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A Sister volume of the Hindu System of Moral Science is just out. It is from the pen of the same author and is entitled THE HINDU SYSTEM OF RELIGIOUS SCIENCE AND ART.

The price of the book is one rupee. The Amrita Bazar Patrika says regarding the book: "If 'The Hindu System of Moral Science,' by Babu Kishori Lal Sarker, 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 Science and Art,' which has just been published, will, we doubt not, secure still greater admiration for his complete grasp of the difficult subject and the mastery way in which he has presented them to the world. This book may be regarded as a key to the understanding of the various phases of Hinduism on a rational basis. Regarding the Hindu System of Moral Science, Hon'ble P. Ananda Charlu Rai Bahadur, C. I. E., Member of the Legislative Council of the Governor General of India, says: 'The book deserves to be made a first text book of religious teaching in every school. I will ask every Hindu to read it. I want every young man to be taught it. I cannot do better justice than to proclaim it as a little manual worth its weight in gold deserving to be read by every Hindu parent and by him to be taught to his sons and daughters. The book is to be had of BABU SARASI LAL SARKAR M. A., 121, Cornwallis Street, Calcutta.

ALFRED TEMPLE OF SCIENCE AND SCHOOL OF TECHNICAL ARTS. NO. 20-2, NIMTOLLAH GHAT STREET. (Facing the Free Church Institution).

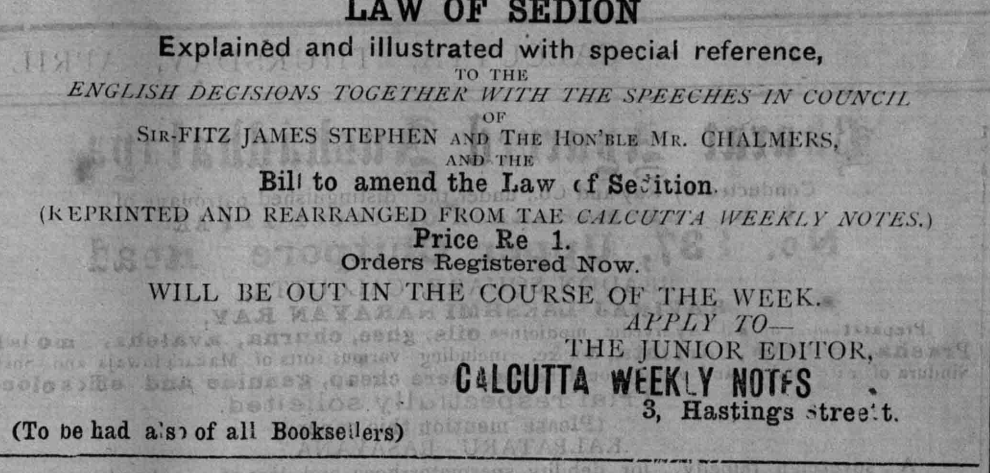
The above Institution was established, to commemorate the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. Its object is to give instruction in Art, Drawing, Engraving, Lithography and Modelling. The school opens at 10 A. M., and closes at 4 P. M. The schooling fee for each student is annas eight per mensem, he has besides to pay, 2 annas entrance fee. Orders are executed with neatness and despatch at an extremely cheap rate, as profit is not the object of the Institution. As the Institution is not private and is not run by any particular individual, it deserves public support. After many attempts, the Institution is now in a flourishing condition, visitors, coming to inspect the Institution, are welcome with gratitude. The students have the benefit of instruction from the best masters, all orders relating to modelling, painting, lithograph and wood-engraving, are executed under their personal supervision; orders in ornamental and each technical modelling are specially solicited as they are executed in the best style. Attempts are being made for instruction in technical arts. Any assistance from the public will be received with thankfulness as it will enable the Committee to enlarge greatly the scope of the Institution. Schooling fee is increased as follows.— Drawing class Rs. 1-0-0 Shading class Rs. 1-8-0 Cast Drawing, Engraving and Painting Rs. 2-0-0 Class G. K. DUTT President of the Albert Temple of Science.

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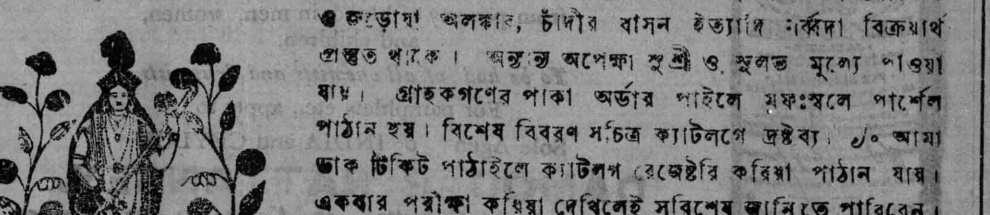
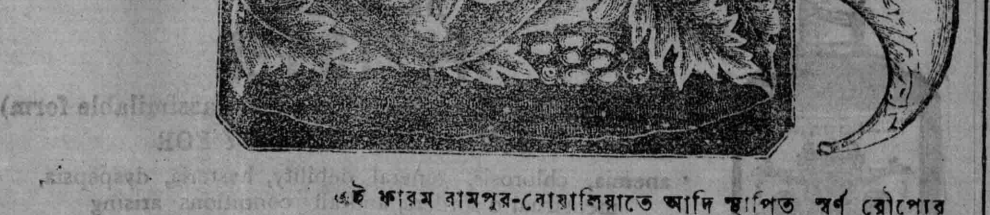
The old Mother Sylvester spent her long life of 77 years in mitigating the sufferings of her country women by means of this scientific and marvellous medicine. It is specific for— (1) Prevention of tedious and painful labor, easy and safe delivery. Strongly recommended in every case of delivery from 2 or 3 weeks before the expected time. (2) Relief of deficient labor pains, protracted labor, painful labor, &c. (3) To prevent that time for relief and safe delivery. (4) Prevention of habitual and accidental miscarriages, premature labor pains, false pains &c. (5) Expulsion of placenta, relief of after-pains, stoppage of bleeding after child-birth. (6) Menstrual difficulties of various kinds—Dysmenorrhoea, Amenorrhoea &c. (7) Barrenness resulting from Menstrual and Uterine diseases. (8) Congestion or inflammation of the womb &c., and also falling off or displacements of the womb. This is the only medicine for almost every distressing disease of women on attaining puberty or child-birth. Price Rs. 2 Packing 4s. SOLE AGENTS IN INDIA: C. C. GHOSH & CO. Surgeons and Chemists—Lucknow.

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LAW OF SEDITION Explained and illustrated with special reference, TO THE ENGLISH DECISIONS TOGETHER WITH THE SPEECHES IN COUNCIL OF SIR-FITZ JAMES STEPHEN AND THE HON'BLE MR. CHALMERS, AND THE Bill to amend the Law of Sedition. (REPRINTED AND REARRANGED FROM THE CALCUTTA WEEKLY NOTES.) Price Re 1. Orders Registered Now. WILL BE OUT IN THE COURSE OF THE WEEK. APPLY TO— THE JUNIOR EDITOR, CALCUTTA WEEKLY NOTES 3, Hastings street.



এই কারম রামপুর-বোয়ালিয়াতে আদি স্থাপিত স্বর্ণ রৌপ্যের প্রস্তুতকারক, চাঁদীর বাসন ইত্যাদি নকশা বিক্রয়ার প্রস্তুতকারক। প্রস্তুত অপেক্ষা স্বস্তি ও স্থলত মুগ্ধে পাওয়া যায়। গ্রাহকগণের পাকা অর্ডার পাইলে মফঃস্বলে পার্শল পাঠান হয়। বিশেষ বিবরণ মন্তব্য কাটলেগে উত্তব্য। ১০ আনা ডাক টিকিট পাঠাইলে কাটলেপ রেজেষ্টার করিয়া পাঠান যায়। একবার পরীক্ষা করিয়া দেখিলেই সবিশেষ জানিতে পারিবেন।



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পাক প্রণালী। ত্রিভঙ্গদাস মুখোপাধ্যায় প্রণীত। নতুন সংস্করণ মুগ্ধ ২০ আড়াই টাক। ২০১ নং কর্ণওয়ালিস স্ট্রীট, কলিকাতা। শ্রী গুরুদাস চট্টোপাধ্যায়।

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

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

Babu Bhubo Tosh Bannerjee, Deputy Magistrate of Dacca, writes under date of 6th March, 1898—Many thanks for your Acidity Pills. I was suffering from Dyspepsia and Colic pain of the last 18 years. I tried many kinds of medicines to no effect. Some of them gave me temporary relief only for a day or two. But since I have been taking your pills (3 weeks or more) I have not had any attack for a moment even during this time. The Pill is an excellent medicine for my nasty disease which is very painful. Please send me three boxes of the Pills per V. P. P. at your earliest convenience and oblige.

The Amrita Bazar Patrika says—Dr. H. Biswas's Acidity Pill has an extraordinary digestive power so that men suffering from Dyspepsia may give a fair trial. It is exclusively prepared from some native herbs and hence is perfectly safe. Babu Nitraya Gopal Dutt, Zendinged Mozilpur writes—'I have used your pill and can bear testimony to its marvellous effects. Before I had used your Pill for a week it cured me of acute Acidity which all other remedies failed to cure.'

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Babu Amrita Krishna Mullick, B. L. Pleader, Calcutta Court of Small Causes, writes—'I have very great pleasure to testify to the efficacy of your Acidity Pills. I have used the above and I can recommend the same to others suffering from acidity and dyspepsia.'

Babu Hari Pada Mukherjee, Pleader Barisal, writes—'I have derived much benefit by the use of your Acidity Pills. Really I did not expect only happy a result. Please send me without delay one box per V. P. P.'

Pundit Satya Charan Sastri, the well known author of the lives of Protapaditya and Sivajee writes—'I have hardly seen a more efficacious medicine than Biswas's Acidity Pill. It not only cures acidity and dyspepsia, for which it is a sovereign remedy, but also proves of great use in cold, I believe every householder should keep a box by him.'

Babu Kallpada Chatterjee, Pleader, Patna, now writes—'Many thanks for the Acidity Pills sent by you. They have so far done much good to my mother-in-law, who has been for the last few years constant sufferer from Acidity and Colic pain. Please send me by V. P. P. one box of the Acidity Pill without delay.'

The Acidity Pill is a vegetable preparation. We guarantee a cure and Return the Price in case of failure. Price Rupee One per box. V. P. charge annas 4. Do not fail to give it a trial when every other medicine patent or prescribed, has failed to give you relief. You will realise its worth by a week's use only. DR. H. BISWAS, 11, Ananda Chatterjis Lane, Baghazari, Calcutta.

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It is a sure and infallible specific for Dysmenorrhoea—a common disease from which many women suffer. The pain disappears as soon as it is used and for a radical cure it should be used for four days.

BAREN WOMEN anxious to get a child ought to try once. Its ingredients are simple and no ill effects are produced and obtained from Hony Kang. Thousands have been cured and many unsolicited testimonials are coming in from all quarters. Price Rs. 2. V. P. Extra. DR. H. BISWAS, 11, Ananda Chatterjis Lane, Baghazari, Calcutta.

Monks Elixir THE GREAT INDIAN REMEDY. Specific for Dog and Jackal bites and the only infallible remedy for Hydrophobia.

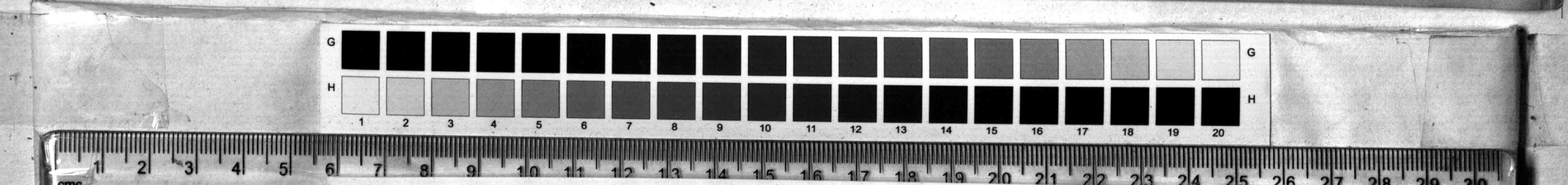
The antidote to canine poison is an indigenous preparation of a veteran and eminent medical man of his City, and has been given to us with the bonafide object of relieving suffering humanity after two years experiment.

ACTION.—It arrests bleeding from the bite instantaneously, subdues inflammation and reduced swelling of the bitten part in 3 or 4 days at the most. It purifies the blood by eliminating the poison.

REMARKS.—The medicine should be discontinued when the inflammation has gone down. The disappearance of inflammation is a sure index of the elimination of the poison. The medicine should be used immediately after or within a fortnight after the bite. It acts as a preventive against the development of Hydrophobia by purifying the blood when hydrophobia is developed and the medicine acts to give immediate relief, the concentrated tincture of this medicine, sold here at 10 Rs. per drachm is to be used. The preparation has never been found to fail in a single instance. No howsoever should be without this preparation.

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THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, APRIL 27, 1898.

"A BENGALI BABOON OR
BUFFOON."

We promised a further account of the National Liberal Federation. It is a movement in which we are directly interested. It is British Parliament which rules us; and the Federation, though it does not exercise the powers of Parliament, is one which makes Parliament. Then, it is the Liberals who lead the organization, and we expect progress and protection under Liberal rule. This session of the Federation was particularly interesting to us, because two Hindu delegates were elected at the Federation.

An eye-witness writes to us:—"There were about a thousand delegates present at the meeting of the Federation. The scene was the grandest ever witnessed by me. I wish I had the power to convey to you even a faint idea of the living scenes, the burning enthusiasm and the inspiring eloquence that I came across. Two Hindu delegates were present—Messrs. R. C. Dutt and A. M. Bose, the latter having the great honour of being invited to speak on all the three days at the annual meeting. How this annual Federation resembles the Indian National Congress, and how they differ! But, to proceed. On the first day, that is, the 24th March, last Monday, meetings were addressed at different parts of the county in which the Federation meets, to promote the cause of Liberalism in the neighbourhood, and a few selected delegates were asked to address them. Mr. Bose spoke at the meeting held at Market Harbour. On the 22nd, which was the great day, Mr. Bose was asked to second one of the resolutions before the grand assembly of the delegates."

It was the speech delivered on this occasion that was noticed in such rapturous terms by our London correspondent in his letter.

"Sandwiched between Q. C.'s and M. P.'s,—the best speakers of the party,"—continues our correspondent, "it was a hazardous task on the part of Mr. Bose to respond to the call. However, he mustered up the requisite courage, and began to speak as if he were in his own country in the midst of his own people. He spoke, as it were, from inspiration. Mr. Bose carried the whole audience with him, and was repeatedly cheered. The *Leicester Daily Post* calls it "a masterly speech."

Our London correspondent, however, has given a good account of this brilliant production. The *Manchester Guardian* describes Mr. Bose's speech as "really eloquent."

Mr. Bose was invited to address the annual and crowded meeting of the Women's Liberal Federation, which was also held at Leicester and in connection with the National Liberal Federation. This meeting is somewhat similar to, and yet different from, the Social Congress which follows the Indian National Congress.

Under the auspices of the Peterborough Liberal Association, a meeting was held to hear Mr. A. M. Bose. At the end of the meeting, the following resolution was passed:—

That this meeting strongly condemns the forward Military Policy as well as the reactionary and repressive internal policy, adopted by the present Government in India, as alike unworthy of the best traditions and honour of England, and fraught with danger to the safety of the Empire; and, further, that this meeting trusts that a liberal and sympathetic policy will be followed towards our fellow-subjects in India so as to secure their contentment and progress.

Babu Ananda Mohan's speech had created such a sensation that the other party, the Conservatives, were obliged to indent a notable speaker to reply to him. He was the Lord Advocate of Scotland, the Right Hon'ble Mr. Murray. Mr. Murray had no argument to meet Babu Ananda Mohan Bose; so he had recourse to abuse. He called Babu Ananda Mohan "a Bengalee baboon" or "Bengalee buffoon." As the place of action was England, and not India, Mr. Murray was not spared, as Sir A. Mackenzie was here, by the fair-minded and generous-hearted people of that country. This is the way the *Peterborough Advertiser* deals with the Right Hon'ble Mr. Murray:—

Though they (the Conservatives) were compelled to accept the Right Hon. Mr. Murray as a substitute, they might have advised him to have brought his manners with him. It is not the custom, we may inform Mr. Murray, either in English social life or on the political platform, and especially at Peterborough, where, we presume, he came to represent the "gentlemanly party," to personally traduce an opponent. He may have been goaded to do it, but that is no excuse; we should quite imagine he was stung and stung very smartly, by the Hon. A. M. Bose's speech against the War Policy in India, which that distinguished Indian Master of Arts gave in the City on the previous Monday. We could imagine no other effect; but we did not expect such a mean exhibition of personal retaliation, and we do not believe any member of the Party on the very "respectable platform" on the occasion could listen comfortably to the unbridled forensic abuse from a political Knight of the Thistle, concerning a Bengal gentleman who is apparently as far above the doughy Lord Advocate of Scotland in politeness and personal knowledge of the precise subject under debate, as the Cathedral Towers are above the Deanery Chimneys! We will not repeat the rancorous epithets used. We do not choose to report such terms as "Bengali baboon," or "Bengali buffoon,"

whichever the cultured Lord Advocate descended to utter. It was bad form, to say the least; clearly an instance of "when no case, abuse the plaintiff's attorney." But there it was; the whole gathering was forced and artificial. The promoters were goaded into convening it.

This seems to be the way of the Conservatives; for, on another occasion, they applied the epithet, "black man," to our esteemed countryman, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji.

As one can understand, Mr. Bose had no heart in meddling with the Forward Policy of the Government. But he had no help,—he had to do it in England at the request of the English public. At Greenacres, Mr. Bose addressed another Liberal meeting; and there he dwelt chiefly upon the internal administration of India. We hope to be able to take a detailed notice of this Greenacres meeting later on.

WHY THIS COMPREHENSIVE
ATTEMPT TO STOP FREE-
DOM OF SPEECH?

THERE is a drop of humour in this comprehensive attempt of the Government to provide against sedition. The popular notion is that this attempt is directed against the natives of India; and the latter, taking this to be the real situation, did all they possibly could to avert the doom intended for them. Practically, however, the divers measures, providing against sedition, have not made their condition much worse than it was before. The Government will never undertake prosecutions for sedition so long it is in a sober state of mind. When it has succumbed to a momentary fit of passion and panic, it will resort to the newly-manufactured weapons of destruction. They, the authorities, resort to press prosecutions, even when the recent provisions were not in existence; and yet they succeeded in securing convictions. They will always succeed in sending an Indian, charged with sedition, to jail,—law or no law,—for, in extreme cases where there is no evidence or even any definite charge, they have the Regulation to help them. They thus needed no law for the purpose of punishing a native. What was, then, the motive for this comprehensive and gigantic attempt?

One small shot is enough for the purpose of killing the duck of a native editor; and, therefore, Sniders and maxims directed against him, and the swords kept hanging over his head, will do him no additional harm except that it will give him a fright if he is nervous. No; the divers measures, imposed on the country, providing against sedition, have not, practically, made the condition of public men much worse than it was before. They are not safe now; but they were not safe also before. It is, therefore, a reasonable presumption that this gigantic attempt had for its object something more than stopping sedition in India.

If the recent provisions will not make the condition of an Indian much worse, they will, on the other hand affect the interests of Englishmen seriously. The *Pall Mall Gazette*, the *Daily Mail* and other papers of the same cult may applaud the recent enactments, in the innocence of their hearts; but, this is because they have not sense enough to see the real aim and scope of the measures. Indeed, it is a pity that no English paper has yet been able to discover how have these Indian Sedition measures affected the interests of Englishmen, though many of them, as, for instance, the *Daily News*, the *Chronicle*, the *Manchester Guardian*, *Truth*, and a few others have, in dealing with the subject, shown a thorough mastery over the matter. The *New Age* has, however, discovered it. Referring to the Indian Post Office Act, that paper says:—

This is a most impudent attempt to tamper with the privacy which the British postal system has always enjoyed, and that, too, solely because the present Government of India has shown itself utterly unsuited and unfit for its onerous duties. It has now sunk so low as to open private letters in order to safeguard itself from the evil results of its misrule. Since seditious utterings and seditious writings in India are now punishable by law, there can be but one object for this new Postal Bill, and that is to prevent the circulation, amongst Indians, of British newspapers and pamphlets which may have, in the eyes of the Indian Government, a tendency to foster what it chooses to think sedition. Radical, Socialist, and other papers, giving expression to advanced thought, will, therefore, have to run the gauntlet of the censorship of the Indian Government. Papers, containing criticism adverse to its rule, are liable to be detained or confiscated. We also see no reason to suppose that our private letters will escape official prying. The word "article" in the Code has a suspiciously unlimited meaning. Is the post-office considered competent to judge what is seditious and what is not? The whole matter requires urgent investigation; and we feel sure that the British press, which has been, and continues to be, jealous of any appearance of any attempt to curtail its liberties, will demand an explanation from the Secretary for India. We must not be content with a repetition of the quibbling of Lord G. Hamilton. It is all very well to assure us that these new laws in India are to be worked "with leniency"; but we would rather not have laws which admit of contraction or expansion. The fact of the matter is, the Indian Government is in a blue funk. An Englishman writing from India to a contemporary, says: "Things are very bad here,—so bad that even Anglo-India is getting alarmed. If the Government want to make sedition, they are going the right way to work."

Now, as the *New Age* justly observes, this measure is not necessary in India, where sedition has already been very well provided against. Its object must,

therefore, be to stop the circulation, in India, of such English papers as those which are liberal in principles. This conclusion, then, is not based upon mere guess. A few months ago, an article over the signature of Mr. Hyndman, appeared in *Justice*, which was thought to contain objectionable matter. The Government wanted to stop its circulation in India, but had not the means of doing it. If this Post Office measure had then been in existence, the Government would have found no difficulty in destroying every copy of *Justice* which was supposed to contain the alleged sedition.

But, why were the sedition clauses made so comprehensive and rigorous? This has to be accounted for; for, as we said, the Government was not in need of the change for the purpose of punishing a native editor,—a native editor being always at its mercy. It is, therefore, for the benefit of those dull-witted English papers which have supported these stringent measures of the Government against sedition in India, that we shall try to explain their aim and scope.

Our readers ought to know who John Burns of Battersea is. As in India there are British officials and the Indian people, so in England there are the "masses" and the "classes." The classes are those who are the "haves," that is to say, men of property; and the masses are the "have nots," that is to say, who have no property. John Burns, as a leader of the masses, is leading a war against the classes. He was treated with contempt before; but now he is getting to be "dangerous," at least, so say the "classes."

During the recent London County Council elections, John Burns appeared on the scene as the Socialist candidate! He is not merely a Socialist, but one of the most radical type. The "classes" sought to put him down; and Dukes and Duchesses canvassed against him. John Burns was, however, returned by an overwhelming majority. And thus he will have ample opportunities for three long years, to do all the mischief that he can to the classes. Indeed, if at last he succeeds in becoming the dictator of London, it will go very hard with the classes, that is to say, the classes who rule the Empire. Thus, there is a fight between direction and energy,—direction being represented by the classes, and energy by the masses.

If the classes have come to regard the masses with dread in England, the Anglo-Indian officials have come to regard the English people with the same feeling. The Anglo-Indians have hitherto succeeded in governing the Indian Empire peacefully; but the English people are now desirous of exercising some control over the affairs of the Empire. This desire, on the part of Englishmen, is getting stronger day by day. But this the Anglo-Indian officials don't like; they will have no control from outside; no, not even from Parliament. Indeed, they rejected English money at a time of dire necessity, lest the arrangement should give the English people any control over the financial arrangement of the Empire.

One most effectual way of keeping prying English people—the Radical M. P.'s, the Liberal journals and the classes represented by Burns and Hyndman,—is to gag the Indian papers. If the Indian papers are effectually gagged, there is none else to give the other side of a question, presented to the English people by the Government. Almost all the adverse criticisms of the Government, which formed the subjects of inquiry in England, were furnished by the Indian papers.

Thus the comprehensive attempt made to stop sedition here in India, will not affect the interests of the Indians so much as those of the English people. If the Indian papers are effectually gagged, the English people will be deprived of the opportunity of learning the real state of affairs in India and exercising any control over them. It is this aspect of the question that the English papers have failed to see.

We think, however, that the healthier course for all parties is that the classes should make up with the masses, and that the Anglo-Indian officials should never regard the control by English people with jealousy.

A MISCHIEVOUS cry has been raised in certain quarters that the principle of the Calcutta Municipal Bill will not be allowed to be discussed in the Select Committee. We cannot believe that Sir John Woodburn, who has no *aid* in the matter, will permit such a gross wrong to be perpetrated. The parties most vitally interested in the measure, are the residents of the town. It is they who maintain the Municipality. It is they who know best what system will benefit them, most. It is they, again, who can speak with authority, from a practical experience of the past twenty-five years, whether the town has improved or not under the existing arrangement. They, the most interested parties, were, however, not consulted, nay, were absolutely ignored; and Sir Alexander Mackenzie, with his well-known prejudices against the present mode of Municipal government and his ignorance of the real condition of affairs, was considered to be the most competent person to introduce a radical change in the law. Is this not ridiculous? Yet this is the way India is governed now-a-days, though it is under the enlightened rule of England.

The Bill fell like a thunderbolt from the blue sky upon the citizens of Calcutta. Nobody could even dream that they

would be punished in this cruel manner by a ruler whom they had given such a hearty welcome. Before they had, however, sufficiently recovered from the shock of this unexpected blow, to go through the Bill of 700 sections—many of them one cubit long—it was read for the second time and referred to the Select Committee. We put it to Sir John Woodburn to say whether it is just and fair to shut out the public from submitting their representations on the principle of the Bill under the above circumstances. They were given no opportunity to discuss the merits of the measure; and now to tell them that, because it has been referred to the Select Committee, therefore, they have forfeited the right of taking exception to the principle of the Bill, is to tantalize their feelings. Such a treatment might have been accorded by Sir Alexander Mackenzie who had no sympathy with the people; but they expect better things from Sir John Woodburn, of whom everybody speaks in such high terms. Indeed, we want nothing but justice, *pure and simple justice*, from our good Lieutenant-Governor.

NEED we assure His Honour that the constitutional part of our present Municipal Act is considered, and rightly considered, to be its most important part? And why should it not be? For, the authors of the present constitution of the Municipality were at least as great as Sir Alexander Mackenzie. Calcutta presented a spectacle in 1875-76, when the present law was passed, the like of which has never since been witnessed. The Indian and European residents of the town banded themselves in opposite directions—the one supporting the present constitution, and the other opposing it. All the questions, now raised by Mr. Risley, to condemn the present system, were then raised and discussed thread-bare. Nay, eminent counsels of the Calcutta High Court were engaged to appear before the Bengal Council, to oppose or support the principles of the Bill. In this way, the measure was allowed to be discussed by the public for months together; and after mature deliberations, the present constitution was accepted as the most suitable to the circumstances of this city. The present Act passed through another ordeal in 1888 under the supervision and guidance of such an officer as the late Sir H. Harrison; and the constitution of 1876, with slight modifications, was adopted, after a very full and thorough discussion. We trust, Sir John Woodburn will never permit this constitution,—the work of some of the most distinguished officers of the Government,—to be tampered with, unless a strong case has been made out by its opponents. Indeed, His Honour is not at all bound to take the odium of his predecessor's measure upon his own shoulders. All that we submit is, that His Honour will be pleased to read the Bill and compare it with the present Act, and also study the speeches delivered in 1876 by members of Council and others who took part in the discussion. His Honour, we are sure, will then find no reason to fall in with the views of his predecessor. The present Act quite serves our purpose; and if there is any defect here and there, it may be easily remedied. But the present Bill is a methodless jumble, and full of controlling sections, which will not only reduce local self-government into a farce, but make it impossible for the poor and the general body of the middle class to reside in Calcutta.

Here is a section of the Bill which, we doubt not, will create the greatest alarm possible:—

560. Without the special permission of the Chairman, no corpse shall be buried or burned between the hours of eight in the evening and six in the morning.

We need not offer any comment upon the section: it tells its own tale. Just imagine that when a death occurs in the house of a Hindu, the dead body will either rot till the next day, or some one of the bereaved family must run to the house of the Chairman at dead of night, only to get a rebuff from his durwans!

We have said elsewhere that everybody speaks well of Sir John Woodburn. Here is the testimony of "one who has known Sir John for more than one-tenth of a century." We need hardly say that he is a European gentleman and belongs to the N.-W. Provinces:—

The people of Bengal, it would appear, take exception to the appointment of a Civilian of another Province as their Lieutenant-Governor. The objection may have occult reasons for it; but, visibly and in point of fact, it has none, judging from the principles that underlie a foreign Government such as the British Government in India is. There can, therefore, be no objection to Sir John Woodburn's appointment on principle.

Then, gifted as he is with great lines of character, Sir John is one of those rare officers of high thoughts and noble feelings who are just yet full of charity, whose goodness is diffusive, who, though they cannot do what they would, labour to do what they can for the benefit of others; be the latter Hindus or Mahomedans or Christians, of this province or that, black or white. It is, however, nothing but natural that men should be somewhat dejected at being thrown suddenly into the hands of an utter stranger. But they should ease their minds from the well-known fact that their brothers of the N. W. Provinces and Oude—where Sir John has spent the best part of his life—simply longed to have him as their Governor, if only for a short time, and are much grieved at his being wrenched from them. If men, knowing him thoroughly, are so attached to him, others, not knowing him

at present, should rest assured that when it come to know him they will like him equally.

Some of his old well-wishers, a few of the being men of humble station in life, have been to see him; and the unprecedented kindness with which he received them, has filled their hearts with gratitude, and there is no amongst them and others who does not wish Sir John health and happiness and success. Our brothers of Bengal should, therefore, let their minds easy about Sir John's administration; in fact, they should consider themselves very lucky in having him. They should only respect, honour, and obey, but likewise look upon him as a friend in need, and him to the best of their ability; for, the relations between a Governor and the governed, relative and reciprocal.—*One who has known Sir John for more than one-tenth of a century*

SIR J. WESTLAND has prepared a financial review for the last 20 years, to prove the soundness of the Indian exchequer, a challenge the world to prove the contrary. Whether his statement is correct or not, more than we can say. But we can test to the fact that his accounts or budget estimates have been prepared in such a way that they are not intelligible to even persons who understand finance. The Mr. J. M. Maclean had to put a question in the House for information about a simple matter. He wanted to know the total amount of money to be borrowed by the India Government here and in England in 1897-98 and 1898-99. At this information Mr. Maclean could not gather from Sir James' revised annual budget estimates! In reply, he was told that the amount to be borrowed in England was to be £ 11,112,600, and in India Rs. 5,424,900, that is, a total of nearly 22 crores of rupees. Out of this nearly twenty crores are to be spent on railways, so that two crores will be absorbed in current expenditure. Does not this simple fact prove that the financial condition of the exchequer is far from sound?

We have already noticed three cases that have occurred this month, in which "natives" have either been killed or grievously hurt by Europeans,—one hailing from Cawnpur another from Lahore and the third from Bombay. Here is another from Poona, the particulars being taken from the *Advocate of India*:—

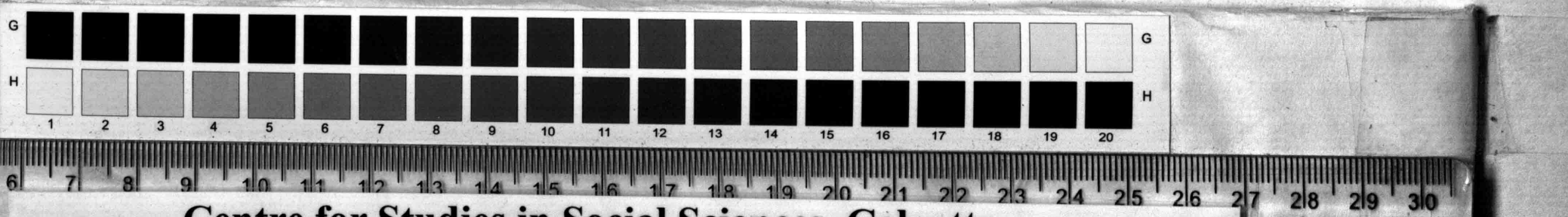
To-day, 4th April, Arthur Parker, a European employed in the Customs at Bombay, was charged with attempting to murder a native woman. According to the statement received, accused picked up a young woman of loose character, named Jai, and drove her to the Bund Gardens. Whilst there, an attraction took place; and it is alleged by the woman that Parker threw her over the bund on to some rocks, twenty-three feet below, where she was found the following morning by a *maid*. Accused states that he angrily pushed the woman, when she fell over the wall. Sergeant Field, of the Irish Rifles, went down to the bed of the river and rescued the woman, whose ankle was broken, the bone protruding. At the Sassoon Hospital it was found necessary to amputate the leg. The accused has been remanded.

Thus according to the statement of the accused himself, he pushed the woman from a perilous position, and he was not a drunken soldier but an employe in the customs! It seems, he had no greater regard for the lives of "natives" than for those of cats and dogs. The only way to put a stop to such a scandalous state of things, is to punish the offenders adequately for their offences.

India to hand speaks disparagingly of Sir John Woodburn in the following paragraph:—

It was announced last Saturday that Sir Alexander Mackenzie had been peremptorily ordered home by his medical advisers, that he vacated the office of Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and that he would leave Bombay on April 9. It has since been announced that Sir John Woodburn, who was appointed a member of the Viceroy's Executive Council two years ago, would succeed Sir A. Mackenzie in the vacant office. We cannot profess to regard this appointment with anything but profound regret. Sir John Woodburn has, we believe, been an almost consistently beneficial influence in Indian politics for some time past; and the share he took in dealing with the troubles of last summer certainly did not increase any confidence and respect which he enjoyed. One can only hope that, in the new and highly responsible office of Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, he will turn his back once for all upon some of the qualities which have hitherto seemed to characterize him. But it is, we must confess, a slender hope, especially in these days of re-action and repression.

The writer should have been more precise in his statements. He would have been intelligible if he had brought the above charges against Sir Alexander Mackenzie; for, we verily believe, Bengal would have been turned *topsy-turvy* if it had been under his administration during the last summer. But Sir John Woodburn has come to this Province with a different sort of reputation. Of course, no one can say whether he will make a good or a bad ruler; but, the universal conviction in the country is that he will not disappoint the people. Perhaps *India* is misled by certain unhappy coincidences. When the secret oozed out that the Bombay Government was contemplating to prosecute Mr. Tilak, Sir John Woodburn was on his way to Bombay. The general impression was that he had been deputed there by Lord Elgin to advise Lord Sandhurst, whose Government had then lost all control over itself, as to what course His Lordship should take with regard to press prosecutions. We at once wrote to Mr. Tilak and his friends to see Sir John and explain all the circumstances of the situation to him in a most plain manner, and seek his protection in



calamity which threatened them. We had then a notion—and we still entertain it,—that if they could follow our advice, the impending danger would be averted. But before our letter had reached Poona, Mr. Tilak was arrested at Bombay, immediately after Sir John's arrival in that city. The public naturally connected his presence at Bombay with the arrest of Mr. Tilak; and, for ourselves, we must confess, we could not explain this coincidence when we were pressed to do it. Heaven knows whether Sir John had any hand in the prosecution of Mr. Tilak or not; but, we believe, it is now abundantly clear that the editor of the *Kesari* owes his misfortune neither to the Governor of Bombay nor to the late Home Member of the India Government, but to the Ministry itself. The Ministry was poisoned by the rabid writings of such Tory papers as the *Daily Mail*, the *Globe*, the *Pall Mall Gazette*, &c. which described Mr. Tilak as another Nana Sahab, and fastened the murder of Messrs. Rand and Ayerst upon him. The mandate came from home, and the Bombay Governor carried it against his own good sense. The presence of the Lord Chancellor at the Privy Council, when the motion on behalf of Mr. Tilak was heard, is proof positive that his prosecution was undertaken at the instance of the Ministry. His Lordship would have certainly never cared to come and behave in the extraordinary manner he did, for the sake of Sir John Woodburn or the Liberal Governor of Bombay. Lord Hamilton's replies to questions regarding Mr. Tilak also show that the Indian authorities had nothing or very little to do with his prosecution. Be that as it may, either *India* should substantiate its charges against the new Lieutenant-Governor, or withdraw them with an apology.

The charges, against three Burmans, of being concerned in the murder of Mr. A. H. Tucker, District Superintendent of Police, at Wa, in August, 1896, were heard the other day by Mr. Buckle at the Hanthawaddy Court. One of the accused, it is alleged, fired at Mr. Tucker, and attacked him with a *dash* when he was lying on the ground. Mr. Buckle delivered judgment on the 7th instant. All the three accused were found guilty of the charge. Nga San U, the third accused, and Nga Tok, the first accused, were sentenced to death, and Dun Tha, the second accused, to ten years' rigorous imprisonment. At Bombay, five Mussalmans were charged with the murder of two European soldiers. One was sentenced to death and the other four to undergo transportation for life. At Poona, Messrs. Rand and Ayerst were murdered, and Damodar is to pay the extreme penalty of the law. The murder in Burma created no stir. The murders in Bombay, ditto. But the murders in Poona were followed by (1) the posting of a punitive police, (2) the prosecution of newspaper editors and their imprisonment, (3) the deportation of the Natus brothers, and the gagging of the press. Can anybody tell us why the murder of a European official in Burma by Burmans, and of two British soldiers in Bombay by Mussalmans, should create no stir, while the murders at Poona by a Brahmin should be followed by wholesale punishment of the nation? In this matter, the Bombay Government does not go unscathed. It does not know what to do with the punitive police, which sits as a nightmare upon the Government. It is a standing evidence of its blunder and panic. The punitive police force, after all that has transpired, is an object of universal amazement; and the Government does not know how to escape from its awkward position. Then, also, take the case of the Natus. They are in jail against common sense and British instincts. The Bombay Government does not know what to do with these brothers. It is waiting to see if anything favourable should turn up. The *Champion* says that one of the Natus had a quarrel with a nurse who was his tenant and that he had also some converse with a village Patel. Was it for these heinous offences that the formidable Regulation was brought into requisition? We have not the least doubt that the Government is as anxious to see them free as the Natus themselves are. But how is that to be done? The man will deserve a golden monument, who is able to point out a way by which the Government can gracefully come out of its queer position.

The only Indian paper, which is according to its support to the Calcutta Municipal Bill, is the *Hindu Patriot*. The popular notion is that it is the Hon'ble Mr. Risley who is the writer of the articles that are appearing in that paper. The notion, perhaps, owes its origin to the well-known fact that during Sir Charles Elliott's time Mr. Risley openly contributed to the columns of our contemporary, and also to a curious coincidence that one of these Municipal articles, which look very learned, contains quotations from a favourite book of the Hon'ble Municipal Secretary. We would be sorry to believe that the Hon'ble Mr. Risley should be having such an active hand in the matter. So long Sir Alexander Mackenzie was his Chief, he had no help in the matter but to think and speak in the way he was bid to do. But now he is free to act as he pleases. The fact is, in spite of what the *Hindu Patriot* may say to the contrary, the country is opposed to the measure. It is a measure which takes away from the people the only little of self-government that the people of India en-

joy under British rule. For, in the District Boards, or, for the matter of that, in the Municipalities, the Magistrates are real masters, and the members mere figure-heads. In the Calcutta Municipality, the natives of the soil have some real control; and the attempt to deprive them of it after they had been allowed to enjoy it for these twenty-two years, is a little hard. Besides, it is to be presumed that Calcutta is the foremost city in India. If the little of self-government granted to the citizens, were now taken away after a trial of twenty-two years, it would be established, though on a false basis, that self-government had been tried in India in the place best suited for it; and though the Government patiently allowed the experiment to go on for more than two decades, it was found to fail. The withdrawal of this semblance of self-government from the Indians will, therefore, be an eternal disability. We hope, Sir J. Woodburn will not begin his rule by an act of such gross wrong.

We submitted that Sir John Woodburn should on no account allow the present constitution of the Calcutta Municipality to be hastily tampered with, firstly, because it is not the work of any wrong-headed person, but the product of the joint brains of many illustrious officials; and, secondly, because it has worked in a most satisfactory manner during the past twenty-two years. It is quite true that Sir Alexander Mackenzie speaks disparagingly of the system; but that is because he inherited a deep-rooted prejudice against it from his master, Sir Ashley Eden, and also because he had overweening confidence in himself. Says Sir Alexander: "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." By these utterances, the late Lieutenant-Governor does not prove his case, but only shows that his conceit is beyond all measure; for, surely, it cannot be that all the Lieutenant-Governors, from Sir Richard Temple to Sir Charles Elliott, who allowed the system to remain undisturbed, were fools, and he alone was the wisest of all. In another place, Sir Alexander says: "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 indeed, whether there is any Executive at all." This is a very serious charge; but, as usual with him, he never cared to enquire whether he was justified in bringing it forward or not.

In his admirable pamphlet on the proposed change in the Municipal law of Calcutta, Babu Nalin Behari Sirkar, our well-known Municipal Commissioner, has, however, given a conclusive reply to the above unfounded accusation of Sir Alexander Mackenzie. He does not, like him, indulge in abuse and vituperation, but proves, by calm and dispassionate reasoning, with the help of incontrovertible official documents, that, instead of "failing clearly to define the powers of the Executive", all powers, though vested in the Corporation, are most judiciously distributed by the Chairman, fixing responsibility on the individual subordinate executive officer in charge of any particular work. When the Act came into force in 1889, after having passed through the ordeal of 1888, the first thing that the then Chairman (the late Sir Henry Harrison) did, was to specially assign the various executive powers under the Act to the different officers under him, and that assignment has since been practically confirmed by every succeeding Chairman.

It is not safe to trust a child with a sharp knife; for, he would then commit all sorts of mischief. Entrust an official with large powers, and he will be irresistibly tempted to experiment their application upon his fellows. We have seen that in India a soldier, with a loaded gun in hand, should never be trusted. An Empire with a huge army, is always tempted to go to war. Sir Lepel Griffin suggested that we owed all our border wars to the fact of our having a first-class army. America which has become now a powerful country, with its twelve millions of fighting men and an inexhaustible treasury, chafed under the restraint that was imposed upon it. The restraint was that it must never go to war like other nations, merely from pride or lust. An opportunity, luckily for the Cubans, presented itself. America will thus have an opportunity of indulging in the pastime of war without committing an immoral act. Thus, in this Spanish-American War, the Americans will fight from pure disinterested motives in the cause of humanity. Spain depopulated America; and it is but meet that its ruin must come from America.

We said that Babu Ananda Mohan Bose had no heart in meddling with the Frontier Policy question; and if he dwelt on them here and there, it was to catch the immediate attention of an English audience who have now been thoroughly familiarized with this subject. As expected, however, he devoted the greater part of his speeches to the internal administration of this country; and, there was not a meeting addressed by him, where he did not prominently bring to the front such questions as the new sedition measures, the press prosecutions, the deportation of the Natus, and the general repressive character of

the present administration. Mr. Bose did more. He caused almost all the meetings in which he took part, to adopt a resolution, condemning the re-actionary policy of the Government, which has created such seething discontent throughout India. Some of these strongly-worded resolutions, embodying the sentiments of a vast body of Englishmen, have been already published in these columns; and others we hope to publish, as we get hold of them. In a recent issue we stated that Babu Ananda Mohan had the privilege of addressing a Liberal meeting at Greenacres. Here he not only spoke against the repressive legislation of the Government, the manner in which the Natus had been dealt with, and the like, but also against the Calcutta Municipal Bill, the information regarding which had just then reached England. The residents of Calcutta should, we think, engage the services of Babu Ananda Mohan Bose and Romesh Chunder Dutt to explain to the English public the character of this revolutionary measure. A short account of the Greenacres meeting, and a summary of the speech of Babu A. M. Bose, are reproduced in another column from the *Oldham Chronicle*. At the meeting, the following Resolution, which was moved by Councillor Middleton and seconded by Mr. Freeman, was passed unanimously:—

That this meeting strongly disapproves of the imprisonment of British subjects in India without trial, as being contrary to the principles of constitutional government, and protests against the repressive policy of the present Government, as likely to produce serious discontent amongst the people of India, to the detriment of the best interests of the Empire.

We are absolutely sure that the Government itself is as much sorry for the detention of the Natus brothers as its critics are.

SAYS Lord George Hamilton, with reference to the currency question: "He felt that any alteration made in the monetary system of India should be preceded by a thorough and impartial enquiry." We submit the same prayer to Sir John Woodburn, relating to the contemplated change in the Municipal system of Calcutta. And what a change! It is simply revolutionary in its character. No thorough, much less impartial, enquiry preceded the introduction of the Mackenzie Bill into the Council. What the late Lieutenant-Governor did was to formulate certain charges against the Corporation, and then to sound their death-knell without taking any explanation from them. Even the red-handed murderer is allowed an opportunity to defend himself before he is condemned. Indeed, the Corporation of Calcutta have been treated even worse than the Natus brothers; for, there is at least a Regulation to justify the doings of their persecutors. In the case of the Corporation Sir Alexander Mackenzie first settled at home that they ought to be demolished, because he had dreamt (he could never sleep soundly, and, therefore, always dreamt) that they had no system to guide them, that they always quarrelled with the executive, that they did not allow the Europeans to co-operate with them, that under their management the town was coming to be a den of filth and stench, and so forth; and he next pronounced death-sentence upon them in the Council. This is what actually happened: we do not exaggerate in the least. What we now beg Sir John Woodburn to do, is that he will be pleased to give a fair hearing before he thinks of carrying out the decision of his predecessor.

THE two most distinguished Chairmen of the Corporation of Calcutta, and who, we believe, served the Municipality the longest, were Sir Henry Harrison and Mr. Harry Lee. This is what Mr. Lee recorded in the Municipal Administration Report for 1891-92:—

The most damaging criticism that is commonly levelled against the principle of local self-government in Bengal is, that it prevents or obstructs a reasonable outturn of work. I maintain that the record of the Calcutta Commissioners refutes this criticism. The system of municipal government that has been in vogue here for many years past, doubtless entails greater demands on the time and patience of the Executive Officers than did the old autocratic or oligarchical system. And such demands have been growing and will continue to grow year by year. But so long as the strain can be borne, and the executive and the consultative or administrative officers of the governing body work harmoniously together, they produce a regular and satisfactory harvest of good works, of which there is no need to be ashamed.

Sir Henry Harrison was an abler man than Mr. Lee. He would have most likely occupied the throne of Belvedere if he had not been cut off in the prime of life. Here is an extract from one of his Resolutions, dated 4th November, 1890, acknowledging how he and the Commissioners had always worked in perfect harmony:—

For nine years he was Chairman of the Corporation, and the successful administration of the affairs of the Municipality during this long period, the firm financial credit of the Commissioners, the innumerable sanitary reforms effected, specially the extension of the water-supply and the conservancy of *bustees*, the increase in material prosperity in the city which, in consequence of these reforms, has shown itself in so marked a degree that the value of land in Calcutta generally may be said to have doubled, the re-organization and re-constitution of nearly every department of work, the hearty zeal and co-operation with which the Commissioners as a body now unite with the Executive to advance the welfare of the city—an attitude for which they were not always distinguished, but which is in itself the best testimony to the capacity of a Chairman—the methodical and systematic development of civic administration in all departments, are

a sufficient and lasting tribute to the manner in which Sir Henry Harrison has discharged the duties of his responsible, difficult, and thankless office. His name will always be honourably associated with the growth of Municipal institutions in the Metropolis.

The above testimony is all the more valuable as Sir Henry Harrison was an official to the backbone. And then, he records his experiences of *nine long years* of the administration of the Municipality. Mr. Lee served the Corporation, we believe, for three years. So, we have the testimony of the two best Chairmen that for twelve years the executive and the Commissioners had pulled excellently well. The charge of obstructing the executive was thus evolved, like other charges, out of the heated brains of Sir Alexander Mackenzie. But if there is yet any apprehension on this score, it can be easily removed by adding a few words to section 38 to this effect, namely, that when the Commissioners perversely obstruct the Chairman in the performance of any of his urgent duties, he may refer the matter to the Government, and its decision on the point will be final.

A MEETING of the Punjab Legislative Council was held at Government House, Lahore, on Friday, when the Lieutenant-Governor explained the delay in instituting legislative measures which, he said, was due to all the measures having to go before the Secretary of State and the Government of India before introduction. He briefly stated that the position of affairs is this: Two Bills are in course of submission to the Government of India and ready, when sanction is accorded, for the consideration of the Council, and five more Bills are under consideration by the Local Government. The former two Bills deal with the protection of lands from the destructive action of *chols* in Hoshiarpur and Jullundur, and (2) the acquisition of land in Sind, Sagar, and Doab in view of reclamation, irrigation and colonisation.

A DEPUTATION of the members of the Mahomedan Literary Society waited upon His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on Monday afternoon at Belvedere. Mr. Abdur Rahaman, the Honorary Secretary, read the address, which was tastefully printed on parchment and mounted on mauve satin with a *khurita* (cover) made of velvet embroidered in gold with a green fringe. After the presentation of the address, His Honour Sir John Woodburn made the following reply: I am very grateful to you for the exceedingly kind expressions of your address. I will not disguise from you the anxiety and misgivings with which I accepted the charge of the great province. I am keenly sensible of the disadvantages under which the head of a Government must labour, who has only a very superficial knowledge of the affairs and condition of the people. And it is my immediate duty to inform myself of these as quickly and as thoroughly as the circumstances permit. The Mahomedans of Bengal are a large and important section of the community; and they may rely upon it that they will receive from me, as you have said you have received from my predecessors, an impartial but sympathetic consideration of all their prayers. I have received with the greatest satisfaction the assurance of your readiness to co-operate with Government in any measures that are necessary for the betterment of the country.

It is understood that the Rewah Durbar has undertaken to find funds for the construction of a branch railway from Sutna to Rawah.

MESSRS. STONE AND CO.'s system of electrifying is adopted as a tentative measure on the mail trains running between Madras and Tuticorin, and that the consideration of its general adoption should await the result of this trial.

ON Friday morning at Government House, Lahore, in the presence of the members of the Punjab Legislative Council, Nawab Amir Ud-Din Ahmad Khan, of Lahore, was invested by the Lieutenant-Governor with the insignia of K. C. I. E.

A SERIOUS accident has happened on the construction works of the Mandalay-Kunlon Railway near Thibaw. The coolies were cutting earth, when a landslip occurred, burying eleven men. Prompt measures for a rescue succeeded in only three being taken out alive.

We have said in the coming conflict between Spain and the United States the Spanish privateer will have much the larger mercantile marine to prey upon. On the other hand, if we examine the resources of the two countries in swift and well-found passenger ships, such as would be granted letters of marque, the Americans have a very great advantage. The whole merchant fleet of Spain is only some 450 steamers, and many of these are small and slow and utterly inadequate for the purpose mentioned above. The Transatlantic Company of Cadiz have a dozen or so vessels of from 4,000 to 7,000 tons, and of these about six are credited with a sea speed of 15 knots, not much perhaps, but enough for privateering purposes. But the whole of this fleet would probably be required by the Government for use as armed cruisers, for which purpose they are specially fitted and armed, so that privateers would have to be drawn from other sources. America, on the other hand, possesses a very large mercantile marine, of which at least 6,000 are steamers of sorts. It must be remembered, however, that a great many of these are locked up on the great inland lakes where an immense amount of water carriage is done, and the majority of the others are small coasting vessels which are not suited for ocean travelling. The few notable vessels of the American marine, such as the *New York* and *Paris*, the *St. Louis* and *St. Paul*, all of which possess a sea speed of some 20 knots, are taken by the Government for use as armed cruisers. They would, indeed, probably be employed for the purpose of dealing with any privateers sent out by Spain, since it is an accepted maxim amongst practical sailors that it is quite out of the question for even the best-armed merchant ships to attempt to enter into conflict with a regular cruiser, however small.—*Pioneer*.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

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To be had at the Patrika Office, Calcutta.

SIBPUR C. E. COLLEGE.—Mr. J. S. Slater, Principal, Civil Engineering College, Sibpur, having taken leave for two months, Mr. A. MacDonnell acts for him.

HOOGHLY MAGISTRACY.—Mr. D. B. Allen, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Hooghly, having been appointed to act temporarily as Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, Mr. F. C. French acts for him.

ACCOUNTANTS' EXAMINATION.—The yearly examination of candidates for fourth grade of Accounts, Public Works Department, will be held at the Civil Engineering College, Sibpur, on Monday and Tuesday, the 6th and 7th June, 1898, at 10-30 A.M.

A RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On the 10th instant a serious accident took place at Bongong station on the B. C. Railway. The Agent's saloon was standing before his bungalow, when an engine with tender and several wagons collided with it with some force, causing damage to the carriage and giving a severe shock to the Agent, Mr. Staples. Two of his chuprassis were more seriously wounded and had to be placed under medical treatment.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.—The Hon. Mr. W. H. Grimley, Member of the Board of Revenue, goes on three months' leave next month, and Mr. P. Nolan, Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division, will act for him. Mr. C. J. O'Donnell, officiating Magistrate and Collector of Monghyr, will act for Mr. Nolan, and Mr. R. Kangra, Deputy Commissioner, Sonthal Parganas, Naya Dumka, will officiate for Mr. O'Donnell.

CIVIL ENGINEERING COLLEGE, SIBPUR.—Candidates for admission to the Engineer Department of this College should apply to the Principal before the 15th May, 1898. The session begins on Monday, 6th June, 1898. Ten scholarships will be awarded to students entering the Engineer Department not being already holders of junior or senior scholarships. Every applicant before admission to the College will be examined by the College Surgeon as to his physical strength, fitness for manual labour, and eye-sight.

A NEW LINE.—Some time ago the East Indian Railway Company wished to construct a floating bridge from Shalimar on the Hooghly side to the Kidderpur Docks to enable them to run their trains direct into the Dockyard without in any way interfering with the working of the Eastern Bengal State Railway Line. But the Marine authorities raised an objection to this proposal. On this the Company applied to the Government of India for permission to construct a double line from Naihati Junction to the Docks to be exclusively worked by them alongside the Eastern Bengal State Railway Line, and to this scheme the Government has given its sanction. The construction of the line is to be taken in hand shortly.

POSTAL.—The following promotions are made, with effect from the 2nd April, 1898, in place of Mr. C. A. H. Wood, Superintendent of Post Offices, 1st grade, retired:—Mr. R. S. Burns, Superintendent of Post Offices, is promoted to the 1st grade. Mr. A. C. Firch, Superintendent of Post Offices, is confirmed in the 2nd grade. Mr. W. Chard, Superintendent of Post Offices, is confirmed in the 3rd grade. Mr. A. Bean, Superintendent of Post Offices, is granted privilege leave for two months and twenty-one days. Babu Luchman Singh is appointed to be Deputy Postmaster, Simla. Mr. W. Bright, Postmaster, Rawal Pindi, is granted privilege leave for three months. Mr. C. Currie, Superintendent of Post Offices, is appointed, to act in the 2nd grade.

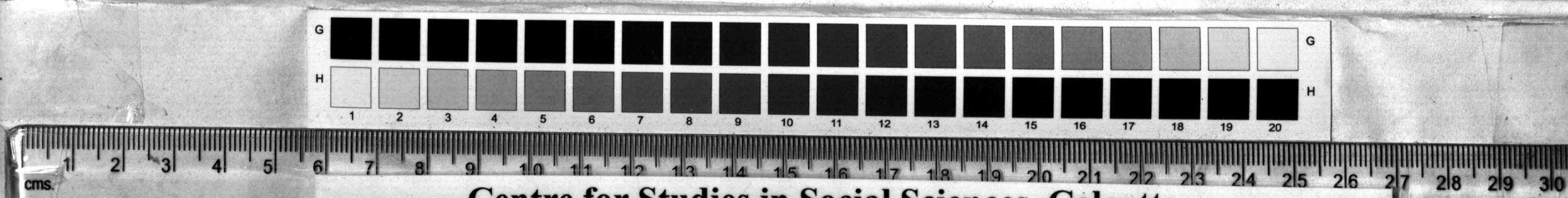
CROP PROSPECTS IN BENGAL.—Rain fell generally and in fair quantities over the Province during last week. Ploughing is now going on, and the sowing of early rice and jute has begun in parts. The spring rice and indigo have improved. In Orissa the spring rice is ripening and is being harvested in places. The young sugarcane and chena and mung millets are doing well. The rabi harvest is practically over, and the outturn for the Province, as a whole, is estimated at 16½ annas. The mahua crop is being gathered, and a good outturn is expected except in Palanau, where it is only 8 annas. There was a slight rise in the price of rice in some districts. Some cattle-disease is reported from the 24-Parganas, Pabna, Monghyr, Purnea, the Sonthal Parganas, Lohardaga, Palanau, and Manbhum. Fodder-supply is reported sufficient except from the Sonthal Parganas. Deficiency of water-supply is reported from places in Nadia, Jessore, Rangpur, Dacca, Chittagong, and the Sonthal Parganas.

SIR JOHN Woodburn does not leave Calcutta for the hills till the middle of the next month, as he is anxious to make himself acquainted with the working of the several administrative departments under his control. We understand, His Honour proposes making an extensive tour through the Province later on; but the dates and the districts he expects to visit, have not been decided upon as yet.

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 all it is supposed to be in its effects. It is a medicine I can recommend, and one that everybody should keep.

CHAMBERLAIN'S Colic, Cholera, and Diarrhoea Remedy is the most successful medicine in use for Dysentery, Diarrhoea, Colic, Cholera-Morbis and Cholera, and is for sale everywhere. Price 1/6 and Rs. 2.



GAZETTE NOTIFICATIONS.

Mr. Sakhawat Hossin, Dy Mag and Dy Coll, is posted to the head-quarters station of the district of Bhagalpur.

Babu Banka Bihari Singha, Dy Mag and Dy Coll, Kishorganj, Mymensingh, is allowed leave for three months.

Babu Jadu Nath Sankar, Dy Mag and Dy Coll, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the Kishorganj subdivision of the district of Mymensingh.

Mr. Ambica Charan Sen, substantive pro tempore Dt and Sessions Judge, is appointed to act as additional Dt and Sessions Judge of Dacca, Jessore, with Khulna, Backergange and Mymensingh.

Mr. J. H. Temple, Officiating Magte and Coll, Faridpur, is allowed leave for three months.

Mr. Kiran Chandra De, Officiating Joint-Magte and Dy Coll, 24-Pargan, is appointed to act as Magte and Coll of Faridpur.

Babu Bhabataran Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore, is allowed leave for one month.

Maulvi Abul Mahmud, substantive pro temp Dy Magte and Dy Coll, Patna, is appointed to have charge of the Sirajganj subdivision of that district.

Babu Probodh Chandra Chatterjee, Officiating Dy Magte and Dy Coll, is posted to the head-quarters station of the district of Malda.

The order of the 4th April 1898 transferring Babu Ram Niranjan Prosad, Officiating Dy Magte and Dy Coll, Saran, to the head-quarters station of the district of Malda is cancelled.

Babu Barhamdeo, Narain, Dy. Magte and Dy. Coll, is posted to Darbhanga.

Mr. H. G. Cooke, Offg Commissioner of the Orissa Division and Superintendent of the Tributary Mahals, Orissa, is allowed leave for one month and ten days.

Mr. D. B. Allen, Offg Magte and Coll, Hooghly, is appointed to act temporarily as Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

Mr. F. C. French, Magte and Dy. Coll, Hooghly, acting for him.

Mr. R. E. Blaney, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Patna, is transferred to Patna City.

Babu Jyotis Chandra Chatterjee, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Patna Division.

Maulvi Afzalur Rahman, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Patna Division.

The following promotions are made in the grades of Sub-Dy Colls:—Promoted substantively pro tempore to the first grade; Babu Lolit Mohun Pal. Promoted substantively pro tempore to the second grade; Babu Rames Chandra Das and Mr. Ram Comul Gupta. Promoted substantively pro tempore to the third grade; Babu Balmukund Kanungo, Phanindra Nath Mukerji, Har Sahay Lal, Surendra Nath Sarkar, Nilmony Dey, Rajmohan Gangopadhyay, and Jages Chunder Dutt.

Babu Khetra Bhusan Prosad, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Burdwan Division.

Babu Amrita Lal Gupta, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Presidency Division.

Babu Kali Mohan Sen, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Rajshahi Division.

Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Momen, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Patna Division.

Babu Girindra Mohan Chuckerbutty, Add. Sub. Judge, on furlough, is appointed to be Sub. Judge of Tippera.

Mr. E. M. Konstam, Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General, Revenue and Statistical Departments, has been posted temporarily as Joint-Magistrate and Dy. Collr Bhagalpur.

Babu Brajendra Lal Dey, Munsif of Kishorganj, is transferred to Dinajpur.

Babu Sarat Chandra Ghose, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif of Kishorganj.

Babu Bhagavati Charan Mitra, Munsif of Garhbeta, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge of Rajshahi.

Babu Charu Chunder Mitter, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif of Garhbeta.

Babu Haro Sunder Chuckerbutty, Munsif of Kishorganj, who has obtained privilege leave for two months, is appointed to be a Munsif of Barisal.

Babu Rajoni Kant Chatterjee, Munsif of Barisal, is transferred to Kishorganj.

Mirza Bedar Bakht, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif of Barisal.

Babu Norendra Nath Ghose, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif of Dacca.

THE Secretary of State has sanctioned the construction of a 23 miles Branch Railway on the Southern Punjab Railway from Narwana to Kaithal.

THE abnormally hot weather at Simla took a sudden change on Friday night and heavy thunderstorms have occurred with hail and rain since the next morning.

MR. MONAHAN is gazetted to officiate as Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam vice Mr. Melitus, who acts as Judge and Commissioner of the Assam Valley Districts.

THE installation of the electric light in the Golden Temple at Amritsar has been completed. There are altogether sixteen lights round the tank and one large globe on the tower of Baba Atal.

DEWAN BHADUR KRISHNASAMI RAO was appointed Dewan of Travancore on Friday.

ANTHRAX appears to be still lurking in the neighbourhood of Rawalpindi.

MR. PREVOST, Officiating Conservator Pegu Forest Circle, in Lower Burma, goes on furlough for 21 months; Mr. Reuther, Deputy Conservator, officiates.

A RECONNAISSANCE survey of the projected line of railway from Shwegyin to Moulmein will be performed by the Chief Engineer commencing next month.

Recommended by A Medical Friend

THIS 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 on me. I bought one bottle and it effected a complete cure. Since that time, whenever I have the least cough, I procure Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and he results are always satisfactory."

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY is sold every where. Price Re. and Rs. 2.

SUSPECTED PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

APRIL 18.

INFORMATION reached us late on Saturday night that a death of a suspicious nature had taken place in Kapalitola, near Wellington Square. On enquiry it transpired that one Ishan Chunder De, a hawker by profession, living at 22, Kapalitola Lane, died at about 10 P. M. on Saturday, after an illness of little over twenty-four hours. As the apparent cause of death was fever, accompanied with the swelling of the left groin Inspector Faria of the local thana informed Dr Cook, the Health Officer, who came to the spot at about 2 o'clock in the morning. After having examined the body he ordered its removal to the Morgue where a post mortem was held at 8 A. M. yesterday. The post mortem revealed that fever was the immediate cause of death, but as there was a glandular swelling in the groin, substance of the gland together with the blood of the deceased was abstracted for chemical analysis. There can, The authorities undoubtedly looked upon the case with some suspicion, as the belongings of the deceased, consisting of contents of a mood's shop, together with all his clothes, were jointly taken charge of by the Police and the Corporation. We learned subsequently that all these properties had been burned down. Immediately after the post mortem examination the body was cased up in a airtight receptacle to the burning-ghat where it was reduced to ashes as quickly as possible. The deceased, who was about thirty years of age, was a native of Tipperah. He was hale and hearty before he was attacked with fever. A woman and a child, living in the same block of huts, No. 22, Kapalitola Lane, were removed last evening to the plague hospital at Manicktollah, as they were found suffering from fever accompanied with glandular swellings of the groin, and were suspected to be suffering from plague. Among others, the Chairman of the Municipality and the Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal had been to the spot, to ascertain the advisability of their removal.

APRIL 20.

His Honor Sir John Woodburn, the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, paid a visit yesterday morning to the Plague Hospital at Manicktola where, as announced already, some suspected cases of plague have been removed. His Honor was conducted over the buildings by Dr. Cook, the Health Officer to the Corporation, and Dr. Dyson, the Sanitary Commissioner, who showed him all the arrangements made there. From the conversation which His Honor had with Dr. Cook it appeared that Dr. Cook did not consider that Eshan Chunder Dey died of plague. The suspects who have been removed to the hospital are doing fairly well.

THE PLAGUE.

THREE villages in the Jullundur district have been attacked with plague.

JEMADAR MUHAMMAD SARWAR, three non-commissioned officers, and two men of the 13th Bengal Lancers are given the 3rd Class Order of Merit for gallantry on the 9th August last at Shabkadr.

QUARANTINE.—A notification is published by the Bengal Government that quarantine regulations at the ports of Rangoon, Moulmein, Akyab, and Bassein have been declared against Karachi; also against Hongkong, Macao, and Canton as infected ports.

On the motion of Dr. Blaney, the Bombay Medical and Physical Society have adopted a resolution that a Congress of the profession be held in Bombay in December to consider the most appropriate means for dealing with plague epidemics in Indian cities, towns and villages.

THREE fresh villages in the Jullundur district—Hansaram, Siral Mandi and Dhandua—have been seized with plague. In the Jullundur district there are 52 villages, with 1,717 cases and 1,065 deaths; cures, 400; under treatment, 252. In the Hoshiarpur district, the total number of villages are 1, with 327 cases and 166 deaths; cures, 54; under treatment, 112. Special plague inspection stations have now been opened on the North-Western Railway and all suspected persons are to be confined, at least 24 hours, in camps, others being medically examined.

PLAGUE is steadily increasing and the death-rate is also rising in Karachi. There were 15 cases and 13 deaths on Thursday and 12 cases and 10 deaths on Friday, the totals up to date being 104 cases and 65 deaths. A case of plague was discovered on Thursday at Mahir station in a passenger train; the man was removed to the Quarantine Camp, and the vehicle was cut off and disinfected. Detention for ten days at Mahir and Keamari for those leaving by rail or sea, respectively, is now made compulsory. It is rumoured that Lord Sandhurst will pay Karachi a visit shortly. A search party in the market quarter discovered eight cases of plague on Saturday morning.

At a meeting of the Bombay Corporation on Monday afternoon, a letter was read from Government, in reply to a communication from the Corporation, suggesting that the executive duty of the Plague Committee should be handed over to the Municipality, stating that the Plague Committee had been requested to wind up its account by the 1st of May, and that a joint report was asked for from the Chairman of the Committee and Municipal Commissioner whether, and if so, to what extent, it was necessary to entertain any special organization either in direct subordination to the Municipal Commissioner or otherwise subject to the general control of Government in the general (plague) department.

THE Hon'ble Mr. P. M. Mehta has agreed to his nomination to the seat in the Vice-regal Council, vacated by the Hon'ble Mr. Sayani.

I HAD the rheumatism so badly that I could not get 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, Holland, 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 stores. Price Re. 1 and Rs. 2.

Gen Agents—SMITH STANLEY & CO., AND B. K. PAUL & CO., Calcutta.

Telegrams.

[INDIAN TELEGRAM.]

MYMENSINGH, APRIL 18.

The Maharajah of Mymensingh returned from his annual shooting yesterday with a large bag. The seventeen days' howdah party shot five tigers, two leopards, nine buffaloes, several sambors and other small games.

BOMBAY, APRIL 18.

Chapekar was hanged this morning in the Yerrowda Central Jail, Poona. There was a small attendance of spectators. As he was being led to the scaffold, he was singing "Narain Jai, Gopal Hari" and called on other Gods by name and carried the Bhagavat Gita in hand, lent by Mr. Tilak. He boldly mounted the scaffold. Asked if he had anything to say, he replied that he had nothing to say. He asked Mr. Guider to give a message to his family that he died joyfully. As to dying—Rand died from pistol shot, others from falling off from horses and his fate was to be hanged. His body was delivered to his relatives and cremated near the Bund with the Bhagavat Gita.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, APRIL 15.

The Spanish Cabinet has authorised the Foreign Minister to recall the Spanish representative at Washington immediately. President McKinley has sanctioned the resolutions of Congress.

The Washington Senate will probably sit continuously until a vote is taken on the Committee's report.

LONDON, APRIL 15.

The Spanish Government has opened a national subscription to increase the Spanish fleet. The Queen Regent heads the list with one million pesetas.

The Spanish national subscription to increase the fleet already amounts to three million pesetas.

LONDON, APRIL 15.

The lease of Kwangchauwan to France has been confirmed.

LONDON, APRIL 15.

In the race for the Claven Stakes, Jeddah was first, Count Schomberg second, and Calvey third.

LONDON, APRIL 16.

The Washington Senate are still discussing the Committee's report, and it is unlikely that a vote will be taken for some days. The American Government have chartered four American Atlantic liners, eight Regiments of Infantry have been ordered to New Orleans, seven to Mobile, and seven to Tampa. Madrid advices state that the Cuban insurrection is on the point of collapsing, and that the rebel leaders are submitting. The Washington Senate has decided to vote on the Committee's report on the President's message to Congress today.

LONDON, APRIL 16.

The Times' Peking correspondent states that the Governor of Shansi Province has granted a concession to the Anglo-Australian Syndicate to work the vast coal and iron deposits therein.

LONDON, APRIL 16.

Sirdar Kitchener and Staff have arrived at Wady Halfa.

LONDON, APRIL 16.

It is believed that in the event of war the United States will waive the right to search neutral vessels.

The European press, with the exception of the English, generally side with Spain.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 17.

The Senate has adopted by 67 against 21 votes the resolution of its committee with an amendment by the Extremists recognizing the Republic of Cuba, notwithstanding the views expressed in the president's message.

MADRID, APRIL 17.

Anti-American demonstrations took place in the provincial capitals of Spain yesterday. The escutcheon over the American Consulate at Malaga, was torn down and dragged in the streets, and subsequently replaced amid noisy protests.

MADRID, APRIL 27.

The Spanish Cabinet has decided to convert the Spanish trans-Atlantic Company's steamers into warships.

AN IMPORTANT AMENDMENT.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 17.

The Senate also passed an amendment disclaiming any intention to exercise sovereignty over Cuba, except for the pacification of the island and asserting the determination of the United States thereafter to leave the government to the inhabitants. A deadlock in both Houses is probable.

CRISPI RE-ELECTED.

LONDON, APRIL 17.

Signer Crispi has been re-elected for Palermo by a great majority.

LONDON, APRIL 17.

Prince Henry of Prussia has arrived at Shanghai.

LONDON, APRIL 18.

The German Chirurgial Society have denounced the Dum Dum bullet, and suggested that the provisions of the St. Petersburg Convention should be extended in order to prohibit its use.

LONDON, APRIL 18.

The New York Herald states that the deadlock between the House of Representatives and the Senate is expected to result in a compromise without the recognition of the Cuban republic.

LONDON, APRIL 18.

The Washington House of Representatives have amended the Senate's resolutions eliminating the recognition of the Cuban republic. The Senate refused to accept the amendment, whereupon the House requested that a conference be held, to which the Senate agreed.

LONDON, APRIL 18.

Reuter wires from Yokohama stating that it is officially announced that Japan takes two million of the Chinese loan.

LONDON, APRIL 18.

Oculist specialists have been summoned to Hawarden to see Mr. Gladstone.

LONDON, APRIL 18.

Further operations against the Dervishes have been postponed until the end of July.

LONDON, APRIL 18.

The Rev. James MacArthur, Vicar of South Acton, has been appointed Bishop of Bombay.

LONDON, APRIL 18.

Admiral Seymour has had an audience of the Tsung-li-Yamen and proceeds to Tientsin.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 19.

President McKinley will not sign the resolution which both Houses have adopted before to-morrow. He awaits the completion of the ultimatum in which he favours giving Spain three days in which to comply. This is with a view to the completion of arrangements by which he can strike a decisive blow.

WASHINGTON, APRIL 19.

A Bill was introduced into the senate today for creating a national war force of all able-bodied men from eighteen to forty-five years of age for three years' service.

LONDON, APRIL 20.

It is understood that President McKinley's ultimatum will reach Madrid this afternoon, a reply to which has been demanded within forty-eight hours.

LONDON, APRIL 20.

Senor Sagasta, the Spanish Premier, addressing a meeting of his supporters, said that the limit of concessions had been reached, and that the Spaniards would never submit to insults from America nor cede an inch of their territory. His remarks were received with enthusiastic cheers.

SIR C. ROE, Punjab Civil Service, is permitted to retire on the 4th of May.

A REPORT has reached Malakand, though it requires confirmation, that an attempt has been made on the life of the Nawab of Dir by one of his nephews and two other men. The Nawab is said to have been slightly wounded in the hand. His assailants were captured and killed.

ON the 13th instant the Chief Commissioner of Assam held a Durbar at Shillong when he presented gold watches to Babu Nobin Chandra Chakravarti, Mr. Frank Hodgkins, Mr. U. Roy Singh, and Babu Subhendu Mohan Goswami, subordinates of the Public Works Department, in recognition of the services rendered by them after the earthquake.

THE Pioneer learns from a reliable Russian source of an important administrative change in Central Asia, namely, that the Trans-Caspian regions as well as the region of the steppes lying north-east of Turkestan, will, together with the last-named province, form one charge, with its administrative centre in Turkestan. The first Governor-General of the United Provinces will be General Ponsaieffsky, lately chief of the staff at Warsaw.

GENERAL Mir Atta Khan, of Herat, has been appointed Sipah Salar and sent to Asmar, vice the late Sipah Salar Ghulam Haidar Khan. Colonel Ghulam Russool, Envoy of the Amir with the Government of India, will not return to Simla, Captain Muhammad Ismail Khan having been appointed in his stead.

THREE Mohamedans having been found guilty of rioting in Bombay with deadly weapons and setting fire to a plague office and other property outside the common jail, were sentenced by Mr. Justice Budrind Tyejee at the Sessions to six years' hard labour. Two Hindus also were found guilty of being concerned in the recent riots, and destroying a municipal cart's hose reel by fire. They were sentenced to four years' rigorous imprisonment.

OWING to there having, within the last few years, been a good deal of unnecessary litigation as to the sale of nazul land in the Punjab, the Financial Commissioner has ruled that the deeds of lease or sale of nazul land, subject to land revenue, should be drawn up in the ordinary forms of deed of lease or sale of Government waste land, as far as they are applicable, and be submitted before execution for the approval of the Financial Commissioner after consulting with the Legal Remembrancer.

THE revival of the export trade is producing a large increase in Indian Railway earnings. The figures for the last twelve days of March, now published, show an advance of eleven lakhs over the receipts for the corresponding period of last year. The Great Indian Peninsula is better by four lakhs; the North-Western by three lakhs; and the Bombay-Baroda, the Eastern Bengal, the Rajpootana-Malwa, and the East Indian Railways by more than one lakh each. On the other hand, the Southern Maharashtra and Madras Railways show a further falling-off.

THE "little monsoon," often bursts in Ceylon with as much sound and fury as the big monsoon, and on Saturday, the 9th it swept up from the sea in the afternoon with considerable force, writes a Madras paper. Rain fell in Colombo in torrents, and all over the Western and Southern Provinces. Rain has been badly wanted all over the island, and in Malate and to the north of Kandy especially, for the tea was suffering here very severely from the drought.

At a Conference of Educational Officers held at Calicut during the course of last week to apportion the Provincial and Local grants for education in Malabar during the present official year, it was decided to make a total grant of Rs. 8,200 for expenditure on Moplah educational loan. Of this sum, it was decided that Rs. 5,500 should be allotted to the Southern Range, and Rs. 2,700 to the Northern Range. The grant is equal to the amount provided last year with the difference that this time South Malabar gets Rs. 300 more than last year.

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KLINX.—New white inorganic Cement, almost hydraulic, for Pottery, Portland, &c.

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CHESBIRE BIRD LIME.—For Mosquitoes and various insects in the house. To spread on paper, walls, &c. Sold by Messrs. Linn, Stockport, England.

Law Intelligence.

HIGH COURT: CRIMINAL BENCH—APRIL 19.
(Before the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Banerjee).

A SENSATIONAL CASE FROM TIPPERAH.

PROSECUTION OF EUROPEAN PLANTERS. A CASE which has created a considerable amount of sensation in Tipperah came up before their Lordships yesterday on the application of the accused for transfer. The accused are three European planters, Steel, Chapman, and Wilson of Surma, Chara and Telipara tea-gardens in the sub-Division of a bigunge which is situated to the west of Independent Tipperah. Some of the coolies of these gardens fled to a village called Brojobindpur in the territory of His Highness the Maharaja of Independent Tipperah and after taking lease of some jungle lands settled there with family maintaining themselves and their children by agriculture. The case for the prosecution is that on the 15th Pous last, the three accused with about three hundred men laid siege to the above village, surrounded it on all sides and took away by force a number of men with their wives and children numbering 35 in all with their cattle, domestic furniture, &c. Next day information was laid before the local police by a coolly named Rupram, who also stated that he and others fled away and escaped. The news of this occurrence made a great stir in the durbar of His Highness the Maharaja of Tipperah. Information was accordingly given to the Political Agent, Mr. Kennedy who personally went to the spot and asked the Sub-Divisional Officer to hold an enquiry into the matter. A number of witnesses were examined. The accused, Mr. Steel, made a statement in which he said that there was a long-standing dispute going on between His Highness the Maharaja of Tipperah and himself for giving protection to run-away coolies, from his tea garden. He represented his grievances to the Chief Commissioner of Assam and to the Deputy Commissioner of Tipperah but received no reply from them. These coolies were under agreement to him and he gave orders for their capture. The enquiring officer sent up the case as true, and the accused were placed on their trial before Mr. Ainslie, Deputy Magistrate of Comilla. Warrants were issued against the accused, but on their arrest they were released on bail. The case came on for hearing on the 10th March. On that day Mr. Barrow, Barrister-at-law, appeared for the accused and objected to the hearing of the case by Mr. Ainslie on the ground that he had no jurisdiction over the accused who were European British subjects. This objection was overruled. Mr. Barrow next moved the District Magistrate to try the case himself with a jury, but he could not accede to his request as European jurors were not available in the district. The High Court was next moved for the transfer of the case to a district where European jurors could be had and the present rule was issued.

On the rule coming for hearing yesterday, the Advocate-General appeared on behalf of the Crown and Mr. Barrow for the accused. The Advocate-General characterised the case as a very serious one, but he had no objection to a transfer of the case if it was transferred to the 24-Perganahs. Mr. Barrow having made no objection, the case was transferred to the file of the District Magistrate of the 24-Perganahs with directions to try it with a jury.

THE services of Surgeon Major Kavasi Cursetji Sanjana, Indian Medical Service (Madras) are replaced at the disposal of the Government of Madras.

AT 11-30 P. M. on Wednesday a splendid meteor appeared to travel from north-west to south-east north of Malabar Hill, Bombay. It exploded and broke into fragments before going very far.

IN order that rapid communication may be made between the Punjab Government and the plague-infected villages, a special field telegraph has been constructed in the Jullundur district connecting with the Phagwara railway station.

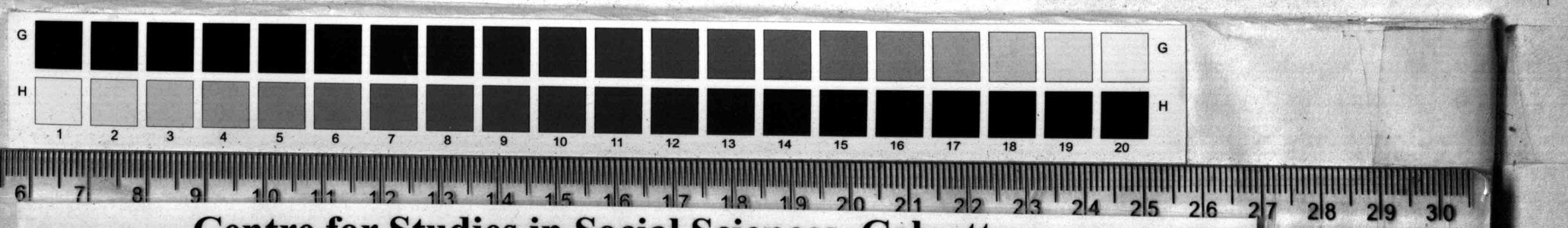
RAI UMACHARAN CHAKRAVARTI BAHADUR, Chief Superintendent in the office of the Comptroller, Central Provinces, is granted privilege leave for two months, with effect from 13rd May 1898. Mr. D. Hopson, Superintendent in the office of the Comptroller, Central Provinces, officiating for him.

A CENTRAL African lake, which when first discovered 40 years ago, was 180 miles by 30 broad, is reported by recent travellers to have closed up completely. The bed of the lake now a plain covered with thick woods.

THE great Baisakhi Fair at Amritsar has now been concluded. The health of the crowds present has been uniformly good, and there has been no appearance of plague at the meeting.

THE Punjab General Educational Conference, under the Presidency of Dr. J. Sime, held its first sitting in Lahore on Wednesday, the 13th instant. The meeting attended by twenty-eight gentlemen, representing the various educational interests throughout the province, and lasted till after five, when it was adjourned till the next day. Among the important questions considered were a re-consideration of the inter-school rules so far as these related to the leaving school certificates, the raising of rates of tuition for the Anglo-Vernacular native schools and the desirability of a limit being put to the admission of private candidates to the University examination.

IN connection with the reorganization of the Department of Chemical Examiners, the Secretary of State has sanctioned the following scheme: One of the junior officers of the Indian Medical Service, who has a taste for, and a practical knowledge of, chemistry, will be attached to the laboratories at Calcutta, Madras, or Bombay for one or two years, thus ensuring an ample supply of trained men in the course of a few years. To make the appointment of Chemical Examiner more attractive, it has further been decided to raise the present scale of pay of Rs. 700 rising to Rs. 1250 a month, to Rs. 800 rising to Rs. 1400 a month. This scale of pay does apply to the appointment of Chemical Examiner, North-West Provinces.



India and England.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, APRIL 1.

INDIAN CURRENCY QUESTION.

BI-METALLISM and the Government both had a pretty bad time of it on Tuesday night, when Mr. Viceroy's motion on Indian currency was debated. He rose to call attention to the present unsatisfactory condition of monetary affairs in India, and to move that a Select Committee or Royal Commission be appointed to consider the monetary condition of India and the effects of closing the Indian mints to silver on the different classes and interests affected thereby, to report on the suggested establishment of a gold standard in that country, and to make such recommendations as they may think fit.

Mr. Gibbs began by speaking of it as a "colourless resolution," but as he went on with his speech, he painted it up in lurid tints. He started well by declaring that the closing of the Indian mints was a criminal blunder, and that any attempt to put India upon a gold standard would produce greater evils and dangers than those which it attempted to remedy. He went merrily on to charge the Indian Government with levity, incapacity and injustice. It had no plan, no consideration, no idea but the one—that they might be able to pay their gold debt to England, no matter who suffered by it. The position was appalling, — a 12 per cent. rate of discount, and 24 per cent. paid on the security of gold bars in native bazars. The Government of India had fatally failed in their attempt to create a stable exchange. The forward rate of exchange had always been materially lower than the spot rate. Commerce had no faith in the power of the Government to bring to a successful issue this fantastic experiment. Government had dealt a heavy blow at the producing power of the community. Mr. Gibbs then dropped into the old bi-metallic groove, and declared that mono-metallism had increased the taxation of the people of India 60 per cent, added 22 millions to the gold debt, and produced a deficit of 9 millions. British rule in India was a miserable and ghastly failure. (If Mr. Gibbs goes to India after this, surely, he will be arrested). India could neither afford, get, or keep a gold standard. The duty of the House of Commons was imperative, and it was quite competent for the task. Was not the name of Chaplin equal in authority to that of Westland? It was preposterous, malignant nonsense to say that the House was not competent to deal with this important question. He implored the House to deal with the interests of the people of India as if they were their own, and to remember and act upon the Royal Proclamation (poor old Proclamation).

Mr. Maclean, a mono-metallist, seconded the resolution. He thought the plan of 1893 had failed, but it had not caused such widespread mischief as Mr. Gibbs imagined. It was a complete answer to much of his speech that India went on, cheerfully importing silver every year just as though the regulation were existed. When this plan of artificially raising the rate of exchange to one and four pence was first brought forward, he opposed it on the ground that it was just false bi-metallism which had been adopted by the Government of India because they despaired of getting the genuine article. He deprecated a departmental, and urged a Parliamentary, Committee.

Sir Samuel Montague is a banker and a bi-metallist. He condemned the Indian Government as fitful and vacillating in their currency policy. There was, he declared, an enormous amount of gold hoarded in India, probably over 300 millions sterling. If the Indian Government could attract even a fractional portion of this enormous hoard into circulation, they could establish a gold currency. He called for a Select Committee, and felt sure the question would be burked by being referred to a Departmental Committee.

Mr. Burdett Coutts, banker and a mono-metallist, maintained that the gold standard policy would attract capital to India, make the rupee stable, and bring settled prosperity to Indian finance and commerce. If the object of the motion was to promote the interests of bi-metallism, the Committee would simply undertake a *post-mortem* examination. Bi-metallism was dead, killed by every country; to grant a Committee with the hope of fanning the breath of life into it, was simply to waste the time of the House.

Mr. Wylie moved an amendment to the effect that the House should await further communications from the Indian Government before taking any steps, and proceeded to make an orthodox bi-metallist speech. He warmly supported the policy of 1893.

Lord George Hamilton then rose to reply. In somewhat melancholy tones, he avowed himself an unconverted bi-metallist of 25 years' standing. He would, however, not go into that, but content himself with stating the intentions of the Indian Government. He felt that any alteration made in the monetary system of India should be preceded by a thorough and impartial inquiry. He believed he was the oldest bi-metallist in the House, and the object of bi-metallism was to establish a scale of exchange between gold and silver money. How, he asked, was it possible to establish stable exchange? It might be established by international agreement, and he thought that would be the best plan, but the world, unfortunately, did not think so. The Indian Government did not close their mints until they found that there was no chance of an international bi-metallic arrangement; and he believed it was not possible for any one nation, by its own exertions, to rehabilitate silver. If the Indian mints were now re-opened, there would be a general disturbance and dislocation of prices, a continuous fall in the value of the rupee, and a spirit of apprehension which must be absolutely fatal to the investment of capital and the development of commerce and trade. It was just possible that such a step might lead to an international bi-metallic arrangement in the dim and distant future, that no one occupying his official position could run the risk of making such an experiment. Her Majesty's Government believed that any attempt to re-open the Indian mints without some international agreement would be an act of lunacy. Therefore he could not associate himself with any inquiry which might lead to a reversal of the policy initiated in 1893. He was prepared to un-

dertake, however, that there should be an inquiry into the proposals which the Indian Government had sent home, and he was anxious that this inquiry should commence as soon as possible. For the reasons he had adduced he was unable to accept his Hon. friend's resolution, but he would move as a substitute: "That in the opinion of this House it is desirable that a further inquiry should be made into the monetary system of India and into the proposals of the Government of India for the establishment of a gold currency in that country." He proposed that the inquiry should be conducted by a Departmental Committee having all the powers and attributes of a Royal Commission.

Sir William Harcourt thought there was no need for him to make a long speech, as the Secretary of State for India had made a far better defence than he was capable of, with regard to the policy of 1893, for which the late Government had been responsible. That policy was only a necessary experiment, but the Indian Government, prepossessed at the time in favour of a different course, have now recorded their conviction that it was right, and that it was better than an international bi-metallic policy. But still more satisfactory than that was the voice of Balaam from the Front Bench, confessing to 25 years of bi-metallism. He wished that speech had been made about the month of July, 1895 (the date of the general election): it would have been extremely useful in Lancashire; and, as it seems to have carried conviction to Mr. Chaplin, in the agricultural constituencies also. The policy of 1893, in spite of the wild language of Mr. Gibbs, has been proved to be absolutely necessary to rescue India from impending insolvency, and in that he was supported by Lord George Hamilton. All the arguments used by the noble lord, were the arguments which they, who belonged to the majority of the world, had for years past been urging against the professors. The fuller the proposed inquiry was, the more completely would it establish the soundness of the policy which had been adopted by the Government. He thought the proposal made by the noble lord, especially when accompanied by his speech, was perfectly satisfactory. Such a difficult question as the establishment of a gold currency in India, was one which ought to be investigated by experts and also by practical men, and he should give his hearty support to the substituted motion.

Lord George Hamilton's amendment was then carried without a division. It is interesting to note the complete abandonment of bi-metallism by the Government, as expressed in a single sentence in Lord George Hamilton's speech: "I want it to be distinctly understood that so far as the Indian Government are concerned both here and in India, we believe that an attempt to open the mints without some international arrangement being come to, would be an act of lunacy, and therefore, I should be very sorry to be associated in any way with an inquiry which might lead to a reversal of the policy established in 1893."

Mr. Arthur Balfour sat, silent, on the bench beside Lord George, as he described this "act of lunacy," probably repeating to himself, and reflecting upon the mutability of human affairs they indicated, the following sentence from a notable speech of his own, delivered barely two years ago—in which he declared the intentions of his Government with regard to the policy of 1893. "We will re-open the Indian mints; we will engage that they shall be kept open, and thereby we shall provide for the free coinage of silver within the limits of the British Empire and among a population greater than that of France, Germany and Belgium together."

Lancashire went Tory at the last election largely on the Indian Cotton duties and bi-metallism, with Mr. Balfour, member of Manchester, as their prophet. A by-election in Lancashire would be very interesting, indeed, just at present. The Indian currency question is a problem, easy enough to state, but mighty difficult to solve. I can only hope that this Committee of experts may find the solution. The whole trouble lies in the solid fact that while India has to raise her revenues in silver, she has to pay so large an amount of her expenditure in gold to this country for interest, pensions, guarantees, stores, the India Office and its staff, and other gold disbursements. It has undoubtedly been a great step gained to separate the rupee from silver fluctuations and settle it, as a par value. But that is only a palliative, not a cure. I must say that of the quick remedies prescribed for poor India's financial complaints, all appear palliatives and not cures; we can only be thankful that time at any rate is given for consideration and consultation before fresh treatment is ordered for the suffering patient. The cause of the disease is *bleeding*! Eighteen solid millions sterling in gold must be drawn yearly from the exhausted veins of the patient; and until that drain is stopped, I have little hope of any permanent recovery. If India provided her own army from her own sons, used her educated men in her civil administration, manufactured her own stores, found her own capital out of her hoarded wealth, in fact, kept the eighteen millions in India, there would be no currency question. Relief, as well as cure, lies in that direction. But we shall have to be content with relief only for a very long time to come. God grant the patient may not die before relief ends in permanent cure! The awful poverty of India needs a more drastic treatment than alternate doses of bi-metallism and gold standards. Anyhow, there will be no more physic for a year or two until this new Committee of specialists are able to report.

INTERPELLATIONS IN THE HOUSE.

On Monday Sir W. Wedderburn asked the Secretary of State for India whether he would postpone approval of the new Sedition Acts, just passed at Calcutta, until the House of Commons had an opportunity of considering whether these Acts had the effect of curtailing or interfering with the liberty of the Press in India, and whether his attention had been drawn to the fact that the Sedition Acts recently passed in India allowed the District Magistrate to try political cases in which he was himself the complainant and empowered him to require from editors security for good behaviour under the Chapter relating to vagrants, suspected persons and habitual offenders; and whether he would disallow these provisions as infringing his declaration that the law would be practically unaltered.

Lord G. Hamilton said:—"In reply to the two questions of the hon. baronet, I may

remind him that the Acts to which he refers, having been duly passed, and having received the assent of the Viceroy, are already part of the law of India, and will remain so unless I shall advise the Crown to disallow them. As soon as I have received the authentic copies of both these Acts which the law requires to be sent home, I will cause copies to be presented to Parliament, and, as I have already stated more than once, I shall be perfectly ready to be held responsible for any advice which I may think fit to give."

Lord George here only repeats the promise given to Mr. Herbert Roberts last week, and carefully shirks the point raised in the question with regard to his own declaration that the law would be practically unaltered by the new Sedition Acts. I think the latter part of his answer will fully justify the moving of the adjournment of the House for a full discussion on the promised papers, as soon as they are laid in the table. Until the full text of these alterations of the laws relating to Sedition is available, it is difficult to take any definite action in this country; and we are all waiting for that. When they do arrive, there are several Liberal editors on this country, as well as Mr. W. T. Stead, who will endeavour by one or more articles to break every clause of the new law, with a view of testing the admission of criticism into India from this country.

The same day Mr. Herbert Roberts asked the Secretary for India whether the alterations, made in section 4 of the Indian Penal Code by the new Sedition Law, would make a native Indian subject of the Queen triable in India, and after his return to India, for anything supposed to be seditious which he might write in a British journal, or speak on a British platform, during his residence in this country.

Lord George Hamilton said:—"The enactment exactly follows the words of the Statute 32 and 33 vic. c. 98, sec. 1, which gives authority to make such a law. The hon. member is as competent as I am, to form an opinion whether the authority extends to such a case as he has supposed. If it does, the enactment will also cover the case; if not, it will not. I need only add that I do not conceive it possible such a case should arise."

THE CRISIS IN THE FAR EAST.

THE *Times* correspondent at Peking telegraphed on March 28. The agreement with Russia was signed yesterday, the Imperial assent, equivalent to ratification, having been previously given. The Chinese garrison has been withdrawn from Port Arthur and Ta-lien-wan, and Russian troops have landed. The Russian flag now flies at these two places. (Later). The agreement confirms my previous messages as to the railway, the lease for twenty-five years of Port Arthur as a naval base, and of Ta-lien-wan as an ice-free port. The duties are to be collected as stated, China retaining her sovereign rights, as shadowy as her suzerainty over Nepal.

Immediately after the signature of the agreement telegraphic orders were sent to the Chinese to withdraw their garrison and to deliver the dock, arsenal, and workshops at Port Arthur to the Russians, who have plans ready for the immediate re-equipment of the fortifications. The Japanese Minister has made no protest throughout.

Reuter's Agency at Berlin telegraphs:—"It is believed in well-informed circles here that the policy favoured by Great Britain in regard to China, aiming at the preservation of the integrity of the Chinese Empire and the development of its commerce on an equal basis by all nations without restriction, can now no longer be regarded as practical in view of the concessions accorded by China to Russia and Germany. It is thought, therefore, that Great Britain will now have to adopt the only course left to her in the circumstances, namely, to follow suit and secure for herself in China equal advantages with the other Powers. It is not for a moment to be supposed that Great Britain would endeavour to obtain a reversal of the arrangements which have now been completed between the Chinese Government and Russia on the one hand, and Germany on the other, or that she would combine with the two pagan Powers of the Far East to overthrow the policy adopted by her Christian neighbours. It therefore only remains for her to obtain adequate compensation in her own interests, and it is not doubted that it is with this object in view that British naval activity is being displayed at Hong Kong and elsewhere."

On March 29 a telegram was sent from St. Petersburg stating that the *Official Messenger* had published the following telegraphic circular despatch addressed by Count Muraviev, Minister for Foreign Affairs, to the Russian representatives abroad, dated March 27:—"In virtue of a convention signed at Peking on March 27 between the representative of Russia and the members of the Tsung-li-Yamen, duly authorised for this purpose Ports Arthur and Ta-lien-wan, as well as the territories adjacent thereto, have been ceded to Russia in usufruct by the Chinese Government. You are requested to notify the foreign to the Government to which you are accredited adding that the above-mentioned ports and territories will immediately be occupied by the troops of His Majesty the Emperor, our august master, and that the Russian flag will be hoisted by the side of the Chinese flag."

You may at the same time inform the Minister for Foreign Affairs that Port Ta-lien-wan will be open to foreign trade and that the largest measure of hospitality will be extended there to the ships of all friendly nations."

The following official *communiqué* has been sent to the Russian Press:—"The representatives of Russia and China, duly authorised for that purpose, have signed in Peking under date March 15 to 27, a special arrangement in virtue of which Port Arthur and Ta-lien-wan, with the territories adjacent thereto, and the territorial waters dependent thereon, have been ceded in usufruct to the Imperial Government for a term of twenty-five years, which may be extended later by common accord. Further, China has conceded to Russia the right of constructing a line of railway to connect those ports with the Trans-Siberian main line."

This arrangement is a direct and natural consequence of the amicable relations existing between the two vast neighbouring States, whose every effort should aim at the maintenance of tranquillity over all the immense expanse of their contiguous territories for the good of their peoples. The fact of the pacific occupation by the Russian forces of the ports and territories of a friendly State affords the clearest evidence that the Chinese Government has rightly appreciated the true bearing of this arrangement."

While safeguarding the integrity of the sovereign rights of China, and satisfying the essential needs of Russia, alike as a maritime power and a territorial neighbour this arrangement injures the interests of no foreign State. On the contrary, it affords to all nations of the word the possibility of entering in the near future into relations with the river regions of the Yellow Sea which have hitherto been closed to them.

The opening of the Port of Ta-lien-wan to the merchant ships of all foreign nations will create a new and very wide market for commerce and industry in the Far East, owing to the great Trans-Siberian line, which is henceforward destined, in pursuance of the agreement concluded between

Russia and China, to connect the extreme points of the two continents of the old world.

The arrangement signed at Peking has therefore a high historical value for Russia, and should be hailed as a fortunate event by all those who have at heart the benefits of peace and the development of good relations among the nations."

Reuter's agent at Peking telegraphs (March 28):—"Mr. Pavloff, the Russian Charge d' Affaires, yesterday visited the Tsung-li-Yamen for the purpose of signing the agreement with China. He was accompanied by two mounted Cossacks in their brilliant uniforms."

A number of Russians left Tientsin on Saturday, accompanied by a priest, who is expected to bless ceremony of taking over Port Arthur.

A feeling of intense dejection prevails among the Chinese, who regard the lease of Ta-lien-wan and Port Arthur as the beginning of the end.

Li Hung Chang has been the great factor in inducing the Tsung-li-Yamen to assent to the Russian demands, and in some high Chinese quarters he is denounced as a traitor on this account."

The following is the first intimation to the British press that Russia's agreement with China goes beyond the mere concessions previously intimated. It is from the Berlin correspondent of the *Standard*:—"In addition to the newly-published Treaty for the lease of Ta-lien-wan and Port Arthur, China and Russia are believed to have concluded another Agreement binding the latter power to give China very important assistance in case of encroachments on her continental integrity, under clearly defined circumstances. From certain evidences—the silence of the Treaty as to the opening of Port Arthur, for example—it is inferred that the secret Agreement is aimed mainly at Japan. Well-informed circles in Japan have given up all hope of complaisance to Japan because she feared troubles to which her military and naval preparations are not yet adequate, and that she will seek to regain her predominance in the Peninsula as soon as she is in a condition to face the consequences."

The *Times* correspondent telegraphs from St. Petersburg:—"The greatest inflexibility, if not contempt, is shown here for any possible or probable protests on the part of Great Britain against the Russian agreement with China. The *Norve Vermye* says that England will never go to any greater length than a protest. Her predominance in the Far East is gone never to return, and it will be the worse for her if she does not come to an agreement with Russia, France, and Germany in time. From Hong Kong the *Times* correspondent reports that her Majesty's cruisers *Edgar* and *Kainbow* sailed north yesterday. The battleship *Centurion* and the torpedo-boat destroyers *Whiting* and *Fame* sail on Thursday. Warlike preparations continue."

Reuter telegraphs from Peking (March 29):—"Two thousand Russian troops, including cavalry, have been landed at Port Arthur, where the Chinese and Russian flags have been hoisted side by side."

There are now nine Russian warships at Port Arthur and Ta-lien-wan.

As it is expressly stated in the agreement that Port Arthur is leased as a "fortified naval base," the Chinese relinquish all the forts, which, with the exception of those built by German engineers, are practically in ruins. The Chinese attach no importance to the fact that the lease is only for twenty-five years, as they are aware that the Russians will remain in perpetuity."

The *Times* correspondent telegraphs from St. Petersburg on March 31:—"It is declared positively that the military occupation of Port Arthur was effected quite a week ago, although to-day's official statement says that the agreement with China was not signed in Peking until the day before yesterday. Therefore the Russians must first have landed their men and hoisted the flag and then requested the Chinese to put their signature to the arrangement."

This is only a small part of the comedy that had been going on for the benefit of the uninitiated to-day's official communication will, of course, call forth the customary panegyrics on the irresistible expansion of Russia in the Far East. As long ago as Thursday last a very high official of the Czar, who was quite as well aware of the facts as Count Muraviev, told me that there was no longer the slightest doubt about the Chinese agreeing to everything."

On Saturday evening Count Muraviev was entertained at dinner by Sir Nicholas O'Connor at the British Embassy. Count Muraviev has told the British Ambassador that Russia will respect England's treaty rights in China on the basis of the most-favoured-nation clause, and this seems to have satisfied the British Foreign Office."

The Vienna correspondent of the *Standard* writes of the Russian *communiqué*:—"The *communiqué* virtually proclaims a Protectorate over China, and as such it is, indeed, interpreted in Vienna. Nobody here, in fact, would be surprised to see Russia defend China against encroachments by others, her friend France, except, if sufficient time be allowed her to realise her magnificent position in the Far East. The closest interest is taken in this city in the Russian success, for there can be no question, nor is it concealed here, that the immense territory of Manchuria, Port Arthur, Ta-lien-wan, and the rest were secured to Russia on the day when the Emperor of Austria entered into a compact with the Czar at St. Petersburg last year, for, unless her rear had been covered in the east of Europe, Russia could never have ventured on such a bold undertaking in Eastern Asia."

"And who is the real author of the Compact of St. Petersburg?" it was remarked to me to-day, "but the British Government itself—not exactly the present one, for the last three British Administrations have had an equal share in rejecting all overtures from Austria by showing indifference to the fate of Constantinople. Consequently we made our peace with Russia, which we hope will last, and Russia has had her hands freed for the gigantic enterprise in the Far East, which, it will interest you to know, was a factor in the calculations of the late Count Andrassy when he was confronted with the choice of fighting Russia or forcing her to submit to the will of Europe. 'Many things might happen,' the Count said at the time, 'to divert Russia's attention from eastern Europe, and he expressly mentioned the Far East, knowing the longing of Russia for an ice-free port in that region. But could he never have imagined that England would stand by and say nothing to a case in which naval strength would have been not possessed were required? Not even Russia believed in it, for she has been preparing for a long time past to fight for her acquisitions from China. Instead of this she has obtained them as easily as Germany did hers.'"

"Are you not afraid of Russia attaining this giant strength?" I retorted. "We should certainly prefer a more equal distribution of strength among the first-class Powers, and you may have seen, some months ago, how anxiously the question was asked here, 'What will England do?' Now the interest in what she may still do has vanished. I read in to-day's telegrams that orders have reached Hong Kong for the mobilisation of the fleet, and it reminds me of Macaulay's description of England's national character—that she acts by fits and starts, collecting all her energy once in twenty years, and then falling back into the rich man's lassitude."

SOME people at Dutta Khel in the Tochi set some grass stacks on fire on Sunday night outside the east face of the post and about 450 mounds were destroyed. The sentry seeing the men there fired and killed one. Elsewhere all is reported quiet on the frontier.

CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.

MEETING OF THE SENATE.

The annual meeting of the Senate of the Calcutta University was held on Saturday at the Senate House. There was a large attendance, the Hon. Mr. Justice Trevelyan, Vice-Chancellor, presiding.

The first item of business was to appoint a Board of Accounts for the year 1898-99. Dr. Macdonald, Babu Ishan Chunder Bose, and Babu Bepin Behary Gupta were elected to constitute the Board.

The Annual Report of the Syndicate for 1897-98 was adopted.

The following resolution of the Board of Studies in Mathematics was passed:—"That in view of the fact that no suitable text-book on the subject is procurable, the Board recommend to the Syndicate that the subject 'Higher Plane Curves,' be omitted from the M. A. course, in Mathematics, group A."

SCIENCE DEGREES. The next item of business was to consider the report of a Committee appointed by the Faculty of Arts to consider a memorandum from Mr. A. Pedler and Dr. P. K. Roy on the position of science in the scheme of University education in Bengal and certain other papers relating to the subject.

The Vice-Chancellor said this was a matter which should be carefully discussed and then something done, as it had been standing for a good many years, and all the papers on the subject had already been circulated.

Dr. Ashutosh Mookerjee moved that the recommendation of the Syndicate for the adoption of the following report of the Committee to consider the position of the Science Degrees be adopted:—"We are of opinion that it is desirable to institute the Degree of Doctor in Science and Doctor in Literature for the encouragement of original research by graduates of this University. We beg to recommend that the draft regulations appended to this report be adopted for this purpose. We are not prepared to recommend at present the institution of degrees in science and literature inferior to the Degree of Doctor." He said that four years ago a memorandum had been laid before the Faculty of Arts, and it was referred to a Committee composed of representative members. Twelve or thirteen meetings were held and every possible scheme was brought forward, there being no unanimity in regard to any one scheme. The majority at length came to a compromise, and their recommendations were embodied in the report. The scheme of Dr. Roy was open to serious objection as harmful to the best interests of the students.

Mr. Kupler protested against a scheme which was the result of four years' deliberation. If the scheme received the sanction of the Senate, so far as that University was concerned, the teaching of science would be practically extinct. The Committee that was appointed was to investigate the position of science, so far as the University was concerned, but it had looked too much at questions from a purely ornamental point of view. He thought that if this report was adopted it would benefit a very few, and principally the Prenchand Roychand students. He did not think that the object of the institution of the Science Degrees was for the benefit of one or two gentlemen who desired to have a few letters after their names, but to give a stimulus to science. The result of this scheme, if adopted, would be that one or two Prenchand Roychand students, who had followed this course of study, would be entitled to read after their names the mystic title of "Doctor in Science." He was of opinion that an University like this should begin at the beginning, and not at the end. The students of science could be safely left to themselves for original scientific research.

What he desired to discuss was the general bearing of the science degrees, whether it ought to start from the B. A. or F. A. degree, and he maintained that the F. A. degree presented the guarantee required that a student of science had a sound education. The English in the B. A. degree was not the kind of English required in a student of science. He, therefore, moved as an amendment that a Committee consisting of eight members be appointed to consider a scheme of Science Degrees to be founded on the F. A. examination, and that this Committee be asked to report within three months. He thought the meeting should decide upon the question whether the F. A. or B. A. degree should be the starting point.

Professor Herambo Chunder Moitra moved, as a further amendment, that a Committee be appointed to consider the question of granting new Scientific and Literary degrees after the B. A. examination. He thought if they had any degrees, they should be on a thoroughly high standard.

Father Lafont entirely agreed with what had fallen from Mr. Kupler, whose amendment he seconded.

Dr. Gurus Dass Banerjee was in favour of adopting the report.

The Hon'ble Kally Churn Banerjee thought that the scientific members would have proposed something more practical, and begin by proposing a Faculty of Science, like the Faculty of Arts, etc.

The Rev. Dr. Macdonald thought it would be absurd to send a student for the Science degrees, who had been rested simply with the F. A. examination degree.

Dr. Ashutosh Mookerjee having been heard in reply, the Vice-Chancellor gave a brief view of how the matter struck him. The question, he said, was whether there was enough English taught in the F. A. degree to enable a student to learn science."

The amendment of Professor Herambo Chunder Moitra was then put to the meeting and lost by a large majority, only five voting for it.

Mr. Kupler's amendment was next put and carried by a majority of twenty-four to nine.

The original motion was then formally put to the meeting and was lost.

The following gentlemen were appointed to be the members of the Committee proposed by Mr. Kupler: Dr. Mahendro Lal Sircar, the Hon'ble Dr. Gurus Dass Banerjee, Dr. J. C. Bose, Father Lafont, Dr. Nilratan Sircar, Dr. P. K. Roy, Mr. Pedler, and the mover.

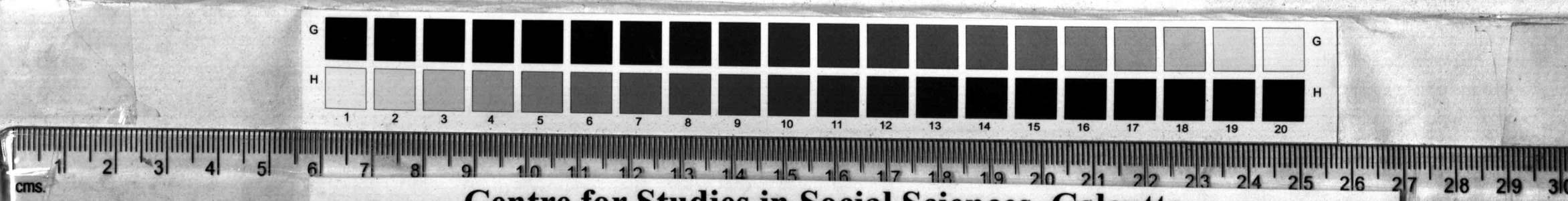
LEAVE TAKING.

The Vice-Chancellor said this would be the last time he should have the honour of presiding at these meetings, and he desired to express his very great pleasure for the way which every one had helped him in the way which he had expressed his gratitude to the officers of the University, the Registrar, Assistant Registrar, and the clerks working under them for the help he had received, and he wished them all every prosperity.

The Hon'ble Kally Churn Banerjee moved that this meeting express its deep regret at the approaching retirement of the Hon'ble the Vice-Chancellor, and resolves to record its high sense of the services he has rendered the University. His keen interest, his careful supervision, his judicious management, and his unvarying courtesy contributed to make his administration a success, alike in carrying out reforms, and in strengthening popular confidence.

The motion was carried with acclamation, and the meeting dispersed.

REPORTS have been received of sharp shocks of earthquake on Monday noon between 12-30 and 1, in the following places: Rangamati, Bagharhat, Manipur, Silchar and Munshibazar and Sibsagar. There was a large fissure about 70 feet long and about one foot wide in places, in the Municipal Market in the last-named place.



BENGAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A MEETING of the Council was held at the Council Chamber, Writers' Buildings, on Saturday. His Honor Sir John Woodburn presided, and there were present the Hon'ble Sir Charles Paul, Advocate-General of Bengal, the Hon'ble H. H. Risley, the Hon'ble Rai Durga Gati Banerjee, Bahadur, the Hon'ble B. Pratt, the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Ameer Hossein, the Hon'ble M. Finucane, the Hon'ble W. B. Oldham, the Hon'ble R. B. Buckley, the Hon'ble W. H. Grimley, the Hon'ble Sahebzada Mahomed Bakhtyar Shah, the Hon'ble M. C. Turner, the Hon'ble Narendra Nath Sen, the Hon'ble Kali Churn Banerjee, the Hon'ble Surendra Nath Banerjee, the Hon'ble Jatra Mohan Sen, and the Hon'ble T. W. Spink.

POLLUTION OF THE HOOGHLY. The Hon'ble Surendra Nath Banerjee asked the following question:—I have the honour to call attention to a question which I asked in Council on the 7th August last, regarding the pollution of the River Hooghly by the discharge into it of the sewage of mills on both banks of the river, and specially the pollution of the river caused by the new mill at Titagurh. The Chief Secretary, the Hon. Mr. Bolton, said in reply to the first part of the question, that the matter has not escaped attention, and is still under the consideration of the Sanitary Commissioner. With regard to the second part of my question, the Chief Secretary observed that the Sanitary Commissioner would be asked to inquire into the matter. Will the Government be pleased to state the result of the inquiries made with regard to both branches of the question?

The Hon'ble Mr. Risley in reply said: Owing to the heavy demands on the Medical Service in Bengal, arising from the deputation of a number of officers to active military service and to plague duty, it has been impossible as yet to undertake the inquiry into the alleged pollution of the Hooghly by the drainage from mills and factories, which was referred to in the Hon. Mr. Bolton's reply given in Council on the 7th August 1897. It was stated in that reply that the case of the new mill at Titagurh would be dealt with in connexion with the general question.

The Hon'ble the President said: I may perhaps add to this reply that I have had an opportunity of hearing something about the pollution of the river at this particular place, and the honourable member has my assurance that the matter will be enquired into and reported on with the least possible delay.

THE SEORAPULI STATION.

The Hon'ble Surendra Nath Banerjee asked the following question:—I have the honour to call attention to a question which I asked in Council on the 7th August 1897, in which I referred to the condition of the platform at the Seoraphuli station. In reply the Hon. Mr. Bolton laid on the table a letter addressed to the Government by the Agent to the East Indian Railway Company, Colonel Gardner, in which he said that he was of opinion that Seoraphuli had a claim to a high-level platform, and that would recommend the same to the Board for sanction. This letter is dated the 22nd April 1897. Will the Government be pleased to state what action, if any, has been taken to raise the Seoraphuli platform, the low-level of which is a source of serious inconvenience to passengers, specially Hindoo ladies; and if no action has been taken, what is the earliest date when action may be expected to be taken?

The Hon'ble Mr. Buckley, in replying, said: The reply received from the Agent of the East Indian Railway to the communication addressed to him by this Government shows that the work of raising the platform of the Seoraphuli station, East Indian Railway, has been started and was stopped for a day or two during the late rush of traffic to Tarkesur, but has again been re-started.

THE DACCA MUNICIPALITY.

The Hon'ble Surendra Nath Banerjee asked the following question: (a) Will the Government be pleased (1) to give the name of the gentleman who has been appointed Plague Inspector of Dacca by the Magistrate of Dacca; (2) his qualifications, medical, sanitary, or engineering, if any; (3) and the pay of the post? (b) Is it the case that the Magistrate has compelled the Commissioners of Dacca and, despite their protest, to dispense with the services of the Engineer-Secretary, the Chairman being told that he would be held personally responsible for his pay if the Engineer-Secretary was not at once removed? Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the correspondence on the subject?

The Hon. Mr. Risley, who replied, said: The Government has no information on the matters referred in the question. The Commissioner of the Dacca Division will be asked to report the facts.

BONUS TO MR. BUSKIN.

The Hon. Surendra Nath Banerjee asked the following question: Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any truth in the announcement made by the *Behar Herald* that Mr. Buskin, the Manager of the Hatwa Raj, who is now about to retire from the management, is to receive "a bonus of Rs. 67,000 for long and meritorious service." If so, will the Government kindly state the nature of the meritorious services, and whether there was anything specially merited in them to call for this munificent recognition?

The Hon. Mr. Finucane in reply said: Mr. Buskin served late aharaja of Hutwa for 30 years as Manager, Assistant Manager, and in other capacities. He was the Maharaja's confidential friend and adviser, and highly esteemed by him. It is the custom of the Raj to give pensions to old servants on their retirement, and it is reported that the late Maharaja wished to give Mr. Buskin a liberal pension. The Maharaja has, since the Maharaja's death, pressed on the Court of Wards the propriety of giving Mr. Buskin a pension of Rs. 600, and also of leasing him a Raj lands factory on favourable terms. The Court of Wards agreed to the pension, but refused to lease the factory. Mr. Buskin has been allowed to commute the pension into a lump sum according to the rules of Government service for commutation of pensions. The value of the pension according to the rules is approximately Rs. 67,000. The Maharaja has expressed her regret and disappointment that a more liberal reward for his services has not been given to Mr. Buskin.

BENGAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The Hon. Mr. Risley moved for the discussion of the Bengal Financial Statement for 1898-99. The Hon'ble Babus S. N. Banerjee, N. N. Sen and K. C. Banerjee criticised the Budget statement. The Hon. Mr. Buckley confined his remarks to showing how useful irrigation works were, and especially how useful the Sone Canal had been in the last famine. The Hon'ble Mr. Finucane, answered those criticisms on the Budget which referred to the Department of which he was in charge. Then followed the reply of the Hon. Mr. Risley. His Honor the President then said: I understand that it is customary for the President to wind up the annual discussion of the Financial Budget. But I am quite sure that my colleagues in this Council to-day will not expect many remarks on the matter from a President who has been in office for only a week. I should like, however, to say that I feel sorry that the finance of Bengal are not in a more prosperous condition. I can not say that it is to me a matter of disappointment, for it is inevitable, after a period of severe famine, a great earthquake, and the precautions against pestilence that the province should be in straitened circumstances. But I hope we are now at the beginning of a more favourable series of seasons, and that as the year goes on we shall find ourselves approaching another Budget with lightened responsibilities and with

increased hopes of financial receipts. Speaking of famine, I should like to say here as the representative a very few days ago of the Government of India, I should also like to mention my personal admiration of the courage and care and economy with which the famine of Bengal was fought. It was not so fought in Bengal alone, but throughout India. I do believe that the famine generally was frustrated, was met with more economy and more efficiency than any previous famine of the century. It ought to have been so, because we had before us the results of experience carefully tabulated, carefully summarised, and carefully arranged for the conduct of succeeding administrators. I congratulate the province on its being free from famine now, and I congratulate ourselves now on having hopeful and more pleasant prospects before us. I listened with the greatest interest to the criticisms of the non-official members of this Council. I wish to acknowledge the moderation and courtesy with which all these criticisms were levelled. If I have one remark to make about them, it would be to say that I regret the absence from them of any suggestions of greater economy in the administration of the province. The projects for the expenditure of money which are placed before the Government by non-official bodies and by officials are countless, but the difficulty is to eliminate from them those projects which are of the most pressing urgency and those to which we are limited by the conditions of finance. And I shall reasonably hope that next year we may receive from the non-official members of this Council those suggestions as to greater economy which we may hope to receive from them. That is a direction in which criticism is of the very greatest value, because it is a form of criticism which I can safely say from my experience with the Government of India is extremely rare. Looking down the list of projects of expenditure in the province of Bengal this year, which I was particularly pleased to see, I was sorry to hear no mention whatever about them in the course of the discussion. For example, I place extreme weight upon the projects for the improvement of the appliances of the Medical College. I believe this to be of the very utmost importance for the instruction of our young men there. Next, I shall put the charges for the improvement of the Campbell Hospital for the poorest in Calcutta. I visited that hospital last year, and it was a matter of satisfaction to me to find that a considerable sum had been allotted in this Budget for the improvement of that hospital. Then I had heard that we should have had some acknowledgment from the honourable non-official members who have spoken as regards the contribution that has been made for the Eden Hostel. This is a project for the welfare of young students who come to Calcutta for their preservation and protection from evil influences in a great city like this. There is one other matter in which I take the deepest interest, and to which a great deal of reference has been made in the course of the discussion and that was the small allotment made towards the improvement of technical education. Last year I visited the College at Seepore, and came away deeply impressed. There is no institution of the same kind which I have seen in any other part of India which approaches the Seepore Engineering College. I am sure that if any honourable member who spoke about it personally visited Seepore College, he would have been interested to know that every student who passed out of it received employment of some kind or other. I had something to do in one way or another, and though special efforts were made by the Administration there to further the interests of the students, there never was any great success. With reference to the question of the subordinates of the Forest Service, I would be extremely obliged to the honourable member who spoke of them if he would interest himself in getting a class of suitable native candidates for that service. It was tried in the Central Provinces, a large part of the area of which consists of forests and jungle, and it did not prove a success, the reason being that the pay was not very attractive, and that the climate is extremely much the opposite. If honourable gentlemen who belong to this country can induce the natives of Bengal to enter classes for the study of forestry, I shall give them the most hearty encouragement myself. The Hon. Mr. Risley has taken out of my mouth words which I intended to use in reference to the water-supply of Bengal. He has told you that it was the earnest desire of Sir Alexander Mackenzie to give the people a supply of pure water in their villages. A proposal has been so far formulated that it has received the warm approval of the Government of India, and will be carried still further forward in a very short time. It is desirous that measures of that kind should be conducted in a methodical way.

SALT LAW AMENDMENT BILL. The Hon'ble Mr. Grimley, in moving for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Salt law in Bengal, said he did not propose at this stage to explain at any length the reasons which made the measure necessary, but would merely briefly recite the chief objects of the Bill. In the first place, it was proposed to do away with the restrictions of the rowana system which must necessarily hamper the trade and tend to increase the price of salt to the consumer. Another object was to provide for the re-assumption by the Government of Bengal of the administration of the Salt Department in Orissa from the Government of Madras, and the re-organisation of the controlling staff of officers on a legal basis; while the third and last object was to introduce certain changes in the law which experience had shown to be necessary in the interests of the revenue. The Bill would be circulated among the members of Council, and at the next meeting he proposed to give a full account of the circumstances which had given rise to the measure.

The motion was put and agreed to.

POLICE ACT AMENDMENT BILL. The Hon'ble Mr. Pratt, in presenting the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to extend certain portions of the Police Act, V of 1861, to the town and suburbs of Calcutta, said the Committee saw no reason to alter the Bill as originally introduced, except in one particular which was referred in paragraph 1 of their report: "A disturbance in an area proclaimed under the Bill may be brought about by, or with the assistance of, inhabitants of some other area. We have, therefore, following a precedent set by a Bill recently in the Bombay Legislative Council, made some additions to the schedule to this Bill with the object of authorising the recovery from inhabitants of such other areas compensation awarded to persons who have suffered from their misconduct." This represented the actual experience during the Tallah riots last year. Between seventy or eighty persons were arrested and prosecuted, and it was found that many of these persons had come from outside the area of the actual place of disturbance, which, if the law had been in existence, would have been proclaimed to be a disturbed area. Beyond this they did not wish to go. All they asked was that such individuals should be liable to contribute towards the compensation awarded to persons injured by their misconduct. He only further desired to draw the attention of honourable members to the Appendix to the Report.

The Council then adjourned for a week.

The Mohamedan who committed a cowardly assault on Miss Mabel Gonsalves at Cawnpore, has been sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

The German and Austrian journals are unanimous in describing the Russo-Chinese agreement as a complete defeat for the diplomacy of Great Britain, and a severe blow to her prestige in Asia.

LIBERAL MEETING AT GREENACRES.

ADDRESS BY MR. A. M. BOSE, M.A.

REVELATIONS AS TO INDIAN GOVERNMENT.

(The Oldham Chronicle, March 19.)

On Thursday evening, under the auspices of the Oldham Liberal Union, an address, entitled "Justice to India," was delivered in the Greenacres Co-operative Hall by Mr. A. M. Bose, M.A., late a native member of the Bengal Legislative Council. Councillor Harrop presided, and he was supported on the platform by Mr. Bose, Councillor Middleton, Messrs. Ephraim Shaw (chairman), of the Liberal Union, J. Maylor (vice-chairman), R. T. Jackson, J. Freeman, and S. Chetham and Ivie Mellor, (hon. secs.). The Chairman in his introductory remarks, said the people of England ought to take a very deep interest in India, because whatever were the ways or means taken to govern India they were responsible for the acts of the Government. (Hear, hear.) In his opinion India was not governed for the benefit of the people, but for the benefit of the many highly paid officials who resided there. It was for them, the voters in England to say that the Government should be for the benefit of the governed and not for the benefit of the governors. If they considered the enormous expenditure of blood and money in the late Indian frontier war he was sure they would at the next election express themselves in favour of an enlightened and progressive policy in India. (Hear, hear.) At the present time progression was in the ascendancy, and he hoped it would be so in India as it was at home. (Applause.)

Mr. A. M. Bose, M.A., who was accorded a very hearty reception, said it was impossible for him to address an audience in Lancashire without being reminded that the close and intimate connection which existed between England and India was still closer and more intimate between Lancashire and India. (Hear, hear.) He knew that the people of Lancashire more than even the rest of the people of England would be interested in the progress and prosperity of India, because when there was contentment, industry, and an era of prosperity and when there were facilities for the industrial development of the country, trade would flourish to the advantage alike of consumer and producer—India and England. (Applause.) There was another reason why he felt special pleasure in being there, and that was because there was no name in India remembered with greater gratitude or affection than that of John Bright, who lived and died a few miles from that hall. India was a very large country having an area 15 times the size of the United Kingdom and a population nearly 300,000,000 people. What was it, therefore, that held India to England? It was the confidence of the people of India in the sense of British justice. That sentiment was the strongest pillar and the surest foundation upon which rested the loving connection between England and India. There were 70,000 British soldiers in India, but what were they in comparison to the population? They would be like chaff before the wind but for that strong confidence in British intentions to deal justly by the various interests of that vast country. It was necessary from time to time to examine how it fared with a nation. Some three years ago the people of England sent into power a Government supposed to be a very strong one so far as the majority was concerned. It became important after the lapse of that time for the people of England to ask: "Did the honour and prestige of England stand as high in the councils of the nations as it did three years ago?" Let Armenia or Crete answer. (Applause.) Had the commercial prosperity of England been maintained? Let Madagascar or Tunis answer (Hear, hear.) Was it not a fact that the commerce and trade enjoyed by England when this Government came into power no longer existed? The imposition of prohibitive duties in Madagascar had practically ruined the British trade there. What had the Government done to strengthen the foundations of the Empire? In this connection he would call their attention to India. Suppose after they left that meeting any of them were arrested on a warrant issued by the authorities and placed in prison, without knowing before the Magistrates, and being denied an interview with their solicitor or friend, what would they think of it? Absolutely incredible as that state of things might appear, yet it was the actual state of things in India at the present time under the benign administration of Her Majesty's present advisers. On July 27 last year some highly influential citizens were suddenly arrested and kept in gaol to the present time, not knowing what was alleged or suspected against them. They were denied all access to their lawyers, and the Executive of the Government declared it was not their intention to put these men on their trial, but that without trial, without hearing the evidence of witnesses or giving them a shadow of a chance to disprove any allegations made behind their back, they were to be kept in gaol as long as it pleased the authorities. ("Shame.") What had they said to a state of things like that? It was nothing but legalised kidnapping. Were they to have that in British India? Was it conceivable that British administration could be reduced to that level? If the men were guilty of any offence, let evidence be adduced in open court, and let the men be found guilty let them be punished with the severity their offence deserved. The looking up of men in the way described was an oppressive procedure against all constitutional law, and all ideas of British justice. (Hear, hear.) The head kidnapper was the Viceroy, the Governor-General of India, who made himself responsible for the proceedings. If this state of things was to go on he would respectfully suggest to Her Majesty's advisers the desirability of obtaining a few kidnapers from the Sultan of Turkey, who would perform their work so effectually that no one would know who was taken away or what had become of them. To speak seriously, many officials in India, masquerading in the name of the people of England, were being permitted to bring tarnish to the fair fame of this country, which had been the admiration of the world for its liberty. Was that for a moment to be tolerated? "No." Not long ago there was the great Tretyf case in Paris, and because one document was kept from the prisoner and his counsel, the press of this country and the world cried shame upon the proceedings in Paris. If that was done when not a single tittle of evidence, documentary or otherwise, was brought to the knowledge of the accused, and when the letter was denied an interview with his counsel? If they threw stones at France it behooved them to take serious notice of the proceedings in India, which brought discredit upon the name and fame of England and English administration. In England they had experienced a Star Chamber, but even in the worst times the prisoners, he believed, were interrogated and told the charge against them. Were they going to permit the horrors of the Star Chamber to be revived in India? He hoped that the people of England would rise as one man to protest against arbitrary proceedings of this kind. If a person in England was arrested and placed in gaol without trial or knowing the charge preferred against him the existence of the Government responsible for it would terminate in 24 hours. (Hear, hear.) The state of things under the present regime in India was becoming intolerable, and the liberty of the subject had been put into serious peril by the present Government. In referring to the Indian frontier war he said this had been brought on not by anything that had

happened in India but in consequence of the unjust and iniquitous policy adopted by the Government against the liberties of the independent mountaineers who never had been subjects of the Queen. After detailing the history of the retention of Chitral he stated that the reversal of the policy of the Liberal Government to leave Chitral immediately the rescue of Dr. Robertson was accomplished, had brought on this unfortunate war, and consequent loss of valuable life and untold wealth. The English Government gave the policy but India had to find the money. Was that right? He quoted the opinion of the late John Bright and of the "Saturday Review," which in February last declared it was a miracle under the present circumstances how British rule could be maintained in India. The Government, continued Mr. Bose, had plenty of money to give to voluntary education in England, to landlords in Ireland, and sugar planters in the West Indies, but nothing for those whose only claim was that of justice (Hear, hear.) The Government had recently passed an Act to gag the press of India. They had laid it down that any writing which excited or was likely to excite the disaffection of the people rendered the editors of the paper publishing it liable to transportation. He quoted several opinions, including that of Mr. J. M. Maclean, M.P. condemning this Act. Valuable as the press was in England it was still more valuable in India, where by its instrumentality only could the Government learn the feeling in native circles. The Government now proposed to sit on that safety valve. With a free press any grievance would be brought under the notice of the Government, but now that would be stopped and the present Act, instead of enhancing the security of the administration, would have just an opposite effect. Under the plea of putting down sedition where there was none, the Government by these proceedings were taking the most effectual means to create sedition and discontent where none existed. The present Government were enemies to the Empire in sapping the foundations by oppressive and reactionary proceedings of this nature. In England the Government could not do everything they liked, because there was the controlling influence of public opinion, but in India there was no such influence. A reactionary Government there was all powerful, and there was no Parliament or public opinion to check it. The pity of it was that the people of England knew not of these things, which were being done in their name. Municipal life was the foundation of national life. In the more important towns of India they had Legislative Councils. But they were composed very differently to English municipal councils. In Calcutta the Municipal Council consisted of two-thirds elected by the rate-payers and one-third nominated by the Government and certain bodies. The chairman, who had large executive powers was nominated by the Government, and the actions of the two-thirds were liable to control by the Government. In the event of the council declining to accept the suggestions of the Government, the latter had power to suspend them and place in office a new body. Not content with those powers, last week, the Government had introduced further legislation to curtail their already extremely limited powers. It was now proposed to allow the rate-payers to elect only one-third of the General Committee. This was a most reprehensible and regrettable action. In conclusion, Mr. Bose said what he appealed for was justice for India. The action of the present Government, he said, instead of making for further progress in India made for retrogression for recession, and curtailment of privileges and liberties. He asked them to grant justice before it was too late, and to give India that justice they claimed for themselves. (Loud applause.)

MADRAS PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE.

FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS. The Madras Provincial Conference met this year at the Porter Town Hall, Kumbakonam on Good Friday.

Mr. S. A. Samintha Aiyar, the Chairman of the Reception Committee, in opening the proceedings, delivered an address, welcoming the delegates.

At the proposal of Mr. C. Sankara Nair John Adam was elected President. The following resolutions were passed:

I. REVENUE SETTLEMENT. "That this Conference records its deliberate opinion that the land revenue administration has impoverished the ryots of the Presidency; that it is necessary, in the interests both of Government and the people, greater fixity, if not permanency of tenure, should be generally accorded; that improvements should be protected by law from taxation; that the existing heavy assessments in some of the newly-settled districts should be reduced; and that no revision for the purpose of enhancing existing assessments shall be made without special legislation."

II. JUDICIAL REFORM. "That it is necessary, in the interest of efficient and popular administration of justice that there should be an entire separation of Judicial and Executive functions, and that the appointment of, and control over, Magistrates should vest in the High Court as in the case of District Magistrates."

III. THE CONSTRUCTION OF LOCAL BOARDS. "That in the opinion of this Conference, it is desirable to give effect to the provisions of Madras Act V of 1884 by throwing open at least a few seats in the Taluk Boards for election by the people and by increasing the proportion of elected members in the District Boards and further to make unific all alone eligible for election to the District Boards"

IV. TECHNICAL EDUCATION. "That this Conference places on record its deep conviction that the system of technical education now in vogue, is inadequate and unsatisfactory, and prays that, having regard to the poverty of the people and the decline of indigenous industries, the Government will introduce a more elaborate and efficient scheme of technical instruction and set apart more funds for the better and more successful working of the same. The meeting then separated for the day."

SIR JAMES WESTLAND has arrived in Simla after his visit to Kashmir.

A MEMORIAL has been sent to the Governor of Madras in Council by the Madras Trades Association on the subject of official interference with private trade.

AT LUNDI Kotal on Sunday night an Inniskilling sentry saw a rifle thief creeping into a tent and rushed at him with fixed bayonet but tripped over the tent ropes and got cut about the head by the thief who then tried to seize the sentry's rifle. The latter, however, held on pluckily, whereupon the native shot him in the thigh with a revolver and made off.

ON the 28th January last at Yerowda, a Sindhli life convict named Raola Arab set fire to his plank bed. When the warders arrived a struggle ensued and he being an enormously powerful man seized one old native warder, squeezed him and at the same time pressed a stone into his back and the old man died shortly afterwards. After several hearings before the City Magistrate, Raola Arab was on Saturday committed for trial for murder to the Sessions.

INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, March 28.

The Plague in Bombay.—Sir M. M. Bhowanagreg asked the Secretary for India if he had received by the last despatches from the Bombay Government any particulars regarding the riots which recently took place in that city; and, if so, would he state the same for the information of the House.

Lord G. Hamilton: I have not received from India any information concerning the Bombay riots except by telegram, but I understand a despatch may be expected shortly.

Mr. Maclean asked whether, under the regulations of the Plague Committee in Bombay, search parties of British soldiers were employed to visit the native houses and to enter the apartments even of Mahomedan and Hindu ladies who were by custom secluded from the gaze of men; whether Lord Sandhurst, the Governor of Bombay, was repeatedly warned that this practice was creating much disaffection, which finally culminated in a terrible riot and ageneral strike; and had he received any explanation why the Governor only cancelled the orders complained of after the riot had taken place; whether the Plague Committee had since resigned; and whether the regulations in question were issued by the Governor of Bombay in pursuance of orders from home.

Lord G. Hamilton: Up to March 5 a certain number of specially selected British private soldiers were employed to visit Hindu houses if no objection was raised, but in no case did they visit a Mahomedan house, nor did any British soldier, whether officer or private, ever enter the room of a woman of the class referred to in the question. The Governor of Bombay was never warned that the search operations were creating disaffection, though he was, of course, aware that all the measures taken to prevent the spread of the plague were unpopular among certain sections of the population. I have already stated that the order for the employment of British soldiers was cancelled on March 5, four days before the riot began. Certain other changes were, I believe, under contemplation when the riot began, and were carried into effect after it had taken place. The Plague Committee has not resigned. The regulations in question were issued by the Plague Committee under instructions from the Bombay Government and without previous reference to me, but I was aware of their general tendency, and have throughout supported the Government of India and of Bombay in taking such necessary measures as circumstances may permit for the prevention and alleviation of the plague.

The Speech of Sir Alexander Mackenzie.—Mr. Herbert Roberts asked the Secretary of State for India whether his attention has been drawn to the reported speech of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, made in the Viceroy's Council on the occasion of the passing of the new Sedition Law on Feb. 18, and particularly to the comparison of certain classes of the Indian people to the carrion-kite and jay; and whether, in view of the present state of public opinion in India in reference to the new Press Law, he would take note of language used in such circumstances by a responsible ruler of an Indian province.

Lord G. Hamilton: The only mention of jays, kites, and eagles made by Sir Alexander Mackenzie was in a poetical quotation from Lord Macaulay. (Laughter.) I am not prepared to lay down the rule that members of the Viceroy's Legislative Council are to be prohibited for the future from quoting poetry in their speeches. (Laughter.)

Tuesday, March 29.

Indian Railway Companies and their Capital.—Sir W. Houldsworth, on behalf of Mr. Tomlinson, asked the Secretary for India whether he could say what amount of capital Indian railway companies were expected to raise in London this year under guarantee from the Government and without such guarantee.

Lord G. Hamilton: The amount of capital which the Indian railway companies are expecting to raise during the financial year 1898-99, under the guarantee of the Secretary of State for India is 2,273,000l. I have no information of the amount that may be raised without such guarantee.

Copper Coins in India.—Mr. Strauss asked the Secretary of State for India the face value of the copper coins coined in India since the closing of the mints to silver and the quantity of copper used for that purpose.

Lord G. Hamilton: The face value of the copper coins of the Indian Government coined at the Indian mints during the four years 1893-94 and 1896-97 inclusive was forty-six lacs of rupees. The value of the copper coins coined for other Governments was four lacs. The quantity of copper used in the manufacture of coins by the Indian Government during that period was approximately, allowing for waste 6,200,000lb. It is not possible to show what proportion of copper coins for 1893-94 were struck previous to the closing of the mints. I have no information as to the coinage of the years 1897-98.

The Seizure of Arms on the "Baluchistan."—Mr. C. M'Arthur asked on what grounds the steamship *Baluchistan* was on Jan. 24 last, seized by H. M. S. *Lapwing*, off Muscat, and certain arms and ammunition on board shipped at London for Bushire and other ports in the Persian Gulf by the said steamship, seized and taken out of her by those on board the *Lapwing*, by whose authority this action was taken, and whether an official report of the occurrence had yet been received.

Mr. Cutzon: The incident to which the question refers formed the subject of a question asked on Feb. 21, by the hon. member for East Mayo. I can only refer the hon. member to the answer then returned, which explained the seizure of certain arms carried by the "Baluchistan," and the authority on which such action was taken. The fact of the seizure of the arms was reported by telegraph. Full details respecting the proceedings have been requested by telegraph, but have not yet been received.

SURGEON-COLONEL T. H. HENDLEY, C. I. E., Indian Medical Service (Bengal) is appointed to be Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals Bengal.

IS SUNSTROKE INFECTIOUS.—Dr. L. Sambon, who contributes a remarkable article to the *British Medical Journal*, says that sunstroke is an infectious disease due to a specific organism. Dr. Sambon, after pointing out that other affections are often mistaken for sunstroke, proceeds to prove that true sunstroke has certain defined geographical limits. Thus, to take the case of India, it is prevalent in the low-lying plains of the Indus and Ganges and unknown in the highlands of Assam and the Peninsula plateau, though it would be difficult to differentiate between the temperature at any of these places during the hot weather. Similarly in the United States, sunstroke is common in the Mississippi Valley and never occurs in the Colorado plains. That heat alone is not the cause of the disease, Dr. Sambon proves by taking the case of miners, stokers, plowers, and others who have to work in the hottest temperature which it is possible to support life. A point that is dwelt on with some insistence and ought not to be forgotten is that disease has sometimes appeared in an epidemic form, and has been more fatal in the shelter of a hospital ward than working in the sun in the same

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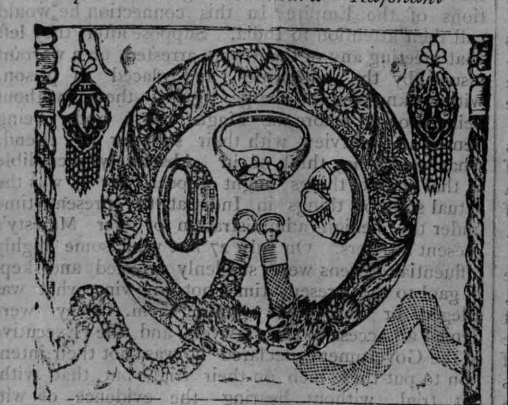
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