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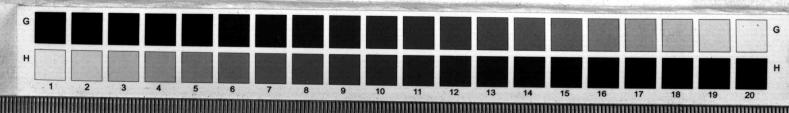
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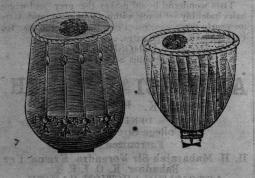
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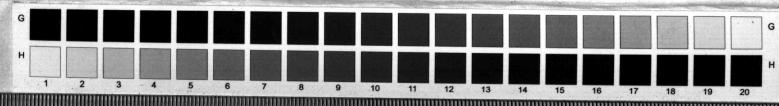
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THE Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, MARCH 3, 1898.

INDIANS AND ANGLO-INDIANS IN THE SAME POSITION. THE following letter appears in the English-

SIR,—The quiet yet firm and dignified protest in the Englishman of the 19th instant anent the passing of the Sedition Bill, will find unanimous approval from every member of the Domiciled British non-official community. The action of the Viceroy and his Council in passing the Sedition Bill into law against the clearly-expressed convictions and protests of the Domiciled British Community, awakens two serious thoughts for the consideration of the Community; (1) It has no voice in the Councils of the Empire, and (2) It must act at once to (a) obtain suitable representation in the Provincial and Supreme Councils of Government and (b) to nullify the action of the Viceroy's Council in respect to the Sedition Law in order that the new sections be not forced upon the country in defiance of public opinion. Could not a public meeting of the European community be held at once to give effect to these two propositions? Unquestionably the occasion is an opportune one for an expression of disapproval of the action of our rulers in India and also for an emphatic demand for representation by the nonofficial European community in the Government of the country.

AN ENGLISHMAN.

We must confess to a feeling of surprise that the passing of the Sedition-Bill has not stirred up any strong feeling of indignation amongst the members of the Anglo-Indian community, considering that the measure has voted a permanent disability not only to the Indians but themselves as well. The correspondent of the Englishman puts the situation very clearly. A few dozen officials are to command, and tens of thousands of do miciled Europeans are to obey-that is the relation which subsists between the official and non-official European communities. The political status of a non-official European is thus no better than that of a conquered native. This fact has been emphasised by the contemptuous way in which non-official public opinion was treated by Government in connection with the Sedition Bill. The correspondent of the Englishman has fully realized it. He, therefore, suggests that a public meeting of the European community should be held with a view to get the Sedition Act repealed and make the Government pay greater attention to popular representation.

It is a pity that though the non-official Indians and Europeans are in the same boat in respect of this measure, yet there is no sign of any concerted action being taken by the two communities for averting a common danger. We need hardly say that the Indians would be most glad to follow the lead of the Anglo-Indians in this matter; but, then, there must be a mutual understanding Indians may go hand in hand. Nay, the and the leaders of the two communities should Anglo-Indians may also generously help meet and mature their plans of action. We their Indian brethren in several matters can guarantee this that, if the independent which do not affect them injuriously, but section of the Anglo-Indian community, re- in which the latter are vitally interested. presented, say, by the Defence Association, This was the opinion held by that noblewere to invite the leaders of the Indian minded Anglo-Indian, Mr. S. E. J. Clarke. thought, the latter would gladly respond to In the present case, however, the Indians the call and adopt any reasonable measure they might suggest. Similarly, a number of leading Indian gentlemen would be glad day, we are sure, he would have brought to initiate the movement, should an assurance be forthcoming from some representative Anglo-Indians that they would for the purpose of having the Act repealed join and act in concert with them.

There are Anglo-Indians who believe that laws are meant for the natives and not for themselves. This is, no doubt, true, to a considerable extent. But no true Briton, in his heart of hearts, desires that such distinction ought to be maintained,-that it is the natives who must observe laws strictly and the Europeans should be privileged to break them with impunity. The English people have a high reputation to maintain. Will they not incur the ridicule of the world if they punish an Indian and acquit a European for violating the provisions of the same law? Then, would not the administration of justice itself be brought into disrepute if such an invidious distinction were made? Those Anglo-Indians, who are not for moving against the Sedition Act on the ground that it is intended for the natives only, are, therefore, not only selfish but devoid of patriotism. For, the first duty of an Englishman is to see that the fair name of his nation is not tarnished in any way.

But, are Anglo-Indians quite sure that they can never be hauled up for sedition in kings", is the proverb. The rulers of the in effect : Self-preservation is the first and a gay humour, will laugh ; but, then, delay or trouble. The public kn

though kings, they are not exactly gods, but, a foreign Government; that the Editors o weakness. They have their passions and prejudices; they smart under adverse criticism; they are apt to lose their reason and temper; and being invested with irresistible powers, they are capable of doing awe-inspiring things, without being held responsible to anybody in the world.

Do not, therefore, be too confident that no ruler in India will ever apply the Sedition Act against an Anglo-Indian writer. Anglo-Indian editors, on former occasions, have been seized and deported by Anglo-Indian officials. Anglo-Indian editors, if they prove disagreeable by their independent criticism, may share the same fate again, specially when the officials have been armed with such a law as the new Sedition Act. Then, if Englishmen at home, who are more free than their countrymen in India, can be hauled up for and convicted of sedition, that Anglo-Indian editor must be very sanguine, indeed, who hopes to preserve his English independence thoroughly in criticising the conduct and measures of Government, and, at the same time, escape the displeasure of the authorities and the prospect of a prosecution under the Act.

At any rate, there is no doubt of it the Act has placed the Europeans and natives on the same footing. The Pioneer was keenly alive to this fact, and deeply resented it. There is no question that it is by mere sufferance that the Anglo-Indian papers will now be allowed to exercise their independence. If they break the provisions of the new law and no action is taken against them, it will be due to a pure act of mercy on the part of the Government. No longer are they privileged to write, as they did before as of right, with fearless independence. They must now weigh every word, which is likely to give offence to the authorities, before they venture to publish it. Of course, the native writers are in the same, or rather in a worse, predicament. But they are quite helpless and have no option Indians, who are not helpless, make efforts allegation which is very much unjust to his to extricate themselves from the disability own Government. Why should the abuse that has been imposed upon them? If the Anglo-Indians get up an agita-

earnest, there is every chance of the measure being repealed. But the chance will be converted into an absolute certainty, if they permit the Indians to join the movement. We have always held that on many questions the Indians and Angloand Anglo-Indians stand on a common platform. If Mr. Clarke had been alive toabout a coalition between the communities and set on foot a gigantic movement Is there not one Anglo-Indian in Calcutta to follow in the wake of the late Secretary of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce? The adage is, even mad men understand their own interests. It is a wonder, however, that the intelligent non-official community do not realise the gravity of the danger ahead and bestir themselves to avert it.

THE APOLOGY OF THE GOVERN-MENT.

BACKWARD measures, providing against sedition in this latter end of the nineteenth century and after a rule of about two hundred years, needed some apologies. The Government of India tried to wash off its hands by the declaration that the Local Governments wanted a measure like that, and it complied with that requisition. The task thus devolved on the local rulers to justify the measure. Of the local rulers, only Sir A. Mackenzie was present in the Council, and he had to justify the measure. Very naturally, his speech was more exhaustive, more out-spoken and more intelligible than those of his colleagues who spoke on the

We had barely time to notice his argu-

just like us, frail mortals, with many a human native papers (here parenthetically let us such amusements free. Neither do we remark that the measure is, by the admission of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, meant for able to do it often; for, if it goes on the native press alone, and, therefore, it is as much a class legislation as the Press Act of Lord Lytton) and the political agitators are half-educated and discontented men, discontented because they had not been able to secure "the plunder of the Empire." They abused the Government because such abuse secured subscribers. This abuse, though it does not amount to sedition, may prove dangerous to the Government, by its cumulative effect. And, therefore, it is not actually as a provision against sedition that the measure has been introduced, but against circulating calumnies of the Gov-

> We have done our best to give, in the above, a fair and moderate view of the arguments of Sir A. Mackenzie.

Now we cannot at all, as well-meaning and loyal citizens, subscribe to the contentions put forth by His Honour. We have already noticed the point that the first duty of the Government is not self-preservation, but the promotion of the happiness and growth of the people under its charge. This is, how. ever, a sentimental ground, and we don't lay stress upon it. But is it not queer that the Government is anxious to protect itself from its own people? And how is it that the calumny of the Government should pay? Does Sir A. Mackenzie believe in his own contentions? We, however, de not; for, the contentions, put forth in the above, are atrociously unjust to the Govern ment, and perhaps seditious. Sir A Mackenzie has the candour to confess be fore the world that he wants a law to protect his Government from his own people There is no doubt of it that Sir A. Mackenzie never took care, in the heat of the moment, to weigh the significance of his own contentions. For, by his apology, His Honour condemns his own Government, and that undeservedly.

In the same manner, the contention, that but to put up with the situation as best as the calumny of the Government advanced they can. But why should not the Anglo- the prospects of a newspaper, is also an of the Government pay, when the Government of Sir A. Mackenzie is so good tion against the Sedition Law in right in every respect? His own words, however, lead one to the impression that his rule is so unpopular that the way to gain favour is to abuse it. That is certainly not the

> Calumnies create disgust in all honest en against those who circulate them. Ca lumnies are only effective when they are founded upon fact; indeed, then they are no calumnies, and them His Honour does not object to. His Honour and every other ruler may rest assured that a mere calumny can never do any harm. We also beg to repeat that when a calumny is based upon fact, it is no calumny. Together that the control of

When the mango-smearing scare created a sensation in England, the Times said that such a trifling matter would never have elicited any such notice; "but bad con. science makes cowards of us all." The conscience of Sir A. Mackenzie is, however, clear; he has never been seriously found fault with, though "the native press has been," according to His Honour, "growing more reckless." The native press never calumniated him, and that is a proof that his ewn conscience is clear. We do not, therefore, see what justification His Honour has in demanding the sedition measure for 'self-preservation," or making the allegation that nothing pleases the people so much as abuse of the Government.

HOME RULE IN INDIA.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Daji Abaji Khare asked in the Bombay Legislative Council-Is it a fact that the Cantonment Magistrate of Ahmednagar assaulted the Editor of the Sudarsan, a local paper, on the 2nd of November last, at the editor's own house, because of some comments which appeared in that paper regarding plague operations?

In reply, the Hon. Sir Charles Olivant on behalf of the Government, said:

It is a fact that the District Magistrate of

hmednagar, under section 203 of the Crimi al Procedure Code, dismissed a complaint in which one Wasudeo Gangaram Dange, said to be the proprietor and editor of the Sudarsan newspaper, alleged that he had been assaulted by an officer who was the then Cantonment Magistrate of Ahmednagar.

Will not the people read the above question and reply with infinite astonishment? under the present Act? "Never put trust ments the other day. His Honour said Of course, those who have a good appetite

ambitious of providing the public with think it possible for the Government to be giving such answers to plain questions, no one will take the trouble to ask a question at all. The question was whether the Cantonment Magistrate, having taken some offence at the remarks of the Sudarsan, went to the house of the Editor and assaulted him. And the Government reply is that there was a case which was dismissed and the Editor can appeal! Why, the Hon'ble Sir C. Olivant, who represented the Government, might have as well given an to the question!

When we heard the rumour of this as-For an aggrieved to enter the house of an editor and horsewhip him, is said to be a common occurrence in America; but, it is unknown in India. Besides, for a Magis trate to do this, is an incident which is uncommon even in America. We, therefore could not believe that it was actually done even in the strongly-governed Province of Bombay. Of course, Bombay is in a bad way just now; plague and sedition have unsettled the minds of men; and as those who compose the Government are also men, it would be possible for officials to commit some mad pranks now and then. Yet officials enjoy here almost unlimited powers, and, therefore, they carry with them, not only the prestige but also the reputation of the Government. So, with a view to remove all doubts on the point, the question was asked in the Council to the Government

Is the Hon'ble member who gave the reply, deaf? We know that men who have lost the use of their ears, oftentimes give strange replies to questions put to them. If you ask one who is deaf, how he is doing, he will prefer to guess the question to showing his infirmity by confessing that he had not heard a syllable, and would possibly, therefore, reply, "yes, it is very hot!" But the Hon'ble member is not deaf; besides, the question was put on paper in black and white. That being the case, there could be no manner of doubt that he did understand the meaning of that plain question put to him. The constant

So, the Hon'ble member did understand the question put to him, which was whether t was true that the Cantonment Magistrate of Ahmednagar went to the house of the Editor of the Sudarsan and assaulted him because of his criticism of the plague mea The Hon'ble member understood the question; and it is clear he made inquiries about the truth or otherwise of the statement. For, if he had not, he would have said that he did not know, and either stopped there or supplemented his answer with an assurance that he would inquire.

It is clear that the Hon'ble member did. know whether the facts stated were true or not. Now if the facts were not as stated, the Hon'ble member would have undoubtedly given a flat contradiction in a tone of triumph. But he did it not; he gave only an indirect testimony in favour of the story an indirect testimony in favour of the story the Select Committee he taken into consideration, which corresponds to the second reading of a Bill, the Maharaja of Durbhanga and Mr. Joy Gobind Law, as well as Paudit Suraj Kaul, worded with the Government, making the numbers seventeen for to four against.

The statement in the Hindu, referred to

member had gained nothing by withholding evening the proper answer. For his very method of eplying to the question, is an admission that the facts stated are correct.

The Cantonment Magistrate has done one service, for which credit is due to him. He has shewn one way of curbing the "license" of the press. And his way has many advantages over the various sedition measures just inaugurated by the Government. For instance, under section 108 of the Criminal Procedure Code, a District Magisdown the editor of a newspaper like a badmash in heavy security. He will also have the privilege of trying an editor under section 124A and give him three years' rigorous imprisonment. All this may be avoided and the simpler method of the Cantonment Magistrate of Ahmednagar adopted. When an Editor offends, let the Magistrate ride or drive to the house fists or horse-whip. The Editor is at once sobered and that without any expense,

Verily, a newspaper Editor will prefer this method to that of being dubbed a badmash or made to rot in jail with thieves and

We have taken the trouble to take some detailed notice of this case for another good reason. Some of our friends in Parliament, when they are requested to ask a question in the House, sometimes reply that since the people here have a Parliament of their own, they have no need to cross seas and oceans for the rediess of their grievances. Let these members of Parliament see what sort of Parliament we have got in this country. Let them read account of the Jameson raid in reply the question of the Hon'ble Mr. Khare and the Government reply, quoted above; and they will have a clear notion of the sault, we did not know what to make of it. advance that we have made in the direction of Home Rule.

> So, the Calcutta Municipality is really doomed !. This time the information comes not from any newspaper, but Sir Alexander Mackenzie himself. His Honour's utterances in the Bengal Council relating to the forthcoming Municipal Bill, will, we doubt not, create a greater sensation than even his famous speech in the Viceregal Council did. The elective system was granted to the citizens of Calcutta in 1877, and, after a trial of twenty years, the elected Commissioners are to be reduced to the position of so many dummies! Nay, more. Through these dummies the rate-payers will be taxed, while the proceeds of the taxes will be placed at the absolute disposal of the official Chairman aud twelve favourites of the Government. Is this not a very happy arrangement? The elected Commissioners will also have no control over the doings of the executive officers. Thus, the only credit which the Commissioners will get for their unpaid services, is the odium of taxing their unfortunate countrymen. Five Lieutenant-Governors have ruled over Bengal since the elective system was first introduced into Calcutta, namely, Sir Richard Temple, Sir Ashley Eden, Sir Rivers Thompson, Sir Steuart Bayley, and Sir Charles Elliott. Every one of them was satisfied with the work of the elected Commissioners, though Sir Ashley at first threatened to smother the whole system. It was, however, left for Sir Alexander Mackenzie, before he had been scarcely one year in Bengal, to discover that the Calcutta Municipality has "no constitution at all," and that "everything is fluid and indefinite." His Honour is, no doubt, a great statesman; but he should have credited his predecessors with some degree of intelligence and common sense. For, if it was all "fluid and indefinite," how could they allow the Municipality to go on? We hope, good sense will yet prevail, and Sir Alexander will not press for passing the contemplated Bill. If, however, in spite of public opinion, the Bill is passed into law, we can give His Honour this assurance that no Indian gentleman, with any sense of honour in him, will care to serve as a Commissioner on the Corpora-

THE Pioneer publishes the following paragraph :-

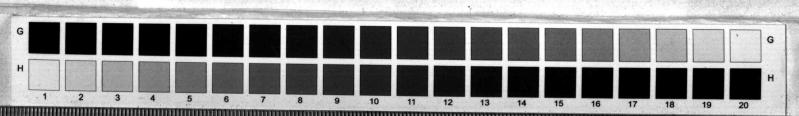
Statements have appeared in various native papers that all the native members of the Viceroy's Legislative Council except Bandit Suraj Kaul, voted against the Penal Code Amendment Bill. The Hindu of Madras and the Penal Code Amendment Bill. particularly emphatic regarding this. As a matter of fact in the only division taken, namely, that on the question that the report of the Select Committee he taken into considera-

that the Magistrate had actually gone to above, escaped our notice. It was perhaps the editor and assaulted him.

It would thus appear that the Hon'ble tion Bill having been passed on the previous

Just as we expected, the Hon'ble Joy Gobind Law voted against the Sedition Bill along with his other Indian colleagues, namely, the Hon'ble Maharajah of Darbhanga, the Hon'ble Mr. Charlu, the Hon'ble Mr. Chitnavis, the Hon'ble Mr. Sayani, and the Hon'ble Pundit Bishambar Nath. Bishambar Nath.

Now what we stated above, is absolutely correct. The statement in the Pioneer is also correct, except the insinuation that the Maharaja of Durbhanga and Babu Joy Gobind Law did not vote against the Bill. What happened was this. There were three stages to go through before the Criminal Procedure Code, a District Magis- measure was finally passed into law trate will have the privilege of binding The first was to take the report of the Select Committee into consideration; then came the amendments to be voted upon; and, lastly, the final stage, to vote for or against the passing of the Bill. As regards the first, it was immaterial whether the Indian members voted one way or the other when their opinions were asked on the point. As a matter of fact, Babu Joy Gobind and the Maharajah of Durbhanga, as the Pioneer points out, voted with Government in this respect. But in all divisions which let the Magistrate ride or drive to the house were taken on the subsequent stages of of the offender, and there let him use his the Bill, the Indian members voted against the Government in each instance. It is, therefore, clear that both the Maharajah of Durbhanga and Babu Joy Gobind I



IF "The Hindu System of Moral Science" by Babu Kishori Lal Sarkar, M.A. B.L., evoked admiration from many distinguished Hindus and such eminent Christians of world-wide celebrity as Professor Max Muller and Professor Cowell, his treatise, entitled "The Hindu System of Religious Art and Science," which has just been published, will, we doubt not, secure still greater admiration for his complete grasp of the difficult subject of the different systems of Hindu religion and the masterly way in which he has presented them to the world. One has to go through the book carefully to realize the amount of thought bestowed upon it by the author. No ordinary brain is capable of producing such a work. This book may be regarded as a key to the understanding of the various phases of Hinduism on a rational basis. It has attempted very successfully to reconcile the apparently contradictory dogmas of Hinduism, such as Advaitabad and Dvaitabad, and reveal the true relations that subsist between them. The kernel of the different schools of Hindu Philosophy and the teachings of the religious systems is to be found in the book; and the conclusions of the author have been supported by numerous quotations from such religious books as the Geeta, the Upanishads, the Darshanas and the Puranas. The chief merit of the author consists in his being able to show in a perfectly logical and argumentative manner that Hinduism contains within itself the highest revelations of Rationalism and Emotionalism, that is to say, the highest truths, which can be obtained through the intellect and the heart, are to be found in Hinduism. The book is specially suited to those who are intellectually high but are sceptical about spiritual truths. The author has expressed his ideas, in simple and vices. has expressed his ideas in simple and vigorous language; and even those who are imperfectly acquainted with the English tongue, will find no difficulty in understanding the theme of the book. The book is to be had of Babu Sarasi Lal Sarkar, M. A., 121, Cornwallis Street, Calcutta, and is priced

WHEN we said the other day that there was not one Indian member on the Plague Commission, who could be said to be in touch with the general public, we, of course, meant that there was not one belonging to the non-medical community. Indeed, the Plague Conference, in their memorial, made this point very clear. They said that the Medical Service was strongly represented on the Commission, but some non-medical representative men should also be there to voice the views and sentiments of the general community. This prayer was apparently made with a This prayer was apparently made with a view to strengthen the hands of Dr. Mohendra Lal Sarkar, who is on the ComMohendra Lal Sarkar, who is on the ComMission and who, it is well known, is in deep

With a control of the N.-W. as they give in their hostages.

The frontier tribes are not devoid of humour—though it is of a very peculiar mission and who, it is well known, is in deep Mohendra Lal Sarkar, who is on t mission, and who, it is well known, is in deep sympathy with all classes of people in this matter. As a matter of fact, the only memgamber who believes in both the possibility and practicability of home segregation is Dr. Sarkar, who considered it absolutely useless to discuss the subject at the meeting of the Commission with such a tremendous majority against him. He has been, however, ventilating his views through his journal, the Calcutta Journal of Medicine; and the members of the Commission would do well to study them carefully.

Babu Ananda Mohun Bose when Mr. Cavendish, the Chairman of the Liberal Election Committee in South East Durham, wrote him a special letter of thanks and gave him the full share of the credit for the victory won by the Liberals in connection with the election of Alderman Richardson. There were, it seems, special circumstances to invest the incident with importance, as the following extract from a letter, received by us by the last mail, will show:

The importance of the victory will appear from the fact that it was a seat won over from the Conservative side, that the Conservative candidate was no other than the Hon. H. Lambton. brother of the Earl of Durham, that the whole influence of two territorial magnets of the County, viz., the Earl of Durham and the Earl of Londondery, was cast on the other side, and that the number of out or non-resident voters (who are almost wholly Tory) was unusually large in the present case. And the significance of this victory because all the more plain from the fact that in the by-election just preceding, viz, at York, the Conservatives had captured a seat, previously held by the Liberals. I think, I have already informed you that Mr. A. M. Bose had been invited to take part in the York election, but he

d We are also gratified to learn that Alderman Richardson, the Liberal candidate, on his election, himself wrote, thanking Babu Ananda Mohun, and giving his pledge in these words, which every Indian will value: Anything I can do for India I will." This is, perhaps, the first time that such a testimony has been borne as to the value of *Indian* help, and such a pledge is given by a member of Parliament. Can anyde thing be more encouraging to our countrymen? This work has to go on, it may be, Il he for years : and the pledge

are being sought for by the Liberals and vari- reasons why the Vernacular Press Act of 1878 ous Societies in England, will appear from the number of invitations received by him, noticed yesterday in our London correspondent's letter. The most important of these invitations was a request to go and is more, such a course would re-enact the scene help the candidature of Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice in North Wilshire who, though a brother of Lord Lansdowne, was gallantly trying to wrest a Conservative seat there. Babu Ananda Mohun was to have gone there to support him. There is no doubt there to support him. There is no doubt the cause of India with all the fervour of his eloquence and all the sincerity of his even conviction. Reuter has already telegraphed that Lord Eitemouries has a leady telegraphed that Lord Eitemouries has that Lord Fitzmaurice has been elected; and we believe, another letter of special thanks is waiting for Mr. Bose Our countrymen should make it possible for Babu Ananda Mohun to take his abode permanently in England and devote his me, talent and energy to the servciet of India. They cannot find a worthier man than he to serve their cause in the ruling

TRUTH has written article showing how the new Sedition Act takes away, to all intents and purposes, all liberty of speech. Truth, however, does an injustice to Sir A. P. MacDonnell, when it seeks to fasten the fathership of the measure upon him. The report which Sir Antony submitted on the subject to the Government of India, is published in another column. ber of educational institutions of all classes in A perusal of the document will show that Assam has increased from 2,800 in 1891-92 His Honour was more against than for that measure. It was at his suggestion that the words, "all teelings of ill-will" were evidently period under review was Rs. 6,50,861 or an omitted from section 124A. Indeed, he put the matter in such a forcible way that fees show a satisfactory increase of about 17 it left, the Government, no ortion but it left the Government no option but to per cent.; and it appears that the total cost accept his suggestion. The following remarks, quoted from his report, show that it was not his intention to have the amended The Government wants to arrive at the true section 124A. passed as it was :-

The Lieutenant-Governor does not himself share these misgivings; but he thinks it very desirable that the whole question should be

he practically suggested that the measure should be amended in such a way as not to restrict the free expression of public opinion. The only portion of the Chalmers' Bill which met his unqualified support, is what relates to the promotion of class hatred. His suggestions with regard to the appointment of an Inspector of Ordnance and Machinery in the North-Western Fronsection 505, if accepted, would have taken away much of its sting.

MR. LA TOUCHE, Chief Secretary to the Government of the N.-W. Provinces, will officiate for Sir Antony MacDonnell. His appointment will give general satisfaction.
Of course, it would have been more fitting if Sir John Woodburn had been allowed to blockade will be raised against them as soon the Viceroy, and in view of important business now pending in the Home and Revenue and Agricultural Departments, Sir J. Woodburn will retain his position as Member of Council. ber of Council.

THE meeting of the Viceroy's Legislative Council, called for March 4th, has been postponed to the 11th.

THE Jaswant College of Jodhpur has been affiliated to the University of Al ahabad in Arts up to the B. A. standard.

A MEMORANDUM issued by the Director-General of Statistics regarding the rice crop in Bengal, Madras and Lower Burmah puts the yield at the figure of 28 millions tons.

IT is not yet decided who will officiate for Sir A. MacDonnell; but, according to the *Pioneer*, the appointment will probably go either to Sir John Woodburn or Mr. J. D. La member had gained nothing by without

MR. F. R. STANLEY COLLIER, Officiating Commissioner, Chittagong Division, acts as Commissioner of the Patna Division during the absence on furlough of Mr. J. A. Bourdillon Mr. George Eldon Manisty goes to Chitta-

SIR A. P. MACDONNELL has, we are given to understand, ordered the release of Abdul Majid. This young man, it will be remembered, was convicted of writing a threatening letter to the Deputy Commissioner of Lucknow for sending Hidyat Rasul to jail, and sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment. Some of the relations of the young man then moved His Honour praying for mercy, with the result stated above. It is needless to say that this graceful act is just in keeping with he tenour of His Honour's rule.

A CORRESPONDENT from Chittagong has

furnished us with some interesting particulars regarding the kheda operations, which are being conducted at the Jujakhola valley. As the result of the first attempt at catching elephants, no less than 203 were secured, which are being sold at public anctions. The operations will continue for some time more. The kheda party are having an exciting time of it. They have shot no less than forty-one wild animals, including tigers, panthers, etc. gradt bar

In an article contributed to the February number of the Nineteenth Century, on the Native Press, Mr. M. G. Chesney, editor of

How the services of Babu Ananda Mohun Indian authorities have not given out the real was not revived. We are told that, at one time, Lord Elgin had determined upon re-enacting it, but it was vetoed by the India Office. And why? Because it was thought that the re-enactment of Lord Lytton's measure would not last; and what after unanimously supporting Lord Lytton's

> THE Famine Commissioners are in Bombay and examining witnesses.

THERE were 139 attacks and 150 deaths from plague in Bombay on Monday.

THE Hooghly Jubilee Bridge is now under repairs-arrangements having been made for goods and passenger trains running on single lines over it.

IT is said that as soon as the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill is disposed of, the Civil Procedure Code is to be taken in hand for amendment and consolidation.

FROM the report of the progress of instruction in Assam during the five years from 1892-93 to 1896-97, it appears that the total number of educational institutions of all classes in to 3 524 in 1896-97, and the number of pupils from 83,638 to 103,541, or an increase of 23.8 percent. The total expenditure during the of education in Assam is about As. 1-11 pe head, against two annas for the whole of India.

A BOMBAY telegram conveys a serious news,

causes of mortality in the city; and it is proposed to demand in every case of death from whatever cause, a medical certificate giving the cause of the death: failing thisdesirable that the whole question should be discussed by the Legislature, and after due discussion, all doubt or room for difference of opinion should, if possible, be removed by the enactment of an amended section of the Penal Code.

As the ruler of a Province he could not, of course, directly ask the Government to withdraw the measure; but, in the above, proposed regulations as a violation of their religious customs.

FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

THE Government of India have recom-

Merit, for Gallantry.

THE Kamrai Afridis have paid up their rifles

nature. Report has just come in of their having sent back a piisoner minus all his clothes but a helmet, and another dressed as an Afridi.

A REPORT received from Jamrud states that two Zakka Khels arrived there on the evening of the 24th. ultimoand announced to Colonel Warburton that a large body of the clan were on their way to the camp. This would seem to indicate that the Zakka Khels desire peace.

THE Englishman hears by telegram from the frontier that the political outlook is still improving. The *Proneer* says that the Afridi-jirgas at Jamrud have been greatly excited to learn how the Malikdin Khels are to be treated after having fully complied with the Government terms.

A VERY old manuscript of the Koran was got possession of by Sir William Lockhart's party in November last from the mosque of the Mad Moollah, who, it is believed, incited the Afridi war at Tirah. Its outward appearance

the other day owing to the suspicious death of seven rats in the Court Inspector's room.

thoroughl yfumigated. THE late Sir Henry Havelock-Allan, it is said in his diary, had a conversation with some Afridi officers of the 25th Punjab Infantry at Mian Mir. These Afridis asserted that the main causes of discontent of their tribe were two: the high price of salt and the fact that some of their women, who from ill-treatment had fled over the border and taken refuge in British territory, had not been compulsorily sent back.

times ulcerated in this fever, and ordinary solid food is dangerous in his opinion. The ana, though a solid food, is nearly all

Calcutta and Mosussil.

LORD GAURANGA

SALVATION FOR ALL.

BABU SHISHIR KUMAR GHOSE. Cloth bound of garage ... Rs. 1-12 di ni vhod Postage lextra, que

To be had at the Patrika Office, Calcutta.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY.-It is officially notified that Easter Monday, April 11th, will be observed as a public holiday in India.

FURLOUGH. - The Hon. Mr. Justice Mac-pherson goes on three months' furlough with effect from the 18th of April.

University Examinations.—A Committee of the Faculty of Arts of the Calcutta University has resolved to recommend that the examinations be henceforth held in March as in the present year.

MAIL FORECAST.—The P. and O. steamer Carthage, with the outward mails of the 18th Feb. is expected at Bombay at daylight on Saturday. The Calcutta mails should, therefore, reach their destination on Monday morning.

THE MUNICIPAL BILL.—The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, hopes to be able to introduce the Bill some three weeks hence. Sir Alexander Mackenzie will not leave for Darjeeling until the Bill has been passed into the hands of a Select Committee.

VICEROY'S LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. - Among the legislative measures which the Government of India must pass before leaving Calcutta, is the Stamp Act. As there was no meeting of the Legislative Council on Friday last, there will be extreme pressure of business from March 11th to 28th, when the Budget debate will take place.

TRAIN FERRY OF THE B. N. RAILWAY.— The Committee which met last month having accepted the site close to Shalimar Point for the train ferry of the Bengal-Nagpore Railway into Calcutta, arrangements are being made to take up the necessary land on both the Howrah and the Kidderpore sides of the river. It is said that the terminus will be the present P. & O. compound, in close proximity to the docks. The section of the line between Midnapore and the Roopnarain River should be finished before the end of the year, but the bridging of the river is a big undertaking, and a couple of years will probably elapse before the trains run into Calcutta.

A PREMIUM ON COBRAS.—Professor Fraser' of Edinburgh, is said to have offered one the appointment of an Inspector of Ordnance and Machinery in the North-Western Fronftier Defences.

Twenty-seven more officers and men of the Guides, 11th Bengal Lancers, Bengal Sappers and Miners, 20th Punjab Infantry, and 35th Sikhs are awarded the order of Merit for Gallantry.

The Kamrai Africia has a state for India him. He has issued an appeal to medical men to collect for him the venom glands and gall bladders of cobras. The following instructions are given: (1) with a curved needle and thread first tie the ducts of the glands and that of the gall bladder, and then dissect them out; (2) tie the glands and gall bladder together and attach at label with name rupee for every cobra snake collected for hang up the glands and gall bladder in a dry place for a few hours till quite dry;
(4) when dry keep in a wide-mouthed bottle;
(5) when a dozen or so are collected get bottle sealed and soldered up in a tin, enclose in a wooden box, and send to Profssor Fraser at Edinburgh University.

of Schools Patna Circle.

Mr. J. F. Graham, I.C.S., Assistant Commissioner, attached to the Professional Survey Party in the Sylhet district, is transferred to Hilakandi.

Mr. T. Emerson, I.C.S., is appointed to be an Assistant Commissioner of the third grade, and is posted to Gauhati.

EMPIRE OF INDIA LIFE ASSURANCE COM-PANY LD.—With to-day's issue is published a leaflet of the Empire of India Life Assurance Company, Limited, established a short time ago in Bombay, under the Chairmanship of our distinguished countryman, Hon. P. M. Mehta. It is a purely Indian Company with a strong Board of Directors and gives special facilities to Indians to make suitable provisions for their families. The rates appear to be lower than those usually charged, and the policy of the Company is to give the largest possible immediate assurance consistent with safety in return for a given outlay. The policies are world-wide from the date of issue, and after the expiry of three years, and when the age of the assured has been admitted, are indisputable on any ground whatever, so long as the premiums are duly paid. The company levies no fines Afridi war at Tirah. Its outward appearance clearly shews that it is of considerable antiquity. This valuable manuscript is now with Earl Annesley.

Some excitement was caused at Bareilly the other day, owing to the suspicious death, and the principal partner of which is Manuscript to the partner of which is Manuscript and the principal partner of which is Manuscript and the pany, the principal partner of which is Mr. S. R. Das, the eldest son of the late lamented S. R. Das, the eldest son of the late lather the Babu Durga Mohan Das, and we have no of seven rats in the Court Inspector's Admit Plague was in everybody's mouth. On chemical examination, however, no plague germs doubt that the Company will be very successful in Bengal as it has been in Bombay and other parts of India.

SLOWLY but surely the Afridis seem to be coming in, as the phrase goes, and it really seems as if a peaceful settlement were in prospect. The Zakka Khel will probably show heir hand this week, and as the majority favour submission, it is hoped that matters will be arranged with them. The Kamrai clan, following the example of the Malikdin Khel, have now complied in full with the Government terms, and the Sipah have nearly done so. - Pioneer.

benson, of the Madras High Court, he penetracted into the heart of the island. He says it is very rich in gold, petroleum, resin, rubber, gutta percha, a.c., but the natives are indolent. Some of his carriers were bitten by snakes, but cured with injections of serum prepared by Dr. Calmette, director of the Sumatran Bacteriological Institute.

—After a long experience of typhoid patients, Dr. Ussery, of St. Louis, Mo., regards the banana as the best food for them. The intestines are inflamed and sometimes ulcerated in this fever.

It is said that Chikkai, the once notorious freebooter of the Kurram Valley, has recently

GAZETTE NOTIFICATIONS

Maulvi Mahomed Yusat Ali, sub pro tempore Dy Magte and Dy. Collr, on leave, is

tempore Dy Magte and Dy. Collr, on leave, is posted to Dinajpur.

Mr. A. Earle, I.C.S., on furlough, is appointed to act, as Dy. Commissioner of Darjeeling.
Mr. H. G. W. Herron, Jt. Magte and Dy. Collr, Kurseong, is appointed to act temporarily as Dy. Commissioner of that district, until relieved by Mr. A. Earle. Mr. H. A. Lane, Offig. Dy. Magte. and Dy. Collr, Siliguri, is appointed to act for Mr Herron.

Mr. Nitya Gopal Mukerji, Dy Magte and Dy Collr and Assistant to the Director of Land. Records and Agriculture, Bengal, is allowed leave for one and half months, under article 291 of the C. S. Regulations. Mr. Dejen Lala Roy, Dy Magte and Dy Collr and First Inspector of Excise, is appointed to act for him.

Babu Barada Das Bose, Offig Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Bankura, is transferred to Rajshahi.

Moulvi Ahmad, Dy Magte and Dy. Collr, Jamalpur, Mymensingh, is appointed to have charge of the Chandpur subdivision.

Babu Prakas Chandra Sinha, Dy. Magte and Dy. Collr, Chandpur, is transferred to

Babu Sris Chandra Ghose, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Manbhum, is appointed to have charge of the Jamalpur subdivision of the Mymensingh district.

Mr. J. H. Bernard, Magte and Coll.

Purnea, is allowed furlough for twenty

Mr. J. S. Davidson, Dy. Magte. and Dy. Collr, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, is allowed leave for three months, Mr. L. T. R. Lucas, Dy. Magte. and Dy. Collr. Narayanganj, acting for him.

acting for him.

Mr. A. J. Chotzner, Asst. Magte. and Collr, Dacca, is appointed to have charge of the Narayanganj subdivision.

Kumar Girindra Narayan Deb, Jt. Magte and Dy. Collr, 24-Parganas, is allowed leave for one month, under article 291 of the C. S. Regulations. Babu Grish Chunder Chatterjee, Sub

Judge of Khulna, is allowed leave for sixty days, viz., there days under article 309 of the C S Regulations, and the remaining period under article 306 (b) of the same regulations. Babu Kali Prosonno Sen, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif at Suddharam.

Babu Syam Chand Roy, Sub Judge, Jessore, is allowed leave for thitteen days,

iz., two days under article 309 of the C. S. Regulations, and the remaining period under article 306 (b) of the same Regulations. Babu Bhavani Prasada, sub protempore Sub-Dy Coll, is allowed leave, under article 228 (a) and 369 of the C S Regulations.

Babu Debendia Nath Bose, sub pro tempore

Sub-Dy Collr, is allowed leave under article 273 a) of the C S Regulations. Mr. E. C. Ryland, District Superintendent of Police, is posted to Backergunge. Babu Madhu Shudan Chaudhurie, Asst Supdt.

Maulvi Jannat Hosain Khan, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Patna, is allowed leave for three months, under Article 291 of the Civil Service

Regulations.

Mr. H. A. Lane, Offig Dy Magte and Dy Collr,
Kurseong, is vested with the powers of a Sub-Registrar within the Kurseong thana.

Mr. A. Pedler, Offig Inspector of Schools, Patna
Circle, is appointed to act as Inspector of Schools,
Rajshahi Circle, during the absence of Mr. M. E.
Dus. Prothero.

Mr. M. F. Dus. Prothero, Inspector of Schools

Mr. M. E. DuS, Prothero, Inspector of Schools, Rajshahi Circle, is apppointed to act, as Inspector of Schools Patna Circle.

The following confirmations, promotions and appointments are sanctioned in the Indian Civil Service, but they do not affect the acting appointments held by the officers concerned in higher grades or appointments:—
Appointed to be a Commissioner of Division.—Mr.
H. C. Williams, vice Mr. H. Luttman-Johnson,

resigned.

Confirmed as a Commissioner of Division.—Mr.
G. Stevenson, vice Mr. E. V. Westmacott, reresigned.

confirmed in the First grade of Magistrates and Collectors,—Mr. J. D. Anderson vice Mr. W. D. Blyth, appointed temporary Additional Commissioner, Patna. Mr. C. J. S. Faulder, vice Mr. H. C. Williams. Mr. E. B. Harris, vice Mr. G.

Confirmed in the Second grade of Magistrates and

Confirmed in the Second grade of Magistrates and Collectors.— Mr. W. Maude, vice Mr. J. D. Anderson. Mr. J. L. Herald, vice Mr. C J S Faulder. Mr. E A Gait, vice Mr. E B Harris.

Confirmed in the Third grade of Magistrates and Collectors.— Mr. Lokendronath Palit, vice Mr. W. Maude. Mr. Syud Nurul Huda, vice Mr. J. L. Herald. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, vice Mr. E. A. Gait.

Appointed substantively pro tempore to the third grade of Magistrates and Collectors,—Mr. Surjya Kumar Agasti, vice Mr. Lokendronath Palit, confirmed. Mr. E. V. Levinge, vice Mr. C. J. confirmed. Mr. E. V. Devinge,
Stevenson-Moore, confirmed.
Confirmed in the first grade of Jt-Magistrates and DeputyCollectors.—Mr. Basanta Kumar Mullick, and Mr. C. Fisher, vice Mr. Syud Nurul Huda. Mr.

and Mr. C. Fisher, vice Mr. Syud Nurul Huda. Mr. C. A. Radice.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors—Mr. W Egerton, vice Mr Basanta Kumar Mullick, confirmed. Mr. F R Roe, vice Mr C A Radice, confirmed. Mr. F R Roe, vice Mr C A Radice, confirmed.

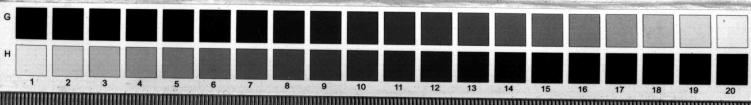
Confirmed in the second grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.—Mr H D deM Carey, Mr. W Mexwell, and Ms. & A Bell. Appointed substantively pro tempore to the second grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.

—Mr C P Beachcroft, vice Mr H D deM. Carey,

Mr. W N Delevingne, vice Mr. W Maxwell confirmed. Mr F F Lyall, and Mr. J H Kerr, vice Mr C A Bell confirmed, and Mr J T Rankin.

HAD the rheumatism so badly that I could moget my hand to my head. I tried the doctor's medicine without the least benefit. At last I thought of Chamberlain's Pain Balm; the first bottle relieved all of the pain, and one half of the second bottle effected a complete cure.—W. J..HOLLAND, Hol land, Va. Chamberlain's Pain Balm is equally good for sprains, swellings and lameness, as well as burns, cuts and bruises, for sale at all drug store Price Re. I and Rs. 2.

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SIR A. P. MACDONNELL'S REPORT ON THE SEDITION BILL.

FROM Secretary to Government, North Western Provinces and Oudh, to Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department, (No. 63, dated 8th January, 1898).

I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner to acknowledge the

receipt of your letter No. 2126 of 21st December, 1897, forwarding for expression of opinion on the Bill to amend section 124A and section 505 of the Indian Penal Code. On receipt of your letter under notice, the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court of Judicature, the Judicial Commissioner of Oudh, the Legal Remembrancer to this Government and the Government ment Advocate were consulted on the Bill. The views of the British Indian Association were also invited. Copies of the replies received up to date are attached to this letter, received up to date are attached to this letter, and any that may subsequently reach this Government will be forwarded to you without delay. Meanwhile I am to comply with your request for an early expression of the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion on the draft sections by submitting the following observations, promising that Sir Antony MacDonnell entirely agrees in the policy of controlling the Newspaper Pres by the judicial rather than by the executive method.

2. The precise meaning and scope of

2. The precise meaning and scope of section 124 A of the Penal Code has now been independently considered by three Chartered High Courts, while the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council has also expressed its views upon the question. The draft section now submitted with your letter for opinion, excluding from consideration the clause ("or promotes or attempts to promote feelings of enmity or ill-will between different classes of Her Majesty's subjects,") does no more than express the consentient opinion of the high judicial authorities mentioned above in regard to the true interpretation of the existing law. Yet there seems to be in certain quarters an indisposition to accept the judicial interpretation as proper and suitable to the conditions of this country at the present time, while some misgivings have been expressed to the effect that this interpretation may unduly restrict the free expression of legitimate criticism and public opinion. The Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner does not himself share these misgivings; but in view of their existence he thinks it very desirable that the whole question should be discussed by the Legislature, and that after due discussion all doubt or room for difference of opinion should, if possible, be removed by the enactment of an amended

section of the Penal Code.

3. The only portion of the amended section 124A which seems to the Lieutenant-Governor to call for comment is the inclusion of the expression "all feelings of * * ill-will" in the definition of disaffection contained in Explana-tion 1. The object of adverse criticism on the actions of public men or on public measures— a duty of the Newspaper Press, which within due thinits is unquestionably most beneficial to the Government and to the community at large - is to produce dissatisfaction or disapprobation with such actions or measures. So long as such disapprobation or dissatisfaction is created with a view to obtain the alteration or amendment of such measures by constitutional means, and is no more than is necessary for that end, it is perfectly compatible with sincere loyalty. But, even then, such disapprobation or dissatisfaction would seem to be inseparable from some degree of ill-will against Government, which is responsible for the measures against which the adverse criticism is directed. For example, at the time of the so-called Ilbert Bill controversy, the hostile criticisms of a section of the Press and of the public did produce among certain classes of the community a marked degree of dissatisfaction or disapprobation, which was not disthen before the Legislative Council partook inference is that all kinds of ill-will are not ishable.
disaffection, though some kinds of illl-will may
7. If classed as disaffection, which is punishable under this section, there is, it might be argued, a danger that some useful and legitimate criticism may be suppressed.

4. The preceding argument seems to the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner to have some validity, and he would be glad to see the ill-will which is really diswhich is hostility. Perhaps the Select Committee on the Bill may be able to secure this end by an expansion of explanation 2, or by illustrations in addition to, or in substitution for, that explanation. But, after giving a good deal of thought to the subject, the Lieutenant-Governor is unable to suggest any form of definition by which such differentiation can be satisfactorily affected. The two descriptions of ill-will insensibly merge into each other, while cases may occur when the ill-will which is akin to mere disapprobation as that. Doubtless the Government, without whose sanction no prosecution under section when to draw the line; and having regard to the extreme toleration which Government has hitherto shown, and doubtless will continue to show towards the free expression of opinion, it may be safely inferred that the line will not be drawn against the most independent criticisms which are compatible with loyalty. But it would, the Lieutenant Co. may be but the prelude to hatred and dislovalwhich are compatible with loyalty. But it would, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks, be well if an assurance were formally given to the public to that effect by the addition to the section of illustrations, which would naturally follow the principle of the explanation to the existing section 124A.

In regard to the addition to section 124A made by the amended section providing for the

Never Knew It To Fail MR. R. JOHNSTON, Rawalpindi, says: "I have personally tried Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera, and Diarrhoea remedy, and have given it to travellers who were passing through a hotel I managed, and I must say I never knew it to fail, and is all it is supposed to be in its effects. It is a medicine I can recommend; and one that everybody should

ep."
CHAMBERL'AIN'S Colic, Cholera, and Diarrhoea
medy is the most successful medicine in use for

punishment of promotion or attempts to promote enmity or ill-will between different classes of Her Majesty's subjects, I am to say that the Lieutenant-Governor considers the addition most desirable and free from objection.

With these remarks the Lieutenant Governor accepts the proposed amendment of section 124A and trusts that it will receive early legislative sanction.

5. "Amended section 505".-The Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner fully accepts the principle of this section, being satisfied of the necessity for amending the law in the proposed direction. I am, however, to express His Honour's hope that there may be a reconsideration of the views of those who, as stated by the Hon'ble Mr. Chalmers in his introductory speech, think that statements pubished or circulated with the deliberate intention of causing or procuring the commission of the offences specified in the section should be punishable, irrespective of whether such statements are true or false. There seems to His Honour to be much force in the contention that the mere truthfulness of a statement made with the deliberate intention of causing or procuring the commission of any of the offences specified, should be no defence or any factor of a defence to a charge under the section. If no such defence can be raised to a charge of abetting mutiny if drawn under section 132, Penal Code, why should it be permissible if the charge be drawn under section 505? If the guilty intention was present (e. g. the intention to cause the troops to mutiny or one sect to attack another sect), the maker of the statement should be punishable whether the statement itself was true or false. If there be no guilty intention, there is, it is understood, to be no offence under this section, be the statement false or true.

6. The Lieutenant-Governor would therefore be glad to see the exception to this section omitted altogether. If this be agreed to, then His Honour would submit the following draft of an amended section in substitution for the draft forwarded with your letter under

reply:—
"505. Whoever makes, publishes of circulates any statement, rumour or report,—

(a) with intent to cause, or knowing or having reason to believe that it is likely to cause, any officer, soldier or sailor in the army or navy of Her Majesty or in the Royal Indian Marine, or in the Imperial Service Troops, to mutiny or otherwise disregard or fail in is duty as such; or

(b) with intent to cause, or knowing or having reson to believe that it is likely to cause, fear or alarm to the public, or to any section of the public, whereby they may be induced to commit an offence against the State or against the public transmilling or the public tranquillity; or

(c) with intent to incite, or knowing or having reason to believe that it is likely to incite, any class or community of persons to commit an offence against any other class or community; shall be punishable with im-prisonment of either description which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with

Explanation.-It does not amount to an offence within the meaning of this section to make, publish or circulate any statement, rumour or report when such statement, rumour or report is made, published or circulated without such intent, knowledge or reason fo belief as aforesaid.'

Here too the explanation is merely a repetition in other words of the section, and is not, in fact, required. The section as drafted above follows, to some extent, the definition of defamation given in section 499, Indian Penal Code. If a published rumour would, in ordinary course, tend to couse mutiny, etc. then it would be presumed that it was published with intent to cause or with the knowledge or reason for belief that it was likely to cause such a constables was deputed yesterday on the 28th result and the publisher failing to rebut January to maintain peace in the "Saraswati result, and the publisher, failing to rebut ment of India of that time. Yet no one for a the presumption of criminal intention, would moment supposed that such ill-will on the be punishable whether the rumour were part of the persons who objected to the measure true or false. If, on the other hand, there was no such likelihood, there could be no in any way of the nature of disaffection to such guilty intention, knowledge or reason ther Majesty's Government in India. The for belief that would reader the same for belief that would render the act pun-

7. If the views expressed above as to the If, therefore, all kinds of ill-will are harmfulness, or at best the usefulness, of the exception be not approved, then I am to suggest that for the last four words of the exception "such intent as aforesaid") be substituted the eight following words—"intention to cause any of the results aforesaid." As drafted, the exception might be interpreted as qualifying only the first half of each clause of the section ("the intent to cause") to the exclusion approbation differentiated from that ill-will of the second half (the likelihood that i would cause). It is desirable to make it quite clear that the exception qualifies each entire clause and the whole section. As already stated, the Lieutenant-Governor understands that under the amended section the unlawful or malicious intention is to be of the essence of the offence, though some may think i arguable that, the evil to be repressed being so great and touching the foundations of order, the test should be the external character of the act rather than the actor's subjective or mental state.

(Signed) W. H. L. IMPEY.

From Legal Remembrancer, to Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, (No. 1056-F. 197, dated 3rd January

reference to G. O. No. 4186-VI-954-C., dated 29th December, 1897, forwarding for my opinion a copy of the papers relating to further amendments to the Bill to amend the Indian Penal Code and a Statement made by the Hon'ble Mr. Chalmers I have the honour to say that I have no criticisms to make.

THE final memorandum on the Indian Cotton Crop for the season 1897-98 shows the yield in the Bombay Presidency to be materially smaller than the average, though above that of the preceding year. In Sind,

THE NOAKHALI ASSAULT CASE.

A CORRESPONDENT writes from Noakhali: I send you a full and detailed account of the criminal cases that have been instituted by Babus Bhubaneswar Das Gupta and Bidhu Bhusan Sen against the police and vice versa, which have caused considerable sensation in the town. There have been two distinct versions of the disturbance that took place in the Saraswati Ashar on the 28th January last and led to the present cases. Your readers will be able to form a clear idea of the occurrence from a perusal of the first informations given by the respective parties.

The first information given by Babu Bhubaneswar Das Gupta ran to the following effect:

"I complein against Srich Chandra Kanjilal

I complain against Srish Chandra Kanjilal, "I complain against Srish Chandra Kanjilai, Sadar Sub-Inspector, Lalit Mohan Chakravarti, reserve constable, Imamuddie Kaji, reserve Sub-Inspector, Kali Kumar Datta, constable, Kali Kumar De, constable, Uma Charan Sinha, constable, Abdul Majid, constable, Lal Miah constable, Basanta Kumar Chakravarti, constable and some other constables whose names I do not know but whom I can identify. Yesterday at about 11 P. M. I went to the Saras wati Ashar at the request of the jailor to hear the song. We sat on a stool behind the 2nd and the 3rd Munsif Babus on the north side of the Ashar. At first I noticed that some men had stood up on the southern side of the Ashar. These men wanted to go out while the men of Police prevented them from going out. On this a scuffle ensued between them, and all the men in the Ashar stood up in a body. On this the Police began to use batons and lathies freely. On this Srish Babu and reserve Sub-Inspector called me to go with them to quiet the disturbance. As we three were going, I got a strike of a baton on my right side. I told this to the reserve Sub-Inspector, but he and Srish Babu, instead of doing anything to quiet the disturbance, went away-one to each direction. The Police then began to beat me and the students who were behind me, and began to drive us towards the east. On this I told the students who were behind me, to move away; and I began to nove towards the north. In the meantime Srish Kanjilal coming from the north, told Lalit constable "lagao" (beat). On this Lalit constable struck my head with a baton. Lalit constable had his uniform on at the time. There were some constables at the place who had no uniforms on at the time. When the wound was produced on my head I fell down senseless. After this I was carried to Raman Poddar's shop, where my wound was dressed. Thence I was taken to Surendra Babu's dispensary who bandaged my head. After this Mono Mohan Doctor applied medicine to my head and I was carried home by two

I have heard that day before yesterday after the District Magistrate, the District Judge and the District Superintendent of Police and others had left the Ashar, Srish Kanjilal and Ima-muddi Kaji sat on the chairs previously occu-pied by the above mentioned officers which was objected to by some of the students as the Sub-Inspector had trampted their clothes. On this the Kapurias told them to leave the chairs and they felt insulted. The Sub-Inspector thought that I was implicated in the previous day's affairs. I heard the sound of the time of the commencement of the maramari as well as at the time of its cessation. I also saw some constables running away from the South towards the north from the Ashar at the sound of the bugle at the end of the maramari."

The first information given by Bidhu Babu is almost to the same effect; so it is needless to reproduce it here.

The first information given by the complainant in the counter case is to the following effect: "I Nasibbur constable No. 948 of the Noakhali Town hereby inform that I with 5 other Ashar" in Barabazar. A Head constable was also with us at the time. The reserve Sub-Inspector sent us from the line to do the work and he and the Town Sub-Inspector Babu were also present in the "Ashar." At about half past 11 P.M., about 25 or 30 students, who sat on the southern side of the "Ashar," created a confusion with the "Khemtawalis." I and Abdul Majid, constable, who stood at the southern gate, tried to prevent the confusion whereupon some students began to beat me with bamboos which they snatched away from the surrounding railings. A wound was produced below my left eye by the blow of a bamboo and several chandeners also were broken to pieces. We could not arrest any one as there were many persons engaged in beating. I have come here only a few days ago. I can not name any of the rioters. I shall be able to recognise the man who has wounded me if I see him. There was a confusion even before this riot but that was easily put a stop to. The "Kemtawalis" danced for some time in front of the Munsif Babus and when they neturned to the southern side of the Asha there was no sufficient room for them to sit. * * This led to the confusion and the riot. The occurrence has been witnessed by my companions, Abdul Majid, Kali Kumar, Budhibal Sing, Ashrapali, the Line Sub-Inspector and Town Sub-Inspector Babu and many gentle-men including the Munsif Babus and the shopkeepers of Barabazar. I had a baton in my hand. I tried to prevent the confusion with my baton. Some rioters have torn off the blue coat which I wore at the time. The accused have obstructed us in the discharge of our duties. A short while after the occur

remember, were among the rioters."

Babus Bhuban and Bidhu, who were both wounded on their heads,—the former having fallen into a swoon from the effects of the wound, instituted their cases against the police on the 29th January i. e. on the day following the night of the occurrence. The Deputy Magistrate before whom the complaints were lodged, ordered a preliminary enquiry to be made into the cases. In the meantime some high officials tried to effect a compromise between the parties; but attempt having fallen through, the Police on the 8th February, i. e. on the 12th day of the occurrence, arrested Babus Bhuban and Bidhu and one Madan, a student reading in the Entrance class from the Government School, and instituted a case against them under Secs. 147, 353, and 114 of the I. P. C. The trying Deputy Magistrate, Babu Jnanendra Nath Chaudhuri, has taken up the police case first and passed an order on the petitions of the aforesaid

taken up on the 9th February, but on the aptaken up on the 9th February, but on the application of the Sub-Inspector it was postponed to the following day. On that day the Police examined 10 witnesses, besides the complainant, including three constables, the Town Sub-Inspector, 5 servants of the Kapurias and a bazar rice seller. The servants of the Kapurias deposed that there was a disturbance in the Saraswati Ashar but they did not see the accused beat any one or take part in the riot. It is only the Police constables and the Town Sub-Inspector who deposed implicating the accused in the riot. All posed implicating the accused in the riot. All of them are the accused in the case against the Police. The bazar rice-seller has implicated only Bidhu Babu. The Police Inspector, Babu Hari Mohan Ghose, who conducted the investigation, admitted in his re-examination that he did not cite the Munsif Babus and others who were present on the occasion as on a personal examination of them. occasion as on a personal examination of them he found that their evidence did not go against the accused. Over and above the 10 witnesses. mentioned above, the Police have examined Babu H. M. Ghose, the Town Inspector of Police, and Mr. O. St. John Moses, the Civil Medical Officer. It has transpired in the evidence of Baba H. M. Ghose that the first information of the Police was not signed as required by law, by the officer recording it nor did it contain the signature and the seal of the court Sub-Inspector which indicates the date of its receipt nor the signature of the District Marie rate, and that the first, second, fourth and fifth columns of it were filled up by one man and the remaining two by another. The Civil Medical Officer has deposed that he examined the wound of the complainant Nasibbar on the 30th January i. e., two days after the date of the occurrence, that it was skin-deep and a quarter of an inch in length, that it might be caused by the blow of a *lathi* or by the fall also deposed that since he came to the town he has been acquainted with Bidhu Babu, and in his opinion Bidhu Babu's character is most respectable. The Town Sub-Inspector and the Police constables have deposed that they were overpowered by the rioters and escaped from the scene of riot for their lives; that each of them received about 10 or 12 blows but no wound was produced on their persons except on that of the complainant nor any part of their body were swollen nor nor any part of their body were swollen nor were their clothes torn even to the slightest extent; that they did not try to arrest any one nor did they return to the scene of the riot that night after their escape; that the District Superintendent of Police and the Town Inspector of Police were informed of the occurrence that night but none of the occurrence that night, but none of them came to the scene. Evidence on the of them came to the scene. Evidence on the side of the Police was closed on the 14th February. On the 15th the Deputy Magistrate discharged the third accused Madan Mohan Chakravarti and charged the first two secured under Section 147 and 352 L. P. C. accused under Section 147 and 353 I. P. and called upon them to enter on their defence. The accused put in a list of their witnesses, which contained the names of 2 Munsifs, some Judge's Court pleaders, the jailor, the jail doctor, and many other respectable gentlemen of the town, making a total of 62 in all. The further hearing of the case was fixed for the 21st February.

THE detachment of Colonel Mayne's force, which had been to Bolida, returned to Kalatak on the 23rd, all well. The main body rejoined them on the 24th, and all then marched towards Maud on the 25th.

INFLUENZA is prevalent at Bangalore. STAFF Sergeant Butler, Commissariate Department, committed suicide in the dak bungalow at Rawalpindi about at P. M. shooting himself with a revolver. He had only just arrived at Rawalpindi from the frontier.

THERE is a cartoon in this week's Punch. It is from the pen of Linley Sambourne, and represents a deputation consisting of a wounded British officer, a Sikh officer, a wounded Highlander and a worn-out Gur-kha waiting on Field-Marshal Punch (Commander-in-Chief). The following is the dialogue: —British Regimental officer (from Indian Frontier): "Sorry we haven't finished the job, Sir" Field-Marshal Punch (C-in-C.): "All right, my Lads. Vou're not to blame, but we've got to find out who is."

A CORRESPONDENT writes to the "Morning Post" from Sukkur: - At about 2 A.M. on the 17th instant, Mrs. Bernard, wife of Mr. G. Bernard, of the Engineering Department, North-Western Railway, Sukkur, was awakened from her sleep by hearing a noise in her bed-room. Thinking that her husband, who was away from home on business had returned, she called out to him, but, receiving no reply she called again, when, to her surprise and horror a man struck a match and looked at her. She at once saw it was a native, who had nearly the whole of his face wrapped up with a cloth. With great courage she at once sprang out of bed and grapped with him, and, in the course of the struggle which ensued, the miscreant caught Mrs. Bernard by the throat, and they both fell and rolled on the floor. To prevent her calling for help the mar attempted to cover her mouth with his hand. but Mrs. Bernard managed to get one of his fingers in her mouth, which she severely bit. He then promptly removed his hands, and Mrs. Bernard was able to call out for rence I heard that Bidhu Babu and 3 or 4 of age, who was sleeping in an adjoining of age, who was sleeping in an adjoining room, came to her assistance, when her assail ant left her and attacked the daughter, who had seized him from behind, and he soon threw her also on the floor. In the meantime Mrs. Bernard, having rushed outside to call for assistance, the ruffian finding the way clear effected his escape, just as several persons came to the rescue. Mrs. Bernard was very much bruised and shaken in the struggle, and but for her daughter having come to her assistance would probably have fared even worse,

> Recommended by A Medical Friend. HIS is how Mr. J. SHAIL, the well-known Manager of LAURIE'S HOTEL, AGRA, commenced to use Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.
>
> Says he: "About six months ago I was suffering severely from a bad cough and cold, and a medical friend recommended Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to me. I bought one bottle and it effected a complete cure. Since that time, whenever I have the land cough, I procure Chamberlain's Cough Ready sees

Celegrams."

PROM OUR NYN CORRESPONDENT) [INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

BOMBAY FEB. 28. Mr. Hardikar, Mamlatdar of Nassick, com-nenced the inquiry into the Sinnar riot cases on 23rd. First forty persons charged with being members of an unlawful assembly were tried Eighteen witnesses for the prosecution were examined who described the events of the day and identified some accused as having been present, but little direct evidence was given. It appears that a meeting of hundreds of villages was held on the day of the riot in a neighbouring forest, when speakers mostly lowclass Hindus and Mahomedans complained that Government officials broke walls of houses and carried persons forcibly into quarantine while the Sahebs who promised redress after riots in Bombay and pathing. Shouting din they proceeded did nothing. Shouting din din they proceeded to plague camp, burnt it and killed the Hospital Assistant and another. Then they attacked the kutchery and Dr. Gwyther's tent. The Deputy Collector and the leading natives, Messrs Akut. Kavale, Thumbre, and Kashirai were simed but with the control of the contr Kashiraj were aimed, but miraculously saved. The inquiry is proceeding. Then another batch of sixty persons will be tried for rioting, and security taken. A third batch of fifteen will be tried for murder, decoity, incendiarism and riot. Two villagers, named Karim and Gannu, who disappered and were cleverly captured by Inspector Raghunath Ramji, are believed to be instigators. News also comes of a Parsee plague doctor being mobbed at Dumas, in Surat.

a quarter of an inch in length, that it might be caused by the blow of a *lathi* or by the fall of a broken piece of a chandelier or by the complainant running and dashing against a pointed piece of a bamboo or fence. He has on the 25th instant, to an evening party also deposed that since he compared to the form of Mr. Brown, Sessions Judge of Cuttack, on the 25th instant, to an evening party also deposed that since he compared to the form of Mr. BALASORE, FEB. 27. given at his garden house, in honor of Mr. Brojendra Nath De, Magistrate and Collector, who has been transferred to Bankura. The garden house and the garden were brilliantly illuminated and tastefully decorated with garlands, flags, arches, and Chinese lanterns. Tennis was provided. The Balasore Philharmonic Society and the Sunhat Amateur Party played several pieces. There was snake-charming, and a living armadillo was exhibited. In short, the party was a grand success and the people invited were much pleased with the arrangements made by the host. The host made a donation of Rs. 200 towards the fund started for providing a scholarship to be called "B. De's Scholarship;" rand to be given to the boys of the Zilla School.

THE latest telegrams from Peshawar and Rawalpindi state that the wounded of all ranks are progessing favourably

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

The Seaforth Highlanders have been ordered from Cairo to Assuan, where they will be held in reserve. Reuter wires from Pekin that China has agreed to open Yuenchau as a treaty port.

LONDON, FEB. 26.

Mr. Brodrick, Under-Secretary for War, in submitting the Army Estimates in the House of Commons, last night, asked for 180,513 men, which, he said, was the largest number reached during the present century. He then proceeded to rebut the charges, and especially Mr. Forster's, that the British Army was in a condition of collapse, and showed by figures that after the despatch of 75,000 men abroad in case of a big war, we should still have another full Army big war, we should still have another full Army Corps, besides large reserves, but he said our Artillery was deficient, and hence the demand for an increase thereof. Mr. Brodrick generally repeated the scheme set forth in Lord Lansdowne's speech at Edinburgh on the 9th December,

LONDON, FEB. 26.
The election at Cricklade (Wilts) resulted in the election of Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice (Liberal) by a majority of 489 over Viscount Emlyne (Conservative) replacing Hopkinson (Unionist) who resigned. The polling was—

Fitzmaurice, 5,624; Emlyne, 5,135.

LONDON, FEB. 26.

Reuter wires from Freetown that a general rising has taken place in the Sierra Leone Hirterland, and that the officers on the Frontier police there have been attacked. One hundred men of the West, India Regiment have been despatched to the scene of the disturbances. LONDON, FEB. 26.

The Transvaal Volksraad has rescinded the resolution permitting coolies to reside and trade outside the towns of the Republic, the Government being advised that the resolution stood in the way of the impending test case. Arrangements for issuing the English half of the Chinese loan have been completed. The

price of issue is 90, and the rate of interest 41/2 per cent. LONDON, FEB. 26.

Mr. Curzon, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that M. Hanotaux had informed Sir Edward, Monson that France had not the slightest intention of imitating Germany by seizing a naval base LONDON, FEB. 28.

The Uganda despatches show that Major Macdonald's instructions, which have hitherto been kept secret, were to establish rela-tions with the tribe around the sources of the river Juba. Commissioner Jackson first asked for the despatch of an Indian force to Uganda, suggesting that 300 men should be sent. Major Macdonald subsquently urged that a permanent Indian force should be sent of not less than 500 men, and spoke highly of the gallantry of the Indians before Fort Lubwas.

A man, named Karditza, in the employ of the Athens Municipality, has been arrested. He admits firing at the King, and regrets having failed to klll him.

THE Queen to-day decorated Lord Fin-castle with the Victoria Cross at Windsor

In the final test match at Sydney the Englishmen were out in the first innings for 335. Australia then went in and made 184 for five wickets. Reuter wires from Yokohama the

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

India and Ingland.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT].

INDIAM TRUE CRAMS. LONDON, FEB. 11 INDIA IN PARLIAMENT. THE QUEENS SPEECH! boot

THE fourth session of the 14th Parliament of the present reign was opened by commission, with all the usual ceremonies and forma-lities on Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 8. The Queen's speech contained the following references to Indian affairs:

On the north-western borders of my Indian Empire an organized outbreak of fanaticism, which spread in the summer along the frontier, induced many of the the summer along the frontier, finduced many of the tribes to break their engagements with my Government, to attack military posts in their vicinity, and even to invade a settled district of my territory. I was compelled to send expeditions against the offending tribes for the punishment of these outrages, and Africation of the Africa of the Af prought to a successful close.

The courage and endurance exhibited by my troops, Britis and native, have overcome the almost insuperable difficulties of the country in which

Papers on this subject will be laid before you. The plague, which appeared more than a year ago in Western India, returned in the autumn; and, although the mortality is less alarming than it was at endeavour both to limit its extent and to mitigate its effects; and I am confident that they will receive the loyal assistance of my Indian subjects in this arduous task. I rejoice, on the other hand, to inform you that the familue, which prevailed for many months over several large districts, may now be said to be at an end excepting within a small tract in Madras; and that there is reason to anticipate a prosperous year, both for agriculture and commerce, throughout my Indian subjects in the adjournment, for his amendment with regard to the failure of the potato crop in Ireland. anticipate a prosperous year, both for agriculture and commerce, throughout my Indian dominions.

Not a word is said about the intentions of the Government with regard to frontier questions, nor of any intention to relax the severity of the domestic administration of the country. I think her Majesty, would have better reason for confidence with regard to the "loyal assistance of her Indian subjects" in the task of dealing with the plague, if there had been a few words of womanly sympathy with the districts blighted by its terror, and some indication of better treatment to the victims of the ferocious policy of repression pursued by the Government towards the population of Poona, and the leaders of public opinion in and we further humbly represent to your Poona, and the leaders of public opinion in the Deccan. I look, in vain, in the speech for any fulfilment of what amounted to an actual pledge on the part of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his recent actual pledge on the part of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his recent speech at Bristol, that Britain was to be asked to bear her fair share of the cost of the Frontier Expedition. We are told that measures will be proposed for the relief of the immediate necessities of the West Indian Colonists," and that "in view of the enormous armaments which are now maintained by other nations, the duty of providing for the defence of the Empire involves an expenditure which is beyond former precedent."

These two items are quite enough to absorb all the fine surplus with which Sir William Harcourt's brilliant taxation reforms has endowed the present Government. India is to get neither money nor sympathy.

TOR ADDRESS. The Address, in reply to the Queen's speech, was moved and seconded in both Houses by promising young men, as usual, in safe and dignified platitudes. The general debate portation and continued imprisonment of it may be well for Sir William Wedderburn

CRITICISM ON THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

Lord Kimberley, as Leader of the Opposition in the House of Lords, criticised the various items of the speech. Speaking of Chitral he said that "Our will be sai said that, "Our military power was considerably tasked by the operations on the Indian frontier. He had always held that it was a mistake, permanently, to occupy Chitral, with a road running through the country of the independent tribes, and the late Government in deciding not to maintain the road, were influenced also by the interpretation that would be put upon the proclamation issued on the subject. He believed that the retention of the road had had to do with the late tribal risings; and the Indian Government should endeavour to show the tribes that the Durand Agreement with the Ameer did not threaten the loss of their independence. He liad not yet had time to study the official papers just presented, but he thought that the maintenance of a long series of military posts in the midst of those warlike and hostile tribes would severely task our strength and form a source of serious danger."

Lord Salisbury in his reply dwelt almost entirely on the Foreign policy of the Govern-ment, contenting himself as regards India with a few commonplace sentences to the effect, that there was no wish on the part of the Government to occupy a single position which was not, in the judgment of the highest expert authorities, absolutely necessary for the security of our Indian Empire and the fulfilment of our treaty obligations.

THE FORWARD POLICY.

In the House of Commons, Sir William Harcourt said, that he and his colleagues condemned the Forward policy of the Government, and declared that they had reversed the admirable policy of their predecessors, and that they intended to give the House an opportunity of expressing their opinion on that point. Mr. Balfour in reply contented himself with an expression of his conviction, that the more Hon. Members surveyed the policy of the Go vernment in all its bearings the more they would justify the Frontier campaign as absolutely necessary and unavoidable.

Two excellent speeches were delivered during the evening on India by Mr. Samuel Smith and Sir Lewis McIver. Mr. Smith spoke strongly of the deep apprehension felt by the native population with regard to the costly and iniquitous war which was pressing so sorely upon them. He denounced in warm language the wasteful expenditure of the last 20 years upon frontier wars and defence works, all of which had been wrung out of a population whose average income was £2 per head per annum. He cited Lord Lawrence and ther great authorities, whose opinions were adopted by every thoughtful Indian, and tish statesman, and the controversy

this wild policy. Mr. Smith went on, in pregnant language, to declare that the worst feature of the whole business was the deep and growing discontent in India, which could not be ignored and was most ominous. He warned the Government that if they continued to neglect this feeling in India, a time of great trouble was in store for this country. India's greatest need just now was "sympathy", not the oppressive legisla-tion with which she is now threatened. If the Government wanted a really wise investment, let them make a handsome grant to India accompanied by words of kindness and sympathy. Sir Lewis McIver, a retired Indian Civilian and a conspicuous member of the Tory party, made a spirited appeal to all private members to clear themselves from party trammels and take their own line on Indian affairs. He thought that in Indian matters both front benches are past praying for, and both alike used India merely as a stick to beat each other with. He spoke of the Frontier policy of the Govern-ment as a constant series of attacks whose object was the final subjugation of the territory, if it had any logical aim at all, It was a almost insuperable difficulties of the country m which almost insuperable difficulties of the country m which they were operating; but I have to deplore the loss of many valuable lives, both amongst my own troops and those whose services were voluntarily and lovally ous methods one Secretary of State after another was dragged at the heels of the military mandarins of India." By insidious methods one Secretary of State after another was dragged at the heels of the military mandarins of India. wicked aim, an unprofitable object, an imposanother was dragged at the heels of the military party. He implored the House to set aside all party passion, and as civilians unite to prevent further mischief through the aggressive action of the military. It was a fine manly speech, which made a deep impression, and gave Lord George Hamilton a pression, and gave Lord George Hamilton a pression of the day.

He is unused to manual labour, and has suffered the country well as a scholar and a Sanskritist, and his services have been recognized by the best scholars of Europe. It is clear from his paper on Orion and similar topics that his real interests lie in the ancient literature of his country, and that he cares more for events that happened 3,000 or 4,000 years ago than for the pression, and gave Lord George Hamilton a question of the day.

teen in all, were handed in to the clerk during the evening on various subjects. Three of these relate to India. The front Opposition bench amendment on the Frontier policy will be moved, as I intimated last week, by Mr. Lawson Walton, Q. C., and could not have been placed in better hands. It is as follows:—

"And we humbly express to your Majesty our disapproval of the policy pursued in the permanent Military occupation of Chitral and the maintenance and fortification of the road from Peshawur through the territory of the tier tribes and avoiding the occupation of their territory.'

The debate will be postponed till next week, and some of the minor amendments got rid of first. The reason for this is that the blue book containing the latest papers concerning the Frontier campaign have only been circulated to members the day before the House met and time is required for the mastery of their details.

A PUNGENT INDICTMENT.

The first Indian amendment on the paper is in the name of Mr. Herbert Roberts, and forms a sturdy and pungent indictment in It is -

"Humbly to assure your Majesty that this House regards with grave concern the policy of internal repression lately adopted by the of the law relating to sedition in India.'

SIR W. WEDDERBURN'S AMENDMENT. Then follows an amendment put down by

Sir William Wedderburn which reads "And humbly pray that your Majesty, looking to the miseries patiently endured by the Indian people from famine, plague, poverty, and other afflictions during the past year, will graciously direct that special forbearance be shown to wards them, and that careful inquiry be made into their present condition in order to restore confidence among the suffering masses, and thus prepare the way for healing measures tending to bring back peace and prosperity."

Mr. Roberts will, of course, give precedence to Sir William Wedderburn, whose amendment is purposely vague and general in tone, with a view of encouraging Lord George Hamilton to make, if he wishes to do so, a sympathetic and conciliatory speech, and to make it easy for him to disarm further hostile criticism. If however, as is pretty certain, Lord George makes an aggressive and uncompromising reply, Sir William will withdraw his mild amendment. and let fly Mr Roberts with his trenchant indictment. Of course all this is subject to a thousand Parliamentary accidents and mis-chances, the speaker having the power to ar range the order of amendments at will. Mr. Roberts, however, is a determined and courage-ous Parliamentary hand, and if he should be balked of his motion by closure or other hin-drance, he will take the earliest opportunity of moving the adjournment of the House on the release of the Natus, and the treatment of

A MEMORIAL FOR CLEMENCY TO MR. TILAK AND OTHERS.

In view of the debate which will follow upon Mr. Robert's amendment in the House, much importance is attached to a memorial addressed to the Secretary of State for India, which has originated with Professor Max Muller, and has been signed by him, Sir William Hunter, Sir Richard Garth, Mr. W. S. Caine, Mr. Dutt, C. I. E., and a number of other persons interested in Indian affairs. These signatures will be followed by those of several members of Parliament, but it has been thought wiser to give precedence and prominence to men outside Parliament. The memorial does not question the justice of the sentence which has been passed on Mr. Tilak and the other Deccan Editors, but asks for mercy, and a mitigation of the severe punishments which have been dealt out to them on the following grounds:

(1) That for many years Mr. Tilak has proved himself a loyal subject, and has rendered, whenever required, advice and assistance to the Govern-

His Excellency the Governor.

(2) That the articles appeared at a time when the minds of the natives of Bombay and Poona were greatly unsettled by the plague relief measures—necessary and just as they undoubtedly were. The necessity of segregation of patients was ill understood, and the treatment of females in hospitals and and the treatment of females in hospitals and plague camps, however necessary, had filled the Oriental mind with alarm. It was during that momentary excitement that the articles in question were written and allowed to be published; and although this does not justify the offence, it may be held in some degree to mitigate its enormity.

(3) That for years past articles of a similar injudicious character have been allowed to pass, without any notice being taken by the Government, thus leaving an impression on the mind of the natives of

ing an impression on the mind of the natives of ing an impression on the mind of the natives of India—an impression not discouraged by certain politicians in England—that the same extreme licence which is tolerated among newspaper writers in England, might pass as harmless in India. It was no doubt necessary to remove such an impression once for all. In spite of the loyalty of the people of India, which has remained unbroken downer forty wears the peculiar conditions of the people of India, which has remained un-broken during forty years, the peculiar conditions of the government will always justify strong measure against really seditious writing, and this in the interest of the people themselves. We think, how-ever, that the first punishment has fallen rather hard on Mr. Tilak, who at the time of the recent excitement and alarm did no more than what others had been allowed to do with impunity during

so many years.
(4) That Mr. Tilak has served his country well

crime by his own mad impulses, and in no way influenced by newspaper articles like those which unfortunately were allowed to appear in the 'Kesari.'

(6) That so far as Tilak's offence is concerned, the majesty of the law has been vindicated. And if there did exist at the present moment, amidst the loyar population of India, any wide-spread feelings of disaffection, which we do not believe, nothing would better serve to remove them and to kindle feelings of gratitude and loyalty than an act of Royal clemency shortening the term of imprisonment to which Talik has been sentenced. The warning has now been given, and in the case

of a first offence, there would seem to be ground for tempering justice with mercy.

Nothing fresh has transpired in Parliament during the week bearing upon India, everyone resting on his oars for the great struggle on Mr. Walton's amendment, which will, of course, be a full dress debate between the lions of the two front benches; who have been in consultation, as is usual, on these State occasions, with the result that both Monday and Tuesday have been set aside for the debate. It is expected hat Lord George Hamilton will immediately follow Mr. Lawson Walton, and make a prolonged defence of the Forward policy. He will be followed by Sir Henry Fowler, and Mr. Morley, Mr. Asquith and Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman intend to take part also. On the Tory side Mr. Curzon, Mr. Goschen, and Mr. Chamberlain may be looked for to speak, and the debate will be wound Sir William Harcourt and Mr. Arthur Baltour, the respective leaders of the two front benches. I doubt if the debate be compressed into two days, for the military element will have much to say, and the number of side issues, financial and general, possible in such a debate are innumer-able. If the speaker permits wide latitude, British Indian subjects without trial, the and Mr. Roberts to make their speeches, recent series of Press prosecutions, and the and rest content with divisions without depresent proposals to increase the severity Late, on the amendments standing on their espective names. Mr. Walton's amendment will supply by far the most serious and important opportunity which has presented itself during the present Parliament for a trial of strength on party lines, and there are sufficient signs of restiveness among some of the more independent supporters of the Government to make the whips on both sides anxious and alert.

FRONTIER QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT.

On Thursday afternoon Mr. Buchanan asked the Secretary of State for India what had been the amount of expenditure to the present time on the military operations on the frontier.

Lord G. Hamilton replied:-It is estimated that the cost of the military operations on the North-West frontier of India for the whole of the year 1897-98 will amount to about four crores of rupees, the equivalent in sterling of

€2,54 ,000. This statement must, of course, be taken with plenty of salt. It can only mean that this amount covers what is charged up. There must be a large floating balance that has not yet precipitated itself into actual charges. The impression is very strong in political circles here, that the charges of the Frontier campaign will somehow or other be carried forward largely into next year's financial operations. There will be very searching criticism on this head in next week's debates.

Among the many side issues which will in Tilak and the other political prisoners. It is, of course, absolutely impossible to allow the Poona policy of the Indian Government to pass unchallenged. the alleged scandalous abuse of patronage in the way in which the Staff appointments were filled up. The military members of Parliament go about the lobby of the House with pockets full of letters from officers of the Indian army, complaining that this has been carried so far that actually officers of the Household Cavalry who happen to be visiting India on pleasure have been pitchforked on to the Staff as orderly officers, over the heads of tried and qualified officers of the British and Native Army in India, who have served years in the country through all its privations and discomforts. If this has really been done, it is easy to under-stand some of the most glaring blunders of the campaign, and the fury which it is said fills the breast of Sir William Lockhart. The impression prevails that Sir George White cares prevails that Sir George White cares more for the social amenities of his distinguished position than for its high responsibilities, and it is a little unfortunate for his reputation just now that the Commander-in-Chief for India should be carried wounded from the field in a paper chase! Nobody grudges him a little

alone supporting Legislative Council of Bombay was sanctioned by dent lends point to the discontent and gives man could be decided upon at once and relieve occasion to the enemy to blaspheme, which he is only too ready to do. Mr. Labouchere has taken up this abuse of patronage vigorously in the columns of "Truth", and may possibly make one of his vigorous and witty speeches

during the debate.

The Times floats into the air this week a significant straw which shows how the wind blows in that influential quarter, and which will influence the minds, if not the votes, of many moderate Conservatives next week. Commenting upon a series of six important articles on the Frontier question, which have appeared in his columns during the last few weeks, the Editor practically abandons the whole Frontier policy, and advocates that in future we should content ourselves with the maintenance of the Khaibar pass with a line of policy which will secure our indispensable ends with the smallest possible invasion of tribal rights. All this is carefully wrapped up in verbiage, but there it is, and it is a striking testimony of the good effect of the agitation carried on by the Liberal leaders throughout the country during the last 3 or 4 months. I only hope Lord George Hamilton may be half as sensible as his great organ—the Times.

"BREACH OF FAITH."

Conspicuous among the other minor issues which will form staple for debate next week will no doubt be the "breach of faith" and the connection between the Chitral proclamation and the outbreak of the present war. I heartily wish this side-show had never been brought into the controversy, but it is after all a question of fact, and I hope Mr. Lawson Walton will be content with facts only, which are strongly on our side, and leave all charges of shady conduct entirely out of the indictment which is strong enough without them, in all conscience. No sensible man can doubt that the present Cabinet violated the proclamation, and committed what has been abundantly proved to have been a fatal error in policy. But the whole force of the indictment has been unfortunately weakened by suggestions of dishonesty and the issue has been swept

away from policy to personality.
FRONTIER FOLLY IS AN IMPERIAL POLICY.

Another point of important detail is the apportionment of the cost of the campaign. It will clearly be part of Mr. Lawson Walton's duty to insist that the policy of the war is essentially British springing from Downing Street and not from Calcutta; and that therefore its enormous cost should fall entirely upon the British Treasury. The only possible justification for all this Frontier Policy directed against Russian expansion and aggression. If he is wise, he, and the Opposition Front Bench, will take their stand ipon the firm ground that the entire expenditure is Imperial, ought to be paid for in its entirety by this country, and that the question of "apportionment" does not therefore arise at all, much less the charging of the whole upon Indian revenues.

LORD G. HAMILTON'S DESPATCH. The usual Parliamentary papers which always make their appearance on the edge of such a debate as comes off next week, have just been published. They profess to be an accurate history of the recent British relations with the Tribes, as well as of the recent Military operations against them. It is a long and painfully involved succession of papers, with many significant gaps which no doubt Lord Cromer has, for the last ten years. Sir Henry Fowler will do his best to fill up. Lord Cromer has, for the last ten years fully earned promotion that promotion fully rendered impossible. He George Hamilton to Lord Elgin, dated on the 28th of January last, which purposes to present to the country the views of the Government on the miserable events of the last two years of their disastrous forward policy. This despatch indicates the line of defence along which Lord George will travel. He will, evidently, endeavour to show that the out-breaks had nothing to do with the Chitral occupation or the famous proclamation but were entirely due to fanaticism though certain papers in an earlier part of the blue book make it very clear that the increase in the price of salt has been largely utilized by the Mullahs desirous of fomenting disturbance as a means for exciting discontent, and that at the present time the Khyber Afridis and the Orakzai tribes have made the heavy enhancement of the salt duty, one of their chief grievances against the British Government. All through, Lord George sings a much smaller tune than the brazen notes of his recess speeches, showing unmistakable signs of being influenced by the agitation which has been carried on by the Liberal Leaders. He lays down the principle, for the futurer, that no new responsibility should be undertaken unless actually required by absolutely strategical necessities and the protection of the British Indian border; and the avoidance of any interference with the tribes which can be avoided with due regard to these interests. Lord George is strong on the necessity of securing the safety of the Khyber pass, with which all sensible men will agree. On the whole, the papers appear to justify the amendment to be moved by Mr. Lawson Walton, and whatever may be the numbers in the division lobby, it will be quite clear that the Liberal Opposition have swared the Concernment bear Opposition have swayed the Government back from much that was dangerous in their frontier policy, and the country will not be slow to recognize the value of their services. The Times has reproduced Lord George's despatch of the 28th January verbatim, and I send it to you with the comments and summaries from other leading papers. Both sides of the House are preparing for a big debate, which will be by far the most important debate of the present Parliament fraught with great results upon the future of the Indian Empire. NEXT VICEROY OF INDIA.

Much discussion prevails in political society about who is to be the next Viceroy of India, and it is stated that already this is being dis cussed by the Cabinet. Every one is agreed that Lord Elgin, who has had unusual difficulties and perplexities, has hardly been strong enough for the post while the weakness of the Secretary of State at home has made his position doubly difficult to hold with any conspition cuous success. It is said that Lord Elgin himself very weary and anxious to be rid of

and capable Viceroy. Everything seems to go wrong with India; its foreign policy, its finance, its administration, and what is worse than all, its prestige with the Indian people are all astray and in difficulties, and it cannot be all "bad luck." The Spectator, the gravest and most responsible of all the Tory weekly papers, holding a deservedly high place in the estimation of the moderate section of its mostly detion of the moderate section of its party, declares that the only practicable remedy for the existing confusion is to be found in a new Viceroy who shall choose a new Cabinet, surrounding himself with men chosen by himself as loyal to his policy, whatever that may be. The editor suggests that the secretaries of every great Indian Department of State should be made the responsible Cabinet to the Viceroy, nstead of the present unsatisfactory and confusing system by which even a strong Viceroy is hampered by having to consult, instead of a Council, two experts in each department. This, however, could only be done, I expect, by the abolition of the present Council, which would not be a great loss, if each great department was represented in the "Cabinet." But where is the strong Viceroy to be found? Our best statesmen shirk India, preferring Cabinet rank in this country to the pomp and ceremony involved in the Viceroyalty, with its weary court ceremonies and entertainments; in consequence, the Viceroyalty goes to some peer who just falls short of that ability which will take him into Cabinet rank. Such a man fails in initiative, and inevitably falls into the hands of the cleverest member of his Council. The talk is mostly of Earl Cadogan, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, a peer of great wealth, whose countess is more or less a political personage, and whose entertainments are the leading feature of the London season. May the Lord deliver India from these mere entertaining Viceroys, of whom we have had more than enough. India is no longer to be governed by Levees, Garden parties, balls, and unlimited champagne; what India wants is a man, like Lord Lawrence, who will be respected for himself and his strong hand, who can rise superior to the frippery of the place, and realize that he holds the greatest and most responsible posi-tion in the British Empire except that of the Sovereign herself. In the present unhappy state of India, no Viceroy ought to be ap-pointed, who has not proved his capacity by his record, who has shewn himself to be a king among men. There is only one man in the Tory party who immediately suggests himself by his past record, as the very best available, and that is Lord Cromer. He knows India well, he was Secretary to Lord Northbrook during his Viceroyalty, and has been one of the ablest and successful Ministers of Finance India has ever had. He has practically ruled Egypt for fifteen years, and brought that great country out of a slough of despond into un-exampled prosperity. He has filled a post of exceptional difficulty and importance, sur-rounded by the jealous intrigues of every Mediterranean Power, with the utmost skill and tact, and no one can point to any serious blunder in a long career where serious blunders seemed inevitable and would have been readily excused and pardoned. But if he goes to India, who is to go to Egypt?
Lord Cromer has, for the last ten years, so
fully earned promotion that promotion has It is impossible without infinite labour, to present to your readers any comprehensive summary of their contents, but that will be done for me in the course of the debate by very competent brains, so you may be left to wait patiently for next mail. The main interest of the blue books will however concentrate upon a long despatch from Lord Corrections of the labour, to been actually rendered impossible. He himself is probably looking rather to retirement from Egypt and Cabinet rank at home, than to fresh and absorbing responsibility, and he is freely named as the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in case of Lord Salisbury desiring relief. But Lord Cromer's leading characteristic has been patriotic self-sacrifice. characteristic has been patriotic, self-sacrifice, and if that were rightly appealed to, he would go anywhere and take anything. If he came to India, he would be simple and unassuming in Government House, there would be no regal entertainments, but a quiet dignified commanding presence that would be respected by all, and despised only by fools. In all that affected outward pomp and show, Lord Cromer could hold his own with ease and dignity, but in Council there would be deep experience of difficult administrative tact in dealing with sensitive native chiefs, a profound and intimate knowledge of finance, strength of will and purpose, combined with that rarest of all qualities for such a post, a magnetic power of making and keeping the devotion of his subordinates. Lady Cromer is a clever, gracious, sensible lady, the fit helpmatt of a man under such responsibilities. If Lord Cromer can be got, I expect he would leave behind him the most brilliant record of any Viceroy of the Victorian Era.

THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

him before the end of his term. It is, at any

rate, certain that there is much private dis-

cussion going on at Head-quarters when it is felt, and with excellent reason, that India

was never so greatly in need of a really strong

One would naturally suppose that Earl of Onslow had enough work on his hands just now as Under-Secretary of State for India; but his time appears wholly taken up in his own and his friend's election for the London County Council. He is stumping London or behalf of the moderate candidates and against the progressives, giving lectures on "the position of the London County Council". It would be more decent of this noble Lord, who draws £1500 a year salary from the people of India, earned his pay by attending exclusively to their interests, at a period of stress and storm like the present.

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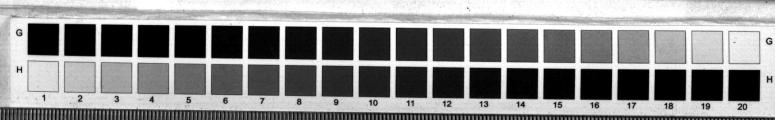
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J. N. CHATTERJEE,



BENGAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A MEETING of the Council was held in Council Chamber, on Saturday. His Honour S Alexander Mackenzie presided, and there wer present:—The Hon. Mr. C. W. Bolton, the Hon present:—The Hon. Mr. C. W. Bolton, the Hon. Mr. W. H. Grimley, the Hon. Mr. J. G. H. Glass, the Hon. Mr. H. H. Risley, the Hon. Rai Durga Gati Banerjee, Bahadoor, the Hon. Mr. J. Pratt, the Hon. Mr. G. Toynbee, the Hon. Nawab Syed Ameer Hossein, the Hon. Mr. M. Finucane, the Hon. Mr. A. H. Wallis, the Hon. Sahebzada Mahomed Bakhtyar Shah, the Hon. Mr. M. C. Turner, the Hon. Norendra Nath Sen, the Hon. Kally Churn Banerjee, and the Hon. Supported Park Surendranath Banerjea.

A SEPARATE JUDGE FOR KHOOLNA.

The Hon. Surendranath Banerjee asked the following questions: I have the honour to ask whether the attention of the Government has been called to the serious public inconvenience which is caused by there not being a separate District and Sessions Judge for the district of Khoolna? Whether it is the case that, when Khoolna was formed into a separate case that, when Khooma was formed into a separate District, the Secretary of State sanctioned the appointment of a separate District and Sessions Judge for Khoolna; and whether or not, on a reference being made to the High Court, the Commissioner of the Division and the District Judge of Jessore, who performs the duties of District Judge for Khoolna, these authorities recommended the appointment of a separate District Judge for Khoolna? Whether or not, in consequence of the Sessions Judge of Khoolna, the Sessions cases are often tried many months after the occurrences to which they refer, and the interests of justice thus suffer; and for the same reason persons who after which ther refer, and the interests of justice thus suffer; and for the same reason persons, who after trial are found not guilty, have to remain in hajut for menths together, and criminal appeals are not disposed of in time, although the Distict Judge is a very hard-working officer? Having regard to these considerations, will the Government be pleased to sanction the appointment of a separate Judge for the district of Khoolna?

The Hon. Mr. Bolton, who replied, said:

A general reply may be conveniently given to the

The Hon. Mr. Bolton, who replied, said:—A general reply may be conveniently given to the honorable member's questions. The present arrangement in regard to the district of Khoolna causes inconvenience and delay in the disposal of judicial work. When Khoolna was constituted a District in 1882, the civil and criminal jurisdiction was vested 1882, the civil and criminal jurisdiction was vested in the District and Sessions Judge of Jessore. In 1891 work having increased in Backergunge, Dacca, and Jessore, Khoolna, an Additional Judge was appointed for those Districts to which Mymensing was added in 1893. The relier thus given has, however, been found inadequate, and a recommendation with the object of purchaseing it has been made to the Covernment. increasing it has been made to the Governmet, of India, who have called for a further report. Khoolna itself would not provide sufficient employment for a separate District and Sessions Judge. It should continue to form with Jessore one It should continue to form with Jessore one Sessions Division, and provision should be made for further assistance to both the Judge of that Division and the Judges of other Districts named. The Chittagong Cyclone.

The Hon. Surendranath Bannerjee asked the following questions: Will the Government be pleased to state what was the total number of (α) human lives, (b) cattle and (c) houses destroyed by the late cyclone and the storm-wave, respectively in the district of Chitagong? What sum of money has been spent in the areas affected in giving relief in food, etc, and in the re-building of houses, and from what sources these funds have been supplied?

supplied?

The Hon. Mr. Finucane, in reply, said. The number of human lives lost in Chittagong is reported to be about 14,00. The number of cattle lost is estimated by the Collector at 15,000. The number of houses destroyed is not known. A sum of Rs. 65,000 has been placed at the disposal of the local officers for relief of distress, of which Rs. 50,000 was given from the funds of the Provincial Charitable was given from the funds of the Provincial Charitable Relief, and the rest was made up by other subscriptions. Of this Rs. 30,899 was expended up to the middle of January; Rs. 50,000 have been sanctioned by Government for advances under the Agricultural Loans Act; and a sum of one lakh of rupees for loans under the Land Improvement Act. Of this latter sum, Rs. 85,162 was distributed in the Landau of the L buted up to January, last; Rs. 10,000 have been sanctioned for giving employment in digging tanks; and Rs. 30,000 will be expended in require to the Minchester. dia Embankment during the remainder of the current financial year 1897-98. Relief has also been given in the shape of remission of tolls on timber and thatching grass for building houses.

REMISSION OF FOREST TOLLS.

The Hon. Surendranath Banerjee asked the following questions: -Will the Government be pleased to state whether the facts, stated in the Chittagon newspaper Jyoti, in its issue of the 27th January, with respect to the partial remission of forest tolls, are correct? What loss of revenue Government has suffered by the remission of half the rates of these tolls on building materials for two months as compared with the average of the previous three years? Whether February and March are three years? Whether rebruary and March are not the two months when bamboos, canes and especially thatching grass are largely brought down from the hills, and when the houses are usually re-built, and whether the period of remission will cover these two months? Whether any loss that Government in likely to make the period of the likely the likely the likely the period of the likely the likely

re-built, and whether the period of remission will cover these two months? Whether any loss that Government is likely to suffer by this remission of half the rate of tolls is not likely to be wholly or partially recouped by the considerably larger importations of building materials due to the wholesale destruction of houses by the cyclone?

The Hon. Mr. Finucane, in reply, said:—Government has not before it a copy of the newspaper Jyoti, which, it is understood, has been recently started, and is not aware what the alleged facts referred to by the honourable member are. Under a Government order of the 6th November, the tolls on grass, bamboos, canes and certain kinds of timber taken from the Government forests in Chittagong were reduced to half rates for the period of two months, a concession which, as regards timber, was at the instance of the local officers, extended by an order of 11th January for two months more in the areas affected by the storm-wave, i.e., in Jaldee, Chakaria, Kutubdia, and Moheskal, and for one month as regards thatching grass in the three southern tehsils. The loss to Government on account of the reduction of the forest tolls to half rates is estimated at about Rs. 25,000. It is anticipated that the duction of the forest tolls to half rates is estimat ed at about Rs. 25,000. It is anticipated that the oss to some extent may be recouped in the way luggested in the honourable member's question.

luggested in the honourable member's question.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT.

Sir Alexander Mackenzie, addressing the Council, said:—In welcoming the members back to work, I must preface what I have to say as to the business likely to be brought before them by extending a hearty greeting to the new members who have joined the Council since it last met. I trust that the Council will maintain its old reputation of being a business-like and practical body, where more weight is attached to experience and brevity than to lengthy speeches, however able and interesting. The first measure that I must mention is the Bill for amending the Bengal Tenancy Act. The opinions of the officers and Associations that were consulted upon the Bill as introduced were duly received. A good deal of opposition was raised by the Landholders' Associations and by Judicial officers to the proposal to abolish the Civil Code Procedure in the settlement of rents of permanently settled estates, and to confer on the Revenue authorities the power of finally determining what are fair and enquitable rents in such estates. On considering these objections, I wrote to the Government of India as follows:

"The Covernment of India as follows: STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT.

settlement of rents both in permanently-settled and temporarily settled estates, was that the observance of that procedure was thought to be cumbrous, dilatory,

and unnecessarily expensive.
"When a settlement of revenue is undertaken in temporarily-settled estates in Bengal, fair rents must be settled for all tenants of all classes, whether they or their landlords apply for a settlement of rents or not, the fair rents so settled being made the basis of the revenue dem nd, and the entire cost of such

of the revenue dem nd, and the entire cost of such settlement being borne by Government. For this reason the adoption of a cumbrous and dilatory procedure entails unnecessarily large expenditure by Government; and it was partly with a view to remedy this evil that Sir Charles Elliott suggested, and Sir Alexander Mackenzie accepted the suggestion to the contract of the suggestion to the suggestion tion to transfer the settlement and final determination of fair rents in temporarily-settled estates to the Revenue authorities, and to substitute for the Civil Revenue authorities, and to substitute for the Civil Code Procedure in the settlement of rents the procedure proposed in the Bill introduced in the local Legislative Council. His Honour thought that the procedure proposed by him would be less expensive and more efficient than that prescribed in the Bengal Tenancy Act. But as it had been conceded at the time, the Tenancy Act was passed that Government claimed no facilities for the enhancement of rents in its own estates, or in estates under settlement of revenue which it was not prepared to give to proprietors of permanently-settled estates also, Sir Alexander Mackenzie thought it right to offer to these proprietors the same methods and procethese proprietors the same methods and procedure for settlement of rents in their estates that he proposed for adoption in Government and tempo-

rarily-settled estates.

"As, however, the proprietors of permanently-settled estates prefer the Civil Code Procedure and the method of settling rents prescribed in Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act as it stands, the Lieutenant-Governor sees no reason to press on them, against their consent, what he believes would be a more efficient and less expensive method. In permanently-settled estates rents are settled only on the application of the practice consents. settled only on the application of the parties con-cerned, who have to pay the cost. If they prefer cerned, who have to pay the cost. If they prefer the more expensive procedure prescibed in the Act with the guarantees which they think are afforded by appeals to the Judicial instead of to the Revenue authorities, there is no reason why their opposition should be courted by forcing on them a more summary and less expensive method of set-

tling rents. tling rents.

"As regards Government and temporarily-settled estates, the case is different. In the first place, as already remarked, rent have in these cases to be settled on a great scale at the expense of Government, and Government alone suffers the loss entailed by dilatory proceedings; in the next it has always been admitted that Government is the sole arbiter of the admitted that Government is the sole arbiter of the second of land revenue which may be equitably admitted that Government is the sole arbiter of the amount of land revenue which may be equitably demanded; and as that amount depends on the amount of the rents or assets on which it is based, amount of the rents or assets on which it is based, it necessarily follows that the superior Revenue authorities, and not the Civil Courts, should be the final authorities for the determination of fair rents where a settlement of revenue is being made or about to be made; and, lastly, there are indications in the reports received that while the High Court and the Landholders' Associations are strengency. ciations are strenuously opposed to the transference to the Revenue authorities of the final determination of fair rents in the case of permanently-settled estates there would certainly be less and possibly no serious opposition to such transference in the case of estates under settlement of land revenue.

"For these reasons His Honour the Lieutenant-

Governor proposes to adhere to the principles of the Bill for the settlement of rents and decision of disputes as regards areas under settlement of land revenue, and to adopt the principles of Chapter X of the Act as it stands in the settlement of rents A of the Act as it stands in the settlement of rents and decision of disputes in the case of permanently-settled estates, while at the same time removing the doubts and difficulties which have arisen in the interpretation of that Chapter owing to conflicting or erroneous judicial decisions. The Lieutenant-Governor also proposes, as regards temporarily-settled and permanently-settled areas alike, to adhere to the amendments in the substantive law relating to the enhancement and reduction of rents already approved enhancement and reduction of rents already approved

by the Government of India. "If the Supreme Government accept these proposals, His Honour would briefly explain them in referring the Bill to a Select Committee, and leave the Committee to formally embody them in the Bill."

Passing from the Land Revenue to the Municipal Department, we hope to lay before you very shortly an elaborate Bill for reforming the Municipal Law of Calcutta. The necessity of legislation was originally urged upon us for the purpose of enabling the Commissioners. the Commissioners to recover license-tax from the Commissioners to recover license-tax from certain companies which now escape payment, and in order to supply an omission in Section 237 of the Act which renders it impossible for the Corporation to exercise effective control over alterations in buildings. Since the amendment of the law with regard to these points was decided on, facts were brought to light in connection with the alarm of plague in Calcutta, which showed that the present constitution of the Municipality is ill-adapted to stand the strain of a grave and sudden emergency, and fails to secure the prompt and continuous execu tive action which is necessary in view of the fact that the sanitation and conservancy of the great Indian maritime cities has now become a matter of Indian maritime cities has now become a matter of international concern. In point of fact, under the present law there is no Municipal Constitution at all in the proper sense of the word. Everything is fluid and indefinite. The Act vests in the Commissioners all powers whether they are such as a large deliberative body can properly exercise or not; but it allows the Chairman to exercise all the powers vested in the Commissioners except those reserved to the Commissioners in meeting subject. reserved to the Commissioners in meeting, subject to such limitations and conditions as may be imposed, before or after he has acted under this power, by a resolution of the Commissioners. It further confers an unlimited power of controlling the Chairman by the action of Committees. By thus failing clearly to define the powers of the executive, the Act renders it impossible to say as regards any given matter in what part of the Corporation the executive resides, or in-deed whether there is any executive at all. The consequences have been what might have been expected, a complete breakdown of the conservancy of the town at a critical period, and serious confusion in many other departments of the Municipal administration, without the possibility of determining with any approach to certainty where the responsibility for such a state of things lies. It was felt that it would be unfair to the Commissioners as a body, no less than to the Chairman and the heads of the Departments under him, to expect them to carry on the administration of the city under the altered conditions arising from the danger of the plague and the threatening attitude of European Powers with a machinery so ill-adapted for its purpose and the Government of India have accepted the opinion that material changes in the Municipal Constitution of Calcutta are called for. The proposals of this Government which were embodied in a provisional sketch of the amended law have been submitted to the Secretary of State, and as soon as his sanction is received, a complete Bill which is now under preparation will, after receiving the formal sanction of the Government of India, be introduced into this Council. I may mention that I found, when at home on leave, that a keen interest is taken in this measure by the Secretary of State, the commercial community, and many Home authorities, who consider that a reform is called for sequences have been what might have been expected, a complete breakdown of the conservancy of the town est is taken in this measure by the Secretary of State, the commercial community, and many Home authorities, who consider that a reform is called for without unnecessary delay. My proposals have met with the general approval of the Government of India. We are awaiting the orders of the Secretary of State, (telegraphic intimation of his assent has just been

Then we shall have a Bill to amend the Excise Act. The Bill has been approved of by the Government of India subject to certain modifications, which we have now referred to the Board of Revenue.

Next there is the Bill to amend the Salt Act. I may, perhaps, refer to the Bill to amend the Local Self-government Act. This was drafted to enable District Boards to start veterinary dispensaries and pay veterinary doctors. In the hot weather of 1896 it was expanded into a measure legalising permissive local taxation for water-supply and village sanitation and providing for water-supply and village samuation and providing for tolls on bridges. Opinions were collected, and in October, 1896, the Government of India communicated certain criticisms. We cannot, however, proceed with the Bill at present, as it is understood that the Government of India has under consideration. that the Government of India has under consideration a new set of arrangements affecting Provincial and local finance, but I hope, that the measure will not be lost sight of. The necessity of improving the water-supply and sanitation of villages is generally admitted, and District Boards are at present suffering from the inexpensive character of their revenues under all heads except that of road cess, which increases slowly as re-valuations are made. The only means of giving them relief is by vesting them with certain powers of permissive local taxation for purposes of local interest and importance, such as water-supply, local interest and importance, such as water-supply sanitation, education, and medical relief. A further reason against proceeding with the Bill at present is that a proposal is before the Government of India

is that a proposal is before the Government of India for reorganising the Public Works and District Works establishments in Bengal.

In the Judicial Department we have a short Bill for extending to the town and suburbs of Calcutta, with such modifications as are required by local circumstances, the provisions of sections 15, 15A, and 16, which were inserted by Act VIII of 1895 in the Police Act, V of 1861, together with portions of other sections of a subsidiary character. The sections in question authorize (a) the quartering of additional police in areas which are in a disturbed or dangerous state, and the recovery of the coast from the inhabitants, and (b) the award of compensation to sufferers from misconduct of the inhabicoast from the inhabitants, and (b) the award of compensation to sufferers from misconduct of the inhabitan s of such areas. They do not at present apply either to Calcutta or the suburbs thereof, for which there are special Police Acts (viz., Acts IV and II of 1866, passed by the Beng l Council) and the riots which occurred in the Northern division of Calcutta in June and July last have suggested the desirability of introducing them into these areas, to be ready for use in case of need. Provisions similar to section 15 of in case of need. Provisions similar to section 15 of the Act of 1861 (as to the quartering of addi-tional police in a disturbed area at the cost of the inhabitants) have been enacted also for the the inhabitants) have been enacted also for the city of Madras by Madras Act 111 of 1888, sections 20 and 22, and for Bombay districts by Bombay Act IV of 1890, sections 25 and 26. The necessity of this measure was brought out in connection with the Tallah riots, and it has been

in connection with the Tallah riots, and it has been sanctioned by the Government of India.

Mr. Wigley has also kindly drafted for us a General Clauses Bill which has gone to the Government of India for approval. The Bill follows the General Clauses Act passed by the Supreme Council last year, and is necessary because (1) that Act applies only to laws passed by the Supreme Council, and (2) the General Clauses Act of this province [V(B C.) of 1867] contains a very small number of definitions. Each province should have a General Clauses Act on the lines of the Government of India's Act of last year for the Acts of its Council. Acts of its Council.

Acts of its Council.

BENGAL TENANCY ACT.

The Hon. Mr. Finucane moved that the Bill to amend the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon. Rai Durga Gati Bannerjee, Bahadoor, the Hon. Mr. Pratt, the Hon. Mr. Toynbee, the Hon. Norendra Nath Sen, the Hon. Saligram Singh, the Hon. Maharaja Bahadoor Sir Luchmessu Singh, of Durbhunga, and the mover

Singh, of Durbhunga, and the mover.

The Hon. Baboo Surendranath Banerjee and the Hon. Baboo Kally Churn Banerjee opposed the principles of the Bill. The Hon. Mr. Finucane briefly replied, and

the motion was put and agreed to.

The Police Act.

The Hon. Mr. Pratt moved for leave to introduce a Bill to extend certain portions of the Police Act, V of 1861, to the town and suburbs of Calcuta. He said: The power of quartering additional police in distrubed areas at the expense of the inhabitants was conferred on the Local Government by section 15 of Act V of 1861 as originally passed. That section was the instance of the Hon'ble Babi Act V of 1861 as originally passed. That section was recast by Act VHI of 1895, and a clause was added empowering the Local Government to exempt any person, or class of persons, from liability to bear any portion of the cost of such extra police. By section 15A of this latter Act any increase. provision use introduced, whereby any inhabitant of an area proclaimed as being in a disturbed or of an area proclaimed as being in a disturbed or dangerous state might recover compensation from the inhabitants of that area for dange to property or for grievous bodily injury. The circumstances of the riots, which occurred at Chitpore and made and rest July last, must still be fresh in the memory of honourable members of the Council. On that occasion His Honour the officiating Lieutenant Coveroccasion His Honour the officiating Lieutenant-Governor considered the question of quartering additional police in the disturbed parts of the town at the expense of the Mahomedan inhabitants; but when expense of the Mahomedan inhabitants; but when a reference was made to the Advocate-General and myself as to the "legality of any such action, we gave it as our decided opinion that Act V of 1861 does not apply to Calcutta and its suburbs, and that the proposed expedient was therefore not possible. After explaining the legal aspect of the question, the Hon. Mr. Pratt went on to say: Now the Bill, which it is desired to introduce is, in itself, a small measure, having for its object the removal of an anomaly whereby the Local Government is debarred from using in the metropolis the resource of quartering extra police on Local Government is debarred from using in the metropolis the resource of quartering extra police on the inhabitants of a disturbed locality. 2 The power to take such action already exists with trespect not only to all rural areas, but also to the great cities in Northern India, and such large and populous towns as Patina, Gya, Dacca, and Howrah, the last of which is practically a suburb of Calcutta. Moreover, there is a similar provision as regards the city of Madras, to be found in section 20 of Madras Act III of 1888. The causes which lead to agrarian disturbances, such as quarrels about chur agrarian disturbances, such as quarrels about *chur* and or rent disputes between landlords and tenants, may not be expected to find a place in Calcutta. But experience has shown, both in the case of last year's riots and in the serious riots at Shambazar in 1891, that religious excitement in a populous city may quickly be fanned into a flame, spreading disaster and consternation far and wide. Outbursts disaster and consternation far and wide. Outbursts of popular excitement are often sudden, and cannot generally be foreseen, and where, as in Calcutta, the population is mixed, and comprises a large body of low Mahomedans employed at the mills and factories, there is necessarily a rush of occasional outbreaks of lawlessness. Apart from 'disturbances which arise from ness. Apart from 'disturbances which arise from religious excitement or class animosity, there might possibly be an outbreak of persistent incendiarism, such as has been known to happen in some mofussil districts. Is it right or expedient that the arm of the Local Government should remain shortened, so that it cannot use the same repressive and continuous measures for organised terrorism and crime punitive measures for organised terrorism and crime in Calcutta as it can in all other territories under its sway? I think there can be but one answer to this question, and I trust this Council will speedily provide the remedy by means of the Bill, which I now seek to introduce. The material section of Act V of 1861 as amended by Act VIII 1895, which should be extended to the town and suburbs of Calcutta, are sections to any

police and of compensation for injury, while the Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs, who exercises jurisdiction over the suburbs, would occupy the position of the Magistrate of the district under the Act. In sub-section (2) of section 16 the words "all monies paid or recovered under sections 13, 14, and 15 shall be credited to a Fund, to be called the General Police Fund," and have been replaced by "all monies paid and recovered under section 15"—as sections 13 and 14 are not extended under the Bill, and there is no existing General Police Fund for Calcutta and the existing General Police Fund for Calcutta and the suburbs, nor is it necessary to establish one for the purposes of this Bill alone. Finally, I would draw attention to the proposed omission from subsection (1) of Section 15A of the words "being an inhabitant of such area." Under the existing law only residents of the disturbed area can be awarded compensation for injury from the misconduct of the inhabitants. Such a limitation seems hardly just for Calcutta, where a disturbed area would often be frequented by strangers on business or by persons passing through and who had received no warning of impending danger. Such was the case during the recent riots, and I need only instance the case of the two young officers travelling inoffensively on bicycles towards officers travelling inoffensively on bicycles towards Dum-Dum, who were attacked on the Circular Road by an excited and insensate mob, and who might have been killed had it not been for the humane intervention of a Hindoo mill-owner who afforded

them a temporary asylum.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Council then adjourned for three weeks.

CALCUTTA CORPORATION.

A GENERAL meeting of the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta was held last even-ing in the Town Hall. Mr. Bright presided, and there were about thirty Commissioners present.

"THE MANDATE THEORY."
The Chairman laid before the Commissioners the draft budget prepared by him of the income and expenditure of the Commissioners for the year 1898-99 and to propose that it be referred to the General Committee for consideration. In doing so he observed that the draft budget was certainly of a cheering character, as there was an estimated balance of a lac of rupees. He would, however, ask the Commissioners to direct the Committee to make proper provision for the Health Department.

The Hon'ble Surendranath Bannerjee did not think that they fettertheir executive with instructions. He was opposed to the mandate theory here or elsewhere. He thought the Committee should have a free hand to deal with the

matter.

The Chairman explained that he did not mean that the Committee should be fettered in any way. He was himself opposed to the mandate theory, and he did not request the Commissioners to issue any mandate to the Committee. What he wanted them to do was that if they thought fit they could advise the Committee on an important matter like the strengthening of the Health Department as that was the proper occasion for it.

The Chairman's proposal of referring the budget to the General Committee was then adopted.

"THE PRETENTIOUS NOBODIES."

The next important item, besides the consideration of the reply of the Tramway Company, which was referred to the old Tramway Committee, was the adoption of a resolution of the General Committee, recommending the Commissioners to fix the salary of Mr. R. T. Greer, the coming Chairman, at Rs. 3,000 a month. A good deal of discussion took place on the subject. Mr. Braunfield started it by observing that in a matter of appointing an officiating Chairman for a few months only the Government should not thurst upon them a man from the mofussil to serve out his apprenticeship, but should select a man who was thoroughly

instance of the Hon'ble Babu N. N. Sen the speaker was ruled out of order as the motion before the meeting was to fix the Chairman's salary only.

Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose said :- I think I ought not to give a silent vote on this question. I shall have possibly no objection when the time comes to agree to the salary being fixed at Rs. 3,000, but I must protest against the salary being settled beforehand by Government. I must say that I rise to address you on this occasion with considerable diffidence, for I am not sure that I have the right to speak at all as a representative of the residents of my ward. I regret that I belong to that race of "pretentious nobodies" whose names do not occupy the same prominent place in Thackers' Directory as that of some exalted personage, and though I have the honor of being returned unopposed by a ward with a population of 36,000, I frankly confess that neither myself, nor my constituents, nor my dark-skinned fellow citizens who constitute the bulk of the people, have the right to represent Calcutta, for they do not live away from it for 9 months in the year, spending their time in pleasant picnics in retreats which were the abodes of their ancient gods and which to-day are the homes of the living gods of India, more powerful in shaping our destiny than the exploded divinities of our obsolete faith.

Nor is this my only fear. I do not mind

if my name is not written in letters of gold on the pages of a publisher's directory; but the fiat has gone forth, the eagle has shrilled out, that we the children of the soil are but jays and carrion kites. The Chairman. - Babu Bhupendra Nath you

are travelling beyond the motion.

Babu B. N. Bose.—No, Sir, I was simply justifying my position to speak as a representative of the people.

The Chairman.—Babu Brupendra Nath you are travelling beyond the motion.

The Chairman.-You need not do that. I

accept your position.

Babu B. N. Bose.—In that case, sir, I can speak with some degree of relief. I say sir that though our days are numbered, for the mandate for our extermination has gone forth, we must so long as we are here do our duties to the best of our light. There has been no difficulty in the past in fixing the Chairman's salary, and it had always been left, with one exception, to the Commissioners. I think, sir, we are entitled to see the gentleman who is being Having regard to the fact that he is a senior officer in the service, that he has spent a large number of years in a salubrious climate, that he has been recommended as possessing exceptional knowledge of Municipal affairs, for has he not been the head of a Municipality situated on the hill tops of the Himalayas, where nature does the work of drainage and conservancy

our good sense. It is an encroachment on our privileges such as they are and so long as they exist, to practically dictate to us the salary of the officer chosen for the post of our Chairman. I wish you seriously to consider this aspect of the question before you vote

The Hon'ble Babu Narendranath Sen desired to point out that the recommendation to fix the "Eagle" as the previous speaker said but from then General Committee.

The Hon'ble Surendra Nath Banerjee wanted to know whether the recommedation did not come from the Line terms.

did not come from the Lieutenant-Governor. If that was so he must say that this was inconsistent with the tradition of the Government. The present system might have been the result of the tension between the Commissioners and the Government, but this system had never been adopted on the occasion of the appointment of their previous Chairmen who were as plentiful as black-berries. That system was that the Government made the nomination and the Commissioners fixed the release mination and the Commissioners fixed the salary allowed by law. The Government was bound allowed by law. The Government was bound to obey the constitution as they were, and he did not see why they should be deprived of that right in the present case. By holding the purse in their hands they should have control over the appointment. He was aware that this power they might be deprived of in the near future; but so long they had that however they must use it unfettered. ever they must use it unfettered.

Babu Nalin Behari Sircar. I am afraid that this discussion will emphasise the with-

The Hon'ble N. N. Sen.- It is true that the Hon'ble N. N. Sen. It is true that the Lieutanant-Governor recommended that the salarly should be fixed at Rs. 3000 but the General Committee could have rejected that if they liked. When, however, they accepted the recommendation we have nothing more to say on it, but only to decide whether we should adopt that or not

whether we should adopt that or not.

Babu Preo Nath Mullick thought that the Commissioners had lost their temper (oh oh) and they had very good reasons for that, but he must say that by using the word "selected" in the Government letter instead of the word "appointed" the Lightenant Coupanar had in "appointed" the Lieutenant-Governor had in-troduced an innovation for which he deserved their thanks.

The Chairman said that he did not see anything mandatory in the Government letter. Government only said "Here is a senior officer, drawing a high pay with an easy berth and a salubrious climate. Will you please give him Rs 3,000?" That was the way in which he understood the Government letter.

Babu S. N. Banerjee.—Suppose we say we don't want Mr. Creat

ve don't want Mr. Greer.

Babu N. N. Sen: -Say so if you like.
The resolution of the General Committee fixing the pay at Rs. 3000 was then put and unanimously adopted

The rest of the business was of a formal

CENTRAL ASIAN NOTES.

THE Berlin correspondent of the Standard states that the Czar has ordered the establishment of a course of instruction in Hindoostani district of Turkestan. All General Staff officers who can be spared from their ordinary duties, and one officer from each Brigade of rifles, Artillery, Cossacks, and Infantry, and of every detachment not belonging to a Brigade, are to attend it. The course will last two years, from Oct. I to May I. The instructors will be officers, aided by natives, for practise in conversation. The officers who passed the course successfully are to receive six months' additional pay, nd one of them may be sent to India every year to perfect himself in the language, after which he will have to serve two years in Turkestan. In connection with this order it is noteworthy that the whole of Russian Central Asia is to be united under a Governor-General, who will be almost independent, and will thus be a kind of counterpoise to the Viceroy

Nearly 21,000,000 roubles, the same correspondent says, have been granted for the construction of a railway of great strategic importance from Tiflis to Kars, not including the rolling stock. The largeness of the sum is due to the mountainous nature of the ground. In order to unite the Caucasian lines with the rest of the Russian system, a railway is being built along the Caspian Sea, via Derbent, to Baku, and the Caucasus Mountains are to be tunnelled, notwithstanding the great technical difficulties.

EAST AFRICA.

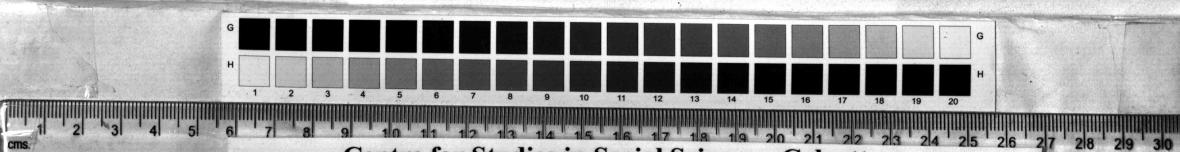
INFORMATION was received at the Foreign Office on Saturday morning (Feb.) 5) from Sir Arthur Hardinge, to the effect that the mutineers had evacuated the fort at Lubwas during the night of Jan. 9, and had withdrawn the whole of their force in a large dhow and some canoes across a bay of the Victoria Nyanza. Captain Harrison, with 200 men, two Maxim guns, and 1,000 Waganda, had started to pre vent the mutineers from crossing the Nile.

WEST AFRICA

A TELEGRAM was received at the Foreign Office on Feb. 7 from her Majesty's Commis-sioner and Consul-General in the Niger Coast Protectorate stating that an expedition sent up the Cross River to settle some inter-tribal disputes had met with serve resistance. Lieutenant Frank Fenton, 11th Hussars, of the Protectorate forces, had unfortunately, succumbed in hospital on Jan. 24, under an operation for the extraction of a bullet from a wound received four days earlier; and Captain W. A. C. Cockburn, 2nd Dragoon Guards, and Mr. C. Middleton had been slightly wounded; but the latter had returned to duty, and the former was expected to do so in a few days. The tribes were reported to be now surrendering

British troops have occupied Bereguru and Bashoro, in the Borgu country.

A palaver was being held between the Niger Company's force and the Ibouza tribe, and hostilities had ceased pending discussion of the terms of peace. hostilities had ceased pending discussion of the terms of peace; at a durbar to be held by Mr. Wallace, the Agent-General. Those terms, are: -(1) The abolition of human sacrifices (2) the opening of roads to all the tribes; (3) missionaries to be allowed to reside and erection buildings in three of the Ibouza towns.



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Dr. D. N. Chatterjee M.B., C.M. (Edin.)—It

rowth of hair on the head.

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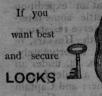


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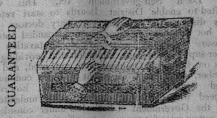
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