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পদকপতক।

সম্পূর্ণ হইয়াছে

মূল্য ৩০ টাকা।

পরিশিষ্ট বস্ত্র।

অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

অনুরাগবলী।

ঐশ্বর্যের দাস প্রণীত।

এ বাণী উপদেশের বৈষ্ণব গ্রন্থ। দুই বৎসর পূর্বে প্রকাশিত।

মূল্য ছয় আনা। ডাঃ নাঃ বঃ আনা। অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

শ্রীঅদ্বৈত-প্রকাশ।

শ্রীঅদ্বৈত প্রভুর প্রিয় চমৎকার ও শিশু

শ্রীশ্রীশ্রী নগর কৃত।

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লীলা বিশদরূপে বর্ণিত হইয়াছে।

মূল্য বার আনা। ডাঃ নাঃ এক আনা। অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

শ্রীত্রিবিম্বপ্রিয়া পত্রিকা।

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একবারে নিঃশেষিত হওয়ার, আমরা তাহাদের

অভিলাষ পূরণ করিতে পারি না। সেই জন্য

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পত্রিকা চাহেন, তাহার কৃপা করিয়া অবিলম্বে

আমাদিগকে জানাইবেন। বাহ্যিক পূর্বে গ্রাহক

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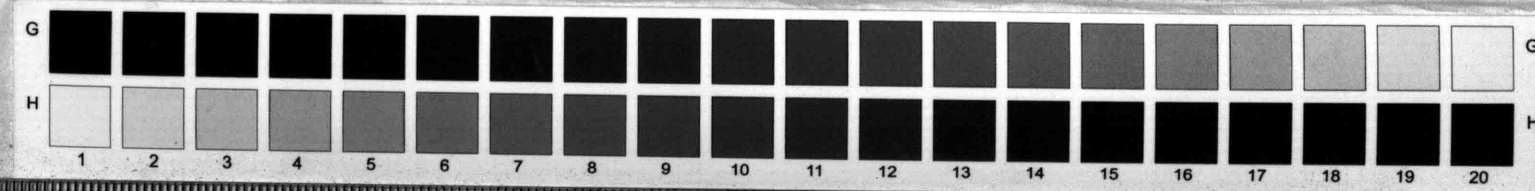
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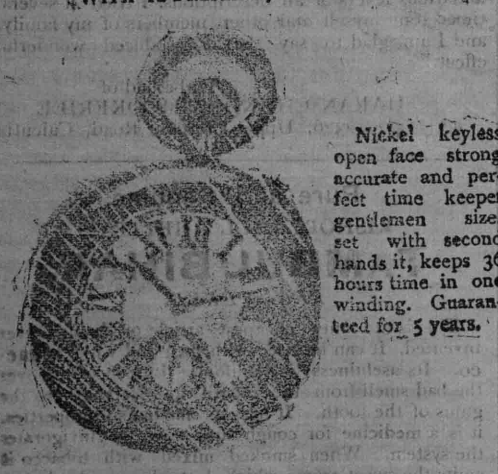
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compounding of which none but the very purest drugs are used and after due consideration the Proprietors are prepared to refund full value, if a complete cure is not effected, by using their Gonorrhoea cure according to accompanied directions.

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The proprietors have certificates from numerous patients and as it does not seem proper to publish the names of the persons suffering from private diseases, they are not printed, but originals can be examined on personal application to the undersigned.

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THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, MAY 22, 1898.

IN MEMORIAM

The greatest man of the age, Mr. Gladstone, died Thursday. If he was a giant in intellect, his morality was also of the most exalted kind. And above all, he had strong faith in religion and the goodness of God. When lying unconscious in his death-bed, he was heard to mutter prayers in French. This shows that he was a very pious man. Indeed, this is the way every devout Hindu wishes to die. Whether another man like Mr. Gladstone will be born in England or not, nobody can say; but it is an undoubted fact that there is no one among the present Liberals or Conservatives, who is worthy of occupying his position. Mr. Gladstone was universally respected, and, needless to say, the whole of Europe and America will go into mourning over his death.

The following is a brief memoir of the great deceased:

William Ewart Gladstone was born at Liverpool in 1809. He was the 4th son of Sir John Gladstone, a Liverpool merchant. On both sides, he was of Scotch descent, although born in England. He was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated as a double first-class in 1831. As a member of the Oxford Union Debating Society, he greatly distinguished himself. When young, he was a strong Conservative, opposed to all advanced measures of political reform. He entered Parliament as member for Newark in 1832, shortly after the passing of the Reform Bill. As an orator, he early made a decided impression on the House. In 1839, Macaulay described him as the "rising hope" of the stern and unbending Tories.

In 1844, Sir Robert Peel appointed Mr. Gladstone a Junior Lord of the Treasury, and, appreciating his great abilities, gave him next year the post of Under-Secretary for the Colonies. In 1847, while still accepted as a Conservative, Mr. Gladstone was chosen one of the representatives of the University of Oxford. In 1852, he outshone Mr. Disraeli in a great speech, and was recognised as one of the great historic orators of the British Parliament. With that speech began the long contest between these two great masters of debate which lasted 24 years. Next he became Chancellor of the Exchequer under Lord Aberdeen. His speech on the introduction of the Budget excited the greatest admiration. He held the same office in different Ministries, and in 1868 he became Premier for the first time. His second administration commenced in April 1880 and lasted till June 1885.

At the general election of November 1885, the Liberals were returned with numbers almost exactly equal to those of Tories and Parnellites combined. Soon afterwards, in January, 1886, Mr. Gladstone returned to office, and at the same time, caused it to be known that he was prepared to introduce a Home Rule measure for Ireland. This broke up the Liberal Party. Lord Hartington and others refused office, and Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Trevelyan only accepted on grounds which were soon afterwards shown to be untenable. Mr. Gladstone introduced his Home Rule Bill in a long and powerful speech on April 8, (the scene in the House before, during and after the speech being one that will not be forgotten), and on June 9, the second reading was rejected by a majority of 30. He appealed to the country, and as a result, an overwhelming majority of Conservatives and Unionist Liberals was returned. Upon this, Mr. Gladstone resigned without meeting Parliament.

His fourth and last administration was in 1892. In 1894, his great age and increasing infirmities led him to resign, and retire from public life.

Besides being acknowledged as a foremost orator and the greatest debater in the House of Commons, Mr. Gladstone has made several contributions to literature, as his *Homeric Studies*, which show his marvellous intellectual activity. His favourite physical exercise was cutting down trees.

With regard to his own belief in religion, he used to say: "All I write, and all I think, and all I hope, is based upon the Divinity of our Lord, the one central hope of our poor wayward race."

Of his sons, the eldest sat in Parliament for some time as member for East Worcestershire; the second, the Rev. Stephen Gladstone, is rector of Hawarden; and the third, Mr. Herbert Gladstone, has sat since 1880, for Leeds.

The Lieutenant-Governor of Burma's present intentions are to remain at Maymyo until October. Only a small section of the Secretariat clerks will proceed thither shortly for despatch of urgent correspondence. This entails a permanent increase to the establishment.

A SUSPECTED PLAGUE CASE IN CALCUTTA.

MR. G. S. SYKES, President of the Vigilance Committee for Ward No. 10, has sent us the following particulars of the case of Wright:

The following are the particulars of the case of baby Wright, of 42, Kopalitola Lane, as found on careful personal enquiry.

Bertie Wright is a baby, about 12 months old, and is teething. He had fever and convulsions off and on, owing to teething. On Thursday, the 12th May, through the negligence of the Ayah, the baby fell down from a chair when playing and sprained the thigh. The Ayah did not bring this to the notice of the inmates of the house. On Friday, the 13th May, the child was taken to the Chandney Hospital and was treated as a patient for fever and convulsions. On Saturday morning the mother of the child, noticed the swollen thigh, and on enquiry learnt from the Ayah, about the fall, suspecting that there might have been a serious sprain. Mr. Fernandez, the uncle of the child, took him to the Medical College Hospital, and the Doctor there said that it was a suspected case of plague and the child must be left in the Plague Ward. Mr. Fernandez protested, but to no effect; he sent for his sister, the mother of the child; and the mother and the child were kept in the Hospital on Saturday. On Sunday morning the mother insisted on coming away and the Doctors allowed them to come out. The child was then placed under the treatment of Dr. Sarvadhicari, and was progressing well. On Monday the announcement in the *Englishman* about this case frightened the parents of the child. In consultation with Dr. Sarvadhicari it was arranged that Dr. Bonford or any of the European Doctors, should be called in, and the child examined. Dr. Sarvadhicari, being distinctly of opinion that it was not a plague case. Dr. Bonford wrote to say that he had given up private practice. Dr. Sanders was then written to, and appointed 9.30 A.M. of Tuesday to see the patient. But on Tuesday through the advice of some neighbours, the alarmed guardians of the child, without consulting Dr. Sarvadhicari, sent for Dr. Wallace, who came and saw the patient between 8 and 9 A.M.

At this time, Dr. Stevens, one of the Bombay Doctors, was passing through Kopalitola Lane, inspecting the houses for which isolation had been applied for. Dr. Wallace stopped his brougham and introduced himself to Dr. Stevens, and said that he had just then seen a case of plague at 42, Kopalitola, and went on to say that he had not seen a worse case than this in the Manicktola Hospital, where he had been deputed by the Government, to see cases. Dr. Stevens then went to see the child, and Dr. Mackenzie, another Bombay Doctor, was also sent for, and came. After some consultation, they said it was a suspected case, and the child should be removed to the Isolation Hospital for Christians at Sealdah. The guardians objected, and asked for isolation and segregation in the house, undertaking to remove the other inmates of the house to the neighbouring houses; but it was refused, as they had not formally applied for the purpose. Dr. Sanders and Sarvadhicari saw the child at 9.30 A.M., and after hearing all that happened, said they were of opinion that it was not a case of plague and Dr. Sanders said he would write to the Health Officer, Baba Nanda Lal Das, a member of the Vigilance Committee, put himself in communication with Mr. G.S. Sykes, President of the Vigilance Committee; and they went to Dr. Cook, the Health Officer. Dr. Cook, after hearing the particulars, decided to see the patient himself, as the medical opinions differed. He thoroughly examined the child, and said that he did not think it was a case of plague, though there were some suspicious features. The child was teething, had been ill 7 days, looked sprightly and its eyes were bright; it ate well, slept well and retained its food; temperature not higher than 102°, tongue not bad, a bubo on the left thigh hard, not tender and sensitive to the touch, as it would be in a true case of plague, and the neighbouring glands were healthy. As there were doubts in his mind, he would give them the benefit, and ordered the case to be left in the house, but isolated, and would call the next day and see it again. Dr. Cook, Mr. Sykes and Baba Nanda Lal Das then went to Superintendent Johnstone and countermanded the order given to the Police.

Although the Wrights were calm and unexcited, the neighbours, chief among whom were certain West Indians and East Indians, were terribly excited; and when Dr. Cook and others went to the place, they were in a very pugnacious attitude and considerable risk was incurred. But the non-removal of the child had a quieting effect on them. Some of the West Indians and East Indians, on being reasoned with by Baba Nanda Lal Das, told him that Dr. Wallace disclaimed having any talk with the Bombay Doctor, and they would be perfectly satisfied if all the facts are published in the papers and Dr. Wallace given an opportunity of making a public statement.

The child is better to-day and improving. The temperature being only 100°. *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, 18th May, 1898.

(sd.) G. S. SYKES.

President, Vigilance Committee, Ward No. 10

In Bombay, a patient about to get plague, shows all signs of complete prostration; in Calcutta, however, his confere looks "sprightly," his "eyes are bright," he "eats well, sleeps well, and retains his food." In Bombay, his tongue is coated with a thick layer of white fur; in Calcutta his tongue is "not bad." In Bombay, the bubo of a suspected plague patient is tender to the touch; but here the bubo can be pressed without causing him any pain. And above all, while in Bombay, fever is characteristically high in suspected plague cases, here a temperature, not higher than 102°, is enough to constitute a suspected case. Is the isolation hospital being filled up with suspected plague cases of this sort? When a child is teething, he is, as a rule, feverish. When he falls from a chair and hurts his thigh, he is bound to get a small swelling of the gland in the groin. But in the opinion of at least two Medical Officers of the Municipality, namely, Dr. Stevens, and Dr. Mackenzie, these symptoms in a child, who is teething, entitle

to take him for a suspected plague patient and order the police to drag him to the isolation hospital. Pray, what child in Calcutta is safe under the above circumstances? And the above Doctors are practically the sole masters of the situation. They see a patient and dub him as a suspected plague case, and he at once becomes liable to be pounced upon and lodged in the hospital, for which the people have such dread. If the East Indian baby was saved from the terrible fate which the two Doctors voted for him, it was simply due to an accident. Indeed, but for the interference of Dr. Sanders and Mr. Sykes, the child would have been carried to the hospital, and, as Mr. Sykes says, a riot provoked. We are told that Dr. Cook saw some suspicious features in the case. May we enquire what they were?

By-the-bye, this is perhaps the first time in the history of the world that a teething case was sought to be converted into that of a suspected plague. The Municipal Doctors were, no doubt, actuated by the best of motives; but that is no reason that they should mistake a simple teething case for a suspected plague case, and cause alarm to the parents of the patient and the general public.

THE BENGAL GOVERNMENT AND THE I. D. NEWS.

We regret that the Government of Bengal should go to the length of threatening the *Indian Daily News* with a prosecution under the new Sedition Act, section 505 of the I. P. Code. We regret because the threat shows temper on its part. And when the temper of the Government is ruffled, it may do many things at the heat of the moment, which it cannot justify afterwards. The Bombay Government owes all its misfortunes to its loss of equanimity.

The letters of Messrs. Sanderson and Co. were published in all the daily papers of Calcutta; and the fact was made very clear that the report of the *Daily News*, that a man had died of inoculation, was totally unfounded. It is quite true that the *Daily News* did not publish the correspondence; but that was in consequence of the discourteous language in which the letters of Messrs. Sanderson and Co. were couched. The *Daily News*, however, retracted the false statements, and expressed regret for having given publicity to them with an explanation. This ought to have satisfied the Government; for, its object was not vindictiveness, but to secure a contradiction of the untruth in its columns.

We had not the slightest notion that the new Sedition Act would be sought to be put in force so soon, and that against an Anglo-Indian paper. Indeed, the action of the Bengal Government is likely to have a very demoralising effect upon the entire press, both Indian and Anglo-Indian. The *Englishman* is no more safe than the *Indian Daily News*. We know as a positive fact that the Hon'ble Mr. Risley's letter in a vernacular paper to the effect that, if the search-parties, appointed by the Ward Committees, failed to do their duty, they would be supplanted by a Government agency, also created alarm and induced many people to leave Calcutta. So you see, at a time of excitement, every one of us is liable to do some indiscreet act; and if these slips lead the Government to resort to the provisions of the Sedition Act, no journalist in the country is safe, not even some of those members of the Government itself who have connection with the press.

As for the *Englishman*, it clearly came under section 505 for having reported that baby Wright, and Mrs. Gomes and her child had been attacked with plague and been removed to the isolation hospital. The publication of these false reports not only alarmed the relations of the parties and the general public, but made the West Indians and East Indians, according to Mr. Sykes, very excited; and when Dr. Cook and others went to examine the baby at Kopalitola, "they were in a very pugnacious attitude and considerable risk was incurred." As regards the Gomes case, the *Englishman* has been compelled to undo the mischief created, by publishing the following contradiction in its columns:—

Sir—Will you be good enough to permit facts to appear in your widely-circulated paper in connection with the false statement made regarding Mrs. Gomes and her child being attacked with plague and removed to the hospital. This is quite groundless and irksome. Such false representation only adds fuel to fire, and has not only caused a general scare in the family, but the servants are terrified to such an extent that they have made up their minds to throw up their employment, and the landlord intends to serve a notice for vacation. It is really very hard for poor people to be treated like this, with false reports appearing in the leading papers.

F. H. GOMES.

10, Fenwick Bazar, May 18.

The false reports, published in the *Englishman*, did some positive harm, as the above and Mr. Sykes' letter show; but no evidence is before the public as regards the character of the mischief done by the publication of the *Daily News* paragraph. Both were, however, published in good faith; and we venture to submit that, beyond warning the papers of their mistakes, the Government needed not have gone further. Indeed, the Government itself is not immaculate, no human institution is. Relying upon some of its officials, it might be led to commit mistakes, similar to those committed by the *Daily News* and the *Englishman*; and surely, it would not then enforce section 505 in its own case!

What is needed at this juncture, is cool-headedness. What a calamity would have befallen the country if the *Indian Daily News* had accepted the challenge of the Government and fought it out to the bitter end, Bengal would have been then converted into another Bombay. It is also very doubtful if the Government had obtained a victory; for, the editor, being an Englishman, would have been tried by a jury of his own countrymen. We all know how Mr. J. Wilson, the late editor of the *Indian Daily News*, was prosecuted for defamation by Sir Stuart Hogg at the instance of the Bengal Government, and how he came out triumphant, to the humiliation of both his prosecutor and the Government. As regards the legal aspect of the case, section 505 runs as follows:—

Whoever makes, publishes or circulates any statement, rumour or report,—

(b) with intent to cause, or which is likely to cause, fear or alarm to the public, or to any section of the public, whereby any person may be induced to commit an offence against the State or against the public tranquility, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

Exception.—It does not amount to an offence, within the meaning of this section, when the person making, publishing or circulating any such statement, rumour or report, has reasonable grounds for believing that such statement, rumour or report is true, and makes, publishes or circulates it without any such intent as aforesaid.

When a man in the position of Dr. Wallace furnished him with the information, surely the editor had ample grounds for believing that the report was correct. We are, however, glad that the matter has ended peacefully. It could not have ended otherwise, when we have got Sir John Woodburn at the head of the Government.

THE BLUNDERS OF THE AUTHORITIES.

"WHAT is the punishment for killing a spider?" asks a Sudra of a Brahmin. "Oh, it is a great crime to kill a spider," replies the Brahmin. "As for punishment, why, you will have to pay a large quantity of gold to Brahmins to wash away your sin." "But, sir, it is your son who has killed a spider!" says the Sudra. "Is it so? Well, let me see. I was mistaken. It is no sin to kill a spider, says the Shashtra." When a journalist, by a slip of the pen, uses some unguarded expressions which are likely to create public disturbance, it is a great crime. But, when the authorities, by their acts and measures, bring about the same result, it is nothing. According to the *Englishman*, the authorities have at last come to realize the fact that the ignorant classes view the use of the ambulance cart with abhorrence. "The sight of an ambulance cart," says our contemporary, "acts like a red rag on a bull on the native mind, and the use of gharies or palkees in its place would not attract so much attention, and save all the excitement and disturbance that Calcutta has witnessed twice within the space of a week or ten days." Here is a grave admission. The riots which were brought about recently, were due to the use of the ambulance cart! Why did you then use it at all?

If the authorities had cared to consult the leaders of the Indian society on the subject, they would have at once dissuaded them from having anything to do with it. But they know better than the Indians what will serve the latter best. This overweening confidence of the rulers in themselves is the root of a good many evils. The *Englishman* says that a proposal is on foot to introduce ticca gharies or palkees for conveying all patients to hospital, as the work can be more satisfactorily accomplished and in much less time. But was it necessary to acquire this simple knowledge by disturbing public peace? The authorities, we find, have learnt another simple fact by their recent sad experiences. It is that the masses do not like the forcible removal of the patients through the aid of the police. They have yet to learn many other things. One is how a scare is initiated. This has been very faithfully described by a correspondent of the *Englishman* in the following letter:—

Sir—The account of the *dangah* at Moul Ali Durga given in the newspapers is so very different to that current among the native servants in the locality, that it will be instructive to record the latter. On reaching my residence last evening I enquired of my Uryia bearer what the trouble was about? He told me, that a doctor *sahib* had *subberdust* taken a child away from its parent's house, and forced it into the plague van; that when in the van the same doctor had compelled the child to smell a bottle, with the result that the urchin instantly expired; that the parents and their friends had followed the van, weeping and beseeching the doctor to restore the child to them; and that when this melancholy cortege reached Lower Circular Road, a justly incensed and indignant multitude from the Bazar had attempted to rescue the child, and in doing so, the doctor was beaten rather badly. I had already heard the facts from a perfectly reliable authority and narrated them not only to my bearer, but to his fellow-servants, who were one and all manifestly exercised by this exhibition of *sootom* on the part of the *Sirkar* in the person of the doctor. No argument I could urge, had the very slightest effect on my servants; they preferred the silly story current in the *bastis* to the truth. What can you do with such people? The Government on a large scale are experiencing precisely the same difficulty with the native population of Calcutta, ay, even of Bengal, which I experienced with the half-dozen servants on whom I vainly endeavoured to impress the truth.

RATE-PAYER.

MAY 19.

When you have to deal with these classes of people, your civilized and scientific methods of sanitation won't do. They will not understand your argument that, for the good of the public, it is necessary that a plague patient should be removed to a distant hospital and separated from the members of his family. What has been ingrained in their minds is that, when a man is stricken down, even with the most contagious and infectious of diseases, he should not be disturbed on any account, but allowed to die or recover in his own house. They are, no doubt, perverse and wrong-headed, but you must take them as they are and deal with them accordingly. If it is not possible for the Government to do away with segregation and isolation, why not segregate and isolate them in their own houses? Why drag them to hospitals in ambulance carts and provoke the illiterate masses to acts of lawlessness?

That the cases which are now occurring in Calcutta, are not real plague, is abundantly clear from their non-contagious and non-infectious character. As we pointed out the other day, not one among the families of the plague patients lodged in the isolation hospital, has suffered from the disease. Then, the careless manner in which these so-called patients or their corpses are taken through the thickly-populated parts of the town, shows that they don't carry the plague poison with them. That being so, why should not a suspicious case, when discovered, be allowed to be isolated in the house of the patient? In this way, the object of sanitation will be served, and, at the same time, ignorant persons will not be provoked to commit lawlessness.

As regards the higher-class Indians, they will also regard this as a great boon; for, segregation and isolation in hospitals are as much a source of horror to them as they are to the masses. There is no doubt of it that patients can be isolated and their attendants segregated in a far better manner in private houses than in plague hospitals.

The universal belief here is that when the Government made such gigantic efforts to make vaccination popular in this country, this system has been accepted as an unquestionable boon by all in England. But this is altogether a mistake. The mail papers to hand contain some very interesting facts which throw considerable light upon the way in which it is regarded by a large section of the English people. During a debate in the House of Commons on the new Vaccination Bill, which was brought in by the Government, one of the speakers said that though anybody might suppose that vaccination was absolutely compulsory and that any fanatic, resisting it, had to go to prison, in reality this was not the case. The member for Tower Hamlets, Stepney, had the boldness to say that he belonged to one of those boards of guardians which "absolutely refused to carry out the present Acts of Parliament, dealing with vaccination." Mr. Steadman, who was supporting the Government party, then said that throughout the whole of the East-end of London, there were 25,131 children who were born during 1896 in ten Parliamentary divisions, and out of that number only 7,980 were vaccinated. Mr. Chaplin, the sponsor of the Bill, lamented over the existence of an active and powerful body of men in England, who desire the total repeal of the vaccination law, and who are ceaselessly working to procure its abolition, though he individually had implicit faith in vaccination. In his speech from a medical point of view, Sir W. Priestly said that "at the present time one-third of the children of England and Wales were escaping vaccination." From all this it appears that in spite of the best efforts of Government in England to introduce vaccination as a prophylactic, the people at large have not accepted it as such. If this is the state of things in "enlightened" England, should anybody wonder if plague inoculation created such an uproar in "unenlightened" India? By the way, when so many people remain unvaccinated in England, and yet small-pox is almost unknown there, does it not show that other causes than vaccination have conquered this scourge in Europe? Such was the opinion of Mr. T. Baley, Member for Chesterfield, who remarked:—

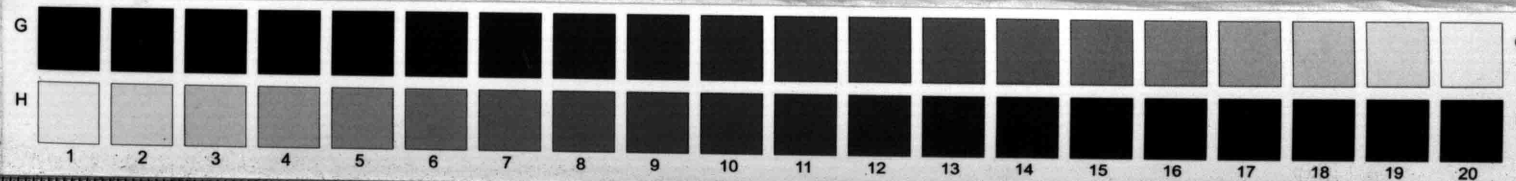
A year ago he was as strongly in favour of vaccination as anybody in the House, but inquiry into the question and reading the Government reports, made his mind very doubtful, and he was beginning to believe that they were absolutely at the wrong end of the question altogether, and that sanitation, isolation, and cleanliness of the people would do more to destroy small-pox than giving cow-pox or anything else.

Said he again:—

Another extraordinary thing was that there were 190 cases of re-vaccinated people in Gloucester who had small-pox, and yet they were told that, if re-vaccinated, they were safe from small-pox for a number of years. Then, taking the case of Middlesborough, that town stood at the head of the United Kingdom, with a percentage of 96 or 97 re-vaccinated persons, notwithstanding which there was a serious outbreak of small-pox there.

So when the cause of vaccination is tottering, in spite of its successful trial for upwards of a century, what chance the Haffkine inoculation can have while it is yet in a crude state? The *Pioneer* has an able article on the alleged prophylactic of M. Haffkine.

If vaccination has now been introduced extensively into this country, it was done by inducement and not at the point of



bayonet. Indeed, it is very doubtful if any large number of people would have agreed to vaccinate themselves voluntarily, if vaccination was not made compulsory by law. When vaccination was first introduced in this country, the Government of the day used to pay the party vaccinated, a reward of Rs. 5, and also advertised his name in the local *Gazette*. We thus find in the *Calcutta Gazette*, dated 25th April, 1805, that Panchowri and Ranjit, two sons of Kaloo, washerman, were vaccinated by Brijopal, vaccinator, on 15th March, 1805. On the 1st of the same month, he vaccinated his own son, Thakur Das. We also find that Mr. Fleming, first member of the Medical Board, in his letter, dated 1st December, 1802, to H. E. the Marquis of Wellesley, the Governor-General, suggested the publication of a notification in the Persian, Hindi, Bengali and Sanskrit languages, giving a succinct history of the discovery and an explanation of the important and essential advantages which vaccination possessed over small-pox inoculation. But, in spite of these efforts, people would not yet take to vaccination till they were compelled to do so by legislation.

ONE of the main objects of these Provincial Conferences is, no doubt, to bring about a gathering of a large number of our educated men at a central place for the purpose of discussing the public affairs of the country; but there is yet a higher object. It is the education of the masses. The Conference, to be successful and useful, must secure the sympathy and support of the millions who form the nation. It was expected that Natore would show the way in this respect. The Natore Conference last year was a success beyond all expectation, chiefly through the self-sacrifice of the Maharajah of Natore. But the Maharajah lost his health, and the projected organization of making the ryots interested in the movement fell to the ground. It falls to the lot of Dacca to make the Conference a really living organization. The easiest way of doing it, is to select some subjects in which the vast body of the population of Bengal are interested, and carry on a systematic agitation about them through a small Committee. The Irish patriots made many attempts in vain to organise a living political Association in their country. They failed for a century, because they could not take up one subject in which the people of Ireland felt a universal interest. Parnell, however, succeeded in making his Land League a power, by giving prominence to the land question which affected every Irishman. As regards Bengal, there is not one man in the Mofussil who is not vitally interested in the following subjects:—the Choukidari Tax, the Road and the Public Works Cesses, the criminal administration which includes jury-trial, the separation of the judicial and executive functions, the police reform and the management of the jails. A more cruel tax than the Choukidari tax can not be conceived; even the poorest of the poor living in a hut, is made to pay it. The Cess funds belong to the people, both morally and legally; and if they were permitted to do their legitimate duties, instead of being diverted to Imperial purposes, half the misery of Bengal would have been removed by this time. The manner in which criminal justice is administered in the country, is emasculating the whole nation. Vascular fever as well as cholera which sweep away millions of people annually, are not less potent for evil than the bubonic plague, and demand the earnest attention of all. The physical deterioration of the Bengalees must fill the heart of every well-wisher of the country with deep alarm and anxiety. All these subjects, which concern the masses immediately, should be taken up, and a special Committee appointed for carrying on a sustained agitation in regard to them. The promoters of the Dacca Conference will do a grand act if they can appoint such a Committee as an experimental measure, and make it work with heart at least for one year.

WHEN the Collector of Satara was asked by Mr. Sohoni to take up his case, the former ought to have declined the request. His proper course was to have asked Mr. Sohoni to go to the law-court. But the Collector, instead of doing it, boldly took upon himself to settle the matter between Mr. Rowcroft and Mr. Sohoni. The case was this: Mr. Rowe Croft had assaulted Mr. Sohoni because the former thought that the latter had not saluted him properly. That was the case,—a most ridiculous one on the face of it,—which ought to make every Englishman blush for the vanity and rudeness his countryman! Is it possible under such circumstances to do justice, and at the same time maintain the prestige of the ruling race? Now two contradictory principles move the general body of officials here. One is to do justice at any cost; and the other is to maintain the prestige of the ruling race at any cost. One can see that these two principles are incompatible with each other. In a case like this, the Collector might have privately called the parties and settled the matter amicably. Or he might have issued verbal orders for the purpose. But it was rather a bold attempt on his part to give a written judgment; and this not only makes Mr. Rowcroft more emphatically ridiculous, but also serves to bring ridicule upon himself and his methods of administering justice. The case is one which will not permit of apportioning blame to the two parties. Mr. Rowcroft

established. Why did he do it? Ans: because Mr. Rowcroft thought that Mr. Sohoni had been intentionally rude. But was it so? No, says the Collector. He finds and very justly that Mr. Sohoni was not intentionally rude. Then, what was his excuse for the assault? Here the Collector puts in a word in favour of Mr. Rowcroft. He says Mr. Sohoni was not intentionally rude, yet Mr. Rowcroft thought that his action was rude. From this it is clear that since Mr. Sohoni, according to the Collector, was not intentionally rude, Mr. Rowcroft was wholly in the wrong to think that he (Mr. Sohoni) was so.

WELL, under the wrong impression that Mr. Sohoni had intentionally insulted him, Mr. Rowcroft had committed the assault. Thus, according to the showing of the Collector himself, Mr. Rowcroft had no excuse whatsoever for the assault that he was led to commit. But his finding was that they were equally guilty! This is even more ridiculous than the vanity which led Mr. Rowcroft to demand the salam. Says the Collector: "Mr. Rowcroft admits that he was in fault when he took the law into his own hands." Here the Collector, who was, no doubt, trying his utmost to do justice at all cost, unconsciously fell a victim to the demands of the other principle, namely, the prestige of the ruling race must be maintained at any cost. So, according to the Collector, Mr. Rowcroft only took the "law into his own hands." But where is the law to compel a native of India to salute a European whenever they meet? No, there is no such law, and no European, therefore, can take it into his own hands. The whole thing is ridiculous; and the Collector, whose motives were excellent, has made the thing more ridiculous than ever. Fancy an educated English officer assaulting a weak old man because the latter had not saluted him in a proper manner! Fancy also a British Judicial Officer throwing the blame equally upon the aggressive soldier and his victim! Mr. Rowcroft has brought ridicule upon his nation by his conduct. He surely does not deserve any consideration whatever. And then, fancy the effect of such conduct upon the minds of the natives of the soil,—one English Officer assaulting an old Indian gentleman because the latter had not saluted him, and another English Officer apportioning the blame between the two, asking both to forgive each other! We hope, the higher authorities will see the necessity of compelling Mr. Rowcroft to offer a most humble apology for his un-English and altogether ridiculous conduct,—a conduct which is likely to bring contempt upon English character. It is sedition to bring contempt and hatred against the British Government. We fancy, Mr. Rowcroft's act was emphatically seditious.

We are sorry, our information that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor will leave Calcutta for Darjeeling on Friday has turned out to be correct. There is, however, no help for it; for, His Honour is unwell, and an immediate change is absolutely necessary for his health. We have faith in Sir John Woodburn. We know that if anything turns up which demands his presence in Calcutta, His Honour will at once run down here. We have, however, no doubt that the affairs of the city will be managed by his subordinates during his absence in such a way as to give rise to no cause for complaint.

We beg to draw His Honour's attention to some points which, we regret to say, have proved sources of great alarm to the people. The first is the manner in which ordinary fever cases are sometimes mistaken for plague cases, and the patients as a rule, dragged forcibly to the isolation hospital. The details of the case of baby Wright, will go to show the length to which the over-zeal of some of the medical officers of the Corporation may lead them, when hunting out these plague cases. Just imagine that an ordinary teething case was converted into a suspicious plague case, and the baby sought to be taken to the hospital! It is all the more surprising that such a mistake should have been made by two Doctors, who have come from Bombay and who have seen many plague cases with their own eyes. We do not doubt their *bona fides*; indeed, they deserve well of the community for their indefatigable efforts to stamp out plague from our city. But yet, an explanation ought to be demanded from them as to how they came to commit such a serious blunder, which might have resulted in a riot if Mr. Sykes had not kindly interfered in the matter, and brought in Dr. Cook to have the child examined. We had previously heard of patients having been dragged to the isolation hospital, who had no signs of plague in them. We, however, thought that our informants were misled, for, we could never believe that such a thing was possible. Here is, however, one about which there is no doubt, and the presumption is that the rumours, alluded to above, were not quite without foundation. Indeed, one of the main reasons which has led a very large number of residents to leave Calcutta, is their absolute helplessness in the matter of segregation and isolation. They are completely at the mercy of some Municipal Doctors who are not only entrusted with the absolute power of deciding a plague case, but dragging the patient immediately to the isolation hospital with the help of the police. Most of the riots, we believe, are due to the indiscretion and over-zeal of these officers. What we, therefore, submit is, that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor will be pleased to

suspected of having got the plague, should be removed to the isolation hospitals, unless he has been examined by two or three distinguished medical men like Dr. Sanders and the members of the Vigilance Committee. When the medical officers, appointed to hunt out plague, come across any suspicious case, it should be incumbent on them to report the matter to these Doctors and the members of the Vigilance Committee; and if they certify to the case being really plague, it is then and then only that the patient should be removed. Unless some such safe-guard is immediately provided for, we are afraid hundreds, nay, thousands of families who have migrated from the town, will not return here.

While on this subject, we would draw His Honour's attention to the report of the Waterloo Street case. If Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose is to be believed,—and he is a highly honourable man—a cholera case was converted into a plague case and registered accordingly in the return of the Health Department! These scandals ought to be put a stop to.

ANOTHER matter to which we beg to draw the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor is the delay on the part of the Municipality to sanction home hospitals. If a suspicious case of plague occurs in any family, however high its position, the member so affected has now no option but to go to the isolation hospital at Manicktollah. His Honour may very well understand that this means social death in the case of many, specially if the patient be a lady. In order to avoid this possible calamity, thousands of respectable Hindus and Mussalmans have left Calcutta or sent their families away. We know, a good many people have applied for these hospitals; but no reply has been vouchsafed. We, therefore, submit that His Honour will be pleased to issue an order, asking the plague officers to take energetic action in this connection and allow home segregation as extensively as possible. How unreasonable some of these officers are, will appear from the manner in which two Doctors refused the parents of baby Wright the permission to isolate him in their own house, though they agreed to all necessary conditions, simply because they had not formally applied for home segregation. His Honour would also be pleased to direct that no hard conditions are imposed upon those who take out licenses for family hospitals. We hear that in several cases big subscriptions have been demanded in aid of ward hospitals, from those to whom home segregation has been allowed. We must confess we do not like compulsion; and the practice ought to be nipped in the bud.

THE *Hindu* says: "The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* holds us, blameworthy because we expressed horror at the cruel treatment of a girl-wife while we did not express horror at the partition of China." We did not hold our contemporary blameworthy; his name was only mentioned incidentally in the paragraph in question. What we meant to urge was that, so long people consider it a glory to invade the land of weak neighbours, massacre them, loot their property, and then reduce them to the condition of subjects, it is mere hypocrisy to feel horror at the cruelties practised upon a girl-wife, or such other minor matters. The country of the weak is invaded, and the people are defeated and a great many slaughtered, and then the country itself is appropriated. The hero, who had done all this, then sits to try his prisoners whom he had been able to capture during his raid. He finds them guilty and then hangs them. Such is the morality of the world; yet we are asked to regard the maltreatment of a wife as "shocking," the murder of an individual as "atrocious," and the theft of property as "impudent." This is the way of the world; we had nothing to find fault with the *Hindu*.

It is to the forward policy, no doubt, we owe the arrangement that deprives the jail population of Alipur at least of meat and fish diet. And has the financial condition of the State gone so low? We know Sir A. Eden wanted to prove himself economical by cutting the necessities of the sick in our hospitals; but his attempts created an uproar, and he had to give way. We dare say, matter will attract the attention of Mr. Secretary Tallack of the Howard Association in London.

The general impression is that as cases of serious character have not come before the public for a long time, the corruptions which characterize the coolie-emigration trade have ceased to exist altogether. But this is not the case. The following is a communication from a Karimganj correspondent, which, if true, ought to attract the serious attention of the authorities. He writes under date the 15th instant:—

In March last, Mr. Crawford of Lallacherra Garden, in Cachar, went to Purulia to bring in some coolies, and with the assistance of certain recruiting agents there, secured a number of them. Mr. Crawford having got their agreements signed, despatched them to his garden. It turned out that four of these coolies were decoyed away from their homes by some arkates under very strange circumstances, which their own statements would later on show. Their unusual absence from home raised a hue and cry among their friends and relatives, who went on making enquiries and at last discovered that those four people had gone

to the said garden in Cachar as agreement coolies. The Magistrate of Purulia having been moved in the matter, reference was made to the Sub-divisional Officer of Hailakandy, on whose enquiries the aforesaid coolies have been found in Lallacherra Tea Garden and they have deposed as follows:—

"One day some five men supposed to be ordinary travellers, came to their houses and told them that one of their companions had become seriously ill and wanted to be carried to a certain hospital. They (the four coolies now at Lallacherra) were asked if they could do the work on proper remuneration being paid to them. They accepted the job and set out on their errand. Coming a considerable way from their homes, the so-called travellers directed them to a place near by on some ostensible reasons. There, on entering the house, the doors were shut behind them and the supposed sick man jumped down from their shoulders. They stood stupefied for a while at this strange behaviour and took no time to understand that they had been hoaxed into the hands of coolie arkates. At first they were coerced to go to certain coal mines in Assam; but they would not agree, at last, as the better of the two alternatives, and they agreed to come to Cachar. It was to an isolated place, away from human habitations, they were taken and shut in; and consequently they had no means to communicate their troubles to the world outside.

GREAT sensation was created on Friday at the Municipal Office by the production of a live plague patient by the Hon'ble Surendra Nath Bannerjee before the meeting of the General Committee. The baby Wright, though suspected to be a plague patient, could sleep and eat well, and retain in his stomach what he ate. But Babu Surendra Nath's plague patient could do more. He could split wood, walk, run, nay, jump over walls. But we shall let our reporter speak.

The Hon'ble Surendra Nath Bannerjee brought with him yesterday a supposed plague patient to the Municipal Office, and presented him to the Chairman. The patient was a young man of about twenty-five, named Hari Das Das, a grocer, carrying on his business at 101, Jaun Bazar Street. He looked somewhat thin, and his head was shaved. This is the version he gave: On Thursday at about 5.30 p.m., while he was engaged in splitting wood, he saw two European gentlemen alight from a carriage in front of his shop. These men were accompanied by a number of coolies, and a crowd was closing the rear. One or two policemen were also among the crowd. When the Europeans alighted in front of his shop the man walked up to them to know what they had come there for. He was asked whether his name was Hari Das Das; and he having answered in the affirmative, the Europeans told him that he was suffering from plague and that they had come to remove him to hospital. The man protested that he was quite hale and hearty and that he was not suffering from any disease, much less plague. The Europeans, however, proceeded to examine him. This, as could be expected, gave him fright, and he took to his heels. He was chased, but soon cleared out and jumped over the walls of the compound of Babu Jogendra Nath Ghose, a resident of Jaun Bazar Street, and took shelter in his house. That night he stayed there, as he heard that attempt was being made to seize him, and that he would be seized if he came out. Yesterday morning he went to the house of Babu Surendra Nath Bannerjee, who was a Commissioner of the Ward, who took him to the Municipal Office, and produced him before the Chairman, telling him all the facts of the case. The Chairman said that he did not believe the story of the man, but promised an enquiry into the matter, and being satisfied that the man was not suffering from any sort of disease, told him to go away.

But what created still greater sensation in the Municipal Office is the assemblage of a large crowd of people who had come to know the fate of the plague patient of Babu Surendra Nath. The crowd assumed a threatening attitude; and the Chairman, the Hon'ble Mr. Oldham and the Municipal Commissioners who had come to attend the General Committee's meeting, found it not safe to come down and drive home. So they telephoned to the police for help, and looked helplessly on the crowd below. The crowd, however, soon after quietly dispersed before the arrival of the police; and the Chairman and others left the place. At the meeting of the General Committee, Babu Surendra Nath also told the Chairman that a case of tonsillitis, about which he holds an official certificate from the Medical College, was entered as a case of plague in the return of the Health Officer's Department. Mr. Greer asked Babu Surendra Nath to produce the certificate, and said he would enquire into the matter.

THE letter of Dr. Wallace *re* the Wright case is published elsewhere. We are surprised to learn that Dr. Wallace not only found some characteristic signs of the plague in the child, but added that these symptoms "more closely resembled plague than any case I had already seen in Calcutta." Would he please mention what these symptoms were? In the interests of the public, he is bound to do so; for, when Dr. Sanders and Sarbadhary saw nothing suspicious in the patient, even when they were told that it was a suspected case he should explain what led him to the conclusion that he had not seen a case, which more closely resembled plague than the one in question. Dr. Cook also saw suspicious signs of plague in the child. The public has a right to know from him what they are. Let us here quote the circular of the Chairman of the Corporation, indicating the symptoms of the plague:—

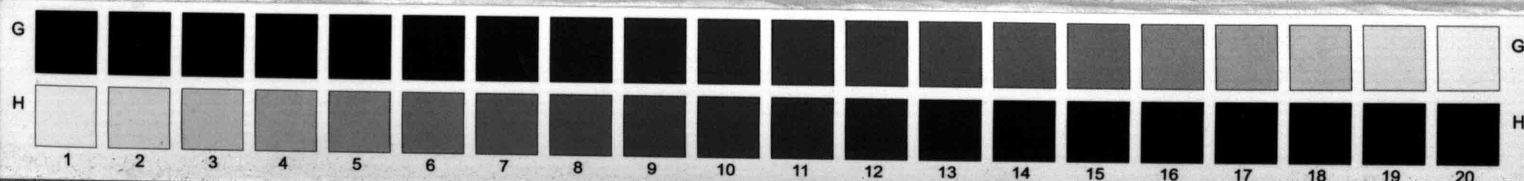
As a general rule, the following symptoms will be discovered:—The onset is sudden, characterized by high fever, preceded by a shivering fit; the whites of the eyes are congested; the pulse is quick; the tongue is furred white or yellow; and is red and bright at the tip and edges; the expression is dull and listless; the speech is thick and indistinct; there is loss of

power in the limbs, the hands will not perform the usual movements with accuracy. There is swelling of the glands in some of the regions or groin, the arm-pit or the neck, and these swellings are very tender; there is nausea and vomiting and the bowels are constipated. If there are no glandular swellings, there is cough with expectoration, and the general symptoms are suspiciously like those of plague as above mentioned.

Judging from the description of the child by Mr. Sykes, none of the above symptoms were present in him. According to him, it was only a simple teething case, which even a layman could diagnose. Under these circumstances, both Dr. Wallace and Dr. Cook ought to explain how they came to regard it as one of plague. The duty is all the more incumbent upon Dr. Cook, as he is the Health Officer of the Corporation, and the destiny of the residents of the town practically rests upon his decision. It costs him nothing to express an opinion about a case; but it may mean the death of a human being and the life-long misery of a whole family. Dr. Cook, therefore, owes it to himself and to the community at large to furnish a satisfactory explanation about the subject.

If the Gya fruit-stealing case was considered "funny" by our correspondent, it has ended in a serious manner. We suggested that when the accused had the honour of a chase by the District Magistrate, he deserved some consideration. This, of course, meant nothing serious. But we also hoped that the fact of the District Magistrate being a complainant in the case, would not be put against the offending boy. In this we were serious. In this country, if one is found in the act of plucking fruits, even such as are valuable, without the consent of the owner, he is, of course, chased; but no one ever dreams of making him over to the police. In the present case, the fruits were not valuable; indeed, they are rarely sold in the bazars—certainly not in the Mofussil. We know that in many parts of the country they can be had for the plucking. Here no one thinks of sending boys to jail for stealing fruits. Neither do we think the practice is different in England. There schoolboys, even gentlemen's sons, steal apples and cherries; but they are rarely, if ever, made over to the police. But apples and cherries are much more valuable fruits in England than mulberries in India. Have our readers ever tasted any mulberry fruit? It is a fruit which grows wild, and has a taste which has nothing delicious in it, though it is quite possible the District Magistrate of Gya may be devoted to it. There is no accounting for men's tastes. Now, one in India would consider seven months' rigorous imprisonment for plucking mulberry, even if stolen from the garden of the District Magistrate, a most inhuman punishment. Who can in the Mofussil boastfully declare that he had never stolen fruits? That must be the case in every country which has fruits in abundance. In India, we have wild fruits of numberless descriptions, and mulberry is one of them. We deeply regret that the scale of punishment in this country should be so abnormally high. We are also deeply pained that the District Magistrate, who took the initiative in this matter, is one for whom we have the highest regard.

THE case of Mr. G. O'Connell, who was committed to the last Sessions of the Calcutta High Court on behalf of the Calcutta Turf Club, on a charge of criminal breach of trust, and acquitted unanimously by the jury, requires some notice. He holds a Government appointment; but, with the permission of his official superior, he got himself employed as a clerk of the Turf Club. His principal duty was to make payments to persons who handed to him tickets on which were punched the names of the horses that had won the race. One evening, Mr. Nash, on behalf of the Club, charged him with having misappropriated a large amount of money. It, however, transpired that what Mr. O'Connell had done was to have by mistake made payments on wrong tickets, in respect of sums of Rs. 30, Rs. 18 and Rs. 30. Now considering that Mr. O'Connell had served the Club faithfully for several years, and that a sum, varying from Rs. 2000 to 3000, was placed at his disposal daily for the purpose of paying the ticket-holders, and considering also the fact that over-payments and payments on wrong tickets were of frequent occurrence, the deficiency of such a small amount of money in his account might have been attributed to pure oversight. But no: it was assumed that he had committed criminal breach of trust, and was hauled up before the Court. His case was, however, so strong that he did not even call any witness for his defence, and the jury acquitted him unanimously. Now the question is, who is to compensate him for the loss he has suffered? If he had been found guilty, he would have, of course, been sent to jail, and no one would have cared for him. But since he has come out from a severe ordeal without a stain on his character, surely, his prosecutors, the Turf Club, should make good the loss he has suffered. As honourable gentlemen, the owners of the Club are bound to do it; for, it was through their action that an innocent man has been made to suffer not only heavy pecuniary loss but also excruciating mental agony for several weeks together. We hear that Mr. O'Connell is not in good circumstances, and is burdened with a large family. This is another reason why the Turf Club should feel it



This music machine, which is the only thing of its kind in existence, is worked by water and air. It is a cylinder comprising an air tank. The water forces the air up through a number of pipes, which are placed inside the cylinder, and in this way a peculiarly sweet chorus of sounds resembling the trills of the canary is created. The machine has nine variations just as a singing canary has nine different tones. When the birds are old enough to commence singing education, they are placed in cages adjacent to the singing apparatus, which is then turned on, and, strange as it may seem, the birds start warbling. After they have mastered one tone the machine is then changed to another, and so on, until the canary is proficient in several. The more different tones a bird sings, the more valuable it is. Hundreds of birds are turned out annually from this music machine.

Telegrams.

[INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

SIMLA, MAY 19.

Apropos of *Englishman's* suggestion of posting Punitive Police, it will never commend itself to the Governments of Bengal and India as they are likely not to repeat the Poona blunders. The Government of Bengal, we are told, on good authority, took necessary precautions, in the beginning. Some military police were brought from Bhabapore and about 100 armed police from mofussil districts. The Military were close by, but yet Government are unwilling to take their help till the last moment or unless absolutely necessary.

Mr. Parker, of the Punjab Judicial Service, is likely to be nominated to succeed Mr. Justice Stogden in the Punjab Chief Court.

The *Simla News* feels sure that the Native Princes, who served on the frontier, will not be forgotten by the Government when distributing the Birth-day honours.

In the match between the Patiala and the Simla teams the former won. Mr. Toss scored 179, Prince Ranjitsinghji and Mr. Mistri 40 each, Mr. Williams 32 and the Maharaja 10. The Simla team scored 114 for 5 wickets. Mr. Foulkes 37 not out, and Mr. Watson 25.

SIMLA, MAY 20.

The list of Birth-day Honours is as follows:

G. C. S. I. *Patiala* and *Simla*.

The Maharajah of Patiala.

K. C. S. I.

Mr. Lee-Warner, Secretary, India Office.

Mr. Plowden, Resident of Hyderabad.

C. S. I.

Mr. Stroker, Chief Secretary to the Government of the N. W. P.

Col. M. Brackenbury, Manager, North-West Railway.

Mr. Henry, Inspector-General of Police Bengal.

Mr. King, Deputy Commissioner of Kohat.

Mr. Muhammad Khan, Minister of the Jaora State.

K. C. I. E.

H. H. Aga Khan, of Bombay.

Col. Warburton, Political Officer with Tirah Force.

C. I. E.

Mr. Snow, Municipal Commissioner, Bombay.

The Hon. Mr. Pennycuik, Member of the Legislative Council, Burma.

Dr. Branford, of Madras.

Mr. Jacob, Traffic Superintendent, North West Railway.

Major Scallan, of the Punjab Imperial Service Troops.

Lieutenant Bikram Singh, of Sirmur Sappers.

Lieutenant Minchin, Assistant Political Agent, D. Swat.

Mr. Van Sumeren, Postal Superintendent with the Tirah Force.

Mr. Hill, Planter, Bengal.

Mr. Khem Chand, formerly Chairman of the Karachi Municipality.

Two guns have been added to thirteen guns already enjoyed by the Maharajah, of Nava as personal distinction.

MAHARAJAH.

Rajah Gode Narayan Gunput Row, of Madras.

NAWAB BAHADOOR.

Nawab Ameer Hossein, Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta.

RAJA.

Raj Girish Ch. Ray Bahadur, of Sylhet.

Ashutosh Nath Roy, of Moorshidabad.

KHAN BAHADOOR.

Mr. Abdul Rahman, Judge, Small Cause Court, Calcutta.

RAI BAHADUR.

Babu Krishna Chander Chatterjee, late Sub-Judge of Mysore.

Babu Mani Lal Nahar, of Lalbag.

Anath Nath Mullick, Calcutta.

Moni Lal Banerji, of Barrackpur.

Babu Amrita Lal Chatterji, late Sub-Judge of Tirhut.

KHAN SAHIB.

Dwarka Nath Dutta, Backergunge.

Nunda Gopal Banerjee, of Manbhum.

Dr. Surja Kumar Sarbadhikari, of Calcutta.

KHAN SAHIB.

Moulvi Syed Nizabat Hossein, of Deoghar.

Mr. Sadet Hossein, of Calcutta.

RAI SAHIB.

Babu Bankim Chunder Majumdar, of Angul.

The Patiala team closed second innings for 203 for 9 wickets. The Simla team scored 71 for 5 wickets. Mr. French 46 not out. Prince Ranjitsinghji scored 74.

The Government of India in the Department of Finance and Commerce sanctions that the following may be allowed separate accounts for security deposits only: Government servants; servants of local authorities and courts of wards who are required by their employers to deposit security; contractors who are required by Government or local authorities to deposit security; and persons who are authorized under section 202 of the Customs Act VIII of 1876 to act as agents for the transaction of business in customs house on behalf of the public and are required under that section to deposit security.

The services of Messrs. Michael and Macnass of the Civil Service, are placed at the disposal of the Financial Department.

The services of Surgeon-Captains Jordan, Calvert and Vaughan are placed at the disposal of the Government of Bengal. The services of Babu Jnan Saran Chuckerbarti of the Bengal Educational Department are placed at the disposal of the Financial Department.

Colonel Campbell has been appointed at Cawnpore, vice Colonel Davidson.

Major Goad is appointed to be Director of the Army Remount Department, vice Colonel Deane.

It is notified that the Secretary of State for India has entered into a contract with Bengal-Duars Railway for extension from Malbazar to Hautupore, from Dum Dum to Bagrakote and from Devnihat to Lalanchhat.

Consequent on the retirement of Dr. Lethbridge of the Thuggee Department, Bailey, Irvin, Captain Kemble, Major Fagan, and Captain Minchin are confirmed. Consequent on the appointment of Mr. Martindale as Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, Lieutenant-Colonels Newall, Meade, Muir, Captains Newmark, Youngusband, Melville and Bosanquette receive promotion.

The Government of India in the Home Department notifies changes in rules 7 and 11 regarding the age and nationality of the five candidates for the Indian Civil Service.

SIMLA, MAY 20. This evening the match was resumed. The Simla Club closed 167 for 9 wickets. Foulkes scored 67, Prince Ranjitsinghji took 6 wickets for 76 runs. Patiala began second innings scored now 73, for 2 wickets. Prince Ranjitsinghji went first placing still.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

LONDON, MAY 18.

The Spanish General Rodriguez has defeated the Cuban rebels in the Carnen hills, killing two hundred of them.

LONDON, MAY 18.

In view of the severe American censorship it is difficult to obtain any reliable war news.

LONDON, MAY 20.

It is announced at Madrid that Admiral Cervera's squadron, which has been eluding the American fleets, has reached Santiago de Cuba, where two of the United States' warships were found, which speedily withdrew the appearance of the Spanish squadron.

LONDON, MAY 20.

Nine ships, which are supposed to be Spanish warships, have been sighted passing down the coast of Nova Scotia.

MR. BALFOUR'S SERIOUS ILLNESS.

LONDON, MAY 20.

The *Times* states that Mr. Balfour, leader of the Commons, is suffering from influenza which has seriously impaired his health, and has caused weakness of the heart, his condition forbidding mental or physical exertion. It is added that Mr. Balfour left the House of Commons yesterday in a condition bordering upon exhaustion.

LONDON, MAY 19.

Mr. Gladstone died at five o'clock this morning. He passed calmly away. Mrs. Gladstone and the other members of his family being present at his bedside when the end came.

LONDON, MAY 19.

The direct cause of Mr. Gladstone's death was the decay of nature hastened by the pain of his facial disorder. The mourning and regret at the demise of the aged statesman is universal, and all the newspapers to-day are issued with black-edged borders. The House of Commons adjourned its sitting to-day as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, Mr. Balfour giving notice that he would propose to-morrow that a public funeral in Westminster Abbey, be accorded the deceased statesman, and that a monument be erected therein to his memory. Telegrams of condolence are reaching Hawarden from every part of the world. The Queen has sent a special messenger with a letter of condolence.

THE INDIAN BILLS.

LONDON, MAY 19.

It is announced that tenders will be received up to the 27th of May for India Bills to the extent of two and-a-half millions sterling for the purpose of discharging the Bills payable on the 3rd of June.

THE CURRENCY COMMITTEE.

LONDON, MAY 19.

A memorial, signed by the most influential bankers and merchants of the city, has been presented to Lord George Hamilton, expressing the great and general dissatisfaction which exists in connection with the composition of the Indian Currency Committee, and urging the danger of the adoption of the policy sanctioning the raising of sterling loans to indefinite amounts. Replying to the memorial, Lord George Hamilton says he cannot alter the Committee which has been carefully selected and is fully qualified to deal with the questions to be submitted to them, while competent witnesses will supply thorough expert knowledge on special branches of commerce. His lordship dwells upon the wide scope of the terms of reference, and adds that the interests of India are so bound up with those of Great Britain that no action involving injury to the London money market is likely to be regarded as being beneficial to India.

SELDON has Mussoorie been so empty in the middle of May as it is at present.

THE Government of Madras is likely, in the near future, to legislate on the subject of the right of interpellation to be allowed to the Municipal Commissioners of Madras.

OUT of nearly 85 applications for the post, the Standing Committee of the Bombay Municipality selected Mr. Wadia as Municipal Secretary in place of Mr. H. W. Barrow, retiring.

A FEW of the gardens in Darjeeling are serving out rice to their coolies and doing all that can be done to prevent them coming into the Darjeeling bazaar, to be scared by the talk outside.

THE British Consul at Alexandria telegraphs on 13th May that the Quarantine Board decided to suspend, till further notice, the decision of last year, giving free pratique to the vessel which had discharged goods or landed passengers in quarantine in the outer harbour of Jeddah.

To enable homeward bound steamers from Calcutta to call at Madras, the following arrangements for the embarkation of passengers and their baggage have been made: Passengers only will be allowed to proceed on board; friends or relations will not be allowed to do so; passengers must present themselves at the Marine Dispensary for inspection at the time fixed by the agents, and have the inspection noted on their passage tickets; passengers must embark with their baggage in boats provided by the agents at the usual fare and tariff, and proceed on board, accompanied by a constable, who will be in charge of the boatmen.

L. F. Parley conducts a large mercantile business at Liberty Hill, Ga. He says: "One application of Chamberlain's Pain Balm relieved me of a severe pain in my back. I think it O. K." For lame back, rheumatism, neuralgia, swellings, sprains, bruises, burns and scalds and no other ointment can approach Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It is intended especially for these diseases and is famous for its cures. For sale by all dealers.

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THE VEGETARIANISM OF MRS. BESANT.

BY JOHN BLETT.

(From *The Vegetarian*).

KILL NOT—for Pitt's sake—and let ye slay. The meatest thing upon its upward way.—*Light of Asia*.

From the vicarage of the little village of Sibsey to the leadership of a society possessing "sanctification in every part of the civilised world is a big removal—necessitating the ownership of the very highest and rarest qualities, and I seem reasonable to suppose that when Mrs. Besant first began her struggle she little realised to what an influential position she would eventually attain. Were I writing an appreciation of Mrs. Besant, instead of recording some of her opinions expressed in an interview, I should here attempt to set forth some idea of the affection and reverence with which she is regarded by many thousands of men and women in Europe, India, America, and Australasia. That she is still misunderstood by many thousands more is not to be denied, such is the fate of all highly-developed souls; the misfortune and the loss fall to the lot of those who thus will not or cannot understand.

I found Mrs. Besant in her study at the Theosophical Headquarters in Avenue Road, Regent's Park. The room is a particularly bright and cheerful one, for besides the large bow window, in which the owner's writing desk stands, there is also another, consequently the room gets a great quantity of sunshine, the valuable qualities of which commodity are very well known to most Theosophists.

Having installed myself comfortably, I began: "There are three or four questions suggested to me by the Editor of *The Vegetarian* which we will, with your permission, dispose of first. What were your feelings towards animals before you became a Theosophist? and have they changed in any way?" "I have always been fond of living creatures, and have had in my time a great number of pets. Dogs of course I kept, and birds, also, but I never had the latter caged, they used to fly about in the greenhouse. With regard to the second part of your question: My affection for living creatures has deepened considerably."

"Do animals live after death?" "For a short time, a period varying with the amount of intelligence they have developed."

"And do they re-incarnate, like human beings?" "Some few do at a late stage."

"Now, Mrs. Besant, here is the hoary, time-honoured question which is always put at a Vegetarian meeting: What would become of animals if all the world were to become Vegetarians?"

"I expect we should go on much as usual and without any dislocation worth speaking of. Take a largely Vegetarian country like India, for example. There, instead of having too many animals, they have too few. Oxen there are largely used for draught purposes, and they answer admirably for ploughing. Then, too, things always adapt themselves to existing circumstances and in the event of the whole world becoming Vegetarian, the superfluous animals would naturally tend to diminish."

"You think, then, that it is largely a question of evolution, and that changes will occur so imperceptibly that no difficulty will occur?"

"Yes."

"Here is another problem for you. Why is it that among clergymen—some of whom will labour ceaselessly and unselfishly for the good of others—we find men who take no thought for animals, but who go on eating them and encouraging their slaughter day after day?"

"I think it is largely a question of hypnotisation. You see, there are people eating animal food all round them; it's the usual thing, and then, besides, they never think that it's wrong to take life. One's thoughts have to be turned in that particular direction. In my own case I did not become a Vegetarian from the kindness-to-animals motive. I took it up because I was engaged upon some experiments in the unseen world and desired to have as clean a physical body as possible. But the former is the higher motive of the two: don't you think so?"

"Yes, perhaps it is. Do you mind telling me what is your favourite food?"

"Dai and rice."

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

THE following circular has been issued by W. Parsons Esq., Secretary to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, to the members of the Chamber:—

"With reference to Despatch No. 70, dated Calcutta, 3rd March, 1898, from the Government of India to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, copies of which, with accompanying papers, have been placed in the hands of all members of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, I am directed by the Committee to state that they thought it best, in the first instance, to refer the proposals of the Government of India to the Finance Committee of the Chamber for report. The Finance Committee have now submitted their report in the following terms:—

(1.) This Committee view with alarm the recommendation put forward by the Government of India in their despatch to the Secretary of State, No. 70, of 3rd March, 1898, that with a view to establish a good standard in India to crores of current rupees, now in circulation, should be annually melted down and withdrawn from circulation; such further contraction of the currency cannot fail to raise the rate of interest for loanable money in India; the high rates of interest extending for over six months in each of the last two years have been a growing danger to trade; and while even a continuance of present conditions threatens disaster, any further enforced stringency cannot fail to shatter the whole fabric of Indian trade.

(2.) While the object of the Government policy is, presumably, to secure fixity of exchange, the scheme brought forward offers no guarantee whatever as to the future convertibility of the rupee, and will, consequently, fail to inspire that confidence in the future of exchange, which is necessary to mitigate the evils resulting from the proposed forced contraction currency.

(3.) This Committee distinctly regard the proposed annual sale of two crores of melted rupees as almost certain to lower the price of silver, including the silver in the hands

MR. JOHN PETERSON, of Patoutville, La. was very agreeably surprised not long ago. For eighteen months he had been troubled with dysentery and had tried three of the best doctors in New Orleans, besides half a dozen more patent medicines, but received very little relief. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, having been recommended to him, he gave it a trial and to his great surprise, three doses of that remedy effected a permanent cure. Mr. Wm. McNamara, a well-known merchant of the same place, well acquainted with Mr. Peterson and attests to the truth of this statement. This remedy is for sale by all dealers.

SMITH STANISTREET & CO.,

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of the Natives of India, and they do not understand how the Government, in para. 14 of their Despatch No. 70 of 3rd March, 1898 can have come to the conclusion that such sales would have no important permanent effect on the silver market; the further depreciation of silver—while the annual value of the rupee remains at 25.4d.—must increase the divergence between the nominal or forced value, and the metallic value of the rupee, and affect our trade with and in connection with, silver currency countries.

(4.) In the opinion of this Committee a gold currency is entirely unsuited to the requirements of India.

(5.) However desirable it may be for Government finance, or for the purpose of foreign trade, that there should be fixity of exchange, it is equally necessary that the supply of currency should be automatically responsive to the current requirements of trade.

(6.) Apart from the foregoing considerations, this Committee are of opinion that the cost of the measures proposed by the Government would be much greater than greater than they estimate; that the period of transition would be indefinitely prolonged and that the result would, for many years at least, rather diminish, than strengthen, confidence in the minds of English investors.

The Committee direct me to inform members that they are generally in accord with the report of the Finance Committee, but before taking any further action, or addressing the Government of India in connexion with such an important matter as a change in the currency system of the country, they will be glad to receive the opinions of members on the proposals contained in the despatch from the Government of India.

As it is important that the views of the Chamber should be placed before the Government of India at the earliest possible moment, I shall be obliged by a reply to this Circular letter not later than, Saturday, the 28th May, current.

A RUSSIAN ENGINEERING WORK.

ACCORDING to intelligence received in Vienna from St. Petersburg, the Russian scheme of cutting a waterway between the Baltic and the Black Sea has now, says the correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle*, been definitely fixed with all its particulars. The new channel will start from Riga Harbour, and run through the governments of Dunauburg, Borisoff, and Kieff, thence through the districts of Pereyaslav, Zerkassk, Bolzmetz, Kremenitshug, Yekaterinoslav, Alexandrovsk, and Meshki, joining the Black Sea at Cherson. The channel will be four and a half fathoms deep, while its breadth will be eighteen fathoms at the bottom, and thirty-five fathoms on the surface. The cost is estimated at 220,000,000 roubles. To facilitate navigation the waterway will be electrically lighted at night time. The work will be commenced in the summer.

THE following telegram has been sent to the Governor on Wednesday last by the Zemindar of Papanad:—"The Zemindars and Mirasids of the Tanjore District pray Government to postpone the consideration of the Madras Tenancy Bill till Government returns to the plains. They further pray that the public may be given full opportunity of discussing its provisions."

IN A THIRD-CLASS CARRIAGE.

EARLY in February of this year (1894) I was travelling in a third-class carriage in the neighbourhood of Glasgow. At a station two women entered the compartment in which I was seated. One was a girl, gaudily dressed, the other a typical working woman. She had no hat on her head, and wore a stuff petticoat, with a shawl wrapped round her. She was the picture of a poor, honest, hardy creature.

The girl asked how her companion was, remarking that she had heard she had been ill from well.

"Deed, but I was," responded the older woman, "I thought I was a bad one."

"Ah say, what like was the matter with you?"

"I got sick in a heart-beat, and my stomach fair turned at the sight of food. I went to three doctors, one after another, and they gave me bottles and bottles, but it didna help me an' till a friend told me to try Mother Seigel's Syrup. Wumman, in a week I was better and in 14 days I was as well as ever."

Then they went on talking of other subjects. Go where one may he is likely to hear some good said about Mother Seigel and what is done by her famous medicine. Sometimes it is in the form of a bit of passing talk like the one quoted above; and again it takes the shape of letters, fragrant with gratitude for health regained. Here is one: "We hope many suffering women will see it and read it."

"In August 1892," says the writer, "I began to feel low, weak, and ailing. My appetite was bad, and what little I ate gave me much pain at the chest. I was constantly spitting up a clear fluid, like water, and I heaved and stamped a good deal. At the pit of my stomach there was a gnawing feeling, and there seemed to be a hard lump formed in my abdomen. In any case I suffered much from pain in that region."

"My breathing got to be very bad and I wheezed as if the windpipe were choked and stopped up. I had a hacking cough which gave me but little rest day or night, and I was troubled with night sweats. The pillow my head had lain on would be wet in the morning."

"In two or three weeks after the time I was taken, I was no longer able to take solid food, or indeed food of any kind. I lived for two months on milk, fine water, brandy, and the like. During that time I lay helpless in bed. I had no strength left, and I was so weak that I could not get up without being lifted up and supported in bed. I was now so weak that my friends feared there was no hope for me, and I was anointed by the priest. I had a doctor attending me, but he was not successful in giving me any real relief."

"In the following November, although very ill and low, I was able at times to read a little, and then it was that I read one day about Mother Seigel's Syrup and the wonders it had done for others. I sent for it, and less than half a bottle made me feel better. I had a little more appetite and could eat a little and retain it. So I went on with the Syrup, and when I had used four bottles the cough and all the other troubles left me, and soon I was well and strong as before. You are at liberty to publish my letter if you desire, for the good of others who may suffer as I did without knowing where to look for a cure. (Signed) Mrs. Hon. Mrs. Brennan, 42 Great Britain Street, Cork, March 17th, 1894."

A good letter, a cheering letter, dated on St. Patrick's Day, too. A great thing to be rid of shakes, but a greater thing to be rid of indigestion and dyspepsia—more poisonous than any reptile than ever crawled. And that was the dreadful ailment which gave Mrs. Brennan three months of suffering; the ailment that the Scotch women talked of in the train; the ailment that inflicts more pain and fills up more graves than all the other ailments on earth put together.

And yet Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup cures it as fast as people hear of it and take it. That's why we keep telling about it, and printing what everybody tells about it over and over.

THE MOULA ALI DISTURBANCE CASE.

THREE men, named Ashutosh Chakrabarty Bandhoo Meher and Lalit Mohan Mozoomdar were placed before Mr. T. A. Pearson, Chief Presidency Magistrate, with rioting, being members of unlawful assembly and wrongfully restraining and assaulting a public officer in the execution of his duty. Babus Hem Chunder Roy, Kali Churn Palit and Suresh Chunder Mitter appeared for the defence.

The following witnesses were examined:—Dr. Surendra Nath Bose said:—I am a medical man and Superintendent of the Disinfecting Department of the Health Department. Yesterday at noon I took an ambulance cart with two coolies and went to the Fannie Bazar Thana. I waited there for Dr. Clemow and received order from him to go to No. 41 Mott's Lane, to remove a patient named Bapsigopal, aged about 16 or 17 years of age and take him to the Manicktolah Isolation Hospital. On arriving at No. 41 Mott's Lane I removed the patient in the ambulance cart with the consent of his relatives. Dr. Clemow also went to 41 Mott's Lane, and in consequence of further orders I proceeded with the patient to the Manicktolah Hospital. We entered into Wellesly Street, and then turned into Dhurumtolah Street. When opposite the Union Chapel, a crowd collected, numbering about 60 or 70 persons crying out "they are removing a plague patient—look at the oppression." The first accused came up to me and stopping the ambulance cart said "you are a respectable gentleman why are you oppressing the people in this way?" I told the chappasi and the coolies not to mind what he said and to proceed on.

The accused gave a blow to one of the coolies and pushed the man behind the cart. I went up and the accused gave me a blow on the right cheek bone. I caught him by the chudder. The mob got excited and struck me from behind with fists. I still kept hold of the accused. I looked round for help, when a police Daroga came up and I made over the first accused to him. The mob then dispersed. I then tried to proceed with the patient towards the hospital, but my coolies, Jetoo and Gobind, had bolted through fright. I then dragged the ambulance cart under a tree, seeing my chappasi Ameer Khan I ordered him to look for coolies, but he could not get any. The relations of the patient dragged the ambulance along the road. At the junction of Dhurumtolah Street and Circular Road a fresh mob had collected, numbering between 200 and 300 people, of whom the second accused was the spokesman. He stopped in front of the cart, and said "why are you taking this patient unnecessarily—why are you making this zoo?" The second accused with others caught hold of my legs and tried to drag me out, whilst I received blows from inside the cart. At that moment the same jamadar approached arrested the second accused. Another policeman arrested a man with an unbrother, who was striking me with it. I cannot recognize the third accused, who was arrested. The mob then dispersed. I saw the Inspector of the Puddopukur Thana. I asked him to get me two coolies. He got them. I told them to take the patient to the Campbell Hospital. I don't know where the relatives of the patient were, but I saw them in the Campbell Hospital. I asked the men in charge to admit the patient. I then saw Dr. Green and made over the patient in the ambulance cart to him. Then I went with a jamadar to the Taltolah Thana. I received contused wounds on my cheek bone, nasal bone, on my arm and on my back, but not of a severe nature. I was examined in the Chnadney Hospital and obtained a certificate. I then saw the Health Officer. I don't know where the patient is. Since the blow in the ear my hearing has been impaired and I am advised to take rest.

Mr. Easton examined said:—I am 3rd Engineer of the *Retriever*. Yesterday at 1 P.M. I was waiting for a tram at the corner of Lower Circular Road and Dhurumtolah. Whilst there I saw a crowd. They were calling out "This is an inoculating doctor. The mob was thumping him with their fists and pulling and hauling him. The doctor was holding the first accused by his cloth. A police jamadar and I ran up. This was near Murdoch and Co's establishment. The coolies in charge of the cart ran away. The patient's relatives and the doctor were pulling the cart. The mob dispersed. Shortly after a second mob collected some 200 men, who were calling out that the doctor was an inoculator and recommended the crowd to thrash him. The mob rose to a man, amongst them being the second accused. Some policemen came and tried to disperse the crowd and arrested the second and third accused. The third accused had an umbrella in his hand and he was using it on the doctor.

Mr. G. E. Kerr, Chief Inspector of the ambulance and disinfecting staff Mr. E. Perry an extra Tally clerk in the employ of the B. I. S. N. Co. and Darogah Rash Behary Ghose were then examined.

After this His Worship framed charges against the defendants under sections 147, 347, 353 and 143. They pleaded not guilty. The cross-examination was then proceeded with.

A NOTIFICATION is under issue, imposing prohibition against importation of used apparel, bedding, rags and waste papers from Calcutta into any part of British India.

A NEW village, named Cookram, in the Jullunder District, is reported plague infected. This is the first new village attacked since the 28th of April.

MUCH surprise is expressed in the city of Delhi that the recent poisoning case should have been allowed to drop. It will be remembered that Prince Soorajah Shah, grand-son of the ex-King of Oudh, and now a Government pensioner, nearly succumbed, with the members of his family, through an irritant drug having been mixed with the mid-day meal. The investigations of Dr. Sen and others left no doubt that a dastardly crime had been attempted, and it is a pity that its authors have not been brought to justice. —*Morning Post*.

"I WOULD not be without Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for its weight in gold," writes Dr. J. with a cough for nearly two years. I tried various patent remedies, besides numerous prescriptions from physicians, all of which did no good. I was at last persuaded to try a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, which promptly relieved the cough. The second bottle effected a complete cure. For sale by all dealers.

SIMLA NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SIMLA, MAY 13.—His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab will arrive here to-day, and with His Honour's arrival the exodus to Simla will be complete. His Excellency the Viceroy is now living at Mashobra, and his military adviser, General Collen, is also there. Sir James Westland is, however, in the town and he is now, it seems, in a troubled state of mind. The Secretary of State for India did not accept his effective introduction of the Gold Standard at once. Lord George Hamilton is a man of business; and he did not want to shoulder the responsibilities of the affair and he referred the whole business to a Committee of experts. Lord George, in this way, has played a double game, and he will now fire his gun from the back of Sir Henry Fowler. It is also settled that Sir James will not have any extension of service and he will say good-bye to us next cold weather. This also must have weighed very heavily upon his mind. England does not hold a good prospect for a retired member of the Indian Civil Service; and our "Kaijays" in general satisfy themselves by electing a "baker" to the County Council. But there are exceptions, and very sad exceptions too. We remember Sir George Campbell in the House of Commons and his ill-timed question and the cynical reply of Mr. Akers Douglas. We have also seen Sir Richard Temple in his place in the House with his nose high up in the air—sometimes snoring and sometimes yawning. It is a sad change; and it reminds us Milton's well-known line:

"Oh, how fallen!"

It is also certain that Mr. Finlay will come back next cold weather to succeed Sir James and he will make indeed a very good choice. He was schooled under Sir David Barbour, and he will not be very unsympathetic with the people.

Among the arrivals who came here lately, are Maharajahs Scindia and Pathiala. Maharajah Scindia came here with a view to discuss the currency question of his State; but the Government cannot at this moment take up the question, pending the report of the Currency Committee. The Maharajah, then, has got nothing to do. He is seen everyday riding along the Mall, and he is also visible in all European firms. Maharajah Pathiala came here to join the race and cricket, and, of course, before the month expires, he will have enough of these.

It seems that the outbreak of plague in Calcutta is not so violent as was anticipated. The Government of India is very anxious to see the town free from visitation. The exodus from Calcutta is surprisingly large, when compared with Bombay; and the Government is not likely to propose any hard and fast measures to bother the people in their sufferings. There has been no disagreement, so far as we are aware, between the Supreme and Provincial Governments about the plague policy.

The horrible tragedy at Barrackpore has caused much sensation here; and an idea of uncertainty of existence has crept over the minds of the people. This is not only a singular instance; but we hear of some incident every month. Not lately we had one from the N. W. P.; and unless the Government inflicts some heavy punishment on some culprit, these sorts of crime will continually thrive. We hope, the Government of India will not lend a deaf ear to the cries of the widow and children of Dr. Sirkar; at least, the outrage is sure to reach the ears of the nation whose subjects we are, through some agency or other.

The bogus rumour of a Plague Case at Kangra made our local Corporation very vigilant about the precautionary measures. The conservancy officers are now going abroad to take necessary steps to keep the town clean. Already Surgeon-Lieutenant Glenesha has been appointed Health Officer and temporary hospitals are being built near Sanjoli and Tara Devi.

The water scarcity is now a little less owing to the recent rains, and the new water-works proposal is in the mouth of everybody and is likely to be an accomplished fact within a year.

STRANGE MARINE CREATURES.

THE Haiphong mail (says the *Morning Post's* Pairs correspondent) has brought news of a hitherto unknown species of ocean monster which has been seen on several occasions by the officers of the gunboat *Avalanche* in Tai-tai-Long Bay. Naval Lieutenant Lagresille, commander of the *Avalanche*, reports that in July last in Along Bay two animals of strange form, about twenty yards long and two or three yards in circumference, were observed at a distance of six hundred metres. Their movements were not rigid, but undulatory in a vertical sense. They divided when a shot was fired at them. Several similar creatures were seen on February 15, this year and were fired at, when from three hundred to four hundred yards distant. Two small shells burst off one of the monsters, but did not appear to injure it. Lieutenant Lagresille tried to run them down, but they were too swift for the *Avalanche*. Whenever the animal he chased got into shallow water it doubled back, and this was clearly seen. Each time it dived it blew noisily. The colour was grey, with several black fins, the head something like that of a seal, and the back covered with a saw-like ridge. The presence of these creatures is revealed by their loud breathing. Lieutenant Lagresille thought once that he had secured a specimen, but the animal dived and came up again far astern of the *Avalanche*. The number of meetings reported with these new denizens of the deep would tend to show that the species is fairly plentiful in the sea where the *Avalanche* was stationed.

It is a matter of sincere congratulation to both the Hindus and Mahomedans alike, that during the *Id ul-Zohra* festival at Delhi, the latter made the greatest possible exertions to prevent cow-killing on the ground that the massacring of these useful and innocent creatures, feeding us like mothers, is not among the duties of Islam and that it would seriously wound the feeling of their Hindu brethren, and their labour, we are extremely happy to learn, were attended with considerable success. Only one solitary Moulvi of the stern new class, it is said, had some slips printed to be circulated in the city with a view to misrepresenting the whole affair; but somehow or other they did not come out; and when the Hindus and Mahomedans, amidst universal rejoicing, were the spectacle of the out-caste Moulvi throwing dust on his head in an agony of despair—*Punjab Times*.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

Babu Sarat Chandra Das, substantive pro tempore Dy. Magte and Dy. Coll. is posted temporarily to Chittagong.

Babu Chandra Sekhar Kar, Dy. Magte and Dy. Coll., Mysnensingh, is allowed leave for three months. Babu Hari Pada Bhattacharyya, Dy. Magte and Dy. Coll., Burdwan, is transferred to Mysnensingh. Mr. H. F. T. Maguire, Offg. Dy. Commr., Manbhum, is allowed leave for three months. Mr. F. E. Pargiter, Dy. and Ss. Judge, has been granted an extension of furlough to the 16th November 1898.

Mr. Umesh Chunder Batavaly, Magteand Coll. Bogra, is allowed leave for six months. Babu Prasanna Kumar Datta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the Bagerhat Sub-division of the District of Khulna.

Babu Syama Kumud Mookerjee, Dy. Magte and Dy. Coll., is allowed leave for twenty-one days, in extension of the leave granted to him.

Kumar Girindra Narayan Deb, Jt. Magte and Dy. Coll., 24-Parganas, is transferred to Bhagalpur.

Kumar Gopendra Krishna Deb, Dy. and Ss. Judge, Nadia, is allowed leave for one month.

Babu Jages Chandra Mitter acting for him.

The following pro-notions, confirmations and appointments are sanctioned in the Provincial Educational Service:—Confirmed in Class VI.

Babus Raj Kumar Sen and Chandra Kumar Maitra. Promoted substantively pro tempore.

Class VI. Maulvi Abdul Munim. Promoted substantively pro tempore.

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The reader need not be reminded that a considerable portion of Bombay is under the level of high tide, and presents obvious difficulties to the drainage engineer. Add to this the volume of water which is poured in day and night by the Tuli and Tansa aqueducts, and the fact that there are wide spaces in Bombay where there are more people crammed within the same area than in any city in the world. Each of these plagues was heralded by the same antecedents. You remember the great rain of 1896. It rained day and night consecutively in Bombay for two or three months (87 inches) almost without intermission. This was in June, July and part of August followed of course by tropical heat. There were people who remarked at the time that such an abnormal rain would be followed by some epidemic disease. Once the word "plague" flashed across the mind, and it was summarily dismissed as unworthy of suspicion. The plague rain had its counterpart in England and in Italy in 1343, where it fell almost without a break from Michaelmas to Candlemas. Then the rats (those awful rats which devoured human beings) broke forth in both cases from their holes, half choked, driven to the surface seeking for air, a ghastly premonition, suggesting at first as if drunk, and littering the streets with their dead bodies. Dead rats have ever been an accompaniment of the plague. In ancient Alexandria there was a statue of Vulcan with outstretched arm on the plan of which was a rat sultan, with this inscription: "Look at me and learn to reverence the gods." There was the same concealment of cases, and when houses were deserted or shut up robbers, went about to pillage them. People shut themselves up in country houses and unwittingly enclosed the enemy also within their gates, or fleeing for very life went on board some old hulk.

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When the total losses of the first twelve weeks of 1898 were counted up there had fallen 20,000, and the plague was not stayed. I suppose that few of the great battlefields of history have presented a more formidable list of dead and dying than the city of Bombay in the first three months of 1898. For some days the only traffic observable in the streets was in the wood wherewith to burn them. In the plague of 1348 it was the dead that menaced the living. Cremation has happily in part saved us from this great catastrophe. At first we were curious and anxious, then dull and stupid, now we are callous and indifferent, and the daily mortality returns of 300 to many people awaken as little interest as the figures in an account-book or multiplication table. In the funerals that pass I observe that the body of the deceased makes very little appearance. The corpse, as a rule, is buried in a coffin, and the Scotch would say, "buries it in a box," and the Mohammedan, "buries it in a lead," and the Hindu, "buries it in a pot." The lowest stratum has been the most attacked, those who were destitute of good food, warm clothing, or good lodging. Those who had none at all, have fallen an easy prey to the insatiable devourer. So was it with the Black Death. Its effects on the labouring class are displayed in the preamble of the Statute of Labourers, 13th November, 1351. "Forasmuch as a great part of the people, principally of artisans and labourers is dead of the pestilence." In the worst dens and hovels of the disease, and some of them are several stories high, you see to-day houses that have been unroofed to the rafters, dislocated (ies) and rafters dusty and blackened, cleaving the skyline. The pestilence that walketh in darkness, as true to day as when the words were first uttered "Three thousand years ago."

THE Punjab Government offices are now open at Simla.

On the 15th August, 1348, which means 25th by our calendar, a strange disease appeared at Bristol. The harvest of that year could not be gathered for rain, and while it lay rotting in the fields, people were wondering how they would subsist during the coming winter. It looked as if half the population would not be able to find bread. It never occurred to anyone that in a few months half the population would cease to exist. At first people were disposed to laugh at the new importation and they thought little of it, but by and by when a thousand or two fell before it, unconcerned gave way to the deepest anxiety or the wildest terror. People fled from it as from a destroying angel. The mysterious visitor which had reached our shores was the most mortal of all epidemics, and was no other than the black death, or Bubonic plague of the Ptolemies and of Justinian, and carried the mine back to the emerald and rats of Gaza and Ashkelon with the ark and the "oxen lowing as they went" on their way to Kirjathgairim. The disease had never been known in England before it appeared at Bristol in 1348, and it deserves to be noted that it remained domesticated on the soil of England with slight intermissions for three hundred years, and never left our shores until it finally took its departure in 1666, since which date let us thank God it has never returned.

It reached London on the 1st November, 1348, but the news of its approach by ship from the Levant and from across the Channel had long preceded it. At the mighty wave rolled from realm to realm, the tidings came like the portents of a thunderstorm. There had been mutterings from the Caspian, the Bosphorus and the Adriatic. Cairo, Damascus and Byzantium were merely the milestones of its onward journey. Becaccio lived at Florence, Petarch spoke of it as a world's wonder, and Laura died of it at Avignon.

It seemed to have come to a head in England when Bradwardine, Archbishop of Canterbury, died of it at Lambeth on the 26th August, 1349, one week only after his arrival at Dover. Long before this, thousands had fled from the various cities of Europe and Asia. The Bosphorus was subsidised by Constantinople, while Naples fled to the slopes of Mount Vesuvius, Rome to the Alban Hills, Florence to the Appennines, London to Epsom or the New Forest, and Edinburgh to the Braid Hills, while away over the sea Damascus was making tracks for the Lebanon, and Cairo for the Libyan Desert, and Delhi under Tughlak was being shovelled whole sale to Dowlatabad. I stop not to inquire the reason why. Famine was in evidence and plague in India in 1345.

The duration of the black death in London was seven to eight months, the population of the city being then about 200,000. It had the same duration as the plague of 1666, the same curve of increase, maximum intensity and decrease. The five highest weeks of 1348 were successively in death, 1454, 1626, 1372, 1323 and 1262.

At Avignon it was very fierce; 67 Carmelite monks were found dead in one monastery, no one outside having heard that the plague was among them. In the English College there the whole of the monks were said to have died of it. At first science and its students walked up boldly to it. It was be-

labouring an elephant with a feather. They then pelted it with nostrums. The black death would be neither scorched nor killed, and laughed at science and empiricism. The wisest doctors of the age in every country in which it appeared were confounded. How long it would remain, over what area it would spread—the black death was inscrutable. The disease defied investigation and cure. Petarch tells us, "If you question the philosophers they shrug their shoulders, wrinkle their brows and lay the finger on the lip," or as Lucretius wrote in reference to the plague in Egypt. "The healing art muttered low in voiceless fear."

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HAFKINE'S ANTI-PLAGUE INOCULATION.

THE *Pioneer* concludes a long article on Hafkine's "Anti" plague inoculation with these remarks:—Thus even the most favourable statistics yet available, although very many thousands of persons have undergone the operation, are not altogether conclusive. The practical value of the operation must remain undecided until a very much larger series of unequivocal observations are forthcoming. Then in the event of its efficacy being fully established there will be the question of re-injections. Vaccination to be effective requires to be repeated more than once in a life-time, for even small-pox itself only confers protection from further attack for a score of years or so. A second attack of plague, on the other hand, has in several cases been known to occur within six months; so that the injection of anti-plague serum, even if its efficacy be established, would require to be repeated every three months to ensure protection. Nor can we altogether shut our eyes to the possibility of danger in the manufacture of the material. The breeding of the plague-germ wholesale involves a risk of introducing the disease through the laboratory, though indeed some of the authorities would seem to think that there is little risk of propagating the disease by contagion, for we notice in the daily plague reports from Calcutta that several cases of plague are being admitted into the Medical College Hospital, a general hospital with over 200 patients, including many poor Europeans. There is also a risk that some live plague-germs might remain in the material issued for injection. Such an attempt at the anti-toxic treatment of plague should have the sympathy alike of the public and of the medical profession as being quite in keeping with the modern science of preventive medicine; but it is still so crude as scarcely to have emerged beyond the laboratory stage, and much will remain to be done before it can be placed on the same high platform with vaccination for the small-pox.

The anti-plague operation of Hafkine, which is causing such a scare among the natives in Calcutta and elsewhere, is put forward by its inventor as an inoculation, and in nature and efficacy has been compared by Surgeon-General Harvey to vaccination. But are these two operations strictly comparable, and is Hafkine's injection really an inoculation at all?

Inoculation, properly so-called, is the "engrafting" on to the cut or scratched surface of the body of an animal the living germs of any disease which is communicable from one individual to another, like small-pox, cow-pox, or hydrophobia, so that these germs grow, and in growing originate in the individual so operated on that particular disease of which the germs have been inoculated. As a remedy, inoculation was first practised with regard to small-pox. For it was early



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The
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"Srutu Mundul Flute"

(i.e., box harmonious containing struts)
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KAVIRAJ NOGENDRA NATH SEN, Physician,
 Surgeon, Accoucher, Member, Paris Chemical
 Society, Indian Medical Association, and Calcutta
 Medical Society, A.C., practices the Ayur-
 vedic system of Medicine after having learnt the
 principles of Western Medical Science, and obtained
 with credit a Diploma from one of the Government
 Medical Institutions of the country.

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OR
EAR DROPS.
 It cures otorrhoea, otitis, tympanitis, inflammation
 and all other diseases of the ear. Deafness, if not of
 long standing, is sure to be cured by its use.
 Price per phial — — — — — 6/12
 (Packing and postage — — — — — 6/12)

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Our Own Health-Restorer.
 It not only allays all local irritation,
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 tution. Hence, it is used with the most signal suc-
 cess in Asthma, Bronchitis, Cough, Consumption,
 Indigestion, and all affections of the Throat and the
 Chest.

It diminishes the secretion of mucus in the
 bronchial tubes and lessens the irritation of the res-
 piratory centre. It increases longevity and renders
 the organs strong. It sharpens the memory and in-
 telligence, and gives vitality to the old and debilitated
 tissues. It restores the body to beauty and the
 bloom of early youth and supplies physical strength
 and power of endurance to it. It stimulates
 appetite and induces activity in the flow of the secre-
 tions. It is of great service to the young, old, and
 the weak. It is infinitely better than Codliver Oil.
 For proving its superiority to Codliver Oil, one need
 only use it for a short while. The tradition is, that
 it was with this medicine that the Asvins, the cele-
 stial physicians, restored the Rishi Chyavan, em-
 aciated and weak with age and penances, to the bloom
 and beauty of youth.

Prices for 7 doses — — — — — Rs. 2 0
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Specific for Diabetes.—The regular use of the
 above medicine is sure to cure Diabetes. It entirely
 removes general debility, burning of the palms and
 soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, renal
 debility, resulting from excessive urination, a
 discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and
 acid eruptions, aching pains in the limbs, slight
 oedema of the legs, drowsiness, loss of sleep, etc.

Price for two boxes of medicine with
 a phial of oil — — — — — Rs. 5 0

Ring-worm Powder cures all sorts of Ring
 worm, 8 annas per phial. Postage Annas 4 only.

Kesh Rannjan Oil or the best sweet-scented oil
 for verruca, and headache, caused by nervous debility.
 It remarkably assists the growth of hair. Price
 per phial Rs. 1. Packing and Postage Annas 6.

**We keep ready for sale all kinds of Medicines,
 Medicinal Oils, Gels, Makaradhwaja, prepared
 under our own direct supervision.**

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 forth to this new address, viz.—18-1, Lower Chit-
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 Govt. Medical Diploma Holder,
 AND
 Member of the Chemical Society, Paris
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Thus the Fund has two departments—"M" (Mar-
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 n 1896 against Rs. 33,183-8 and Rs. 10,380 in 1895,
 respectively. Agencies in Amritsar, Multan, and
 other places in the Punjab, at Sylhet and Dhubri
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DR. NUNDO LALL GHOSH, of 30 years ex-
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 Dacca and Campbell Medical Schools, Physician
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He has introduced in India the new system of treat-
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 In strength and sweetness of perfume it will
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নৃতন সংস্করণ মূল্য ২০০ আড়াই টাকা।

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It has Two Invaluable Qualities:

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Price is so fixed that every one can buy it. 4 annas
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No home should be without it. Every familyman
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