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পদকল্পতরু।

সম্পূর্ণ হইয়াছে

মূল্য ৩৷৷০ টাকা।

পরিশিষ্ট যন্ত্রস্থ।

অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য

অনুরাগবল্লী।

শ্রীমনোহর দাস প্রণীত।

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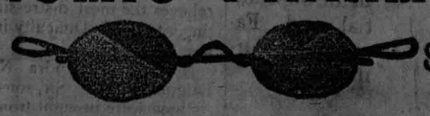
BEST PEBBLE  STEEL FRAME RS. 5.

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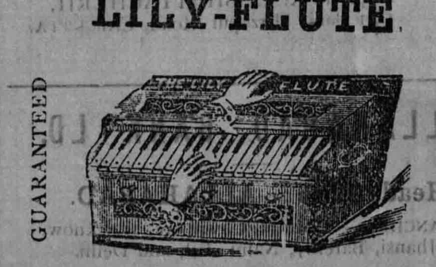

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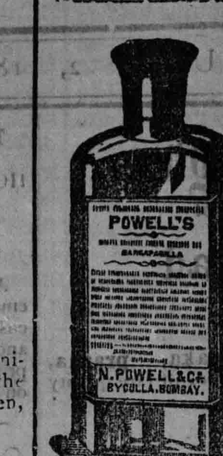

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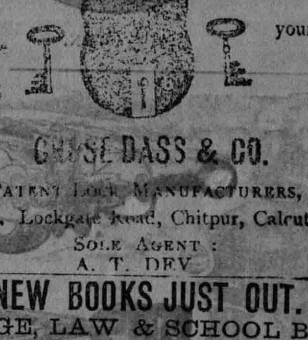

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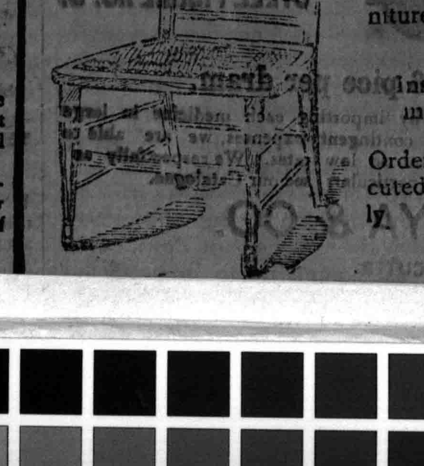

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THE
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CALCUTTA JUNE 2, 1898.

THE SWORD OF DAMOCLES.

A FINAL attempt, it appears, was made by our friends in England on the 18th May, for the withdrawal of the measures which were lately introduced, but without avail. Here is the announcement by Reuter:—

LONDON, MAY 19.

In the House of Commons, last night, in reply to a question, Lord George Hamilton said he declined to advise the Crown to disallow the amendments passed by the Indian Legislative Council to the Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code and the Post Office Act.

These Chalmers measures were introduced at a moment of panic and condemned universally, by Indians and Anglo-Indians, Liberals and by Tories also; but yet they remain hanging over our heads, menacing our liberty of action and speech.

What we expect is that older the British Government is in this country, the greater is the liberty that the Indian subjects of Her Majesty should enjoy. But what we find is, that with the growth of British rule in India, the Indians are fast losing the liberty they possessed before. The measures which were introduced within the last few months, did not exist in 1758 nor in 1858. They are additions to our existing disabilities.

When H. R. H. the Prince of Wales came to visit this country, there was an outburst of enthusiasm. But an Indian gentleman committed the indiscretion of inviting him to a company of Hindu ladies, and the Government committed the indiscretion of allowing H. R. H. to attend it. The incident naturally created a sensation, and a Calcutta dramatic company brought the matter on the stage with great profit to themselves. This gave great offence to the Government and the Dramatic Performances Act was at once introduced. And thus a disability was added.

That was the only offence the people ever committed. A hint from the Government would have stopped the offensive performance. But no; it ought to be done at the point of the bayonet.

This Act yet remains hanging over our head, though there is no occasion whatever of using it. "Let the sword hang, though there is no necessity for it", seems to be the idea of the authorities.

A legislator took it into his head that the people of India committed outrages upon their girl-wives. He found in the Viceroy a most pliant tool. A Bill was introduced; the country was convulsed. The legislator sat in Council and favoured the people with the choicest abuse. The Bill was passed with the beat of drums, and as if a great triumph was achieved over the people. The legislator, Sir A. Seoble, however, needed sowars to protect him when roaming about the town. The newspapers resented the measure, and in revenge, a Bengali newspaper was prosecuted. And finally it was found that the measure was a needless piece of offence to a gentle and submissive race. Is there any one now who does not admit that the measure is a mistake? We think, there is none. But yet the sword hangs. "Let it hang, though we may not use it," is seemingly the opinion of the authorities.

Came another legislator who suffered latterly from pronounced dementedness. He came with the idea that if there were appeals against convictions, there ought to be appeals against acquittals too. His other idea was that if the Judges had the power of reducing sentences, they must have the power of enhancing them too! He was very just. Said he: Would it not be unjust to deprive the Government of the power of appeal against acquittal when the people have the privilege of appeal against conviction? It was in this fashion that the legislator argued; but he carried the day. So we have here privileges enjoyed by the State, which are unknown in any other civilized country in the world. Nay, the same legislator wanted to thrust some of his wonderful discoveries upon the people of England; but he was laughed at!

Indeed, the provisions, introduced by Sir James Stephen, did not exist before; they were added subsequently. So, you see, it is not quite correct to say that as we are getting more and more Anglicized, we are getting more and more of the liberties of the British subject.

A measure is introduced at a moment of panic; the panic subsides, but the measuer remains! A measure is introduced from misapprehension. The misapprehension is removed, but the measure remains! It is in this manner the liberties of the Indian subjects of Her Majesty have been tampered with. We hope the Liberals will soon come to power and do away with the sedition measures. And we hope, that the Indians will be able to send men like Babu Ananda Mohan Bose to enlighten the English people as to the disabilities under which the people of this country live,—disabilities which serve no useful purpose, but only nourish discontent.

ALL RIOTERS ARE NOT BADMASHES.

WILL the Government permit us to speak a word on behalf of the rioters? We have not as much faith in strong measures as perhaps our contemporary the *Englishman* has, but we freely admit that they are necessary in the case of *badmashes*. But strong measures in the case of those who are not *badmashes* but honest citizens, moved by circumstances beyond their control to break the law, do no good but rather much mischief. The rioters implicated in these plague cases, are many of them not only men of peaceful disposition, but some of them are well-intentioned though misguided men. The Nihilist deserved no sympathy from sober men, but how did their bitterest enemy feel for them when the fifty of the Society of Moscow were brought to trial? This is what Stepniak says:—

But no. Even those who could not but consider such men as enemies were bewildered at the sight of so much self-sacrifice. "They are saints!" Such was the explanation, repeated in a broken voice, by those who were present at this memorable trial.

A large section of the populace of Calcutta, or, for the matter of that, of the whole country, are just now under the influence of one strange hallucination, which leads them to act in concert for the purpose of carrying out an object. The idea is that the plague officers are the enemies of the human race, and they ought to be put down for common good! They are carrying poison to kill people; they are dragging men to hospital who are not suffering from the plague; they have organised themselves into search-parties for the purpose of committing outrages and driving the people mad; &c.; &c.

Their idea is a monstrous one, but they are yet sincere in their belief. Otherwise they would have not left the city in a panic, and risked imprisonment and death. They are so terribly in earnest that they have forgotten their internecine quarrels. The Hindus and Mussalmans of Bhawanipore, who were quarreling on account of the slaughter of cows by the latter during the *Bukreed*, appeared, the other day, before the Magistrate to withdraw their cases. They said that they had been cured of their folly by the plague, and they wanted a compromise. Whoever heard of a case like this being compromised in this manner?

If the cow-riots enabled the Hindus to bring their scattered forces together to be able to act in concert, the plague has enabled the Hindus and Mussalmans to forget their long-standing disputes for the purpose of acting together. If, in the cow-riot cases, the punishment of the Hindus pleased the Mussalmans, in these plague riot cases the punishment of an offender is creating discontent both amongst Hindus and Mussalmans. For they are all actually acting in concert not only here, but throughout the Empire,—in Bengal, Bombay and the Punjab.

Considering that these rioters are now under the influence of a strong hallucination which they cannot shake off; that though they are rioters just now under the influence of a temporary insanity, they are yet gentle and law-abiding by nature; and that they are prompted not by any ill will to Government or society but a high though utterly mistaken sense of duty, we hope the authorities will find their way to concede that drastic measures are not likely to meet the requirements of the situation. The hallucination is not confined to one class or community; the drastic measures, therefore, instead of pleasing anybody may rather inflame the minds of the ignorant classes the more. As a matter of fact, we see that the drastic measures have only made the case worse.

THEN AND NOW.

THE authorities here must have heard with dismay the opinion expressed of them by the masses. It is that they are conspiring to murder the people! Of course, the character, given to them by the masses, has the likely effect of hurting the susceptibilities of those who rule the country. There are, however, possibly some amongst them in ruling positions, who would like to know the origin of this unpopularity. One thing is absolutely certain,—this popular feeling against the Government in this pronounced form, is of recent date. Only, say, a dozen years ago, the feeling was much better. It seems to us, the country was much better administered then than now. The people then had faith in the Government; but that faith decreased, because of certain circumstances which we shall notice presently.

In days gone by, the local Governors knew everything that happened in their respective provinces. They controlled their subordinates; they took notice of the grievances of the people. But now the local Governors have left almost everything to their subordinates. In Bengal, this policy originated with the rule of Sir Charles Elliott. Now the District Magistrates are the real rulers of the land. The administration varies according to the temper of the District Magistrate.

These District Magistrates now-a-days are much younger men than their predecessors were. In days gone by, a District Magistrate was always a man who had been sobered by age. But now he is something almost a beardless boy. And the mischief is enhanced by the fact that the District Judges, who exercised some sort of control over the Magistrates, are, as a rule, not only very young men too, but they have been divested of some of their previous powers.

In days gone by, that is to say, twelve or fifteen years ago, the natives of the soil enjoyed a considerable share in the administration of the country. This, because the authorities always consulted the Indians whom they thought trustworthy, in shaping their policy or taking any important step. The District Magistrate sought the advice of his subordinates,—his Head Clerk, the Police Inspectors, the Deputy Magistrates, the leading men of the district, and so forth. But now Magistrates have severed their connection with the native subordinates and the general public; and the result is, they have to act with insufficient information and feel their way like blind men.

The local Governors were then more sincerely courteous than now. Of course, a local Governor is always courteous. But that is lip-courtesy. In those days, the local Governors consulted the leaders of the Indian society. And one of the State functions was to invite public men to hold conference with them. How many independent men now go to see the local Governors or the Viceroy? Those very few, who go to them, are never consulted; and, if consulted, they are not, generally speaking, the men to give any independent opinion.

It was only the other day that the custom prevailed, of the aggrieved Indians besieging the District Judge for protection when they were in any way oppressed by the Magistrate. The Indians frequently waited upon their Governors to complain against men and measures; and they usually got the redress. But now such deputations are not seen.

It is the young Magistrate who now rules the country. There is no harm in that; but he gets assistance neither from his subordinates and the leading men of the District, nor has he any control from his superiors; and what we see is that there is now very little certainty of anything in the Muffasil.

The result of this policy produced a demoralizing effect upon the Indians. They gave up altogether to take part in public affairs. They had District Associations which helped the authorities. They ventilated their grievances through local newspapers. But tney are silent now; the local newspapers are gone, and those that exist, rarely speak. These newspapers do not now deal with subjects affecting the direct interests of the people, lest they in any way interfere with the District authorities. But they take up only what is called imperial questions, such as currency and finance. Local correspondents do not venture to send any news to metropolitan newspapers, lest they become objects of anger to the local authorities.

The Magistrates, most of them, are estimable men. But they have no opportunities of knowing that it is something like anarchy that prevails within their jurisdiction. They are, besides, frequently transferred. The result is that thieves and *badmashes* are flourishing at the cost of the good and honest citizen. But all this the Magistrates know not,—none tells them. Those whom they come across, are interested in keeping him ignorant of the real state of affairs.

IF we refer to the Bhowanipore tragedy again, it is because the manner, in which the Magistrate of Alipore has sought to dispose of the matter, has not satisfied the public. As we pointed out in our last, what he ought to have done was to record the fact that two boys, named Nanda Lal Pal, aged 17, and Amrita Lal Nath, aged 12, were shot dead by Dr. Laing, and then commit the latter to the sessions. This course should have been taken, not only in the interests of the public but also those Dr. of Laing himsel; for, with the meagre evidence recorded at the inquest, the public can legitimately draw inferences most unfavourable to him. We shall quote from the finding of the Magistrate to show how he has failed to justify the conduct of the doctor. The Magistrate thus testifies to the safety of the place where Dr. Laing and Dr. Sarkar had taken shelter:—

Dr. Laing and Dr. Sarkar ascended a small winding staircase which communicates between an alley on the ground-floor which divides the house from the court-yard on the west and the flat roof of the house. Dr. Sarkar led the way and sat on the top step, Dr. Laing sitting two or three steps lower down. Facing Dr. Laing was a sharp right-handed bend in the stairs; so that any one ascending the stairs, could not be seen until he turned the corner and was within 2 or 3 yards of where Dr. Laing was sitting. The position was admirably adapted for defence, for, only one man could ascend the stairs at a time. There Dr. Laing and Dr. Sarkar waited, hoping they could escape detection.

The Magistrate then proceeded to say:—

After a while the main body of the crowd, disappointed in not finding Dr. Laing, descended the stairs. * * As Dr. Laing and Dr. Sarkar sat there, Dr. Laing heard the pattering of feet up the stair. Dr. Laing drew his revolver from his bag. * * A man suddeniy appeared round the corner of the stairs, brandishing what seemed to Dr. Laing like an iron bar. Dr. Laing fired and the bullet struck the man in the stomach, and he turned and went downstairs.

The situation was then this. Having been pursued by the rioters, Dr. Laing and Dr. Sarkar posted themselves on the top of a staircase, armed with a six-chambered revolver. The staircase was so narrow that only one man could ascend it at a time. Dr. Laing could thus defy and keep at bay any number of rioters downstairs from his impregnable position of defence, as they were armed with sticks only. Indeed, not a single rioter could ascend where Dr. Laing was, without being immediately shot down. Dr. Laing had thus absolutely no fear of being overpowered, and killed or assaulted; for, not even two men could rush up to him at a time. Such being the case, he has to explain why he shot down a lad of 17 who was coming up to him armed only with a small piece of wood. He says that he mistook the broken wooden bar for an iron bar. But Dr. Sarkar did not make this mistake. Granting that it was a piece of iron which the boy carried with him, was it necessary for him to use a deadly weapon to protect himself against the assault of a lad of 17? Let us quote again clause 4, section 99, I. P. C., which says: "The right of private defence in no case extends to the inflicting of more harm than it is necessary to inflict for the purpose of defence." Why did he not at first frighten the boy with a blank fire? Those who know Bengali boys, will testify to the fact that the boy would have at once taken to his heels, even if Dr. Laing had simply aimed the revolver at him, without firing at all. But what did he do? Says he in his evidence: "I picked up my revolver and fired. *I aimed at his stomach.*" So the shot was deliberately fired! Then, as we suggested in our last, he might have pushed or kicked the boy downstairs. In short, what Dr. Laing has to explain is why he inflicted more harm than what was necessary to inflict for the purpose of self-defence? He has also to explain why did he aim at the stomach of the boy which, he knew, would kill him, instead of aiming at, say, one of his legs? The Magistrate in his finding, says: "A man suddenly appeared round the corner of the stairs, *brandishing* what seemed to Dr. Laing like an iron bar." Firstly, he was not a *man*, but a *lad* of 17. Secondly, where the Magistrate got this "brandishing" from, we can not imagine. It is not in the reported evidence. Thirdly, considering that the stair-case is so narrow that only one man can ascend it at a time, the brandishing of a bar, iron or wooden, is impossible.

Now as regards the shooting down of the other boy, Amrita Lal Nath, who was only twelve years old. What happened was this. When the boy, Nanda Lal, was shot in the stomach, he fled to a neighbouring shop. The crowd saw him wounded, and dispersed in all directions. But let us quote from his evidence of the doctor:—

After the first shot, I waited for a short time, and hearing a rustling of feet, thought of leaving the house. I told Dr. Sarkar to stay where he was, and I would go and see. The man I shot at, disappeared. I descended the steps slowly, and not hearing anything, I went down to the court-yard. I looked towards the alley-way to the right, but I could not see anything. On turning round, I saw four or five men, armed with *lathi*, coming towards me. I took up my revolver, and fired twice, and they bolted. I did not see any one fall. I fired two snapshots at the four or five men who were coming towards me second time, about a distance of six paces. These five men rushed towards me, as I thought, to kill me, and I fired.

So what Dr. Laing did, after shooting down the first lad, was to leave the position "which was admirably adapted for defence," and thus risk a contact with at least some of the rioters who might be loitering behind. Now why did he take this step? It was taken deliberately, and this led to the massacre of a boy of 12. If he, like Dr. Sarkar, had remained where they were, not only no rioter would have ventured to approach him; but, if any had come to assault him, he might have easily defended himself and Dr. Sarkar. He, however, deliberately left the place where he was secure, then met a few persons in the way, shot at them, and the outcome of all this was the death of a poor boy of 12! Referring to this incident, the *Bengali* says: "It was not necessary for Dr. Laing for purposes of self-defence to go down. He might have remained where he was, and then left the house when it was clear of the mob. But instead of doing that, after shooting down the first comer, he deliberately leaves the stair-case apparently in search of the mob, who were now leaving the house. It is impossible to see how the second shot could have been fired in self-defence." We have not the slightest wish to embarrass the Government in connection with this case. All that we beg to submit is that if no notice of the conduct of Dr. Laing is taken, it will only strengthen the popular belief that he was let off because he was a European. The Government should also compel Dr. Laing to give sufficient compensation to, at least, the mother of Amrita Lal, who, as we said, was her only supporter.

THE Bombay authorities, it seems, have not yet been able to acquire that equanimity of mind which is so necessary for the peaceful administration of a Province. The Sivaji movement, when it was first started, gave them a fright. The troubles of the Natu brothers and Mr. Tilak are, no doubt, mainly due to the murders of Messrs. Rand and Ayerst; but the Sivaji movement, in which they took a good deal of interest, also led the officials to look upon them with suspicion. A thorough enquiry has, however, established the fact beyond all doubt that the promoters of the movement have no other object in view than to do homage to a hero of whom not only the Maharattas but every other Indian race is proud. As we once said, Sivaji was a greater man than even Napoleon; for, the resources of the latter, both military and financial, were vast, but Sivaji had to fight the invincible armies of the Moghul Emperors, at whose feet the whole of India lay helpless, with a band of undisciplined Maharattas, ill-armed and ill-clad, and who had lost their Maharattas if they adore such a national hero and meet every year to do honour to his memory. Of course, if they preach sedition or utilize that occasion for the purpose of undermining British rule in India, it must be stopped with a strong hand. But, as we said, beyond the delivery of some academic speeches, nothing is said or done at these anniversary meetings, to create disaffection against the present Government. Indeed, the Poona authorities are so thoroughly satisfied with the innocent character of the movement, that they did not deem it necessary to meddle with the last anniversary meeting of Sivaji in any way. And yet a Maharatti play, entitled "Shivaji," which was announced to be performed in an Indian theatre at Grant Road, Bombay, on the 23rd instant, threw the Bombay police into a convulsion, and led them to stop the performance! Nor is this all. The writer of the play was taken before the Commissioner of Police, and it is said certain seditious passages have already been hunted out from his writing. So the Indian public may be regaled with another sensational sedition case! This nervousness does not suit a great Government. Those who are for adopting these drastic measures, in season and out of season, only prove their unfitness to rule a vast Empire. How did their predecessors manage when there was really sedition in the country and when the people had life and thus could give some trouble to the authorities? By this display of nervousness, they only show their own inferiority to the early Anglo-Indian rulers of India.

WE have already referred to the rumour of Mr. Tilak's release on the Queen's Birthday, and how it turned out to be unfounded at the last moment. We learn from Poona that it was some mischievous policemen who spread the rumour, with a view to play a practical joke upon the people. It was, no doubt, a joke to them; but it was a cruel disappointment to a whole population. We are told that a large crowd of men assembled outside the Yerrowda Jail on the morning of the 24th May, and waited there till 10. 30. A. M., expecting Mr. Tilak and other editors to be brought out every moment, when they were told by the jail officials that they had been hoaxed. The editor of the *Mahavritta*, who was in the Bombay Donghi Jail, was taken to the Poona Jail ten or twelve days ago; and thus all the incarcerated Maharatta editors are now in one jail. This stengthened the rumour of the release of all. The incident was, however, very important in its own way. It was a spontaneous demonstration on behalf of Mr. Tilak, and its effect should not be lost upon the Government. In its own interests, the Bombay Government should release Mr. Tilak and other editors, and let the people forget events which cannot but rouse unpleasant feelings in their breasts.

THE manner in which Hanuman Baniya was removed from 41, Mott's Lane, day before yesterday, to the Isolation Hospital, shows that there is no certainty about these plague cases. According to our reporter, there was a difference of opinion between three medical men as to the nature of the disease, from which the man had been suffering. Dr. D'Silva was positive that Hanuman was suffering from choleraic diarrhœa. Under such circumstances why was not the Health Officer informed and the patient examined by him? Sometime ago, the Chairman of the Corporation circulated the following circular, 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 report of our reporter, who saw the patient with his own eyes, not any of the symptoms, noted above, were present in the patient, except a little swelling of the gland in the right groin, which was due to his going to Kidderpore and coming back on foot, and owing to a boil in the right leg. One of the symptoms, we are told by the Chairman, is that "bowels are constipated." But in the present case the man had choleraic stools! Then high fever is another chief characteristic of the plague. But the temperature of the patient was, according to one Doctor, 100·2 degrees, and according to the Municipal Doctor, 102 degrees. So he had very little fever, even according to Dr. Clemow. And then, why was no notice sent to the members of the Vigilance Committee of the Ward? We trust that our good Lieutenant-Governor will be pleased to direct that no patient is taken to the Isolation Hospital, about whom there is difference of medical opinion, unless he has been examined thoroughly by some competent medical men. It is in this way that chaff from the grain can be distinguished. As the Municipal Doctors have made mistakes in their diagnosis on several occasions, their opinion should not be taken as decisive, specially when other doc-

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After the above was in type, we received the report of another extraordinary plague case which is published in another column. Now, will the authorities be pleased to explain why was this *dome* dragged to the Plague Isolation Hospital? We are also informed by the Secretary of the Vigilance Committee of Ward No 1. that there was no death from plague in that Ward on the 28th May, though the return of the Health Officer shows one. The Secretary says that one death from fever occurred on the 28th, and perhaps this has been converted into a death from plague!

WE take the following from the *Pioneer*:—

The case in which Mr. H. A. Tresham of Cawnpore was charged with killing a native came up for revision in the High Court before Mr. Justice Aikman. It will be remembered that the evidence showed there was no doubt the fatality was the result of an accident. Mr. Tresham intended to punish the man for a fault, but not to injure him in any way. Mr. Tresham was fined Rs. 200 by the Magistrate, and the case came up in the High Court for revision After examining the evidence Mr. Justice Aikman came to the conclusion that there was no reason to doubt the legality and propriety of the conviction and sentence, and that in such a case a man ought to be judged rather by his intentions than by the effect of the act.

Of course, we must bow down to the decision of Mr. Justice Aikman; but what are the facts of the case? They are, no doubt, known to the *Pioneer*; but he does not disclose them! Why does the *Pioneer* exist if it cannot publish the full report of a case that occurred in his Provinces, in which a human being was killed, native though he was, and the party who killed him was let off with a fine of Rs. 200? Suppose such an incident had occurred in England. Would not then every English paper be filled with the details of the of the circumstances which led to the tragedy? Suppose again that, instead of a native being killed by a European, a European were killed by a native. Would the *Pioneer* then have disposed of the matter in an off-hand paragraph? But the *Pioneer* does more. It does not mention the fact that the poor man was kicked to death! The *Morning Post* of Delhi is a far more honest paper, and it thus describes the incident:—

An unfortunate accident occurred at Messrs. Cooper, Allen and Company's Cawnpur establishment a few days ago which was attended by fatal results. Mr. Tresham, one of the staff, kicked a native employe and the latter died shortly after. Mr. Tresham was fined Rs. 200 yesterday by the Joint Magistrate. This is the second case of the kind, that has happened at Cooper Allen's.

So the man was not only kicked to death, but he was the second victim of the kind at Cooper Allen's! Was it not thus necessary, in the interests of the public, to inflict some exemplary punishment so as to deter others from committing similar atrocities? And they wonder why the lower-class people have lost all confidence in the authorities! It is not the Native Press which has taught them to entertain absurd notions against the rulers of the country, but they cannot help feeling in the way they do when they see one of their fellows killed by a European, and the European let off with practically no punishment; for, a fine of Rs. 200 means nothing to a man in the position of Mr. Tresham. It is quite true that he did not mean to kill but the illiterate masses judge a man from his acts and not intentions. The object-lessons presented to them frequently, are these: They see one of their fellows kicked or shot to death, by a European. The European is made to go through a sort of trial and then allowed to go scot-free. Similarly they see that in rioting cases, innocent spectators are sometimes either shot dead or punished severely as *badmashes*. Those who killed these innocent men, however, get no punishment whatever. Naturally they come to believe that when so little value is put upon their liberties and lives, it is quite possible that *tiera-wallas* have been let loose to kill them with a ubtle poison!

THE *Englishman* publishes the following:—

The recent disturbance at Bhowanipur has caused the Bengal Government to issue orders for the protection of all doctors of the Health Department, whenever they are calle out on plague duty. Sanction has been recorded for eight armed European constables of the Calcutta Police force, to be told off for duty daily with the doctors going out to visit or remove patients to hospital, as the case may be. One European constable is to accompany the doctor in his trap to see that he is no way molested. In case of any signs of a disturbance, further police assistance can be easily obta ned from the nearest thana. Besides this, the Commissioner of Police has ordered that in future twenty-five parawallahs shall be placed at the disposal of the Health Officer to do duty and protect in small bodies all officers of the Health Department who go out to remove plague cases to hospital. The officials of the Health Department have been directed to apply for further police assistance, should they need it.

The above is, no doubt, a very effective method of protecting the plague officers from the violence of the mob; but it has good many disadvantages. Firstly, the forcible removal of a patient to hospital is in itself a source of irritation to the people; but if this is effected at the point of the bayonet, it will create dismay and Calcutta will be overtaken by another panic. Secondly, this extraordinary display of power is bound to attract a large crowd of people, either from curiosity or for the purpose of rescuing the patient. A *badmash* or a mischievously-disposed urchin amongst them may take it into his head to [illegible] the police or throw a brickbat at them, and the latter may at once lose their temper, fire, and massacre the innocent. The picture is not at all overdrawn. That most of these recent plague riots in Calcutta were conducted mainly by boys, is beyond question. This is what appears in yesterday's *Statesman*, relating to the removal of Hanuman Banya to the Isolation Hospital at Manicktolah, referred to in our yesterday's issue:—

The presence of the van in the neighbourhood drew a large crowd, and although there was an escort of fifteen policemen and a jemadar, Dr. Cleamow thought it necessary to arm Mr. Phelan with a revolver. The van, accompanied by the uncle and relatives of the sick man, was followed nearly up to the Union Chapel by the crowd, which fell away completely by the time that locality was reached. The rest of Dhurrumtollah Street and Circular Road was covered without any incident; but as the van approached the vicinity of Manicktolla, there was again a gathering. This time, a number of chokra boys followed alongside the van, and as their grimaces and attitude were not very re-assuring, Mr. Phelan, who, after passing the Union Chapel, had placed the revolver in the lower pocket of his coat, drew it out once more. Mr. Phelan, right through the procession from Mott's Lane, kept in front of the van; and when he drew out the revolver in Manicktolla, the effect was miraculous. The chokra boys vanished like smoke, and, when he looked behind, their elder companions had also disappeared.

Now if a bold spirit amongst the lads had pelted a stone at the party, would not the result have been a terrible affair? It is quite true that plague officers must be protected; but, at the same time, no opportunity should be given to them or the police officers who escort them, to fire upon an unarmed mob, composed generally of lads, at the slightest opposition, and spill innocent blood. Thirdly, humanity requires that, in the interests of the poor patient, all chances of a large gathering and the possibility of a disturbance should be avoided when he is removed.

There is, however, another method of dealing with these suspected cases, which is free from the disadvantages, noted above. Firstly, it is not absolutely necessary to remove all suspected cases. God knows whether the cases which are being hunted out by these Bombay doctors, are really plague or not; but there is no doubt of it, none of them has been proved to be contagious in its character. For, if they were contagious, then the members of their families and those who attended them, would have caught the disease. Most of these suspected cases may thus be left where they are found, and the huts or houses in which they live, segregated thoroughly. Secondly, only those cases may be removed to the Isolation Hospital, about which there is not the slightest doubt. When a man is attacked with real plague, even a layman can detect it; for, it is a terrible and abnormal disease, and some of its characteristics can never be mistaken. In this way the number of hospital cases may be reduced almost to a zero point; for, it is doubtful if even half-a-dozen real plague cases have occurred in Calcutta since the Kapalitolah case was discovered. Thirdly, when it is absolutely necessary to remove a patient to hospital, let the Bombay doctors remain two miles off from him, and let the members of the Ward Committees be asked to remove him. If this plan were adopted, we can guarantee the entire peace of the town. The fact is, if the rulers know something about the educated Indians through newspapers and other means, they know absolutely nothing as how to manage the vast masses of the country. They know only one remedy to keep them in check: it is to teach them a severe lesson by whipping, imprisonment, or shooting them. This method has been, however, tried over and over again all over India without any beneficial result. All that is necessary to cure the ignorant millions of the hallucination with which they have been seized just now, is a little tact and no drastic measures. The Bombay doctors, who are utter strangers to Calcutta, are the last persons to be entrusted with the delicate duty of removing patients to hospitals.

REUTER'S agents at Bombay recently came to grief under the following circumstances. Whatever may be the cause, it is now a well-known fact that Reuter's agents in India are in the habit of sending misleading telegrams to England, calculated to discredit the Indians before the British public. Thus when the riots recently occurred at Bombay, the local agent sent home a telegram to the effect that the riots were fomented by respectable and influential Mahomedans, and that "it was originally intended that there should be a rising against the Europeans to-morrow after the Mahomedans had left the Jumma Musjid when Europeans, found in the streets, were to have been murdered." This message false as it was, very naturally alarmed the leading Mahomedans of Bombay. They found themselves bound to contradict it for their very safety. So they held a public meeting to declare that there was not one iota of truth in the insinuation. They did something more. They sent an Attorney's letter to the agent, and this had the immediate effect of bringing him to his proper sense. A contradiction to the former message was at once wired to England. We hope, the lesson thus taught, will not be thrown away upon Reuter's agents in India and other correspondents who send garbled reports to English papers.

THE *Madras Standard* is mistaken to say that Babu Ananda Mohan Bose has agreed to stand as a candidate for Parliamentary honour. The fact is, he was offered by the constituents, represented by Mr. Balfour, to stand; but the Babu could give no definite reply. The electioneering expenses are too heavy for him. Of course, if he is returned, he is sure to make his mark; but, where are the funds to come from? With Babu Ananda Mohan in Parliament, we can secure all that we want and deserve. Bubu Ananda Mohan is leaving for India about July next.

WE hear from our Bombay correspondent that the elder Natu is suffering from diabetes, contracted probably in the Ahmedabad Jail He is under treatment. The Collector of Belgaum refused to give him a copy of the order of the Government, when elder Natu asked for it orally. He has now made a formal application for a copy. The position of the Natus at present is anomalous and illegal, according to Regulations. Indeed, they are not fully released, nor is their property released from attachment. Now that they have got some liberty, it is not likely that the matter will rest here.

WE learn from a private letter, dated London, May 13th, that a petition was sent to Her Majesty the Queen, praying that Mr. Tilak may be released; and it was expected it would have some effect. The two first signatories were Professor Max Muller and Sir William Hunter. The petition did not contain many signatures; and, among others, Sir M. Bhownaggree signed it.

A SAMASTIPUR correspondent informs us that 6th June has been fixed for the second hearing of the case, known as the Samastipur shooting case at the locality. Mr. Mackentyre shot at a marriage party and killed a man and hurt several. The parties wounded, being of poor class, have not been able as yet to secure the services of pleaders. The wounded men are now in hospital under the treatment of the local Assistant Surgeon.

IN reply to further questions by Sir William Wedderburn, Lord George Hamilton said that there was no truth in the statements of the Hon'ble member that the District officials protested against the imposition of the punitive police at Poona, and that the Commissioner got a scolding for his protest. We hope, the correspondent, at whose suggestion Sir William put the above questions, will lose no time in supplying the hon'ble member with such facts as will enable him to silence Lord George.

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON'S reply to question of Mr. Mac Neill has cleared all mystery about the institution censorship of the Press at Poo The Secretary of State said that the Government had no power to institute such a censorship. We said the same thing.

MR. ROMESH CHANDRA DUTT, C. I. E. was selected to be the speaker on "India" by the Women's National Liberal Association at their great annual gathering held in St. Martin's Town Hall in London on the 17th and 18th May last. The meeting was continued through three sessions, viz., the morning and afternoon of the 17th and the morning of the 18th. The following were among the principal speakers, each speaking on some particular subject of current politics. On the 17th morning, Lady Hayter was to have been in the chair; and the speakers were Mrs. Reeves, Mr. Herbert Paul, Mr. Ellis Griffiths M. P., Mr. Romesh Chandra Dutt, C. I. E., and others. On the afternoon, Mrs. Bryce was to have been in the chair; and the speakers were the Right Hon'ble H. H. Asquith M.P., Mr. Mc.Ghee, M. P., Mrs. Solly and others. On the 18th morning, Mrs. Byles was to have been in the chair; and the speakers Mrs. Bryant D. Sc., Miss Orme L. L. B., Hon'ble Charles Russell, Mrs. Tomkinson and others. We shall, no doubt, be able to place the full text of Mr. Dutt's speech on "India" before our readers next week.

THE last issue of the *Fort St. George Gazette* contains the draft rules framed by the Madras Government under the provisions of section 250 (1) (*a*) of the Madras District Municipalities Act for the conduct of elections in Municipalities in which the elective system of appointing councillors has been introduced. Any objection or suggestion that may be made in respect of these rules will be considered on or after the 15th of July next.

THE Godavari Conference meet at 1 P.M. on the 27th ultimo. The pandal was crowded. The report of the District Associations for 1897-98 was read. Mr. Ganjam Venkataratnam in a very able and eloquent speech moved the second resolution about Land Settlement. The third resolution prays for remission of Assessments on dwelling sites; fourth resolution deals with various subjects on land revenue administration; the fifth resolution on water-cess affirms previous resolutions, and suggests amendment of the Water-cess Act. Messrs Penumarthi Subbaraju and Rangacharlu made as usual excellent speeches.

CERTAIN gentleman of Galle took up a piece of land in Baddegama on a lease to dig for plumbago, and having sunk a pit to some depth, came across a big stone, so the work was given on contract to another party, who entered into an agreement, with a clause binding the contractor to pay a fine of Rs. 1,100 in the event of his failing to sink the shaft three fathoms and deliver the pit emptied of water. The contractor blasted the rock, when all of a sudden he came to a deep cavity full of water, and numerous other shafts connected therewith, which go to prove that these were all shafts, sunk in ages past for the purpose of digging plumbago, and now the poor contractor is called upon by his employers to pay the forfeit (R 1,100)

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THE MAIL FORECAST.—The Oriental, with the outward mails of he 20th instant, is expected at 6 A. M. on Saturday.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.—Sir William Lockhart will leave England on the 7th of October to assume the Chief Command in India.

POSSESSED OF A DEVI.—It was at the village of Kunjahi that a young girl first declared herself possessed of the Devi. She is the prototype of the many Devis that are now going about the country. A grand temple, to cost over a lac of rupees, is now building at Kunjahi to commemorate the manifestation of Devi's power in this Kaliyug.

AN ENCOUNTER WITH A TIGER.—His Highness Shivajirao Holkar killed five tigers in the jungles of the village of Vadavathe, near Khandwa, last week. During the beat two sepoys were severely wounded by a tiger which sprang at the forehead of an elephant. The driver of the elephat fell down, and a duel ensued between the tiger and the driver, in which a sepoy shot the tiger, but missed. The tiger then became furious and attacked the sepoy. Both the sepoy and the driver received several wounds, and are under medical treatment.

THE BIG RAMSAIHAT TIGER.—Colonel and Mrs. Evans-Gordon and party bagged the big Ramasaihat tiger in the Jalpaiguri Duars on the 25th instant. This monster with his family of wife and daughter had quartered himself upon a villiage on the edge of the Tondas Forest about a mile from the Ramsai station on the B. D. Railway. Colonel and Mrs. Evans-Gordon were staying under the hospitable roof of Mr. C. Rawson, Superintendent of the Duars Tea Company at Bamandanga and had thus the best opportunity of circumventing this clever old tiger. Cows had been tied up for him for two previous nights. He and his family had been committing wholesale depredations on the village cattle for about two years and had been hunted and even fired at on several previous occasions, but the Derby Day of 1898 was destined to be his last and he had run the course about the same time as Jeddah—a blue ribbon in each case—as the tiger, which was carefully measured twice in the presence of five people, taped exactly 10 fit 7 in. This, it is though is the record in this part of India, if not in the whole of India. The monster made a splendid fight, having been found about 3 P. M. and killed at 4-30. The party were Colonel and Mrs. Evans-Gordon, and Messrs. Farrington, Oliver and Meares.—*Englishman.*

WELCOME TO THE NEW CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE ALLAHABAD HIGH COURT.

SIR LEWIS Addin Kershaw, the new Chief Justice of the N.-W. P. High Court, took his seat on the Bench for the first time on Monday the 24th May, and made this excellent reply to the addresses of welcome offered to him by the Bar and Bench:—

Mr. Justice Knox, my learned brothers, Mr. Dillon, Pandit Bishambar Nath, and the Advocates and others practising in these Courts:—I wish to thank you most heartily and most sincerely for the words which have been spoken to me by those who are so well able to be your mouthpieces in this matter; and I take the observations which have been so kindly made by the gentlemen who have spoken as being made on behalf of the whole of the gentlemen who come to practise in this Court. I am extremely grateful to you that you have thought fit upon my arrival as a stranger here to meet me with these warm words of welcome, and I hope when the time comes when I, as others, shall have to depart, either in one way or another, from this Court—I hope these words may be re-echoed on your behalf, and, I should like to say, by the same gentlemen who have so eloquently spoken them to-day. In any case I am grateful for those words having been addressed to me now. Gentlemen, I do not wish to address you at great length; I only wish to express myself as warmly as I feel with regard to this matter, and to say one or two words more as to the way in which I hope to conduct the business of this court, so far as the conduct of that business is in my power. I come here as the successor of a distingnished man, I come here as the successor of a line of distinguished judges. It is a distinguished post I fill, and I felt it was a high honour conferred upon me when her Majesty the Queen and Empress thought fit to designate me as being the person who should come here and preside over this Court. I regard it—and I always shall regard it, I hope—as a high and distinguished honor to myself. It may be that in ability, it may be that in power to deal with facts, it may be that in comprehension of the law, I shall fall below some, perhaps all, of my great predecessors, but there is one thing in which I can promise myself at any rate that I shall not fall beneath the leve, and the dignity of those distinguished men, and that is the resolute determination to do substantial justice in this Court over which I preside. It may even be that I shall not succeed, no matter how strong my resolution may be, in doing that, but I hope that I shall so conduct myself that all in this Court—both my brothers on the Bench, the Advocates, and the suitors in this Court—even if they say I have been mistaken, may also say that I have been honestly mistaken, and mistaken while I have been trying to the best of my ability to carry out what I believe to be the highest duty of a judge—to attempt with all his power and with all his mind to do justice. I have spoken at some length. I have been betrayed into addressing you upon personal subjects. That perhaps is in a degree pardonable, as I am trying to introduce myself to those who have been strangers to me. It may be I have spoken in somewhat high terms of what I desire. You must pardon me, and I am sure you will pardon me if you find I am carrying out what I have spoken of. My brother judges, advocates, and gentlemen practising in this Court, I thank you for your presence here to-day, and I thank you again for the kindness of your words to me. I hope we shall be better friends—I am sure we shall be better friends the more we know of each other.

THE Governor of Madras in Council is pleased to direct that in future Honorary Magistrates shall be appointed for a period of five years instead of for life. In the case of existing Honorary Magistrates the period of five years will be reckoned from Friday.

THE PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

SATURDAY'S RETURNS.

THE following is the detailed account of the four suspected cases of plague, reported to the Health Officer on Saturday: (1) Gangadhar, a Hindu resident of 18, Tulapati, Barabazar; (2) Moradali, residing in No 6, Gobind Chand Dhar's Lane, Amratolla; (3) John Robinson, an Eurasian resident of 18, Ripon Street; (4) Prosad Dome, of Alipore. The first three cases were reported by the Superintendent of the Medical College Hopital. All the four patients have been removed to the Manicktola Isolation Hospital.

SUNDAY'S RETURNS.

IT appears from the Vital Statistics, supplied by the Municipal Office, that on Sunday there were no death, but two seizures—one in Ward No. 8 and the other in Ward No. 13. The first is a young boy, son of one Mrs. Cross, residing at 62, Bowbazar Street. He was removed to the Maniktollah Hospital. The other five children of Mrs. Cross with their attendants, have been removed to the Segregation Camp. Besides these two cases, another suspected case was also reported. The name of the patient is Ekbal Shaik, a resident of 28, Dhurrumtollah Street. He has been removed to the Campbell Hospital.

REMOVAL OF A PLAGUE CASE.

Yesterday, at about 6-15 P. M., Hanuman Baniya, aged 25 years, was removed from No. 41 Mott's Lane to the Maniktala Plague Hospital. A post-card, purporting to be written by a relation of Hanuman, was received by the Health Office that day. Dr. Clemow, assisted by Dr. Syed Mahammad Ali, of the Health Office, went to the spot to examine the patient. They showed the letter to the man whose name was signed therein, but the man said he had no knowledge of it. The two Doctors of the Health Office, however, found Hanuman suffering from plague. Police was informed; and 15 Constables and a Jamadar, with *lathies* in hand, accompanied the ambulance car. Shib Charan Bania, the uncle of the patient, was not satisfied with the diagnosis of Dr. Clemow. He called Dr. D'Silva and Dr. Comley. Dr. D'Silva was certain that Hanuman was suffering from choleric diarrhoea and not from plague. Dr. Comley said he had no special knowledge of plague cases, but the circumstances of the case was peculiar and he could not pass any opinion unless the patient was kept under observation. Hanuman had fever, temperature being 100·2 degrees, a slight inflamation in the right groin and had been purging. In the opinion of a Health Officer Doctor the temperature was 102 degrees and not 100·2 degrees. The relations of Hanuman say that the slight enlargement of the right groin was due to his going to Khalispore and back on foot and owing to a boil in the right leg. He had fever in the previous evening and cholera yesterday morning. There was a large crowd assembled to see the *tamasha*, but no disturbance occured. The hut was disinfected after the removal of the patient. It is not a fact that the Municipality has, as yet, discontinued the ambulance car.

THE STORY OF THE DOME-PATIENT.

The following is said to be the story of the *dome* who was removed to the Isolation Hospital on Sunday morning from the Alipore Police Hospital. Some days ago, the man had been employed to dig a grave, five feet deep. After finishing his work, he had a fall and received some injury by the handle of his *kodali* accidentally striking against his arm-pit. This caused some swelling of the part, with slight fever, the temperature not rising above 102 degrees. He was quite conscious when he was removed to the Isolation Hospital, and there were none of the known symptoms of plague.

TUESDAY'S RETURNS.

THE Municipal Returns show that there were 3 seizures and 3 deaths on Tuesday. The seizures were—one in Ward No. XII, one in Ward No. XIII, and one in Ward No. XIX; and the deaths were—two in Ward No. XII and one in Ward No. XIX. The Returns include the admissions and deaths in the Medical College and Campbell Hospitals.

EXODUS FROM CALCUTTA.

The official figures relating to the exodus from Calcutta, during 24 hours to midnight of the 31st May, are as follow: Departures from and arrivals in Howrah were respectively 4,379 short of and 271 in excess of the normal; departures from and arrivals in Sealdah were respectively 1,077 short of and 1,300 in excess of the normal.

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE POLICE COMMISSIONER.

The representative of the *Indian Daily News* had an interview with Mr. James, Commissioner of Police, on Tuesday, in the course of which he was informed that the report of over 1,000 people following Mr. Pheelan when he removed a plague patient from Mott's Lane on Sunday last was without any foundation, as he (the Commissioner of Police) would have immediately been informed by his subordinates if such an occurrence had taken place, and up to the present time he had received no such information. The representative was further informed that both Dr. Cook and Superintendent Forsyth say that the escort of policemen sent out with plague officials is too large, and Superintendent Forsyth informed the Commissioner of Police that out of the twenty-five men he had at his disposal, he thought that twenty-one of them were too many, as four would suffice for all present requirements. The report about the native constables deserting Mr. Pheelan, and the fact that the remainder who stayed with him were dissatisfied with doing escort duty, wore also groundless. Further, there is no strike anticipated among the native policemen. Quietness reigns in the town.

A "BOGUS CASE."

Here are the particulars of a "bogus case":—A Mahomedan woman, Amena Bibee, of Komedan Bagan Lane, had somehow made some enemies among her neighbours, one of whom sent an anonymous letter to the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality stating that the lady was suffering from plague. Owing to difficulty having previously arisen in acting upon such information directly, the Chairman very wisely abstained from taking action, and forwarded the letter to the Vigilance Committee of Ward No. 14 for enquiry. Several members of the Committee and Dr. S. C. Paul, who has acquired considerable popularity in the locality for his careful treatment in all cases, as well as for his gratuitous attendance, on the sick poor, was asked to accompany them. As

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affairs turned out, it was fortunate that the enquiry into Amena Bibee's case was entrusted to the local lead man, for when the object of their visit was known in the neighbourhood, much resentment was felt, and had plague officials been sent there would undoubtedly have been a srious disturbance. The people were soon made to understand how things stood, and Amena Bibee was then produced, when it was clearly ascertained that she not only had no pague, but had not been ill at all, but in perfect health.

Two cases of plague have been declared at Suez. The patients, who are in a fair way to recovery, are supposed to have contracted the malady at Rai-el-Aswad (near Jeddah), where their slip, the Berbera, called on her way from Suakin to Suez.

THERE wee 28 cases and 21 deaths from plague at Kanchi on Tuesday. There is not much of the disease anywhere in the city excepting the Lari quarter and the Trans-Lyari camps.

AT Bombay there were twenty-four cases and ten deaths from plague on Tuesday, compared with six cases and five deaths on the same date last year. The total mortality was eighty-one against seventy-three.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS

Mr. R. H Renny, Dy. Commissioner, Palamau, is allowed leave for seven months and ten days.

Babu Nikhl Nath Roy, Dy. Magte. and Dy. Collr., Chittgong, is allowed leave for two and-a-half months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. P. Fdey, Under- Secy to the Govt. of Bengal, and F. and M. Depts., is allowed leave for three months, Mr. F. F Lyall, Magte. and Collr., Monghyr, acting for him.

Mr. C. P. Beachcroft, Jt. Magte. and Dy. Collr., is appointed to act as Dy. Commissioner of Palamau.

Mr. D. J. Macpherson, C.I.E., Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, G. R. and S. Depts., is allowed leave for three months.

Babu Kumud Bandhu Das Gupta, Dy. Magte. and Dy. Collr., on excise duty in the district of Mymensingh, is allowed leave for three months, under article 273 (*a*) of the Civil Service Regulations. Babu Doorga Das Mookerjee, Offg. Dy. Magte. and Dy. Coll. on leave acting for him.

Babu Mohini Mohan Chaudhuri, Professor, Krishnagar College, is allowed leave for three weeks, under article 306 (*b*) of the Civil Service Regulations.

Surgeon-Major Narendra Prasanna Sinha, Civil Surgeon of Puri, on return from military duty, is transferred to Rangpur.

Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Kalipada Gupta. Offg. Civil Surgeon of Puri, is confirmed in that appointment.

Surgeon-Captain A. H. Nott, Civil Surgeon of Hazaribagh, is allowed furlough for eighteen months. Surgeon-Captain F. P. Maynard, Offg. Second Resident Surgeon, Presidency General Hospital, Calcutta, acting for him.

Mr. Abinash Chunder Mitter, Munsif of Howrah, is transferred to Sudharam.

Babu Amrita Lal Pal, Sub-Judge and Small Cause Court Judge, Dacca and Munshiganj, is allowed leave for fifteen days, under article 306 (*b*) of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him.

Babu Gopal Chandra Bose, Sub-Judge of Tippera, is allowed leave for nine days, under article 306 (*b*) of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him.

Babu Grish Chunder Chatterjee, Sub Judge of Khulna is allowed furlough for seven months under articles 264 and 371 of the Civil Service Regulations, in commutation of the privilege leave granted to him.

Babu Mathura Nath Banerjee, Sub-Dy Collr. Bagerhat, is transferred to the Bhagalpur Division; Babu Suresh Chunder Chuckerbutty, Sub-Dy. Collr. acting for him.

Babu Hem Chunder Mitter, Sub-Deputy Collector, is allowed leave for three months under article 372 of the Civil Service Regulations in extension of the leave granted to him.

Assistant Surgeon Nemai Churn Chatterjee, of the Bhagulpur Charitable Dispensary, is transferred to the medical charge of the Motihari Charitable Dispensary.

Assistant Surgeon Jogendra Nath Ghosh of the Motihari Charitable Dispensary, is transferred to the medical charge of the Bhagulpur Charitable Dispensary.

IN modification of a previous notification the Viceroy directs that the regulations for quarantine against plague under the Venice Sanitary Convention be imposed at all ports of the Madras Presidency against arrivals from Calcutta.

FOR the past few days a disease with symptoms similar to those of plague has made its appearance at Porbander. Average number of cases is reported to be two. Measures have been adopted to check its spread and about 1500 men have been removed to a segregation camp specially erected. Those under observation are being fed at the expense of the state. It is reported that a case having been suspected in the Bora community the other day the caste people are said to have left the locality all at a time and have left no clue of heir whereabouts.—*Kathiawar Times.*

THE "Rafih-ul-Ikhbar" of Benares devotes five columns to the consideration of a grievances of third class passengers at the Mugal Sarai Station. The third class waiting room consists of a small Chabutta hardly able to contain more than 200 passengers; it is covered with corrogated iron but is open on all sides and is in close proximity to the privy. The Benares paper says that at times 3rd class passengers of two or even three trains have to sit together and they have in these days of loah and miserable heat to sit for hours under a furonce. We invite the attention of the authorities of E. I. Railway to this grievance and hope that they would make the waiting room more respectable and less troublesome

THE writer constable of Harpat Police Station, Agra, named Sayed Khan, has been placed under arrest under peculiar circumstances. In the last week one Perrylal laid information before him that certain person was taking sulpher in a *garri* without any license to Muttra. The clerk disbelieved the man and said the report was false and malicious. Perrylal was placed in havalat, but he purchased his liberty by agreeing to pay Rs. 20. The man had no money in cash, he gave some jewels to the clerk and repaired to his master. The master marked twenty rupees and asked him to pay the clerk which was paid. After sometime the D. S. P. and the Kotwal arrived on the scene. The coins were not found in the possession of the Constable, but some papers were found which were sufficiently incriminating and the clerk is a waiting trial.

Telegrams.

[INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

THE DACCA CONFERENCE.

DACCA, MAY 29.

The Provincial Conference arrangements have been completed. Babus Guruprosad Sen, Kaji Charan Bannerjee, Bipinchandra Pal and J. N. Ghosal came yesterday. Babus Surendro nath Banerjee, Rabindranath Tagore, Mr. J. Chouduri, with others from Calcutta, arrived this afternoon Delegates from Barisal, Khoolna, Mymensingh and other neighbouring districts have some of them already arrived; many others are expected to-night. The Reception Committee have made splendid arrangements for reception and accommodation of the delegates, but they are disappointed that the number from West Bengal has not as yet come up to their expectation. The Conference sits to-mor row at 2 P. M. Great enthusiasm prevails. Rev. Carrey and the local Armenian gentlemen and some Mahomedans have joined the Reception Committee. In the big pavilion where the Conference will meet, a platform has been erected in the west end for the accommodation of the President and distinguished visitors. Newspaper reporters will have their seats in the front. The delegates will find their seats in the central part of the pavilion, while the two verandas and the newly-built portico will provide seats for general visitors. A Sanitary Board, composed of learned Doctors and Kavirages, has been formed to look after the health of the delegates. A special reporter has been brought from Calcutta to report the proceedings. There is no official opposition.

PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS.

DACCA, MAY 30.

THE arrangements of the Provincial Conference are now complete. A big double-storeyed house on the river-side in the European quarters has been secured for the location of the delegates who live in European style. The Jagannath College and Pogose School buildings have been furnished for the other delegates. Some green boats have also been kept ready for gentlemen who would like to live in the river. A Medical Board, consisting of Drs. Abhoya Charan Mitter, Shurja Kumar Bhattacharjea, Aloka Chandra Das, Rajkumar Chackurbutty, with Dr. Shib Chandra Bose, L. M. S., as President, has been constituted, whose duty it will be to attend to the health of the delegates and sanitary arrangements, Messrs. Shaw, Mundle and Co. have been entrusted with the catering of delegates living in European style. The charge of other delegates in this matter has also been left to very competent persons. The big hall of the Crown Theatre in the very heart of the town, just close to the Dacca College and Dacca Bank, has been very tastefully decorated. Arrangements have been made for about 1000 seats for delegates and visitors. Arrangements have been made for about 200 delegates. I understand both the Presidents have expressed great satisfaction at the arrangements made. Great enthusiasm prevails here The health of the town is exceptionall. good.

INTERVIEW WITH OFFICIALS.

The Hon'ble Guruprosad Sen with Babus Troilockya Nath Bose and Ananda Chandra Ray, saw the Commissioner and the Judge. The Commissioner made several kind enquiries about the sanitary arrangements and other matters, but expressed his regret that as an official he would not be able to attend.

FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

TWO PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHES.

LATER.

The Conference met here at 2-30 p. m. this day. Delegates, including some Europeans and Mahomedans from various districts of Bengal attended. Over two thousand spectators, including some influential Mahomedan and European residents, were present. Tickets, for sale, for admission into the pavilion were all exhausted, and many were disappointed at this. Even lower-class people took interest in the Conference and paid subscriptions towards its funds. Great enthusiasm prevailed in the town and in the pavilion. The Speeches of to-day were eloquent and were highly appreciated and loudly applauded.

The proceedings of the day opened with Babu Troilokhya Nath Bose, Secretary to the Reception Committee, reading letters and telegrams of sympathy from many gentlemen from Calcutta and other places, including, among others, Dr. Rash Behary Ghose.

Babu Guru Prosad Sen, President of the Reception Committee, then welcomed the delegates with an impressive speech. He was glad to see, notwithstanding the present gloom all over the country, the representatives of the most Bengal districts. The Conference idea, he said, has taken a firm hold among the educated people. The Conference was called by friends and sympathisers. Does that, he asked, tell against its importance and needfulness? He thought, no. "About thirty per cent. of the population of the district are literate classes. They have called the Conference, and they doubtles shape the opinion of our people." He would not like to see that the Congress idea does not spread; for, that idea primarily is obedience to law and constituted authorities. Under the present system of administration, all Indian subjects are in the same boat. Who can deny that for purposes of good government, their voice should be distinctly heard by the Government? Congresses and Conferences are useful in this respect. Some say, what good is there of holding them every year? He wished they could be held oftener if their resources allowed it. The Conference has immediate reference to local interests. The Reception Committee would submit a proposal for a railway from Shivalya to Munshigunge. Regret was expressed for Mr Gladstone's death. The Lieutenant-Governor was thanked for his sympathetic plague measures.

The Hon'ble Surendranath Banerjea then proposed and Babu Trailokya Nath Bose seconded that the Hon'ble Kali Charan Bannerjee be elected President of the Conference. On taking his seat, the President received a perfect ovation. He made a brilliant speech. The reference made in the speech to Her Majesty, called forth loud cheers. The President made suggestions for appointing Secretaries for reporting on different subjects to the Congress. By that means all available information would be procured. He said that the massess should be made to take interest in the Conference by taking up subjects interesting to them. He referred to the Jhinkergacha mass meeting memorial, about which an enquiry was made by an official, who found, to his utter chagrin, that the masses understood the memorial thoroughly and took interest in the movement. The sedition and repressive measures were than referred to and strongly criticised. He said that all was the result of misapprehension and want of confidence in the people. He thanked Sir John Woodburn and hoped His Honour would take the leaders of the people into his confidence; and if Government would do that, he hoped that in no time friction and unrest would disappear. He condemned the Calcutta Municipal Bill strongly. It was better, he said, that the Calcutta Corportion ceased to exist than that such Bill be passed. It was his distinct opinion that there was no disloyalty in the Indian heart; and that if there was strong language used now and then, that should not be taken as sedition. He concluded by hoping that the legitimate aspirations of people would be fulfilled.

The Conference adjourned till to-morrow noon.

DACCA, MAY 31.

THE Conference sat at noon to-day. The number of delegates present rose over 200. Letters of sympathy were received from Nattore, Dighapatia, Tabirpore, Teota, Mr. Bonnerjee and Babu Barkunthanath Sen.

Five Resolutions were carried. The first, from the chair, recorded regret at Mr. Gladstone's death. The second referred to Provincial Contracts. The third related to the Civil Service. The fourth referred to the Abkari policy. The fifth thanked Sir John Woodburn for his sympathetic plague policy and prayed with reference to the terms of the Venice Convention that no locality be deemed infected because of a few plague cases, that Calcutta be declared as non-infected, and that the extension of home-segregation be conceded to Mofussil. The Hon'ble Surendranath Banerjea moved this Resolution and Babu Rabindranath Tagore gave expression, n a speech in Bengali, to the heartfelt gratitude for Sir John Woodburn for whom three cheers were given by the assembly. The Resolution was carried enthusiastically. Mr. Kemp, Editor of the *Bengal Times*, strongly supported the Resolution.

The Rev. Mr. Kerry, a local missionary, strongly identified himself with the Conference proceedings and made an eloquent speech supporting the Conference principles.

Among the day's speakers were Babu Ambikacharan Majumdar, Mr. J. Chaudhury, Babu Troiloyakanath Bose, Babu Saratchandra Ghose, Babu Akhay Kumar Maitra, and Babu Lalit Mohan Ghosal.

DACCA, JUNE 1.

A very grand river trip on their own steam aunch, flat and green boats, was given yesterday evening to the delegates to the Conference, who were treated with sumptuous refreshments and excellent music by Babu Jogendra Nath Kay, son of Babu Janoki Nath Ray the millionair of Bhagyakul. All hearitily enjoyed the entertainment. The host was all attention throughout. The delegates will be entertained in an evening party in the Northbrook Hall to-day.

[LATER.]

The Conference sat at noon to-day. Ten resolutions were adopted. The first resolution recorded protest against the principles of the Calcutta Municipal Bill as retrograde and reactionary and calculated to deal a fatal blow on the local self-government. The next resolution prayed for a railway line to Munshiganj with branch from Dacca to Manickganj. The most important resolution moved was by Babu Trailokyanath Bose which referred to the extreme poverty of the masses, proposed public attention prominently and called for starting organisation for preserving and developing indegeneous industries. Babu Akhay Kumar Maitra and Parik Kathiwar seconded it. The Conference prayed for the continuance of relief to the Chittagong people who were affected by the cyclone and for granting rent remission. The omnibus resolution included the separation of the judicial from the executive functions, education service, roadcess, and the further extention of the Jury trial and self-government. The attendance was very large. Photograph of the assembly was taken by Babu Jogendranath Ray of the Bhagyakul raj-family. Babu Robindranath Tagore invited the Conference next year at 24-Perganas. Babu Trailokya Nath Bose on behalf of the Reception Committee thanked the delegates. The President for the delegates in returning thanks made a brilliant speech. Great enthusiasm prevailed. Reference to the past glory of Dacca and the present political revival drew forth tremendous applause. The Conference was a splendid success.

The Calcutta delegates start by the morning train.

POONA PRESS CENSORSHIP.

SIMLA, MAY 29.

It seems that nothing is officially known here of the existence of the Vernacular Press Censor Committee at Poona. There is, however, one special reporter in Native Press with the Government of Bombay, whose name is Mr. Sathe.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.

In case Sir Charles Lyall, Chief Comtmissioner of the Central Provinces, should get leave, possibly Mr. Hewett, Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department will officiate for him, his place in the Home official being taken uy bv Mr. Millitus from Assam.

A PUBLIC MEETING.

SANTIPUR, MAY 28.

Over four thousand rate payers of Santipur assembled in a meeting of the Ratepayers Association aad adopted a memorial to His Honour against the proposed introduction of latrines as unsuited to Santipur. Great enthusiasm prevailed.—The Presidential address was very impressive.

SIMLA, MAY 31.

The date of the first meeting of the Supreme Legislative Council has not yet been fixed, but probably it comes by the middle of June. The Central Provinces Tenancy Bill will be the important measure of the season.

MANAGEMENT OF THE KHYBAR.

The decision of the Government of India upon joint proposals submitted by the political and the military departments for future management of the Khyber Pass is expected shortly. The proposal is calculated also to strengthen Khyber and other outposts by more troops, political control being vested on the Commissioner of Peshawar.

SIMLA, JUNE 1.

A *Gazette of India Extraordinary* published to-day contains a Proclamation by the Queen regarding the rules for the observance of neutrality by British subjects during the hostilities between Spain and the United States.

MALAKAND FIELD FORCE.

Orders have been issueb regarding the reduction of the Malakand Field Force, the staff however remain unchanged.

A SERIOUS RIOT.

BOMBAY, JUNE 1.

A serious riot took place at Bandora on the occasion of the Mohurrum last night. Tazias Paraded till 1 A. M, when the Police Fouzdar Parsee ordered music to stop. The Mahomedans refused and attacked the Police Fouzdar and a sepoy was left unconscious. Fifty arrests were made.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, MAY 27.

Upwards of 100 000 people visited Westminster Hall to-day to view Mr. Gladstone's remains lying in state. Mrs. Gladstone has arrived in London to attend the funeral.

LONDON, MAY 27.

Fifteen transports and six colliers are stil wanted for the conveyance of the remainder of the American troops ordered to Manila. It is considered doubtful whether America will be able to move large bodies of troops for some time to come. A large proportion of the volunteers are still unequipped, and nothing has yet been done towards the outfit of the 75,000 on the list called out.

Three thousand Spanish troops now occupy Algeciras, opposite to Gibraltar.

LONDON, MAY 28.

Reuter's correspondent telegraphing from Lokoja, West Africa, on the 23rd, reports that the natives of Kissi have expelled the French garrison, consisting of six men with one officer. A British force thereupon occupied the post. The French protested and established a new post outside the town.

LONDON, MAY 28.

The funeral of the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone took place to-day and was a simple but impressive ceremony. The procession walked from Westminster Hall to the Abbey and included members of the House of Commons, the House of Peers, the diplomatic body, the Prince and Princes of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian, and special envoys from the Sovereigns of Europe. The coffin was covered with a gold bordered pall of white silk. The widow of the deceased statesman was provided with a special chair in the Abbey, and the Prince of Wales, with the other Princes, reverenially shook hands with her on the conclusion of the service.

LONDON, MAY 28.

It is officially announced at Madrid that the Spanish reserve squadron has left Cadiz. The destination of this squadron is either Cuba, the Philippines, or America as the Government of Spain may deem expedient.

LONDON, MAY 28.

It is reported that the transfer of Sir Nicholas O'Conor from St. Petersburg to Constantinople, as British Ambassador to the Porte in succession to Sir Philip Currie is confirmed.

LONDON, MAY 28.

The *Shanghai Mercury* states that H.M.S. *Narcissus* landed a party of 45 marines at Wei-Hai-Wei for the purpose of formally taking over possession. The forts were found to be in good condition, but the Japanese on their withdrawal had removed the guns.

LONDON, MAY 29.

Owing to the divergence of the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the Parliamentary programme the Marquis Rudini has tendered his resignation of the Cabinet. Marquis Rudini has been charged to reconstruct another Ministry.

LONDON, MAY 29.

It is stated that Admiral Sampson's squadron has returned to Key West, and is preparing for a descent upon Havana.

According to the latest accounts Admiral Schley's squadron at noon on Friday was blockading Santiago de Cula being convinced that the Spanish fleet under Admiral Cervera was inside.

LONDON, MAY 29.

Reuter telegraphs from Hongkong that the American squadron is at Cavite, repairing damages sustained in the fight with the Spaniards. There is a lack of provisions on some of the vessels and the squadron is also short of ammunition.

LONDON, MAY 29.

Several incendiary outbreaks of fire have occurred lately in the town of Manila.

LONDON, MAY 29.

The British warship "Blenheim" has been ordered to China, aad takes a new crew for the Barfleur' which remains at that station for a further period of three years.

LONDON, MAY 30.

The Americans have captured the Spanish gunboat Leyte while attempting to leave Iloilo with despatches.

LONDON, MAY 30.

The British steamer Restormel, laden with coal, has been captured by the American warship while trying to enter Santiago de Cuba. The British Consul protested against the seizure on the ground of Santiago not being included in the blockade.

LONDON, MAY 30.

The Queen despatched a telegram on Saturday to Mr. Gladstone's widow couched in most sympathetic terms, describing Mr. Gladstone as one of the most distinguished statesmen of her reign. Her Majesty says she will ever gratefully remember his devotion and zeal for the welfare of herself and family.

LONDON, May 30.

The Navy Department at Washington has received a telegram from Admiral Schley confirming the news of the presence of the Spanish fleet in Santiago de Cuba.

LONDON, May 30.

Advices from the Far East state that the Corean Government have decided to open three more ports and also to make Pingyan an open market.

LONDON, MAY 31.

The American steamer Florida has returned to Key West, having successfully landed in Cuba a force of 400 Cubans under General Lacret, together with a quantity of arms and munitions.

LONDON, MAY 31.

General Miles, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army and Staff, has left Washington for Tampa.

LONDON, MAY 31.

The rigid censorship enforced in America prevents the receipt of news, but there is little doubt than an important movement is intended which will probably prove to be the invasion of Cuba for the purpose of attacking Santiago from the landward.

LONDON, MAY 31.

Piper Findlater, the hero of Dargai, has ceased appearing on the stage of the Alhambra at the instance of Field-Marshal Wolseley, who wrote him that such performances were not in consonance with the traditions of the British Army.

LONDON, MAY 31.

The negotiations between Canada and the United States have resulted in a definite agreement for the appointment of a Commission in Canada with reference to all subjects of controversy between the two countries, and to frame a treaty for their adjustment. The Commission will probably meet this summer in Quebec.

LONDON, MAY 31.

The British Government formally assumed the lease of Wei-Hai-Wei on the 24th May, when the British flag was hoisted there.

Prince Henry of Prussia has arrived on a visit to Wei-Hai-Wei.

LONDON, MAY 31.

A memorial has been forwarded to Lord George Hamilton, signed by over a thousand manufacturers and bankers of Manchester, in which the memorialists deprecate the vague and limited nature of the reference to the Indian Currency Committee, and declare that the Committee inadequately represents the interests affected. Lord George Hamilton's reply is a repetition of the reply given to the memorial from the London bankers.

LONDON, MAY 31.

The *Standard's* Washington correspondent telegraphs that Mr. Long, Secretary of the Navy, has cabled to Admiral Schley that under no circumstances is he to permit Admiral Cerveras to escape from Santiago de Cuba. Admiral Schley is further instructed to capture or destroy the Spanish fleet. The *New York Herald* states that the Government expects a battle to take place between Admiral Schley's and Admiral Cerveras' squadrons within the next twenty-four hours.

SIMLA NOTES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

SIMLA, MAY 28.

SINCE I wrate last nothing has taken place which may be interesting to your readers. The whole Simla was for gaiety and sports. Prince Ranjit Singhji was the centre of all attraction and he acquitted himself creditably in all the matches he took part. But there were two things which deserve some notice. The birth day of the Queen was celebrated with Great pomp and magnificence. Sports, parades, *levee*, state dinner also came with it, and everywhere brilliant display of officialism were visible. The birth-day honour's list, as I anticipated, did not include any public man save one Mr. Khem Chand who has been made a C. I. E. Nawab Aga Khan of Bombay has been made a Knight of the Indian Empire and perhaps it is for his message to the Khoja community of Bombay from Paris during the last plague riot. The Maharaja of Patiala has been made a G. C. S. I. for his services on the frontier, and the rest of the Indian princes were not also forgotten. The Maharaja of Kuch Behar's and Kumar Bikram Sing's recognitions are not regarded here as sufficient, considering the duties which devolved upon Kuch Behar as orderly officer to late General Briggs on the Samana range, and also the duties which fell upon Bikram Sing as Commandant of Sirmur sappers and miners. The Maharaja Regent of Jodhpur has also been made a C. B. and he was unwell on the frontier. The appointment of the Maharaja Scindia reflects great credit upon the Government of India and their diplomatic resources. The Maharaja is already embarassed about the finances of his State, and it will not be surprising if we hear that he is going to increase the number of Imperial Service troops very soon. The Maharaja is now a Colonel and he will, of course, show militarism some way or other.

The last week witnessed the death of Mr. Gladstone and telegrams are still pouring forth about the funeral of that illustrious man. But we live in such a philistine place that not a sigh has been changed for that great man. The Government themselves, of which Lord Elgin is the head, did not do anything to mark their appreciation and respect for the services of the grand old man. The Anglo-Indians are better known for their antipathy for anything Gladstonian; still they could have followed Lord Salisbury or Mr. Balfour. It is a great pity that Lord Elgin could not shake off the contagion of Anglo-Indian philistianism and could not close the office for a single day as a mark of respect to his illustrious employer. But we still remember the day when Government notifications were isued announcing the death of the Duchess of Teck, but we were not told either through Reuters agency or otherwise who were her pall-bearers. But we know that the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, Lord Salisbury and Mr. Belfour will be the pall-bearers of Gladstone and these remind us that the Anglo-Indians are more Royalist than the King himself.

The action of the Government of Bengal in threatening to prosecute the *Indian Daily News* has created some alarm in the minds of the people, and it is believed that had there been no Dr. Wallace or Mr. Graham the future proceedings of the case would have been otherwise. It is not possible to get at the truth of every statement, but Government might correct it then and there without creating more alarm by the effective introduction of Sedition Law. There was a time under Lord Dufferin when all news were equally distributed to all press representatives, but the procedure has been thoroughly changed under his successors. The other day we saw in the *Bengali* that one of its articles on the murder of Dr. Sarkar has been wired to the Secretary of State for India, but nothing is known about it here and we are pretty well sure that nothing like it has been done. The Government of India takes scents from the press, but draws inspiration from the official reports.

You have done a food service by publishing a para about the police high-handedness upon the poor. Simla is a non-regulated district and the Deputy Commissioner is all in all; but he does not seem to use his authority always in the way he should. On the other day we saw in a paper that sometimes 7 or 8 rickstands go abreast by the Mall, closing the entire path and the ladies talking social scandals, but the san witches have forbidden. May we enquire them what decent of the two.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

India and England.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, MAY. 13.

RELEASE OF NATU BROTHERS.

Some months ago I urged in your columns that a petition should be formally addressed to Parliament by the family of the Natu brothers, formally asking that their release should be at once granted. I also pointed out that the only way in which a discussion could be raised in the House of Commons without formal notice on the specific point of the immediate release of these "suspects", was by the use of No 463 of the Rules of Procedure of the House of Commons, which provides that in case a petition is presented, complaining of some present personal grievance for which there may be an urgent necessity for providing an immediate remedy, the matter contained in such petition may be brought into discussion on the presentation thereof. At the time I urged this course of action, the Hon'ble Mr. Khare was in this country about the business of the Tilak appeal to the Privy Council, and he undertook that such a petition should be prepared by the wife of the elder Natu, and sent to Sir William Wedderburn for presentation, who undertook to raise the whole question of their imprisonment and demand their release on the occasion of its presentation. After the usual delay, which seems inevitable in Indian matters, whether Government or Congress, this petition arrived last week; and it was quite understood and appreciated by Lord George Hamilton that Sir William Wedderburn would tatke the action indicated. The practical result has, however, been gained by the mere threat, and Lord George, rather than face a debate on the direct issue raised by Mrs. Natu's petition, has climbed down and let them both out. It is a pity, the debate has thus been quashed; for, in all my Parliamentary experience I do not remember any use being made of this admirable rule, and a debate thus raised would have had a peculiar Parliamentary history all its own, that would have greatly enhanced the interest in the motive subject which induced it, and secured for it very wide-spread publicity. Nothing but the bare fact of their release has been telegraphed by Reuter, who stated that certain conditions are attached to their release, but that they have not been made known.

One cannot but regret that more than six months have been wasted in the preparation of this petition. If it had been in Sir William Wedderburn's hand a day or two before the opening of Parliament, so that he might promptly have presented it and raised the debate, the brothers Natu would have had their liberty three months ago. Sir William Wedderburn would have presented the petition immediately on its receipt and raised a debate forthwith; but the petition was accompanied by a request for further delay, as some correspondence between the elder Natu and Lord Sandhurst, which was to follow, was considered of some importance. However, though I feel disappointed that so important an episode, as a debate raised on the presentation of a petition, has not come off, I can only rejoice in the fact that the mere threat of such a debate has accomplished the release of these cruelly-treated men which ought to have been brought about by the mere conviction of Damodar. His execution made their further detention impossible. The tone of public feeling about the imprisonment of Natus is fairly expressed in two questions, put to Lord George Hamilton yesterday by Mr. Herbert Roberts and Mr. Swift MacNeill. Mr. Roberts asked if the brothers Natu of Poona, who had been imprisoned at Ahmedabad under the special power of 1818 and 1824 for several months, have now been released on parole:

"Is he now able to state the reasons for the arrest and detention of these men and the terms upon which they have now been released:

And, is it the intention of the Indian Government to restore them to the control of their preperty and estates."

Mr. MacNeill's question was:

"Whether the brothers Natu, who were deported last July from Poona without trial and without having been charged with any offence, and had been kept in close imprisonment for upwards of nine months, were released, the one on Monday and the other on Tuesday last; whether they had been released on parole; and if so, what were the conditions of the parole; whether he could state now what were the reasons for the deportation of these gentlemen; whether the property of which they were deprived, would be restored to them, with an account of the profits thereof; and whether the Government were prepared to make any, and, if so, what reparation, to the brothers Natu for the prolonged deprivation of their liberty."

Lord George Hamilton gave the following reply to these questions:

"I understand that the Natu brothers have not been released by the Government of Bombay, but have been allowed to live in private houses in Belgaum, where they own property and where their families can join them. Subject to their good conduct, all restrictions will be relaxed except that, pending further orders, they will not be allowed to leave Belgaum. As regards question 3, I am unable to add anything to the statement which I have already made in this House, relative to the reasons which induced the Government of Bombay to take action under the Regulation of 1827. In reply to questions 4 and 5, the Regulation provides for the adjustment of the accounts of collections received during the attachment of estates, and for payment to the proprietor, after the release of the estate, of any profits which may have accumulated; but it does not provide for any compensation to persons detained under it. The provisions of the law will be strictly followed.

Replying to Sir. W. Wedderburn, Lord G. Hamilton said: "Restoration of control over the estates will be granted whenever the Governor in Council shall be of opinion that the circumstances which rendered the attachment of such estate necessary have ceased to operate, and that the management of the estate can be committed to the hands of the proprietor without public hazard or inconvenience," as laid down by section 9 of the Bombay Regulation XXV., 1827."

From these replies it appears that the Natu brothers are still under arrest, though their imprisonment is relaxed, subject to good conduct. It is quite clear that the Indian Government is not quite clear that the Indian Government is not quite clear that the Indian Government is not

A STRANGE ANIMAL IN A STRANGE PLACE.

(Specially written for the *Patrika*.)

A FEW days ago, the inhabitants of a village, not far off from Mooktagatcha, woke up one morning to find the appearance of a huge bear in their midst. The visitation, as was to be expected, caused a stir in the village. The villagers had never before seen such an animal in the locality, even when Madhupur Gurh, a forest 15 miles off, abounded with bears. With the increase of population, the wild animals had left their haunts in the Gurh and retired into the dense jungle in the far interior. Indeed, so rarely are bears now seen that the discovery of one of them throws the *shikaris* into a paroxysm of delight.

How and why the brute came here, none but he himself can say. But one thing soon became apparent. He felt his position extremely awakward. He looked around him, but there was scarcely a bush in the village where he could find a hiding-place for his huge body. So, in disgust, he gave up the idea of moving and stuck firmly to the place where he was first seen

Of course, the villagers could not look upon his presence in their midst with a philosophic turn of mind. They felt they could find no peace of mind so long he did not leave them. So a party was got up to fight out and drive off the unwelcome intruder. The whole village was searched, but not a single gun was to be found, thanks to the passing of the Arms Act. So arming themselves as best as they could do, with *lathis* and *daos*, they attacked him. But it was soon clear, the whole party was no match for him.—True it is, blows from *lathis* fell heavily upon him, but, they had no effect, the *lathis* only breaking. Sharpened and pointed instruments proved of no greater avail. The result of the fight was two men of the attacking party were badly mauled. They were immediately removed to the hospital, where one of them died a few hours after. The *shikar* party then retired, leaving their guest as the master of the situation.

Information of what had happened in the village was brougt to the Muktagatcha Zeminders, most of whom are good and earnest sportsmen. Babus Barada Kisor Acharjee Chaudhuri and Mahesh Kisor Acharjee Chaudhuri, with others, took up their guns immediately, and riding what elephants they could lay hold of, followed the informant. On arrival, they found that the brute had taken shelter from mid day sun in a bush scarcely cover enough for his huge bulk. Our *shikaries* espied him as a black mass in the midst of it, and Babu Barada Kishor Acharjee Chaudhuri, to take a sure aim, had scarcely advanced a few steps when he heard the report of a gun from behind. Unfortunately this nasty fire had no effect. It only infuriated the brute who, with a tremendous roar, charged the elephant Babu B. K. was riding, which bolted straight, unmindful of the efforts of the *mahuth* to check his progress.

Babu B. K. was now in a dangerous position. He could with great difficulty keep his seat on the pad, holding fast the pad rope by his left hand while with his right hand held his gun. While thus situated a hanging branch of a tree crossed his way. He caught hold of it as it was no longer safe for him to sit on the pad. But, as luck would have it, it gave way to his weight. The result was that he lost his balance and was unseated. Still he hang by the rope by the side of the elephant, the infuriated brute following him close all along. He, however, could not keep his hold for long. He let it go and fell on the ground with the gun still in his hand. With an alacrity truly praisworthy, he rose to his feet and found himself face to face with his enemy, standing erect on his hind legs and towering over his head, his breath bathing his forehead with froth. Not in the least frightened by the perilous position he was in—and what followed shows the stuff of which Babu B. K. was made—he held his gun cross-wise high up, where the cunning beast, eluding the iron barrels, grasped his fleshy right arm with his iron jaws. Our fearless *shikari* then, with a vigorous jerk, threw the brute off him. In doing this, he got his muscles lacerated fearfully. Unmindful of the pain, with a rare pluck and courage, he took deliberate aim and lodged a bullet into his antagonist's body which felled him, weltering in the mud at the bottom of a *nalah* close; by, but strange enough, the brute soon rose to his legs and made best his escape. Our *shikari* discharged his second barrel after him, but without effect.

Babu Mahesh Kisor Acharjee Chaudhuri and others shortly after came up and joined Babu B. K. who told them all that had happened. They followed the game and made a short work of him.

Babu Mahesh Kisor Acharjee Chaudhuri took up his wounded brother and brought him home where he is being treated by a surgeon from Mymensingh. The public will be glad to learn that he is now on a fair way to recovery.

THE new locomotive engines intended for the Mall Service on the Madras Railway have arrived. One of them has been fitted up, and will shortly be tested by the Locomotive Superintendent at high speed.

THE North-Western Railway, Lahore, have lately been purchasing a great deal of land for extensions and buildings. The extensions proposed are large, and involve an expenditure of one or two lakhs of rupees. They have purchased the whole of the old Lunatic Asylum site for Rs. 50,000.

IT is proposed by the authorities concerned to proceed with the construction of the loop line from Washermanpettah to the Basin Road with a view to admitting of the Bezwada-Madras Railway being aid in the direction of the Central Station. The Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway has submitted for the sanction of Government an estimate amounting in round figures to Rs. 52,000 for the proposed extension of the Madras Railway to the Beach, opposite to the General Post Office.

PARTICULARS now received of the recent outrage close to Datta Khel, show that it was purely fanatical. It seems that a gang of five men hid under a wall and attacked a naik and sepoy of the 8th Bengal Infantry. The naik has since died, but the sepoy was only slightly hurt. All three assailants who pressed into the post were killed. They have since been identified as two Dories and a Mohsud youth, all inhabiting the village of Char Khel in Upper Dour. The other two of the gang made off and escaped.

SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS AGAINST EUROPEAN PLANTERS.

A CORRESPONDENT writes :—The case, in which some European planters of the Sylhet District, stood charged with having made a raid at night in Independent Tipperah, to arrest runaway coolies, has been transferred by order of the High Court to the file of the District Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs, before whom they will be tried by a Jury. The facts of this case have been already reported, so it is needless to repeat them. Here are the statements made by the accused Steete and Wilson before Rai Jogesh Chunder Chatterji, Sub-divisional Officer of Habigunge.

T. G. Steele, Manager, Surma Cherra Tea Garden, makes the following statement:—

"Hearing that a considerable number of coolies, who were under agreement to this company, were living in Hill Tipperah, near a place called Horiakhola. I proceeded there on the night of the 29th December (we left the Garden at 12 o'clock night), we got at daybreak of the place where the coolies were living in Hill Tipperah. Some 20 adults, one woman under Act I and 19 under Act XIII contracts were carefully identified by my men and were brought back. I and Mr. Chapman, my assistant, and about one hundred coolies from Surma Tea Garden, and Mr. Wilson and about fifty coolies from Tipperah, went to the place. We gave strict orders to our men not to commit any aggression of any sort, but simply to bring away the coolies, on whom we had claims. As regards property, we brought away whatever they requested me to bring away. They were allowed to bring their things themselves. There were direct request, made to me by the coolies. I also found some of my garden axes and shoes in the houses of these coolies, and these were also brought away by the coolies themselves. The five cattle that were brought belonged to coolies under agreement. I know nothing about books and other property said to have been brought away. There are four adult coolies and one girl still in the garden, and I am perfectly willing to release them under your orders. For the last two years I have had considerable trouble in keeping labour in consequence of the inducement offered to our coolies by the Tipperah authorities to open out jungle lands in Tipperah. Land is given to these coolies rent-free for about three years, and then when these are brought into a good condition they are made to move on more jungle lands, and Bengalis step in and occupy the lands already reclaimed. Thus the Tipperah authorities want to make revenue at the expense of Tea industry. This has been represented by the India Tea Association to Government. I made personal representation also to Mr. Cotton and Mr. O'Brien but got no redress. It was in 1895, that the Tipperah authorities tried to stop the Rama Bazar and there was great trouble and the Sub-divisional Magistrate at Habigunge had to send Police to keep the peace along the road. The Tipperah people had then got up the scare of a raid by the Lushayes and we had great difficulties in keeping our coolies in the lines. They bolted into jungles. A similar scare was got up after the present occurrence and we had the same difficulty in keeping coolies. As matters stand at present, we have absolutely no control over our laborforce after absconding to Tipperah, and the action of the Tipperah authorities in inducing or allowing coolies bound down by contract under the British law to settle there makes the retention of labor next to impossible, when the inducements are greater than those offered by the fulfilment of their contracts on the garden. The loss on account of labor amounts to a thousand of rupees to all estates like Rona, Telipara, Surma, and other gardens in the District."

"Read over by Mr. Steele himself and admitted to be correct.

(Sd.) J. C. CHATTERJI,
4-2-98."

"T. Wilson, Assistant Manager, Telipara Tea Estate, says :—

"I have read over the statement made by Mr. Steele, and the statement is practically the same I accompanied Mr. Steele with the object not of seeing if I could get some absconding coolies of my garden of Telipara. We have had considerable trouble without coolies, on account of their bolting across the Tipperah boundary. In this respect, we are rather worse off than Mr. Steele, as our boundary adjoins that of Hill Tipperah. There are a lot of Acts I and XIII agreement coolies of our garden that I know are living within a few hundred yards of our common boundary, but we are quite unable to lay hands on them. Such examples have always a great demoralising influence on the whole labor force in our garden. If a man goes across once, and there is no chance of getting him back, there would be the greatest difficulty in keeping any labour in our gardens. I had taken about fifty coolies from my garden. Everything else that I want to say would be the same as what Mr. Steele had said."

"Read over by Mr. Wilson himself and admitted to be correct.

"(Sd.) J. C. CHATTERJI.
24-2-98.

OUR Govardanga correspondent writes: The plague scare of Calcutta has told upon the local market. The price of mango, fish, curd, etc., has fallen considerably low as they are not being sent to Calcutta, while the price of the cotton piece-goods etc., has risen considerbaly. The other day some Marwaries came here to open a shop at the local bazaar, but on hearing that it was a municipal town, they left the place.

OUR Chittagong correspondent writes:—At Firinghi Bazar, a child had an abcess about the region of groin. Thereupon a rumour spread that it was a case of plague. An investigation followed, which elicited the fact that there was no foundation for the rumour. But notwithstanding the re-assurance from the authorities, some of the residents in the locality have left the place.

A KOOSTEA correspondent writes:—The inoculation scare here, through misrepresentation amongst the masses, is unfortunately, increasing day after day, in spite of re-assurances. It is reported that 4 or 5 days ago, a peon, attached to the local Munsiff's court, who went to Moffusil (Jiarakhi) for, some court-business, and who, when questioned, pretended himself to be a *ticcawallah*, was heavily beaten with *lathies* and assaulted, even with *sarkies*,

RIOT AT CHAPPAHATI.

(By Our Special Reporter.)

AVAILING of the 10 A. M. train yesterday, I reached Baruipur at about noon. After making inquiries into the circumstances of the late riot at Chappahati, in the jurisdiction of the Baruipur thana (24-Parganas), I found two versions,—one the Police, and the other popular. Here is the police version :—

The Salt Inspectors got information that salt was being illicitly manufactured in the locality. On Thursday, the 26th May, at night, 2 Inspectors, 5 Sub-Inspectors and 21 peons of the Salt Department, accompanied by Police Sub-Inspector Gopal Chandra De. and 2 Constables of the Baruipur Thana went to Bansra; and in the following morning, at about 4 A. M., they surrounded seven houses in Kamalpur, a village near Chappahati Railway Station. They required some of the villagers to be present there when the search for illicit salt was to be made in the houses. This requisition was misunderstood and misrepresented. The villagers thought that ticcawallahs had come to inoculate them with bubonic plague serum. The news spread, and the villagers, the majority of whom are Pods, Bagdis and Mussalmans, all agriculturists, believed it. By 6 A. M., some 60 villagers with lathies, came there and threatened the search-party mistaking them to be ticcawallas. The search-party, however, explained to them that they were not ticca-wallas, that they came to search after illicit manufacture of salt and that they would do that in the presence of the villagers. At this the assembled villagers said that they would not allow salt to be searched in their houses. These men then, attacked the search-party other people joined them, and by and by the mob increased to one thousand strong. The very name of *ticcawalla* had infuriated them and they did not care to consider the consequences of what they were doing. The search-party was attacked on all sides and *lathies* were dealt to them freely. Thus beaten, they were driven to the Piali Bridge. It was then 11 A. M. The Police Sub-Inspector, the two Salt Inspectors, two Salt peons and one Constable, these six, availed of a boat that was plying by the Piali river to reach the Utterbhag Ghat. They had gone one mile when they found people had collected again on both sides of the river. Some of these taking a boat, seized the boat of the Police and Salt employes. Salt-Inspector Bairagi Charan Ghose and one Constable jumped into the river. The mob brought them on the river bank, and the whole party were stripped of their clothes.

One Constable, who could escape the fury of the mob with little hurt to his body, could reach Baruipur Thana at 10 A. M. quite naked. Two Constables from the Thana immediately proceeded in a carriage in quest of the wounded. At the Sitakundu village they found Salt-Inspector Sashi Shekar Roy and two peons, and at Ramnagar, the Police Sub-Inspector and his party. Salt Sub-Inspector Lucas was driven to Matla whence he sent information by wire to the District Magistrate.

Of the party of 31, every one was found, excepting 3 who were so long missing. Of the wounded, the following seven persons were being treated in the Baruipur Charitable Hospital, of which three are still lying there :—

1. Police Sub-Inspector Gopalchunder De.
2. Salt Sub-Inspector Girishchandra Chakravarti.
3. Salt Inspector Bairagicharan Ghose.
4. Salt Inspector Sasi Sekhar Roy.
5. Jagabandhu Mahapatra.
6. Constable Bhagvat Pareh.
7. Constable Rambarai Misser.

The popular version is that one Mangaldas Mandal woke up very early in the morning to find his house surrounded by the Salt Officers and the Police. He asked them the object of their coming there. In reply he was told that they had got information that he was concealing a prisoner in his house. (Here it should be noted that the reason of their telling the man about searching for a prisoner was that if they told of salt, the illicit produce could be at any moment destroyed by mining it with water). The man said that they were misinformed. The officers, however, would not desist. They asked the man to remove the females. The man would not accede to their request. Thereupon the man, it is said, was roughly handled. He then set up a loud cry, saying that the ticcawalla had come and seized him. It was then 4-30 A. M. and most of the villagers were in bed. At the cry of "ticcawallah" they got up with their *lathies* and ran to the help of their neighbour. The officers with their peons and constables, were driven from village to village, and the mob increased as they advanced further. All of the party were more or less severely wounded, but none was killed.

Three of the party were reported to be missing. One of them, a peon, is said to have been drowned in the river at the time of swimming. Salt Sub-Inspector Banikanta Mukerjea turned up yesterday evening in a sorry plight. The Police have as yet arrested 45 persons. The villages, Kamalpur, Chappahati, Piali, Ghosepara, Nurdana, Nareh, and other adjoining villages are almost empty, as most of the villagers have fled away, leaving their houses and chattel to take care of themselves.

The Anglo-Indian newspapers published some cock-and-bull stories in connection with this riot. Indeed, they all declared in chorus that several Police and Salt Officers were killed and that their dead bodies were thrown into the river. Needless to say there is no foundation for these wild reports.

THE coolies and native workmen of the Perambore Railway Works, who struck work at the beginning of the month, are still out. They are awaiting the return from leave of Mr. C E. Phillips, the permanent Loco Superintendent, who will return in the course of a week, and from whom they expect more sympathetic treatment.

CHAMBERLAIN'S Pain Balm has no equal as a household liniment. It is the best remedy known for rheumatism, lame back, neuralgia; while for sprains, cuts, bruises, burns, scalds and sore throat, it is invaluable. Wertz & Pike, merchants, Fernandina, Fla, write: "Everyone who buys a bottle of Chamberlain's Remedies, comes back and says it is the best medicine he has ever used."

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INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Friday, May 6.

IMPRISONMENT OF WOMEN AND THE RESTITUTION OF CONJUGAL RIGHTS.—Mr. Pickersgill asked the Secretary of State for India. Whether his attention has been drawn to the resolution passed by the Indian Social Conference at Amraoti, in December last, in favour of the abolition of the imprisonment of women in enforcement of decrees for the restitution of conjugal rights; whether he is aware that a distinct promise was given by a former Viceroy that this provision of the Code should be expunged when the statute again came up for revision; and, will he explain why the opportunity presented recently, when the Penal Code Amendment Act, 1898, was passing through the Viceroy's Council, was not availed of in orders to fulfil the said promise.

Lord G. Hamilton. I have not seen the resolution, but I am aware that the Government of India in 1890 expressed their intention, when opportunity offered, to introduce a clause which would enable the Civil Courts to refuse to send women to prison in such cases. Such an opportunity occurred in 1894, when a Bill was brought in to amend the Code of Civil Procedure. The original Bill contained a prevision to the effect which I have stated, but as explained in an answer given in this House by my predecessor on April 9, 1895, "the clause was unanimously struck out by a Select Committee of seven members, four of whom were natives of India, on the ground that the country was not yet ripe for such a change; and a motion to restore it was lost in the Legislative Council by fifteen votes to two." The question is one of Civil Procedure, and has nothing to do with the Penal Code or the Criminal Courts.

THE BOMBAY PLAGUE RIOTS.—Sir Mancherjee Bhowanaggee asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether his attention has been drawn to the report of a meeting, held at Bombay by some leading Mahomedan residents on Aprjl 6, for the purpose of contradicting certain telegraphic intelligence published in the English press on March 11 to the effect that the riots which had just taken place in that city were instigated for other than plague reasons, and prompted by influentia Mahomedans in other parts of the country and, whether the despatch received from the Bombay Government, or any other official communication, contained any confirmation whatsoever of these statements; and, if not, whether he will make a statement upon the subject which might remove the general impression created by the telegram above referred to, that influential Mahomedan gentlemen residing in Bombay or other parts of India had previous knowiedge of the disturbance and were responsible for the same.

Lord G. Hamilton: I have seen with satisfaction a report in the newspapers of the meeting to which my hon. friend refers. My hon. friend will not have failed to notice that the view of the Government of Bombay as to the origin of the riots, which I quoted in my reply to a question on Tuesday last, confirms the statement that no influential gentlemen resident in Bombay, whether Mahomedan or others, were responsible for what occurred.

Monday, May 9.

THE COUNCIL OF INDIA.—In reply to Mr. Pirie, Lord G. Hamilton said: One vacancy in the Council of India existed at the time of the enactment of 52 and 53 Vict., c. 65, and ten vacancies have occurred since. Of those eleven vacancies the Secretary of State has recorded his intention to abstain from filling three. The present number of members of the Council is eleven, and there is one vacancy which will shortly be filled.

THE INDIAN PRESS.—Mr. MacNeill asked the Secretary of State for India whether a censorship of the Press had been instituted by the Indian Government in Bombay and Poona; what were the terms and provisions of this censorship, and for what reasons had it been established; and whether this censorship owned its institution to the action of the Indian or the Home Government.

Lord G. Hamilton: I think the hon. member must be under some misapprehension, for the law gives no power to institute a censorship of the Press.

INDIA AND SUGAR BOUNTIES.—Lord Balcarres (on behalf of Sir S. Northcote) asked the Secretary of State for India if he had received any representations from Chambers of Commerce in India with regard to the representation of India on the proposed conference with regard to the sugar bounties; and, if so, what decision on the subject had been arrived at by Her Majesty's Government.

LORD G. Hamilton: The representations described in my hon. friend's question have not yet reached me, but I am expecting a despatch from the Government of India on the subject. Meanwhile, the Government of India have telegraphed requesting that they may be represented at the Sugar Bounties Conference and this will, I hope be arranged.

THE DEATH OF DR. SIRCAR.—Sir W. Wedderrburn asked the Secretary of State for India whether he had yet received particulars regarding the death of Dr. Sircar, honorary magistrate and municipal commissioner of Barackpore.

Lord G. Hamilton: I regret to say that, from information which I have received, it appears to be certain that Dr. Sircar's death was caused by a brutal assault. I believe that an arrest has already been made in connection with it; and, as the matter will, of course, be the subject of a judicial inquiry, it is obviously inexpedient that I should anticipate the result of that inquiry by making any further statement at present.

Tuesday, May 10.

BRITISH OFFICERS IN INDIA.—Captain Norton asked the Under-Secretary of State for War whether it had been brought to his notice that one of the chief causes of the large proportion of British officers in native regiments killed and wounded during the recent Frontier war in India was stated to be the difference which existed between the headdress worn by those officers and that of the native officers, non-commissioned officers, and men under their command; and whether he would consider the advisability of making the dress of all ranks when on active service as uniform as possible.

Mr. Brodrick: The Secretary of State for India will inquire if the subject has been under the consideration of the Indian Government, and, if so, what decision has been arrived at. As regards troops on the British establishment, officers and men have the same headdress, and at 200 yards distance the uniform of an officer is scarcely distiguishable, except for the sword, from that of a private.

DURING the summer of of 1891, Mr. Chas. P Johnson, a well-known attorney of Louisville, Ky., had a very severe attack of summer complaint. Quite a number of different remedies were tried, but failed to afford any relief. A friend who knew what was needed procured him a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy, which quickly cured him and he thinks, saved his life. He says that there has not been a day since that time that he has not had this remedy in his household. He speaks of it in the highest praise and takes much pleasure in

A SUB-MAGISTRATE MURDERED IN PUBLIC COURT!

A CORRESPONDENT writes to the *Madras Standard*:—A man who cares very little for his life cares much less for the Government and the law. Murders have been committed and murderers have been hanged but no murder has been so undaunted and unprecedented in its character as the one that was committed the other day at Denkanicota, a Sub-Division attached to Hosur. The particulars of the crime are simply shocking as will be seen from what follows :—Last Saturday (21st) at about 8-30 P.M., when the Sub-Magistrate of the place Mr. K. Venkataramanaiyar was holding his court conducting a magisterial enquiry, he was shot dead by some person with a rifle which was aimed at from outside the office-building through a window that stood to the left of the Magisttate's seat on the Bench. The report of the rifle followed by the death-cry of the Magistrate and the suffocation of the light in the office room stupefied for a moment the parties in the court and others who were a dozen in number and the unparallelled commotion was only enough to drive them all practically at their wits' ends. It was some time before they could compose themselves and came out to see who the author of the diabolical deed was. Immediately on the rifle which lay at a distance of about 15 or 20 yards from the window being snatched up, it was found to belong to the Police Corps and the murderer had made good his escape. Meanwhile the Magistrate expired after a few minutes' struggle, profusely bleeding. A formal report of the occurrence was sent to our Tahsildar Magistrate who was then camping with Mr LeFanu at Berikai; our Shirastadar Magistrate, however, repaired to the place the next morning and caused the *post mortem* examination to be conducted. It unmistakeably disclosed that the bullet which was extracted had lodged itself in the right biceps after passing through the left arm and the trunk. The dead body was caused to be burn tand as a result of the local enquiry, a constable named Rangasami has been arrested on suspicion and remanded. The Police Superintendent of Salem has gone to Denkanicota to prosecute the enquiry and our Collector also is likely to go there. It need hardly be said that the future development of the case will be generally watched with no ordinary interest and anxiety. Great sensation prevails in and out of Denkanicota and much sympathy is felt for the deceased Sub-Magistrate who was generally believed to be an able and popular officer. It is a little over three months since he was transferred from Ramnagaram and how little had he dreamt till the very last moment, that he would so soon be cut off by the villainous hand of a Cain! It is just at this time that the public expect the Government to cause the case to be probed to the very bottom and bring the real culprit, whoever he be, to book meting out to him a punishment most exemplary and deterrent alike. The instance in point affords a striking illustration of a Magistrate's life being not improbably at stake even though he be within the walls of his Court. If the man who has now been arrested prove in the end to be the veritable offender, who knows that a Magistrate may not in future look upon a policeman as a "bugbear?"

THE forty Pathans who are reported to have plundered the temple of Shri Shanta Darga, have been removed from Dharwar to Belgaum for trial.

AT Kakati, a village in the Belgaum district, a dacoiti was committed last week in the house of a Kalkarni, property worth Rs. 4,000 being looted.

A CORRESPONDENT writes from Rangpur :—"When the occurence of plague was announced in Calcutta, some wicked people here declared themselves to be inoculators and thus served to frighten the people. But our Magistrate Mr. Clark has, in order to allay the anxiety of the people, issued a notice to the effect that no plague serum has been brought from Calcutta, and that, no person has been authorised by the Government to inoculate here and that, any man, playing the part of an inoculator, shall be duly punished."

THE earnings of State Railways show an increase for the week ending May 14th of twelve lakhs of rupees, compared with the same week of last year. In the case of the G. I. P. and N. W. Railways the excess is three and a half lakhs each. The total earnings for all the State Railways from the beginning of the year to the middle of May are one hundred lakhs better than for the same period last year.

IN addition to the sum of Rs. 2,400 paid up last week by the Kazha Madda Khels towards their share of the balance of the fine of Rs. 10,000 imposed on the whole section in connection with the Maizar outbreak, the Madda Khels have now paid up 5,500 Kabuli rupees. This, however, still leaves a large balance due on account of a further sum of Rs. 10,000 demanded from the Madda Khels for property looted during the outbreak and not restored. There is no reason, however, to suppose that there will be any difficulty in recovering the balance in due course.

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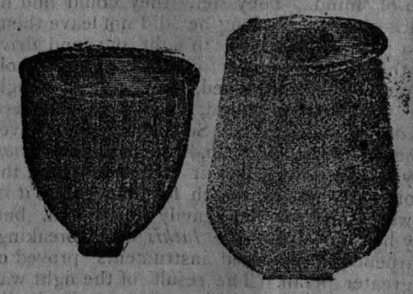

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