denounce them fearlessly should be considered by every right-thinking man and by every true citizen an imperative public duty.'"

"LINSSEED COMPOUND" Trade Mark of KAY'S COMPOUND ESSENCE OF LINSSEED. "LINSSEED COMPOUND," a demulcent expectorant for Coughs, Colds, and Chest Complaints. LINUM CATHARTICUM PILLS, digestive, cooperative, and agreeably aperient. KAY'S CURE—The Best Billiard Cue in the World. "Your Cue is the best I have ever used."—JOHN ROBERTS (Champion), 1896. KLINX—New white inorganic Cement, almost hydraulic, for Pottery, Porcelain, &c. COAGULINE—Transparent Cement, for all broken articles. Manufacture, Stockport, England. CHESHIRE BIRD LIME—For Mosses and noxious insects. In tin boxes. To spread on paper, twine, &c. JAY BROTHERS, Ltd., Stockport, England.

that, in according my support to the present Bill, I am in no way departing from a firm adherence to the true principles which regulate that freedom. To protect and encourage journalism conducted with ordinary care and for honest purposes, might be deemed a privilege. To curb by reasonable and necessary means the unbridled license of obnoxious and degraded publications which seek to spread disaffection and dissatisfaction, and which may be used by wicked and designing men to produce discontent amongst the poor and ignorant to their own detriment—and to denounce them fearlessly should be considered by every right-thinking man and by every true citizen an imperative public duty."

"The Hon'ble Mr. Evans said:—'The object of the proposed Bill cannot be obtained by prosecution in the ordinary Courts. Moreover, a prosecution by its publicity disseminates the poison. If it were necessary to destroy clothes infected with the plague, no sane man would ask that they should be brought into a crowded public Court to have the question of their infectiousness tried.'"

Great liberty of speech is conceded to prisoners and their advocates and they are allowed to use any arguments which they choose in their defence; and these reports of trials are by our law specially privileged and may be printed with impunity. It is right that this should be so; but it is one of the reasons which render a public prosecution an undesirable method of dealing with these cases, for, in punishing the prisoner, you disseminate the poison. When special evils like this have to be dealt with, it seems wiser to meet them by special legislation than to alter the general criminal law or procedure. I do not think this Bill can fairly be objected to as class legislation. Publications in English are not subject to its provisions. Publications in the vernacular are. The reason is that English is in India, to some extent, a learned language, and a knowledge of it represents some amount of education. When Latin was the language of the learned in England and the rest of Europe, it was thought no harm to print classical works, containing the praises of the Republic, or of Government as the best possible, and little exception could have been taken to a learned treatise upholding that view. But had any one published a treatise in the vulgar tongue informing the masses that they would be happier if they substituted that form of Government for the one they lived under, he would have been speedily laid by the heels. Publications in English do not reach that class which is ignorant and credulous enough to be injured by the sort of stuff, extracts from which have been read to us to-day."

"I can quite understand that the Government of India has, as the Hon'ble Mover of the Bill has stated, felt some difficulty in applying a measure of this sort to a portion of the Press and exempting another portion. But the difficulty, it seems to me, is imaginary rather than real. The papers published in this country in the English language, are written by a class of writers for a class of readers whose education and interest would make them naturally intolerant of sedition; they are written under a sense of responsibility and under a restraint of public opinion which do not and cannot exist in the case of the ordinary Native newspapers. It is quite easy and practicable to draw a distinction between papers published in English and papers published in the vernacular; and it is a distinction which really meets all the requirements of the case and should not be disregarded merely because some evil-disposed persons may choose to say that Government has desired to show undue favour to papers written in the language of the ruling power."

"The Press must be treated on its own merits. Had the English Press of India been in style and tone what it was twenty years ago, I for my part should have had no hesitation in voting for its inclusion in the present Bill. But I know nothing that has improved more of late years than the tone of the Anglo-Indian Press. It, no doubt, attacks Government measures and Government officials, and often very undeservedly; but, as I have said before, it is not this sort of criticism to which Government objects or desires to control. On the whole, the English Press of India, whether conducted by Europeans or Natives, bears evidence of being influenced by a proper sense of responsibility and by a general desire to discuss public events in a moderate and reasonable spirit. There is no occasion to subject that Press to restraint, and, therefore, naturally enough, it is exempted. It would be a sign of great weakness on the part of Government to bring it within the scope of this measure, merely to meet a possible charge of partiality. If it should ever happen that the Anglo-Indian Press should adopt a tone calculated to excite feelings of disaffection to the British rule, I shall be amongst the first to ask for its inclusion in a law of this sort."

"Within the last few weeks I have refused applications from two different Local Governments to permit the prosecution of local vernacular newspapers for obvious and rank sedition. And I will state my reasons for so doing. The law, as explained by the Hon'ble Mover of this Bill, is in its present state a very questionable instrument. The explanation of 'disaffection' may be taken to explain away almost any incitement to disaffection that is not followed by actual rebellion; so that the probability of securing a conviction would always be doubtful. But, though these considerations might well satisfy me in hesitating to sanction a prosecution under existing circumstances, it was not only, nor indeed mainly, on these considerations that I have acted. Had the law been certain and the temper of the jury such as would have rendered a conviction secure, still I should not have considered a prosecution desirable. What I desire is to prevent, not to punish, seditious appeals. A successful prosecution, even should it in some cases have a deterrent effect, would still invest the prosecuted journal with a mischievous notoriety and an artificial importance, calculated to give to its seditious teaching the very publicity which, in the interests of good government, we should desire to prevent. Every such victory would be a virtual defeat."

It is for these reasons that I came to the conclusion that legislation was necessary; and that it behooved us to direct such legislation to methods of prevention, rather than of punishment. This conclusion has been adopted, after the most anxious consideration, with the unanimous approval of every Member of my Executive Council, and every Local Government in India except one within whose jurisdiction the vernacular Press is wholly insignificant and unheeded.

It may, and by some persons it probably will, be regarded as an objection to this measure that it draws a distinction, and apparently an invidious distinction, between the Native and the English Press. It may be said, with perfect truth, that the very words which we regard as innocuous in an English paper, will be deemed seditious in a vernacular journal, and that the Native editor may be ruined for repeating what the English editor has published with impunity. Well, this seems a very strong indictment against the Bill; but the briefest examination of the circumstances for which we are legislating, will suffice to dissipate the force of it. In the first place, let the real distinction be observed. The distinction is not between Englishmen and Natives, or between the English Press and the Native Press; for, many Natives publish their newspapers in English, and in very good English too. Some of the Native newspapers thus published, contain excellent and valuable comments on public affairs. Some of them are also edited by men of acknowledged ability and culture, who certainly do not hesitate to criticise the English Government with an asperity and hostility which no other foreign Government in the world would tolerate for a moment. With these papers we do not interfere. Being written in English, they are *ex vi termini* addressed to a more or less educated audience, and a class that has at least the power, even if it have not always the will, to choose between the false and the true, between the evil and the good. From them we apprehend no political danger; and we can trust to their improving education, as time goes on, to render their criticism fairer, and their judgment more according to knowledge. It is not then against Native papers, as such, that our legislation is directed. We confine our measures of restriction purely to the papers written in vernacular languages; and we do so because, as I have said before, they are addressed solely to an ignorant, excitable, helpless class—a class whose members have no other means of information, no other guide as to the action and motives of their rulers; and who, if such action and motives be persistently misrepresented to them, are likely to give vent to their excited feelings in acts of disaffection, which cannot but be fraught with disaster to themselves.

There is a very great difference between denouncing, in a debating Society of educated men, the existence of the Government established by law, and using the same language to an excited mob. There are certain physiological works which may be rightly offered to the study of medical students, but which no one would place before schoolboys. What is to a competently educated man a subject only of scientific enquiry, becomes an instrument of danger and destruction in the hands of the ignorant. This distinction applies to our treatment of newspapers printed in English, and distinguished from those printed in the vernacular. The one class is addressed to people who can, more or less, judge for themselves; the other, to those who are incapable of judging.

FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

ON Wednesday a foraging party from Ali Musjid under the guidance of Captain Burton, obtained some 200 maunds of grain, concealed in a cave near Lala Chena village.

A JAMRUD telegram, dated Jan. 26, says:—Last night some Afghans tried to get into the Camp at Ali Musjid between the pickets; they were fired on at close range and returned the fire. There were no casualties.

SIR RICHARD UDNY, it is reported, will be entrusted with the work of re-establishing peace and order on the North-West Frontier, and be invested with full authority, subject alone to the Foreign Office. The appointment is severely criticised.

GENERAL HART reports that on Tuesday night one of his surprise pickets in a village fired on some fifty of the enemy, who came down the Bori Pass. Lieutenant Brown, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who commanded reports that eight men dropped to the fire and probably more were hit. The enemy were taken by surprise, and did not return the fire, although armed.

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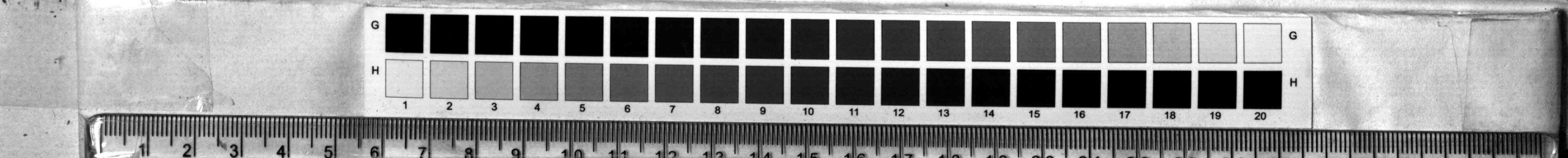
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WOMAN'S WAYS.

[A TRUE STORY.]

(Specially written for the Patrika.)

AN old theme this—as old as Adam and Eve; but all the same, it has lost none of its charms. They say that the ways of God are inscrutable, but woman's ways are still more so; for, if an Indian proverb is to be believed, God himself cannot comprehend them. But I am not here to moralize. My only object is to tell a story.

Well, once upon a time—to begin, according to the established custom of story-tellers—but no, I must infringe the rule and make the custom more honoured in its breach than in its observance, for, I am no story-teller. That requires a fertile imagination—a commodity I am wholly destitute of. Moreover, what I have to say is no yarn. It is plain and simple truth—the whole truth—and nothing but the truth. So I shall say it in my own way; and if the readers don't like it, they may skip over it with a "D—n it," and pass on to fresh fields and pastures new. Now, to my story.

Well, I flatter myself that I have got a spark of the spirit of Goldsmith who, though not particularly fond of pageants and shows, yet liked to go to them just to observe what effects were produced, and what emotions were called forth in different men. What a philosopher Ned was! I myself hate to go to such places, and have to elbow my way, and be jostled and hustled by a vulgar throng. If there is one thing which I dislike more than another, it is this. I would rather prefer to stay at home, and enjoy the quiet company of a book and shall I say, a meerschaum? That would be more classed, but then I am no smoker. Then I think of old Will Shakespeare who says: "home-keeping youths have homely wits". So, just to expand my wits, I have occasionally to stir out; though in doing so, I sometimes go to the opposite extreme, and come to my wit's end!

Well, it was with mixed feelings like these that I went to the Khushroo Bagh to behold the annual X'mas games that are held in Allahabad.

I went to the games; and after I had been listlessly knocking about for some time, I felt disappointed. There was nothing that afforded food for reflection. Of course, there was a good deal in the way of pretty—not faces, but bonnets and hats and dresses of people who go there less to see than to be seen; but I am a very bad judge of those things. My tastes don't lie that way. "The boor" do you call me? Now it must not be concluded from this that I cannot admire pretty faces. Far from it. In fact, if the truth must be told, it was the absence of that which contributed a great deal to my disappointment. While I was thinking that the game was not worth the eight annas I had paid for admission, and meditating a retreat, my attention was directed towards a solitary figure standing under a tamarind tree. Here was my opportunity, at last! I began to make a closer survey of this individual. He was a young man of about 25 years of age, and about six feet high. At first sight there seemed to be nothing remarkable about him; but a close inspection revealed the fact that I was face to face with one who possessed a personal individuality, quite different from the ordinary herd that surrounded him. The compressed lips—the prematurely wrinkled brow—the dreamy, wandering eyes—and the melancholy expression that pervaded,—all bore the stamp which marks the features of one who has seen the world and suffered. At a little distance from him, beside a gaming table, stood three ladies. One of them was actually engaged in the game; another was watching it, while the third and youngest was restlessly looking about her, and seemed to be ill-at-ease. She was a really beautiful girl of about 16 or 17 summers, with a complexion faultlessly fair, and a face which recalled the Madonna to one's mind—a face that would not take you by storm, but imperceptibly insinuate itself into and take possession of the heart. What struck me most was an air of sadness that was but little suited to her tender age. Alas! This harsh world has no mercy nor pity even for the young and the beautiful! At a time when they should be "in maiden meditation, fancy free," the canker begins to eat into the rose-bud, and "the tender bloom of heart is gone, ere you are past!"

The eyes of the man were fixed on this girl. As I was watching this couple, the man fetched a deep sigh and turned his face. His eyes encountered mine. "A pretty girl," said I, by way of introduction. "A dead-sea apple" was the laconic reply given with a slight curl of the lips. "How?" was the query that rose to my lips; but I restrained myself. I must not be precipitate, I thought. Besides, his reserved and haughty mien repelled me. Still I ventured further. "You are rather hard, I should think." "May be; I have to thank them for it." And he turned away. The next moment he had joined a group of young men, and was talking and laughing with them.—the gayest of the gay. I involuntarily remembered Byron:—"Though wit may flash from fluent lips, and mirth distract the breast, Through midnight hours that yield no more their former hope of rest; 'Tis but as ivy-leaves around the ruined turret wreath, All green and wildly fresh without, but worn and gray beneath."

What a complex mechanism it is—this human nature! However, now that I had spotted my quarry, I did not mean to give it up so easily. I began to think of a means of picking up an acquaintance with him. I said so to a friend. He took me to him. "Mr. F.—let me introduce Mr. G.—to you. He's a bit of a philosopher, you know—my friend is, and your personality attracts him. A word to the wise is enough. You know the Indian proverb, don't you?—Bye-bye, don't let an ice-berg, and chill your new acquaintance with your glacier-like airs. By Jove! I hat a pretty girl!" And away he went. "I'm really glad to form your acquaintance, Mr. G.—but you must be prepared for disappointment. You have to thank yourself or it. I do not seek introductions because there are so few who like my ways."

I am an exception, Mr. F.—I shall be content to watch and wait.

Then we began to talk on indifferent topics. I wanted to draw him out. So I said:—"What a lot of feathers! How many beautiful birds must have lost their lives to adorn the heads of these ladies! Well might have they cried with Æsop's frogs: 'What is play to you, is death to us?' It would seem that beauty is no less fatal a gift to them as to man. The beauty of their plumage has been their ruin!"

"It's the same story told over again. One's loss is another's gain." As for beauty, I wish the ladies realized what the Persian poet said:—"One to whom God has given beauty, does not stand in need of ornament, just as the moon looks beautiful without any." Well may one apply to them the words of Goldsmith who says that, to hear them talk one would think that they are the friends of the whole creation, and will not wilfully destroy the meanest insect on the face of the earth; and yet what a contrariety there is in their professions and their deeds!"

I had succeeded in inserting the thin end of the wedge. I meant to drive it home. So I said—

"Well, so far as words and deeds are concerned, men are as much to blame, I should think, as women."

"I don't know. My own opinion is that women are the greatest offenders in this respect. Their hearts are far from their lips, at least, where the feelings are concerned. I admit, there are exceptions; but they are few and far between."

I looked up to his face. "A woman-hater!" I said, but my remark drew no reply. He was looking towards the girl mentioned.

"It is very discouraging," I continued, to hold such an unfavourable view of one-half of human nature. But it is the fashion to feign pessimism now-a-days; and I don't believe, you are serious. I bet you like that girl over there."

I saw his lips curl—I am not sure whatever it was with a smile or with contempt.

"We like and admire the skin of a snake, Mr. G.—but we don't love the snake for it. The world has made me what I am. A year ago, I was a different being."

"A woman is at the bottom of it all," I thought.

"Let us go up the Mausoleum," he said, "and survey from above the scene below. Isn't the prospect pleasant? I don't mean the scene, but the pastime of watching how people play their games. I think it is Burton who says: 'I have no wife nor children, good or bad, to provide for. A mere spectator of other men's fortunes and adventures, and how they play their parts; which, he thinks, are diversely presented unto me, as from a common theatre of scene.'"

"Yes," said I, "but isn't the game exciting enough? Do you never feel tempted to take part in it?"

"I have played, and I have lost. I am a bankrupt now."

"You may repair your fortune. You are young yet."

"I am afraid, not. Our hearts are like a tender plant.

If the elements are favourable to it, it thrives and flourishes. But if it is exposed to excessive cold, it is blasted for ever. No magician's wand can bring it back to life."

I felt the force of his words, and was silent. It was now growing dark; so we shook hands and parted. I visited him a week later. I found him reading a "hill-top novel."

"I like Grant Allen," he said. "He has the courage of his convictions."

After we had been talking for sometime about the merits of his new novel in which Mr. Allen comes out in the role of a theologian, our conversation became more and more personal, till he directed my attention to a painting on the wall. A man was looking with eyes full of love, towards a young girl whose features were more subdued and less eloquent, but none the less expressive. Between them, was a small round table on which stood a lamp; and some books lay scattered about.

"You see this?" he asked me. "Now look at this picture," and he turned it over, and showed the other side. In this, too, the central figures were the same; but with what an altered expression on their features? Pain and sorrow, mingled with love, was plainly depicted on the countenance of the man, while the woman's wore an air of indifference and was turned towards a figure in the background. Leaving the picture, Mr. F.—advanced to the table, and took out a sheet of thick paper, framed like a picture. It contained the following lines written in a small, neat, feminine hand—

"Dear Friend,—I am almost afraid to trust myself to write to you that I feel, and feel deeply for you, you cannot know how much; and even by my writing or telling it, you do not realize or even believe, I think, that I do feel for you,—or that I ever think of you except when you are present. I do not forget my friends, or those who have been kind to me; and, although I do not suppose you will believe this, I will always take an interest in you, and will always remember you. There will be nothing to mar my happiness—no, nothing—save the thought 'of what might have been.' However, I can only say:—

"It will live; no eyes will see it.

In my soul it will lie deep.

Hidden from all; but I shall feel it

Often stirring in my sleep.

So remember that the friendship

Which you now think poor and vain,

Will endure in hope and patience

Till you ask for it again."

In this world, I am afraid, you will never have a chance of asking, or I of showing, that my friendship is really a true one, and that it will ever be what a friendship should be. But, oh! I have the hope, and the consolation of hoping, that we will meet in a better and brighter world where we will enjoy a better, fuller, and more satisfying friendship than any that we can have on Earth. I wish you had that hope too.

YOURS SINCERELY,

While I was reading these lines, Mr. F.—stood motionless like a statue. When I had finished, he showed—without speaking a single word—the reverse of the sheet. I read the following lines written in the same hand—

"I don't think I have been quite frank with you. At the time I used those words, I thought I felt them. But I was then in a morbid state of mind and mistook pity for a deeper feeling. You are always talking of your love and devotion to me. I for one am tired of going over the old ground over and over again. Words of love were almost an insult to me before. They are not almost but quite an insult to me now."

That picture and this writing solved the whole mystery. I knew it now as if Mr. F.—had told me his whole history from beginning to end. It was ever thus. Women—not men—were deceivers ever. Now a man of the world would have thought of the whole affair lightly, and treated the heartless letters with the contempt they deserved. But Mr. F.—was of a different stamp. And as he stood there, before me with his lips more compressed than ever, I felt that they had produced an impression which time could not efface, and had perhaps changed the whole course of a life. And as he looked towards me, his dreamy eyes seemed to say:—"Now, do you wonder at my pessimism?" And my heart went out to him, as I said:—"Truly, women are less often sinned against than sinning."

H. H. GHOSE.

Allahabad.

SCENE AT JEUR.

THE Advocate of India's special correspondent writes: Just as the first contact of the eclipse took place, I started off for the camp of Professor Campbell, of the Lick Observatory. Strict orders had been issued to keep all visitors away from the camps of the different scientific expeditions, and although armed with a pass, I was ordered to halt every few hundred yards and explain my business. Superintendent Thatcher performed his duties well and, once beyond the station limit, not a soul moved save the police who watched the country. At four miles distance the Lick camp was pitched, and within a couple of hundred yards, rested the camp of the Poona College of Science. On arrival, the moon had done half its work; grey palour rested on the land, birds were disturbed and flitted about as at sun-down. Everything was prepared, the mighty instruments, full of mystery and mystic power, were ready and adjusted to that spot in the sky where the wondrous display would take place, Professor Campbell has himself described them in these columns and all that it is necessary to say is that after six weeks' continuous labour he got them placed in position. Everything was complete on Thursday night, when a singular, and unfortunate accident took place. An animal, presumably a jackal, got prowling round the instruments, and his desire for scientific knowledge led to some inconvenience. He managed to seriously upset one instrument and disarrange others. Fortunately, the time was ample to repair the damages of the inquisitive jack, but it was found necessary for this incident to keep a watch. Professor Campbell had to call for assistance in this country, to carry out the whole of the observations he contemplated, and it is gratifying to know that there was not the slightest difficulty in procuring volunteers, well able to assist him in carrying out the work. Capt. Fleet, R. N., headed a party of officers of his Service. They were Lieut. Kinahan, R. N., Lieut. Mansergh, R. N., Lieut. Corbett, R. N., and Lieut. Garwood, R. N. As in the observations carried out by Sir Norman Lockyer, the Navy came well to the front; and for obvious reasons no better volunteers could be had. In addition to these, Professor Campbell had the assistance of Mrs. Campbell, his wife, herself an astronomer, who took charge of much of the most delicate spectroscopic work. Major Comfort, United States Consul, and Mrs. Comfort loyally assisted their countryman. Major Boileau, R.A., and the Revd. J. E. Abbott, both enthusiastic amateur astronomers, took charge of instruments, and Miss Beans, who accompanied the expedition from California, gave material help in the great work. Professor Campbell himself was up with the sun, seeing that his instruments still adhered to that nicety to which they had been already adjusted. To speak of a hairs-breadth in this connection is like measuring the breadth of a razor's edge with a yard stick. The veriest tremor will occasion results other than desirable. Atmospheric conditions were eagerly studied, and fortunately found to be quite as favourable as was expected. Each phase of the eclipse was carefully watched until within about a quarter of an hour of totality, when every worker was at his or her post, silent and keenly alive to the greatness of the work they had in hand. Careful training for a few days had familiarized them with the instruments, and all possibility of bungling had been carefully provided against. Dead silence was observed, and birds and beasts influenced by the fading light, ceased their chattering and howling. There was perfect rest. The moon had been creeping over the face of the sun so slowly that the moment of his utter disappearance seemed never to come. At last there was the thin crescent of light only to the left of the orb, and then with sudden and startling energy the moon awoke and found it was time to complete its work. The dark shadow swept down on us, the row of gleaming beads stood out, and then the big black blot fell on the face of the sun entirely. Out shot the streamers, silver and blue, to the extent of three solar diameters. There planted in the heavens, was the decoration we had all made our pilgrimage to see, impressing us with the immensity of nature and awing us with our own insignificance. Strange enough, the one sound that broke the stillness was in harmony with the circumstances. It was the voice of the great scientist measuring off the movements as they passed. There, with magnificent calmness, surrounded by the great machines he has put together, fitted parts of man's consciousness with wheels, and tubes and lenses, was the professor wrestling with nature for her well-cherished secrets. The occasion impressed the mind of the on-lookers as lastingly as the record of rays of tale-telling light, which were snatched from the corona to illumine the world with knowledge and be of service for evermore. The seed which dropped into the mouths of those tubes will take many months to fructify; but we know they have dropped in the right place and we may look for the benefits in the fullness of time. A sigh of relief escaped as the first flash of returning light struck the darkened belt of earth. As swiftly as it came, the shadow disappeared. A rustling of the leaves, a chirp of the birds, a quiver of re-animation touched us, and wondering eyes were turned on each other. It was all over, the first and last view for many of Nature under such conditions. Man conversed awkwardly at first and discovered he had not yet invented words for such an occasion.

But to the work done. The big 40 ft. telescope, the invention of Professor Schaeclerley,

was manipulated by Capt. Fleet and Lieut. Garwood, and they got twelve records of the eclipse. Three were made as quickly as possible, their object being to record details of the prominences and the corona at the very edge of the sun, and details of corona and streamers. The other exposures were two of one second, two of two seconds, two of four seconds, two of eight, and one of sixteen seconds. The plates are fourteen inches by seventeen inches. Mr. Campbell was of opinion that in the case of the sixteen-second exposure, the corona would almost completely cover it, and might even run off the plate in places, as visual observations had shown that it was very irregular in shape. Besides the gigantic telescope just referred to, Professor Campbell employed a six-inch photographic telescope of thirty-three inches focal length, which photographed the corona on a smaller scale, and will be especially valuable in showing details in the outer corona. Another was used for dealing with "the middle" of the corona, which will be of use hereafter. He also used three spectroscopes which were designed with reference to recording the changes which principally occur in the spectrum on the sun's edge, as the luminary is gradually covered up by the moon. The real question that has to be determined is whether and how the dark lines are introduced into the solar spectrum. There are various theories regarding this question, and it is hoped that the photographs secured with these instruments, may cast considerable light on the subject. In addition, three photographs were secured during totality, to record the spectrum of the corona itself, the object of these and several other records being to discover the law of the solution of the corona.

Professor Campbell gave me many interesting details. The new work he attempted to accomplish, is the most interesting. He has made an attempt to record the spectrum of the reversing layer supposed to be substituted at the edge of the sun. What is wanted is a continuous record of the changes which take place. This was the most important experiment, and it is to be hoped that success has attended the effort. The eclipse took place within a fraction of the time calculated by astronomers and its duration was within a fraction of 120 seconds.

THE BEAUTY AND THE TORTOISE.

ONE of the latest whims of the Parisian mondaine is to wear—literally—a live tortoise, a small one, of course, and jewelled according to the circumstances and taste of the wearer. It has struck the French Society for the Protection of Animals that to have its shell, set thickly with precious stones, and to be fastened by a gold chain to the corsage of the wearer, must be distasteful, if not positively painful, to the tortoise. Legal steps have, therefore, been taken to put a stop to the practice; but the jewellers and their fair clients will not yield without a fight. They assert that, so far from being inconvenienced by carrying a few diamonds and rubies on its carapace, the tortoise enjoys the distinction, and not being given to over-much locomotion, the chain has no terrors for it, while any little discomfort it suffers, is more than counterbalanced by dainty fare and good treatment.

FASCINATION BY A FOX.

MR. DUNN writes to the Editor of the Spectator:—Sir, Having noticed that your columns are open to correspondents recording the sagacity of animals, I beg to bring under your notice a singular capture of a pheasant by a fox in this neighbourhood. One day about three weeks ago, a dairyman, who rents a few fields from the Earl of Haddington, when out in his fields, noticed a pheasant roosting in a tree about 12 feet from the ground. Shortly after, a fox came prowling through the small plantation in which the tree grew, and quickly marked the bird. At once it proceeded to run round the tree in a narrow circle and at a rapid rate. In a very short time the pheasant fell from its roost, evidently hypnotised or rendered giddy by watching the circular career of Mr. Reynard. Before it reached the ground, the fox had it in its mouth and scampered off. The dairyman was so amused with the performance that he made no effort to stop the fox. It would be interesting to know if any of your readers, learned in the tricks of foxes, have witnessed a similar trick.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENE ON DOVER PIER.

A SWIFT retribution has overtaken a man who, at Exeter, suddenly failed to fulfil his appointment to marry a young lady, the daughter of a respected resident of that city. It appears that at the beginning of the week, an Englishman, a partner in a Paris firm of job-masters, and residing in that capital, arrived in Devonshire, it is alleged, for the purpose of carrying out an undertaking to marry the young lady referred to. The bridegroom, with his mother and best man, the latter being, it is stated, an officer in a French regiment of the line, took up quarters at one of the principal hotels, and the first-mentioned adjourned to the house of the bride's relatives to enjoy during the last hours of [single], blessedness the company of the bride and her friends.

While he was there, a ring came at the front door bell, and on the servant answering, a woman demanded to know if the young bride elect was within. At the same time she (it is reported) bid the servant tell her that she should never be married to her affianced husband, for, if she presented herself at the altar on the morrow, she (the stranger) would shoot them both, and she flourished a revolver. The owner of that weapon, it subsequently transpired, was a person of French nationality who had been closely acquainted with the afore-said bridegroom for some time—at least, so reports the Press Association which supplies this interesting report.

Nothing more was thought of the incident at the time, and the bridegroom having re-assured the bride, preparations for the wedding took place on the following morning; but when the bride was dressed and ready to enter the carriage, the announcement came that the bridegroom had suddenly disappeared, and the congregation at the church gradually dispersed.

Inquiries were at once instituted and it was found that the mother of the bridegroom and his friends had left for London, at which they were traced by the bride's brothers who discovered them comfortably refreshing themselves at one of the principal hotels. The object of the visit to town was the part of the brothers of the bride was to obtain a writ for damages for breach of promise of marriage and serve it upon the man before he shook the dust of England from his feet. Unfortunately, there was some delay in the issue of the writ, but detectives were put upon the track, and armed with a leg process, the bride's younger brother proceeded to Dover, hoping that the bridegroom would choose the Dover-Calais route for returning to France. His surmise was verified for whilst he was waiting upon the platform for the eight o'clock boat train, the bridegroom and best man and another friend alighted. Pretending to have a message from the bride, the brother handed over a writ for £5,000 damages, the object being, of course, to serve him wit in England so as to obviate a journey to Paris for all the witnesses concerned in the affair. After the document had been handed over, the brother in a most deliberate fashion proceeded to administer a sound thrashing to the faithless bridegroom and inflict such punishment upon him that he was literally drenched in blood and his garments bore unmistakable evidence of the chastisement. The French officer stood by in mute astonishment at the exhibition of the brother pluck, and his other friend was equally helpless. This thrashing was administered in the presence of a large number of people crossing by the Ostend boat.

The bride's brother afterwards left the party to take the night steamer to the Continent, whether all have doubtless returned.

It has since transpired that the bridegroom had been lavishing most handsome presents upon his fiancée for some time past, and settle upon her several thousand pounds, in addition to a yearly allowance for pin-money. A large number of the principal seats in Exeter Theatre were also booked for the night of the wedding so that the festivities might have a joyful ending. Much sympathy is felt with the bride and her family. The young lady is stated to be prostrated with grief.

ON TUESDAY the wire was again cut between Ali Musjid and Landi Kotal.

It has been decided to prohibit the enlistment of the Afridis in the army until the terms of Government have been fully completed with.

THE General Officer commanding the Fourth Brigade reports that his Western pickets were fired into at 5.30 p. m. on the 22nd. There were no casualties.

THE General Officer commanding the Second Division, reports that, owing to information received from the civil authorities, of the presence of bodies of Aka Khels in the neighbourhood of Bara, he directed a combined movement of five Battalions, 10 squadrons and eight guns of his division, proceeding concentrically from Bara, Mamani, and Matanni on the 23rd, with the object of clearing away the enemy. Two Aka Khels with ammunition and four camels, were captured. Very few of the enemy were seen. On our side there were no casualties.

ON Wednesday 128 attacks and 108 deaths from plague were reported at Bombay. The total number of deaths from all causes was 226, as against 241 on the same day of last year, and 80 the year before. Relapsing fever is increasing.

THE difficulty in completing the platelaying of the Bezwada-Madras Railway has been met by the purchase of one lakh of sleepers, which will possibly be landed in Madras by the end of March. As soon as the sleepers begin to arrive, platelaying will commence from Ennore northwards, and the line from Bezwada to Madras should be linked in June or July.

WEDNESDAY'S season report contains no signs of any improvement in the agricultural prospects of Madras. The local Board of Revenue remarks that more rain is required everywhere. The prices of food-grains continue very high, most of staple grains being dearer than or touching scarcity rates in nine districts. Nellore, North Arcot, and Salem are now in the category of affected districts suffering from scarcity prices. Nellore is the only district where state relief is being given.

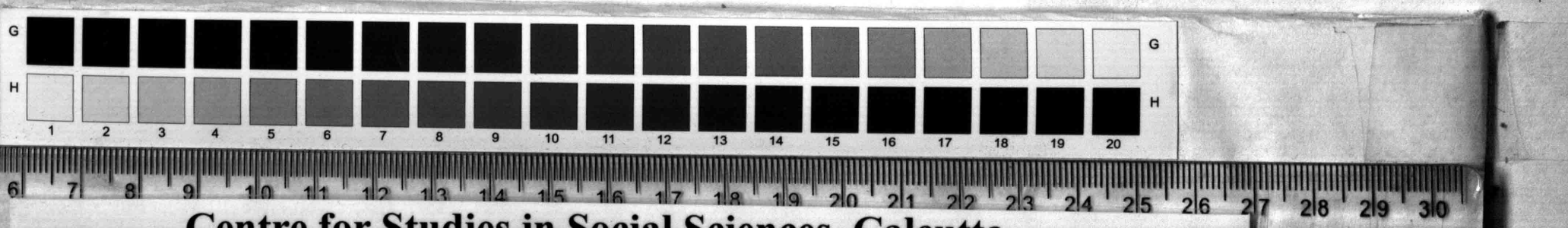
OVER forty years ago, a Kurni, resident of Bara Banki district, during a fight with dakkats, received an arrow wound in his chest. He pulled out the shaft but the iron arrow-head, which measures over three inches, remained in: a few days ago an abscess formed in his chest, and during a fit of coughing the arrow-head became visible, and was extracted by the man in attendance. The retention of the arrow-head in the chest for over forty years has from his own account, caused him no serious inconvenience.

As great inconvenience has been experienced in the transmission of foreign telegrams owing to the want of equivalent words in the Word Code, the Director General of Telegraphs has been requested to make the book as complete as possible at an early date.

THE plague at Hardwar is exercising the energies of the North-West Provinces Government. It has been found necessary to turn out the village of Jaggitpur and also a large block of the town of Jawalapur, which forms part of the Hardwar union. House-to-house visitation is also being carried on. A hospital assistant who accidentally cut himself while conducting a post mortem examination on a plague corpse, has contracted the disease.

Two well-known members of the Bombay Hunt escaped annihilation by the narrowest shave at Santa Cruz Station last Thursday morning. They were crossing the line after the down train had moved off, when the Ahmedabad mail came suddenly on them, and they only just escaped being cut down. The out going train had the coming mail train, and they were only saved by the shout of a fellow passenger.

THE Thanesar fair, which was attended by some seven hundred thousand people, passed off without any outbreak of disease. The plague operations have ceased at Khanpur.



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