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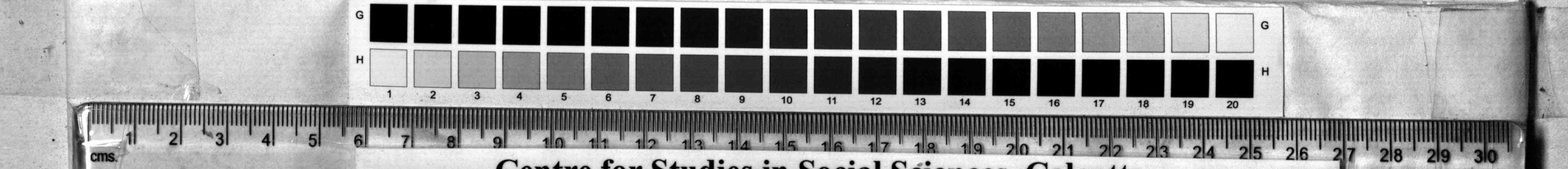
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THE AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA. CALCUTTA, JUNE 30, 1898.

HOW THEY ADMINISTER JUSTICE IN THE MUFFASIL.

The case in which Mr. Lister, the Joint-Magistrate and Sub-divisional Officer of Sewan, in Sarun, made gigantic efforts to try two highly-respected Zemindars, but which the Hon'ble Chief Justice and the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bannerjee did not allow him to do, may be in the recollection of the reader. We shall briefly recapitulate the facts. The two Zemindars, in their sworn petition to the High Court, stated that, because some of their men were implicated in a rioting case in which a man had died, they were charged with having killed the man and subjected to various indignities by Mr. Lister. Nor was this all. Mr. Lister made a local enquiry into the matter, and came to the conclusion that they had a hand in the affair; and yet, with this forgone conclusion in his mind, he thought he was quite competent to try the case himself! But what was still more surprising was that though the High Court had ordered him to stay proceedings, Mr. Lister yet went on recording the evidence of the prosecution witnesses, with the evident object of preventing their Lordships from transferring the case from his file, for the transfer in that case would mean a de novo trial, which meant inconvenience to Government.

Mr. Jackson put the case of the Zemindars so strongly that their Lordships were at once convinced that it would be an act of gross injustice to the accused if they were allowed to be tried by Mr. Lister. Indeed, they went the length of characterising the conduct of the Joint Magistrate as "somewhat arbitrary" and that "there was at least slight bias" on his part. The Chief Justice further came to the conclusion that, "it was an injudicious act on the part of the Magistrate in forcing evidence in this case when his attention was drawn to the fact that a rule nisi was issued by this court for transfer of the case to some other Magistrate." The Joint Magistrate is a young man, and he can be excused for the over-zeal he showed in this case. But we must confess to a feeling of utter amazement at the manner in which the Magistrate of the District tried to defend his subordinate and bludgeoned the accused behind their back, in his letter to the Registrar of the High Court.

In arguing the motion on behalf of the accused, Mr. Jackson is reported to have said:—

The present case was a good instance in point in support of the contention that the two functions, judicial and executive, should be separated. What the Magistrate came to know as an executive officer, he was using to influence the decision of a judicial officer. He formed an opinion of these men that they were oppressive Zemindars, perhaps from some black marks placed against their names in some blue books by some of his predecessors; and these proceedings were taken with a view to degrade these oppressive men.

When we read the above, we took them for general remarks. But the letter of the District Magistrate, which is published below, will show that he actually did his very best to prejudice the unfortunate Zemindars in the estimation of their Lordships. Here is the letter:—

No. 1227, dated 7th, 5, 98, From the District Magistrate Saran to the Registrar of High Court.

With reference to your No. 632, dated 10th May, 1898, I have the honour to forward herewith in original for consideration of the High Court letter No. 250 from S. D. O., Sewan.

It is submitted that the record will sufficiently show that there is no reason for quashing the proceedings.

I have also respectfully to represent that it will be contrary to the interest of the public justice that the case should be transferred to another court.

The deceased man, Sujvan Lall, was so severely beaten on his own threshing-floor that he died of the injury sustained.

He was beaten, and his paddy was looted (as it is submitted that the records clearly show) in consequence of a quarrel with the two accused Zemindars with regard to possession of lands. On the Sub-division where the offence was committed, it should be dealt with, to the terror of evil-doers, and because it is not right that the witnesses should be harassed unnecessarily.

The Sub-divisional Magistrate, before whom the enquiry is proceeding, is an officer of exceptional qualification, so far as regards judicial abilities, temper and patience; and there can be no question as to the accused persons being treated with absolute fairness.

It would not have been necessary for me to say anything about the position and character of the accused persons if they had not stated to the Honourable Court that they are held in high esteem and are considered next in rank to the Maharaja of Hutwa in the District. If this allegation is made of the members of the Champug family collectively, I have to reply that so far as they are concerned, the reputation of the Zemindars of this family is that they are oppressive, as stated in the Settlement Report for the year ending 30th September, 1897. It is stated in the same Report that their conduct appears to be one long record. If the allegation as to their being held in high esteem, be made of the two accused individually, I have to say that this is not the only case in which the accused Brinoudon Pershad Singh has been recently charged with offences against the criminal law.

Under all the circumstances it is submitted that transfer of this case would weaken proper and right authority in this district, and encourage evil-doers and be misunderstood by the people.

I have to add additional reasons why transfer should be refused—that the case for the prosecution is practically complete and that only formal evidence has still to be added; and (2) that the trying Joint-Magistrate will not pass final order, but will commit the accused, if sufficient reason appears to him, before the Sessions Judge. The records are submitted in separate parcel.

(Sd.) DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, Sarun.

Of course, the District Magistrate was bound to support his subordinate; but, surely, the people of the district have also some claim upon him. And, surely, he is not bound to defend his subordinate at the sacrifice of justice. In the present case, he gave an excellent certificate to Mr. Lister as regards his "judicial abilities, temper and patience." The Hon'ble Chief Justice, an impartial party, however, charged him with "bias" and "arbitrary" and "injudicious" conduct. One of the strong grounds against the transfer of the case, according to the District Magistrate, was that the case for the prosecution was practically complete. But, their Lordships transferred the case on this very ground, namely, for "forcing evidence in this case." In short, in considering the conduct of the Joint Magistrate, the Chief Justice and the District Magistrate are at two opposite poles.

But what we object to most, is the manner in which the two Zemindars were sought to be injured by the District Magistrate in his letter to the High Court. He had absolutely no business to go out of his way and traduce the character of people who had absolutely no opportunity of defending themselves against the charges. What they did was to prefer certain charges against the Joint Magistrate on oath. What the District Magistrate had to do was to call for an explanation from his Joint, and submit the same to the High Court with his remarks thereon. What he did, however, was to fall foul of the Zemindars and stab them in the dark!

What a pity that District Magistrates, as a rule, should be imbued with the idea that their only duty is to defend their subordinates at any cost. It is, no doubt, their duty to defend them against the unfounded allegations of unscrupulous men; but, it is also their duty to protect the people under their charge, from the oppressions of their high-handed subordinates. If the District Magistrates, who practically rule the country, had done their duties impartially both to the people and their subordinates, the seething discontent, which prevails in the country, would have been, by this time, a thing of the past. Unfortunately, most of them, with honourable exceptions here and there, clean forget the fact that they are the *ma bap* of the people, and that their principal duty is not to send the latter to jail but to love and nourish them as their own children.

SALVATION OF INDIA.

WHEN once the affairs of a nation have fallen into disorder, it can scarcely achieve salvation without external help. If India is helpless to-day, and England irresistible, there was a time when the English people had to seek external help to protect themselves from enemies. Greece or Italy or America could have never achieved independence without the help of friends. The Cubans struggled hard to throw off the Spanish yoke, but they could not.

It is, therefore, no disgrace to the people of this country that they cannot organize effective measures for the regeneration of the country. By their feeble effort they organized the National Congress; and the help that they expected was to have come from the English people themselves.

Indeed, when the National Congress was organized, a large number of Englishmen hailed its appearance with pleasure. They said that it was only the natural consequence of British rule. But the authorities here took fright and set up an opposition. There was a brief fight, and the feeble energies of the nation succumbed. The effort of the people day by day got weakened, and now "all our guns have been silenced."

But if the people have been obliged to give up the struggle, their friends in England have, on the other hand, day by day gained in power. Sir H. Fowler declared that every member of Parliament was a member for India, which only established the contention that there was not one single member of Parliament who took any interest whatsoever in the affairs of India. So utterly ignored India was in Parliament, that Mr. Fawcett became a "member for India," simply because he was led to take interest in Indian finance and to condemn the Income Tax! Mind, Mr. Fawcett, "the member for India," condemned the Income Tax, the only tax which touched the pockets of the wealthy Europeans in this country and the only tax which is supported by the National Congress!

But now we have plenty of men in Parliament to take interest in our affairs, and not only an interest but intelligent interest. Nay, we have a Parliamentary Committee with one hundred members. We have a British Committee of the Congress. We have powerful friends like Messrs. Caine, Webb, Roberts, Stead, Schwann, Soutter, Clark, &c., &c. Indeed, it has now become possible for us to make ourselves heard in Parliament on every question.

Here, let us submit, that the best course for India is not so much to rely upon friends as upon their own exertions.

It is quit possible for Indians under British rule, in spite of the large powers possessed by the Magistrates, in spite of the unsympathetic attitude of a large number of men in authority towards Indian progress, in spite of laws restricting their liberty to make themselves heard and respected in England. Let them continue and agitate in a constitutional manner; let them do the thing with heart; and such is the instinct of British mind and constitution that they are bound to succeed.

But if they have lost all heart for work and got discouraged by frequent disappointments, let them at least see that their work is done well in England. Their work in England is not progressing. Though we have plenty of powerful friends,—friends willing enough to serve us—the work remains still in that country.

One reason for this is our bad luck. That is exactly it—bad luck and nothing else. First of all, if help comes from England, it must come principally from the Liberals. In the Front Liberal Bench there is one member who takes any interest in Indian affairs, viz, Sir H. Fowler. Besides, he can speak with authority. But he does not move. Nay, if the initiative is taken by the members of his party, Sir H. Fowler either remains quiet or leaves the House altogether!

Now this is a dreadful condition of things for the people of this country. Sir H. Fowler's attitude towards India has won for him the ardent gratitude of the Tories, his opponents, and of our opponents in India. Says the *Pioneer*:—

There is no member of the House of Commons whose utterances on Indian subjects carry more weight than those of Sir H. Fowler. He showed himself incomparably the best Secretary of State for India that we have had for many years, and his attitude since he has been in Opposition has won the respect and admiration of the present Government.

Now the *Pioneer* is a Tory. How is it, that paper finds so much to commend in Sir H. Fowler? The same *Pioneer*, on the other hand, has the most unkind feeling possible for Sir W. Wedderburn.

To make matters short, Sir W. Wedderburn and Sir H. Fowler do not agree; indeed, they differ as the two poles.

Yet Sir H. Fowler was the nominee of Mr. Gladstone himself. He is reported to be a good Christian and an ultra-Radical in sentiments. The fact is, Sir H. Fowler has been won over by our opponents. What Sir W. Wedderburn loves, Sir H. Fowler hates, and *vice versa*.

And thus India gets no help. What makes the situation exceedingly painful, is that a better-natured man than Sir W. Wedderburn never existed in the world. He has no enemy; he is loved by every one who comes across him; and he is a man who never crosses others.

To save India, Sir W. Wedderburn must make friends with Sir H. Fowler. As for Sir H. Fowler, if he wants to read the minds of the Indians, if he has a desire to serve them, he will never find a better exponent of Indian sentiments than Sir W. Wedderburn. We have been assured that Sir H. Fowler has exceedingly good feelings for India; but he cannot bear Sir W. Wedderburn.

The *Pioneer* says, civilized institutions do not suit India, and this is exactly what the *Englishman* said almost on the same day. It is a convenient theory. A similar theory is, Easterns do not appreciate any other than despotic rule. And still another is, that the natives of India have greater faith in Europeans than in the people of their own race. We can furnish similar theories without number. Thus the theory has been put forth, that the way to win the hearts of the Afghans is to invade their country. Now our humble advice to all these highly-gifted custodians of public morality is, that all theories, which favour the gratification of vanity or of personal interests, ought to be accepted with great suspicion. When a Brahmin says that the most meritorious work for a non-Brahmin is to serve a Brahmin, the ruling deserves to be accepted with reservation and grave doubts. For, the ruling secures the personal interests of the Brahmin who utters it. If Western methods do not suit India, it is not because India is in Asia, but because the people are less advanced. As it not so? If that be the case, the sooner the Indians are made worthy of these methods, the better for the honour of Englishmen. For, they are already two hundred years in the country, and not only that, they are absolute masters here. It is quite true, the Indians have been thoroughly demoralized, and there is too much of internal dissension and want of coherence in their society. But there are the same dissensions in England. If the Indians quarrel amongst themselves, so do Englishmen; we do not know whether there is greater hatred between Hindus and Mussalmans than what prevails amongst Liberals and Conservatives. When a country has once been demoralized, it becomes exceedingly difficult for its inhabitants to put everything to order. The Indians can but do their best. If they seek combination and organization, there are the *Englishman* and the *Pioneer* to sow dissensions! What is the National Congress? It is only an effort to make a national organization by a helpless people, enfeebled by all sorts of calamities. In their laudable efforts to better their condition, do these patriots get any help from these highly-gifted custodians of public virtue like the *Englishman* and the *Pioneer*? Certainly

not. If they score a point, there is mourning in the camp of these journals; if they fail in any point, there is rejoicing! So far from the Indians loving despotic rule, they never had it here. During the Hindu period the Brahmins ruled the monarchs, and the villagers ruled themselves. During the Mussalman period, the interal administration of the country was left to the Hindu Rajas, and they left everything to the village communities, each of which was like a miniature republic. The great point is, are the Indians really an inferior race? Sir B. Leslie says that the Hindus are the cleanest race in the world. The *Pall Mall* said, when Mr. Paul's motion regarding the simultaneous examinations was accepted by Parliament, that, unless the vote was rescinded, every post would be carried by the Bengalees! This does not show that they are intellectually inferior. And as regards the higher attributes, we can furnish innumerable testimonies to show that the Indians are the most pious of all races in the world. Externally they are clean; internally they are intellectual; and going deeper into their hearts, we are assured that they are religious. Where is the inferiority of the Hindus? Of course, they can't fight. But it is very doubtful whether the lot of a people who can fight well and slaughter their own fellows, is to be envied or pitied. Let the Hindus revere the life of the meanest insect as they are bound to do by their religion. This is the instinct of the Hindu nation. Certainly, it does not show any inferiority, as the proverbial love of the Europeans for blood does not show any superiority.

The proud privilege of the British subject is that he has absolute freedom of speech. The Government, by this wise measure, has put a stop to the proceedings of those who deal in assassinations, plots and other bloody methods. The Socialists, in meeting assembled to do honour to Mr. Hyndman, freely admitted that in England there was no need of resorting to violent methods for the purpose of "capturing emancipation." In America, they have gone a little further than even England. There freedom of speech is not bounded by any consideration whatever. Thus the Americans wanted war, but the President, Mr. McKinley, was averse to adopt the energetic policy. His people began to abuse him; but he remained unmoved. To a friend he said, that having witnessed a war he did not wish to see another. But the Americans would yet goad him to war; they called him a coward, a poltroon, one who had sold himself to Spain and speculators, and so forth. Here is a specimen of the abuse to which he was subjected:—

McKinley deceives again, refusing to send in a message in behalf of Cuba.

Never had, has not now, any intention of freeing Cuba or avenging the massacre of the American sailors on the Maine.

Washington ringing with stories of National scandal and the control of the White House by Wall Street speculators.

It is the sad duty of the journal to announce to the people of the United States that their President, William McKinley, has deliberately tricked Congress and the country.

Last week under strong pressure, from Congress, he promised to announce his policy in regard to Spain and Cuba by Monday, or else leave Congress to deal with the situation. When Monday came, he asked a delay till Wednesday. On Tuesday night he promised that his message would be sent in Wednesday.

Yesterday, Wednesday, he did not send the message, but said he would hold it until next Monday, giving as a reason that the message was warlike, and that, if promulgated, the news would cause a massacre of Americans in Havana.

At the same time, agents of the Administration spread reports in Washington that riots had already broken out in Havana.

These reports are absolutely false.

In India, however, a change has come over the feeling of the rulers of the land. They have come to hunt out sedition with a microscope in hand. The secret of the press censorship in Bombay seems to be this. Of course, there is no law to compel an editor to submit his writing to a censor appointed by the Government. Nor has the censor any right to dictate to a newspaper Editor what he should write or what he should not. But yet, practically a strict censorship can be imposed without in any way breaking any terms of the law. What the Government has to do, is to entrust an official with the duties of examining the contents of newspapers. He is given assistants to help him. The censor subscribes to the papers, and he, with his assistants, then sits down to ferret out the objectionable sentences. Luckily for themselves, if they detect a sentence which smells sedition, they send it up to Government for further examination. The Government sends it to its lawyer for opinion. If the lawyer finds the sentence suspicious, he asks for further information. And this is the sort of censorship, we are told, that has been imposed in the Presidency of Bombay. The position of the native paper can be likened to that of a wife, with a jealous husband watching and following her movements day and night with a rod in hand.

The *Indian Daily News* has the following remarks on the *Pioneer* defamation case, which has been sent back to the Police Court for a *de novo* trial:—

The Kaligat defamation case, which was struck out by Mr. Pearson for non-appearance of the parties, has been restored by the High Court, as it was possible there was a mistake, and that counsel misunderstood the Magistrate as to the time of taking up the case. We know nothing about the case, which has excited the native press, as far as we can see, to

an exaggerated extent; but we believe that one side merely charges the other with defamation. This charge has involved twenty-two attendances at the Police Court, which, we venture to think, is a tolerably iniquitous state of things. Mr. Pearson, we see, endeavoured to do justice by striking off a case which need not have taken an hour; but his efforts to do good, have been put right by the High Court. That is the usual result of trying to do good, as Lady Wortley Montague tells us. The case began on the 10th November last, and the libel appeared on the 20th October last. We should have thought that under these circumstances, it was hardly worth while for the High Court to encourage this sort of endless preliminary investigation. In fact, the whole thing reflects rather discreditably on the administration of justice in the Police Court. Mr. Pearson should be much more firm.

Yes, that is the usual result of trying to do good. Are not the Americans going to benefit the Cubans? These Cubans, called the *reconcentrados* were, it is said, subjected to horrible tortures by the Spaniards. In short, thousands of them were being literally starved to death by their rulers. The Americans, however, supplied them with food and thus kept them alive somehow or other before the war; but having blockaded Havana, that supply is now cut off. The Americans by their humanitarian war, will thus inflict much more hardship upon their objects of pity, the unfortunate Cubans, than their oppressors, the Spaniards, by depriving them of their means of support. As regards the defamation case in question, it is really surprising that it should be allowed to last so many months. But is there really no chance of the matter being settled out of court? Are there no mutual friends who can intervene and act the part of a peace-maker?

It requires no ordinary degree of courage to eke fun out of the plague. Because a plague-stricken horse was killed at Delhi, the *Indian Daily News* actually apprehends the appearance, on the stage, of a plague-stricken alligator! But he goes further,—he advises segregation camps for crocodiles! He says that the crocodiles may infect the fish, and thus at last plague reach the human species. We must say that the danger is purely imaginary; for, alligators and crocodiles are only known to swallow fishes, but never to infect them. And then, a crocodile camp—how is that possible? You can erect the camp, but the crocodile will never agree to come there. The *Indian Daily News* further proposes that the crocodile should be inoculated. But why is he so severe on crocodiles? There may be other brutesequally or more susceptible. As for inoculating crocodiles, we do not see how that can be done at all, covered, as they are, with a bullet-proof shell. The lancet will break into pieces if it is attempted upon its body. Besides, how one is to know whether the inoculation had acted or not? The sure proof of action is fever, 102 degrees. But we are almost certain that a crocodile will never permit, even a plague doctor to apply a thermometer within its elbow or tongue. As for ascertaining its state of health by feeling the pulse, who will venture to do it? It is a ferocious and heartless animal, and does not appreciate kindness.

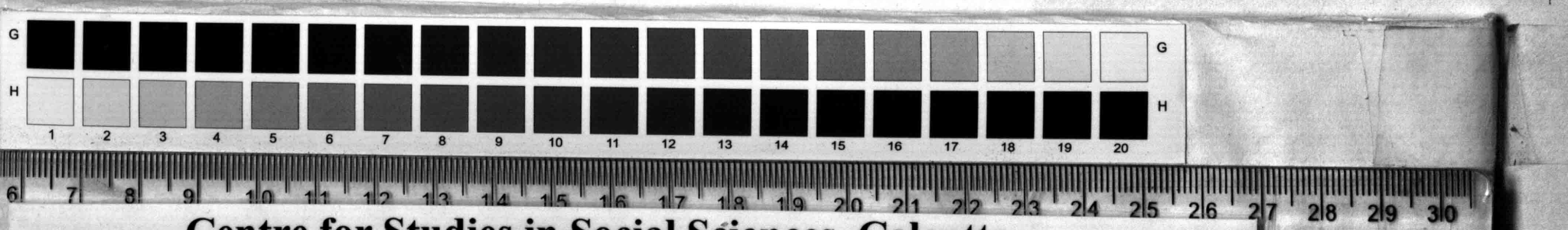
Of course, we congratulate Mr. P. Sen, the third son of the late Babu Keshab Chunder Sen, on having secured for his partner in life an accomplished lady like Miss Rice. But the difficulty is, if Bengalee leek European brides, the Bengalee girls lose their chance.

The *Hindu* contrasts the sentence of four months' rigorous imprisonment, awarded at Bombay last week to a Gunner of the Royal Artillery, for having outraged the modesty of a Hindu woman and for insult in the matter of a plague examination, with a sentence of eighteen months' imprisonment, awarded at Calcutta a month previously to a Bengali who had falsely professed himself to be an inoculator, with a view to extorting money from a native woman. Here is the case of the Calcutta man:—

CALCUTTA, MAY 13.—Mr. Pearson, Chief Presidency Magistrate, to-day, dealt with Nuffor Chunder Das, lately employed as duffry in a Calcutta Police Office, charged with personating the officer of the Detective Department and attempting to extort money from a woman in Dhurruntolla-street, by representing that he had been sent to inoculate the inhabitants. In delivering judgment, the Magistrate observed that, having regard to the fact that at a time of unrest like the present, the offence, with which the accused was charged, was a very serious one he was determined to put a stop to such offences by inflicting exemplary punishment. He accordingly sentenced the accused to eighteen months' rigorous imprisonment.

And here is the case of the Gunner:—

BOMBAY, JUNE 16.—To-day, the Presidency Magistrate of the Mazagon Police Court (Mr. Webb) disposed of the case in which Gunners Richardson and Battray appeared to answer summonses, taken out against them by a Hindu woman, named Dewoobai, residing at Girgaum, charging them with assault with intent to outrage her modesty, on March 5th. She stated that at about 5-45 P.M., accused, whom she had subsequently ascertained to be Gunners from the Plague Camp, Marine Lines, came to the house and felt the pulse of Bhasker Purshottam, who was in the verandah. They then entered the house and examined a little boy, son of Bhasker, having first stripped him of his clothes. After that, they proceeded to close the front and rear doors of the house, and went upstairs, followed by Bhasker. Complainant was on the second floor; and when they went up she was going downstairs along with other femi-



when the accused Richardson seized her by the hand and forced her into a room close to the drawing-room, where there was nobody besides Bhasker, his brother-in-law, and the woman, and they closed the door. They then took complaint to the police, and made her lie down on her back, and further examined her arms, pits and groin, after pulling about her clothing. Bhasker and the woman strongly objected to what he was doing, but in vain. The accused then asked the complainant to bring the other women of the house to be examined, but they were told by Bhasker to bring a female doctor. Both accused then sat on the box, and insisted upon examining the women, when Bhasker fetched two police sepoy, whereupon the soldiers left with the police. Inspector Sloaney in his evidence, deposed that on the evening of the day in question, the two accused were brought before him by several Hindus, who complained that they had entered their houses and attempted to commit an assault on the complainant. The Magistrate, on the evidence, discharged Battraby, and in convicting Richardson, said the evidence adduced in the case was very clear against him. He sentenced him to four months rigorous imprisonment.

The Madras Times remarks on the two cases thus:—It is not surprising that a British soldier on the modesty of a native woman in connection with the plague regulations, is such more likely to cause trouble in India than an attempt by a native underling to extort money under the same regulations. The sins of the fathers of the soldier in the past sinned the whole country, and in spite of all that has happened, it is contemptible to scold at a British soldier, as he is the country's honour as well as the respectable woman whom he contemptibly outraged, gets off with four months imprisonment. We will not argue, however, that four months is not enough, but we will anyway urge, in the name of British justice and fair play, that if four months was enough for Richardson, then Nuffor Chandra Doss, who has already undergone a month of his year and a half, should be let out to-morrow.

It is creditable to the Madras Times, which is an Anglo-Indian paper, that it can view such matters from a neutral ground. We, however, praise Mr. Webb, the Bombay Magistrate, for having been able to muster courage enough to award a sentence of imprisonment on a European, however slight it may be, especially when the Government had denied in toto the existence of oppressions by British soldiers. We have not the slightest objection to the arrangement of awarding a severe punishment to an Indian and a lenient one to a European culprit. Of course, the Europeans have their privileges. The Madras Times may be above such prejudice, but the prejudice yet exists that the murder of an Indian by a European is not so serious an offence as the murder of an Indian by an Indian. But then, Europeans who break laws, ought to have some sort of punishment, sufficiently severe to be deterrent. If that were done, the Indians would not grudge some favour shown to European culprits.

The Pioneer charged the Gujarati with sedition. Our contemporary might have remained quiet; indeed, he might have treated the whole thing with indifference. But he dared not. Bitter experience has taught the people of India that it is possible for the Anglo-Indian Press to do mischief. We all know how a couple of Anglo-Indian papers in the Bombay Presidency made the Government of Bombay something like a tool in their hands. We, however, remember a day when the Anglo-Indian papers, with greater opportunities of doing mischief, failed to move the Government. The Anglo-Indian papers, after the suppression of the Sepoy Mutiny, clamoured for blood and more blood; but Lord Canning refused to yield to that clamour. In America, the entire press clamoured for war, but the President refused to move. And the American press began to utter threats and hurl abuses. "McKinley is a traitor," "he is a coward," and such like, means of goading one to exasperation,—means which America alone knows how to utilize,—were used to lead him to war. But he declined to move. The President said that he knew what war meant; he would never resort to it, if he could do without it. He knew his own responsibilities, and he would never be moved by the clamours from irresponsible parties. The Bombay Government forgot all that, and the India Government did not point out its weakness; and there was convulsion in that Province. The Anglo-Indian papers feel that they can create mischief, and the temptation is thus very great to utilize the opportunities they possess. As a matter of fact, whenever an Anglo-Indian paper raises the cry of sedition, the Government is moved to send for the Legal Remembrancer and to examine the columns of the accused paper! When the paragraph against the Gujarati appeared in the Pioneer, we ventured to ask whether our contemporary was sure of his facts. And sure enough, we see the old dodge resorted to, of making a thing appear objectionable, which is not really so. Of course, the Government finds that it had been sought to be misled. But what of that? It would be misled again with eyes open, it has no objection to be misled; the result of all this, is, the Anglo-Indian papers, as guides of public morality and mediators, between the ruled and rulers, are signal failures. They rarely seek to do the good they can, and they rarely let slip an opportunity of doing the mischief which they can. We are in need of a statesman to put the affairs of India into order. The Gujarati's article in reply to the Pioneer, will be elsewhere.

HERE is a queer position. Is plague contagious? In theory, it is. Indeed, it is on the assumption that plague is contagious, that segregation and isolation are recommended as precautionary measures. Perhaps it was really so in the form it broke out in England two centuries ago. It is, however, the deliberate opinion of Dr. Blaney, Dr. Weir and others who watched the Bombay plague, that it is not contagious. Innumerable instances were found in Bombay, Poona and elsewhere, in which the contacts escaped, while those who had kept themselves aloof from plague patients, had been attacked. Children were seen sucking the breasts of their sick mothers with impunity. In the official report itself, we are told, the contagious character of the disease is disputed. But whatever may be the character of the Bombay plague, there is no doubt about the non-contagiousness of the malady which has overtaken Calcutta, and which is passing under the name of "plague." That some of these cases are like those of Bombay, there is no doubt; for, they have been testified to by such distinguished medical practitioners as Dr. Sanders and others. The usual bubo and high fever were present in the patients, and they were carried off in 24 or 48 hours. The attendants who nursed them, however, did not catch contagion. All these circumstances go to show that the sort of disease which is now occurring in Calcutta and passing for plague, is not contagious in its nature. Well, if it is not contagious in its nature, why then you insist on segregation and isolation? Here is a stupendous anomaly. Contagion should be checked by segregation and isolation. That is understandable. But we fail to see the force of logic when it is urged that segregation and isolation should be resorted to, even in the case of non-contagion. There would have been no objection to observing segregation if it were a harmless pest; but, everybody knows, it means terrible sufferings. Why then this cry for segregation? The panic, which was created by inoculation, was a temporary one; but, the dread of segregation is implanted permanently in the mind of every Indian, ignorant or educated. It is needless to mention here that we mean the European, and not the Hindu, method of segregation. What surprises us the most is that though segregation has failed completely in Bombay and elsewhere, in checking the progress of the disease, still it is clung to with pertinacity, as if it were a panacea for the fell disease! Indeed, it is this dread of segregation, and not inoculation, which induced the higher-class Indians to send away their families from Calcutta.

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Babu Dwarka Nath Gangooly, which melancholy event happened on Monday morning. He was one of the most active political characters in the country, and, at one time, the right-hand man of Babu Surendra, Nath Banerjee. He possessed great organising powers, and, as Assistant Secretary of the Indian Association, he did considerable service to that political body. He was a progressive Brahmo, and held a prominent position among his community. His death is an irreparable loss to the Brahmos. He was a man of considerable energy and had always the courage of his conviction. He has left a large circle of friends to mourn for him. We offer our sincere condolence to Mrs. Gangooly in her sad bereavement.

A HUE AND CRY was raised by the Englishman when we protested against the rigid application of the segregation policy in this country. This is, however, what the Times, writing on Indian affairs, says:—

There can be no doubt that an impression is spreading both in India and Great Britain adverse to the extremely rigid methods of segregation, which were at first attempted. The Bombay Government has, after careful consideration, substituted a more elastic system; the Bengal Government only consents to introduce the system in a modified form; nor are the other Provincial Governments, if the plague should reach their jurisdiction, likely to go beyond the examples thus given to them. The Indian Press continues week after week to protest against a stringency of suppressive measures, which could with difficulty be forced upon a European population, and which are so opposed to the most sacred traditions of Eastern life as to lead to armed risings wherever they have been insisted on. Europe is naturally sensitive about a disease from which it suffered terribly in times past, and it is entitled to demand that precautions shall be taken to prevent it from again spreading westwards. The precautions, however, must not only be effective in themselves, but reasonable with reference to the circumstances under which they are applied. Europe understands this perfectly well in regard to Turkey. It realises that to compel the Sultan to apply to his Oriental provinces the same rules that may with safety be applied in London or Berlin would shake the Ottoman Empire to its foundations. The Indian authorities and the Indian Press are now asking why such modifying considerations should not be allowed weight among races more purely Asiatic, and who feel much more intensely any interference with their family life. How far is a Government justified in introducing measures at the instance of foreign advisers, which can only be enforced at the cost of disaffection, panic, and armed rising among its own subjects.

Here is a revelation. When the people here showed their dislike of the plague measures, they were held up to scorn as being barbarous, ignorant and superstitious. But, we have it on the authority of the Times, that these measures could with difficulty be forced even upon an enlight-

ed European population! As we said yesterday, if the inoculation scare affected only the lower classes, the dread of being segregated, drove both the higher and the lower from Calcutta. And yet, considering the character of the disease which now passes for "plague," it is a debatable point whether it was at all necessary to enforce segregation policy in Calcutta. At any event, if, under the terms of the Venice Convention, segregation could not be absolutely dispensed with, the authorities might have allowed home segregation along with the declaration of the existence of plague in the city, and thus prevented the stampede. The public were, however, kept in a terrible state of suspense. They did not know whether the Bombay method would be tried here or not; and though the utterances of Sir John Woodburn to the effect that, wives would not be separated from husbands &c, had a re-assuring effect upon the educated people, yet they were not free from the danger of being removed to the Plague Hospital, and hence they were obliged to send away their families and add to the general scare. Indeed, the unprecedented panic which seized Calcutta two and a half months ago, was mainly due to the segregation policy of the Government, the inoculation scare being only an off-shoot of it.

The accounts, brought by the mail papers, of the Mussalman rising against the Russians in Ferghana, are not only interesting but instructive. It seems that a large body of Mussalman, led by one Ishan Mahomed Ali Khalif, from Murgulian, surprised several companies of the 20th Turkistan Battalion, who were encamped outside the town of Andijan. The Russians, however, drove off their assailants very soon, and not only drove them off, but pursued them till they escaped into Afghan territory. The outbreak was due purely to local causes. It seems that a well-known native leader, Djura Bek, was sometime ago hanged by the Russians for smuggling contraband goods into the province, and for killing one or more customs-house officers and frontier guards. The execution was bitterly resented, and ultimately led to the rising. The Russian officials at Andijan seem to have been taken quite by surprise; and we are told that "the Military Governor" and other officers have been summarily relieved of their duties. Upon this, the Pioneer sarcastically remarks:—

Had they been on the North-West Frontier of India and in the employ of the Government of India they would, in due course, have been mentioned in despatches or decorated.

The above is, rather hard, coming as it does from the Pioneer. The standing joke in the country, however, is that the more an Indian official can mismanage an affair, the greater is the chance of his being promoted. The Indian Daily News also expresses the same sentiments on the above incident:—

They (the Russians) have very firm ways of dealing with these matters; and we see that the first thing they have done, is to dismiss all the high officials of that part of the world for not having known anything about it. That forms a striking contrast to our methods which are to promote a man to honour because he knew nothing about it, and, therefore, was not blame. The Russian system is probably the most practical: ours, however, is undoubtedly the most ornamental. It seems, the policy of prestige is unknown in the territories under Russian rule. Here, in India, when an English official creates popular discontent by his acts, and his blunders are brought to light, the usual rule is to protect him at any cost; for, the notion of the rulers is that if they yield to the clamour of the public and punish the erring official, they only make the people impatient. But, it seems, the Russians entertain a different opinion. They appear to hold that, rather high officials should be sacrificed than that they should be allowed to have their own way and run counter to the sentiments of the conquered people. Because the Russian Military Governor provoked the revolt by hanging a popular Mussalman leader, though he committed serious crimes, therefore, he and his officers were compelled to resign. In short, the policy which guides the Russians in governing their Asiatic subjects is the reverse of "the policy of prestige," which prevails in British India.

A FRIEND sends us the following particulars about Babu Ananda Mohan Bose by the last mail:—

I am, sorry, Mr. A. M. Bose's health has suffered, of late, and he had in fact to decline addressing several meetings. He is, however, yet not completely free. He has to address three meetings in the course of this month, after which he gives a few weeks to travel and to taking some baths, and then leave for Bengal early in August. Mr. Bose is in some uncertainty whether to come via Bombay, in consequence of possibilities of detention on the railway journey to Calcutta, or to avoid this, come direct to Calcutta by steamer which will take a week more in the passage. Next week he bids farewell to Cambridge to go to London where his London friends are likely to claim a few weeks from him. Sir John Phear called on him at Cambridge and has specially asked him to go to a big political demonstration in Devonshire where he lives now.

The London Indian Society (which consists of Indians only) is going to hold a meeting in London to record its protest against recent reactionary proceedings of the Indian Government. Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji as well as Mr. A. M. Bose and Mr. R. C. Dutt will take part in this meeting. It is desirable that the British Committee of the Congress should convene a large public meeting in London for this purpose.

I saw in the Patrika a quotation from the Peterborough Advertiser, in reference to the meeting at Peterborough addressed by Mr.

Bose on the 14th of March, in which the Lord Advocate of Scotland, (Right Honble A. G. Murray) is described as having alluded to Mr. A. M. Bose as either "baboon" or "buffoon" at a subsequent meeting in the same place. This was a mistake on the part of the reporter of that paper. What the Lord Advocate of Scotland had called Mr. Bose was "Babu," and the reporter, not knowing the term, had guessed it to have been either "baboon" or "buffoon." The report of the speech was published in a Conservative paper, in which the right expression (Babu) was given. In justice to the Lord Advocate General, it would be as well, I think, to mention this explanation in the Patrika.

ONE can see at a glance that the main object of Sir A. Mackenzie's letter to the Times is not to combat the views of Sir Bradford Leslie, or to accord support to Sir J. Woodburn, but to speak a word in favour of his own Municipal Bill. Says he:—

It was to secure structural reform and more vigorous conservancy through improved Municipal management that I drew up the B.L. now pending before the Bengal Legislative Council. But if the Government is to make no attempt to stamp out existing plague, and to wait for the clearance of over-crowded areas, there may be few inhabitants left in Calcutta to profit by the final outcome of such a policy?

That is all right. But since Sir A. Mackenzie had been ordered by his Doctor to take rest, he should not disobey the injunction. Let him forget his Municipal Bill, and secure good sleep. What is it to him if the citizens of Calcutta die of the filth, created by their folly? But rest and good sleep are of much moment to him.

We are glad to learn that the Bombay friends of Mr. Chambers, Editor of the Champion, headed by the Honble Mr. Mehta, are going to give him a dinner, on the eve of his departure for England by the mail of the 2nd July. Mr. Chambers has done considerable service to our people through his paper, and he deserves well of them. We wish him a happy voyage home. May he return, fully invigorated, to do his noble duty to this unfortunate country!

EVERY Indian and a good many Englishmen in this country will be glad to hear that Mr. Caine has accepted a most cordial invitation to contest the Kilmarnock Borough, a Liberal and very progressive constituency, which has secured a big Liberal majority for its constituents in every election for the last seventy years, with the exception of that in 1895 which the Tory won by a very small majority.

The Managing Committee of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce is said to have addressed the Secretary to the Indian Currency Committee, protesting against the introduction of the gold standard into India, believing that the proposal of the Government of India will still further destroy confidence in the minds of capitalists and investors.

Le National, a Paris paper, says:—Englishmen! You possess India and Canada, the Cape, and Australia, with their three hundred millions of dwellers. Permit the French to keep, without envy and hatred, Madagascar and their latest acquisitions. Do not let us widen still further the abysses between the two nations. It is the bridges and the roads that concern us! London and Paris ought to flourish together in wealth and prosperity.

LIKE the plague the enteric fever is also attracting the serious attention of the authorities. At Utakmand a Government enquiry is to be held to find out the causes which have led to the prevalence of enteric fever there. The investigations are to be carried out by Surgeon-Major H. Thomson, Assistant Sanitary Commissioner, Madras. Much discussion has taken place as to the true cause, very widely divergent opinions being held, and by some Government is blamed for having lowered the level of the lake.

DR. VOELKER was the first agricultural chemist, who was appointed by the Government of India to take a systematic survey of the variety of soils, found in India, and report thereon. The results of his investigations have been embodied in a comprehensive volume, containing much useful and valuable information to those who take interest in such matters. Dr. Lether succeeded Dr. Voelker, and followed up the work of his predecessor with much energy. He has just left India, leaving behind him a report, dealing with matters agricultural, and throwing much light thereon. Dr. Lether is of opinion that the salvation of the agriculturists lies in increasing the fertility of the soil by using manure. He found satisfactory results by experiments with good cattle manure. The application of 6 tons of the material per acre gave an increase of about 300 to 400 lbs. of wheat and about 400 to 500 lb. maize at Cawnpur. As the advantage of manure, Dr. Lether himself admits that the cultivators are fully alive to them. But as Mr. Lether has, very justly, stated, poverty stands in their way, inasmuch they have to utilize the cattle manure to meet their needs instead of using it as a fertiliser. Indeed, it is useless to talk of the benefits of manuring to the cultivators so long we can not point out to them the way as to how to do it. A cheap and easily accessible manure is what is needed, if practical results are to be obtained.

The following paragraph is going round the press:—A memorial, signed by upwards of 1,000 mothers in various parts of the kingdom, has been forwarded to Lord Salisbury by the Countess of Carlisle, protesting against the principle involved in protecting the health of British troops by means of the medical supervision of women. The memorialists consider that such measures practically concede the reasonableness of vicious indulgence and its right to protection by the State at the cost of others, thus giving it an appearance of State sanction; and that the demoralising

influence thus created must necessarily spread from the army into civil life. They see reason to fear that such methods may, as heretofore, be extended and strengthened, in a manner more and more damaging to the national character, and they see no reason to hope that they will even have prevented the spread of disease, as they have hitherto proved almost or quite unavailing for that purpose. Much as they would dread the return of their own sons from foreign service wasted by revolting disease, which might be transmitted to their posterity, they would dread no less their return as dissolute and hardened men, expecting to have a class of women placed at their disposal under safe conditions by the State; and they urge that the State is rather bound to protect the young men who enter its service as well from moral as from physical contamination. They believe that a rapid and permanent diminution of disease is more likely to be brought about by the promotion of a higher moral standard throughout all ranks of the army; by maintaining the principle recently laid down by the Viceroy of India, that vicious indulgence, which unfits a man for service, must rank with treachery and cowardice as a dishonourable and unworthy act, and by the adoption, throughout the army, of judicious methods of discipline and encouragement, combined with a minute watchfulness of the progress made, and the special commendation of those officers who are most successful in promoting good conduct, and diminishing vice, as well as disease among their men. Finally, they also urge upon the Government their responsibility towards the women of the rising generation, who must either share or suffer from the demoralisation produced—a demoralisation which cannot but impair both the sanctity and the happiness of the English home.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL CURTIS has assumed Command of the Bangalore District.

The punitive police stationed at Kamati, in the Hungund Taluka of the Bijapur district, is to be retained for a further period of three months.

The inhabitants of Pondicherry have petitioned against the disbanding of the Sepoys, and the order has been cancelled for the present.

GENERAL SIR MANSFIELD CLARKE, Commanding the Madras army, takes two months' leave to Cashmere shortly when Major-General Tucker, Commanding this District, will officiate for him.

The raising of a force of 175 Sikhs required to relieve the Sikh contingent lent to the British Central African Administration in 1885, will commence next month, the force being ready for despatch about October. Volunteering for the purpose will not be confined to the Punjab regiments, but will be open to all regiments containing Sikhs.

It is understood that Dr. C. A. Martin, Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, retires from the service on the 24th of November next.

The I. D. News says:—The Times of June 4th contains nearly a column of marriage announcements, which shows how deep the prejudice lies against marrying in May. And yet some people are very astonished at natives refusing to take any step in Bhadro (August).

The N. W. Provincial Legislative Council will meet at Chatter Manzil, Lucknow, on the 7th July. The Financial Statement will be read and discussed; and two Bills will be introduced—one the Terminal Tax Bill, and the other, a Bill to amend the Municipal Acts.

The Rev. E. P. Newton, of Ludhiana has been visiting the Raja of Nabha, with the object of presenting him with a copy of the newly-translated Gospels and Acts of the Apostles, in the Punjabi Gurmukhi character, writes the Bombay Guardian. Mr. Newton describes the Raja as a deeply religious man, who accepted the Scriptures graciously.

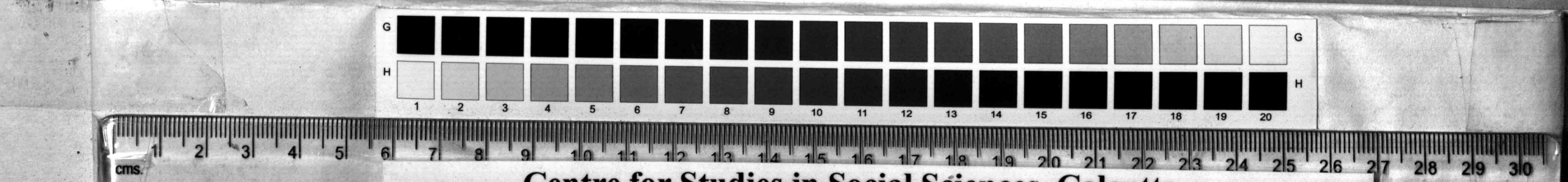
The annual Railway Conference meets at Simla next month, and the schemes of railway extension it will have to consider will be very large, the amount to be spent upon construction being likely to be about six crores in the next twelve months.

A BOMBAY telegram to a contemporary says:—Mr. Clive Durant has forwarded to Superintendent Brewin a document which he claims to be an anonymous letter forwarded to him at jail. The purport of the letter is that Mr. Durant is poisoning the mind of the Magistrate and of the High Court Judge, and justly, and that unless he desists, he will be got rid of by poisoning through the hands of the police.

At Rangoon the Magistrate delivered judgment on Monday in the case in which Pilot Simmonds was charged with defaming Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas, Port Health Officer. The Magistrate held that it was not satisfactorily proved that accused uttered the defamatory statements, and acquitted him.

A TELEGRAM from Agartala states: Mr. William Smith of the Gwalior Police has charged Mrs. Barrett, a local resident, before the Deputy Magistrate, with aiding and abetting the abduction of his daughter Mary, who is a minor. The story of the prosecution is that, while the minor and her brother were waiting at the Agra Fort Railway station to catch the train for Gwalior, the accused had a private conversation with the girl, and induced her to drive away clandestinely with the accused. The minor's brother on missing her from the ladies' waiting room, instituted a search, and later on sought the aid of the police, who eventually found the girl in the house of a male friend of Mrs. Barrett's who has absconded. A warrant has been issued for his arrest. Mrs. Barrett was arrested, but has been released on bail.

ELSEWHERE is published the report of a case in which two persons, charged with having violated certain plague notification of the Government of Bombay, were acquitted by the Magistrate of Broach, and, on an appeal being made by the Local Government against the acquittal, the High Court confirmed the decision of the lower court. In preferring the appeal, the Government of Bombay was actuated by a desire to secure an authoritative interpretation of the notification in question, well and good; otherwise, it furnishes another instance how the Government makes an abuse of a barbarous privilege—that of appealing against acquittals—and shows how it is inclined to rigorously administer a rigorous regulation.



Calcutta and Provincial.

LORD GAURANGA

Salvation for all... Babu Shishir Kumar Ghose... Rs. 1-8 Rs. 2-4

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CONFIRMATION.—Babu Ambika Charan Sen has been confirmed in the second grade of District and Sessions Judge.

INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS.—Babu Mathura Nath Chatterjee has been appointed to act as Inspector of Schools, Patna Circle.

C. E. COLLEGE.—Mr. W. Tate, Professor, Civil Engineering College, Sibpur, has been allowed leave without allowance for three months.

POLICE.—Mr. Henry, Inspector-General of Police, Bengal, has been allowed leave for three months, Mr. Pratt officiating for him and Mr. Harris officiating as Deputy Inspector-General in his absence.

THE HOOGHLY COLLEGE.—Mr. W. Billing, Principal of the Hooghly College, having taken leave for two months and thirty days, Babu Khirud Chandra Rai Chowdhury has been appointed to officiate for him.

EDUCATIONAL.—Mr. A. Pedler, Officiating Inspector of Schools, Patna Circle, is appointed to act as Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, vice Mr. C. A. Martin, who goes on two months' leave.

POST OFFICE RULES.—The rules and orders under the new Postal Act, passed in the last Calcutta Legislative session, are published in the Gazette of India. They will come into force on July 1st.

THE PRESIDENCY COLLEGE.—Mr. N. L. Halliday, Professor of the Presidency College, has been appointed to be Professor in the Dacca College. Babu Jadu Nath Sarkar, M.A., has been appointed a Professor in the former College.

F. A. EXAMINATION RESULTS.—The last Calcutta Gazette publishes the results of the last first Arts Examination, 51 candidates have passed in the first Division, the Presidency College heading the list; 271 in the Second; and 1095 in the Third.

A NOTICE.—The Director of Public Instruction has notified in the Calcutta Gazette:—Candidates for employment in the Education Department are informed that no promise of employment is conveyed to them when they are simply told that their names are registered as candidates. Numbers apply who never obtain appointments.

THE RECENT FLOODS.—We call the following from the last Calcutta Gazette:—Results of floods in the Midnapore District not yet ascertained; at Jehanabad the overflow of the river Darokeshwar has damaged the winter paddy seedlings and other vegetables of the field; jute and sugarcane somewhat damaged in Uluberia by floods in the Damodar and the Rupnarain.

OFFICIAL.—Mr. C. M. W. Brett, Officiating Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, is allowed leave for three months from the 14th proximo. Mr. G. Toynebe, Commissioner of Chota Nagpur, is appointed a member of the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, vice Mr. C. C. Stevens, resigned. Lieutenant-Colonel A. Evans Gordon, Officiating Deputy Commissioner of Jalpaiguri, is allowed furlough for six months from the 1st of August next, and Mr. C. H. Bompas is appointed to act in his room.

THE MONSOON.—The almost unprecedented heat of the past few days was followed by almost unprecedented showers during the course of the 28th and 27th instants. It rained so hard these two days that many streets in the town were under several feet of water, and it was with difficulty that carriages could be drawn by horses. Between 3 and 4 A.M. day before yesterday morning, the rain was accompanied by peals after peals of a terrific thunder, while the downpour in the evening was of an extraordinary kind, lasting from 5 to 9 P.M.

CROP AND WEATHER.—There was general rain in Bengal during the week ending the 27th, and in some parts of Bengal proper it was heavy. More rain is still required in parts of Bihar and Orissa. The cultivation of the autumn crops and of winter rice is progressing. Early rice, jute, sugarcane, and indigo are doing well. The extent of damage done by floods in Midnapore has not yet been ascertained. Floods in parts of Hooghly and Howrah are also reported to have caused some damage to the crops. Prices remain practically stationary. Fodder and water for cattle are generally sufficient, but cattle-disease though diminishing is still reported from certain districts.

THE BARUPORE RIOT.—The further hearing of the case against fifteen and eighteen villagers of the first and second batch, who are charged with rioting, being members of an unlawful assembly, and assaulting several officers of the Salt Department and the police on the morning of the 27th instant, at Chappahatti, near Barupore, was resumed on Monday before Mr. E. E. Forrester, Joint-Magistrate of Alipore. The case for the prosecution was closed after examination of forty witnesses. All the accused pleaded not guilty and the Magistrate discharged three of the accused of the first batch and one of the second batch and promised to frame charges against all the remaining accused on Tuesday.

On Tuesday his worship framed charges against all the accused with rioting and some with grievous hurt and robbery and others with abetment of the same.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

Mr. W. A. Marr, Asst Magte and Collr. Moughyr, is appointed to have charge of the Begusarai subdivision of that district.

Mr. W. Maude, Offg Magte and Collr. Muzaffarpur, is allowed leave for two months. Mr. C. J. Stevenson-Moore, Settlement Officer, North Bihar, is appointed to act, in addition to his own duties, as Magte and Collr of Muzaffarpur.

Babu Bejoy Krishna Bose, Dy. Magte, and Dy. Collr. Nadia, is allowed leave for one year. Mr. E. A. Gait, Magte and Collr. Nadia, is allowed leave for two months and fourteen days.

Mr. J. F. Gruning, Offg. Jt-Magte and Dy. Collr. on leave, is appointed to act as Magte and Collr. of Nadia.

Mr. C. H. Bompas, Offg. Dy. Commr. Singhbhum, on leave, is appointed to act, as Deputy Commissioner of Jalpaiguri.

Mr. E. M. Showers, Personal Asst. to the Inspector General of Police, is allowed leave for three months. Babu Bepin Mohan Sehanavis, Spl. Sub-Regtr. Rungpur, is appointed to be Spl. Sub-Regtr. of Burdwan.

Mr. F. L. Halliday, Dist. Supdt. of Police, Gaya, is appointed to act as Personal Asst. to the Inspector-General of Police.

Maulvi Jannat Hosain Khan, Asst. Supdt. of Police, Patna City, is transferred to Bhagalpur.

Mr. F. Rowell, Asst. Supdt. of Police, in charge of the Dist. Police of Manbhum, is allowed leave for three months.

Mr. R. H. Sneyd-Hutchinson, Asst. Supdt. of Police, in charge of Dist. Police, Singhbhum, is appointed to act as Dist. Supdt. of Police, Gaya.

Mr. S. N. Walker, Dist. Supdt. of Police, Patna, is transferred to Singhbhum.

Mr. E. C. Ryland, Dist. Supdt. of Backergunge, on leave, is posted to Patna.

Mr. W. B. Stuart, Dist. Supdt. of Police, Shahabad, is transferred to Manbhum.

Mr. H. S. Schurr, Dist. Supdt. of Police, Singhbhum, on leave, is posted to Shahabad.

Mr. R. T. Dundas, Dist. Supdt. of Police, Mymensingh, is transferred to the 24 Parganas.

Mr. C. E. Briscoe, Dist. Supdt. of Police, Manbhum, on leave, is posted to Mymensingh.

Babu Haripada Banerjee, Spl. Sub-Regtr. Rajshahi, is allowed leave for one month.

Maulvi Tamizuddin Ahmad, Rural Sub-Regtr. of Nator, is appointed to act as Special Sub-Regtr. of Rajshahi.

Babu Nilratan Mukerjee, Spl. Sub-Regtr. Burdwan, is appointed to be Spl. Sub-Regtr. of Birbhum.

Babu Paresch Chandra Dutt, Spl. Sub-Regtr. Birbhum, is appointed to be Spl. Sub-Regtr. of Rangpur.

Babu Manmatha Kumar Bose, Dy. Collr., is appointed Dy. Collr. of Income-tax in the district of Tippera.

Babu Probodh Chandra Chatterjee, Dy. Collr. is appointed Dy. Collr. of Income-tax in the district of Malda.

Mouli Abdul Khalik, Dy. Collr., is appointed Dy. Collr. of Income-tax in the district of Lohardaga.

Surgeon-Major S. C. Nandi, Indian Medical Service, is appointed to have charge of the civil medical duties at Barrackpur in addition to his own duties.

Babu Bipin Behari Mukerji, Sadar Munsif of Mymensingh, is appointed to act as Sub-Judge of Patna, but to be on deputation as an Additional Sub-Judge at Mymensingh.

Babu Ashutosh Gupta, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Mymensingh, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sadar station.

Babu Girindra Mohan Chuckerbuty, Sub-Judge, Tippera, is allowed furlough for one month.

Babu Binwari Lal Banerji, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Dinajpur, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sadar station.

The following promotions, confirmations and appointments are sanctioned in the Judicial Branch of the Provincial Civil Service: Confirmed in the third grade of Subordinate Judges, Babu Durga Charan Ghose, appointed substantively pro tempore to the third grade of Subordinate Judges. Babu Chand Charan Sen and Babu Shyam Kishore Bose, confirmed in the first grade of Munsifs; Babu Annada Prasad Bagchi, and Babu Har Mohan Bose, promoted substantively pro tempore to the first grade of Munsifs; Babu Jogendra Nath Mukerji and Babu Devendra Nath Roy and Babu Mohendra Nath Dass, confirmed in the second grade of Munsifs; Babu Advaita Prasad De and Babu Dandadhar Biswas, promoted substantively pro tempore to the second grade of Munsifs; Babu Syama Kanta Nag and Babu Mohini Mohan Dutt and Babu Kisore Mohan Sikdar, confirmed in the third grade of Munsifs; Babu Ramesh Chander Sen, Babu Purna Chander Sircar and Babu Mohendra Nath Dutt, promoted substantively pro tempore to the third grade of Munsifs; Babu Harendra Narayan Guha, Babu Chunder Kumar Chatterjee and Babu Prabha Chandra Singha and Babu Poresh Chander Banerjee, confirmed in the fourth grade of Munsifs; Babu Apara Prasad Mukerji, Babu Debendra Nath Banerjee and Babu Monmohon Neogy, appointed substantively pro tempore to the fourth grade of Munsifs; Babu Gagan Behary Chowdhury, B.L., Babu Purno Chandra Bose, Babu Thakur Dayal, B.L., and Babu Behary Lal Chatterjee.

Babu Durga Charan Ghosh, Additional Munsif of Magura and Narail, in the district of Jessore, and substantive pro tempore Addl Sub-Judge of Burdwan, is appointed to be Sub-Judge of Midnapore.

Babu Chand Charan Sen, Munsif of Brahmanbaria, in the district of Tippera, who is now acting as Sub-Judge of Midnapore, is appointed to be substantive pro tempore Addl Sub-Judge of Burdwan.

Babu Akshoy Kumar Bosu, Munsif of Patiya, in the district of Chittagong, who is now acting as an Addl Sub-Judge of Tippera, is appointed to act as Sub-Judge of Tippera.

The services of Babu Shyam Kishore Bose, Munsif of Dacca, are placed at the disposal of the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

Babu Apara Prasad Mukerji, substantive pro tempore Additional Munsif of Munshiganj, in the district of Dacca, is appointed to be an Addl Munsif in the district of Mymensingh, but to be on deputation to Netrokona.

Babu Debendra Nath Banerjee, Munsif of Nabinagar, in the district of Tippera, is confirmed in that appointment.

Babu Manmatha Nath Chatterjee, Munsif of Nabinagar, in the district of Tippera, and substantive pro tempore Sub-Judge of Birbhum, Faridpur and Saran, who is now acting as Sub-Judge of Dacca, is appointed to be an Addl Munsif in the district of Cuttack, but to continue to act in his present appointment as Sub-Judge of Dacca.

Babu Gagan Behary, Chowdhury, B.L., is appointed to be substantive pro tempore Addl Munsif in the district of Cuttack, but to be on deputation to Balasore in the same district.

Babu Baidaya Nath Ghuttack, Addl Munsif in the district of Cuttack, who is now on deputation to Balasore, is appointed to be an Addl Munsif in the district of Mymensingh, but to be on deputation to Kishanganj.

Babu Sarat Kishore Bose, Addl Munsif in the district of Mymensingh, on deputation to Kishanganj, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif in the same district, to be ordinarily stationed at Kishanganj.

Babu Purno Chandra Bose, Offg. Munsif of Contail, in the district of Midnapore, is appointed to be substantive pro tempore Addl Munsif of Munshiganj, in the district of Dacca.

Babu Shyam Kishore Bose, Munsif of Dacca, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Purnea, to be ordinarily stationed at Kishanganj, but to be on deputation until further orders.

Babu Thakur Dayal, B.L., is appointed to be substantive pro tempore Munsif in the district of Purnea, to be ordinarily stationed at Kishanganj.

Babu Jaya Prasad Pande, Munsif of Kishanganj, in the district of Purnea, is appointed to be a Munsif in the same district, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sadar station.

Babu Mohendra Nath Dass, Munsif of Purnea, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Dacca, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sadar station.

Babu Rama Prasad Maitra, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Dacca, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sadar station during the absence on leave of Babu Mohendra Nath Dass.

Babu Behary Lal Chatterjee, Offg. Munsif of Sealdah, in the district of the 24 Parganas, is appointed to be a substantive pro tempore Munsif in the district of Tippera, to be ordinarily stationed at Brahmanbaria.

Babu Bhagavat Charan Mitra, Munsif of Garhbeta, in the district of Midnapore, is appointed to act as Sub Judge of Midnapore.

Mr. Abinash Chander Mitra, Munsif of Sudharni, in the district of Noakhali, is allowed leave for two months.

It is hereby notified for general information that the Lieutenant-Governor sanctions the permanent retention of the offices of Joint Sub-Registrars at the following places in the district of Tippera, which were opened as an experimental measure for one year:

1. At Dhilna, having concurrent jurisdiction with the Sub-Registrar of Chandagram, in the Sadar subdivision of the district.

2. At Batakauli, having concurrent jurisdiction with the Sub-Registrar of Daudkandi, in the Sadar subdivision of the district.

3. At Ramchandrapur, having concurrent jurisdiction with the Sub-Registrar of Moradnagar, in the Sadar subdivision of the district.

4. At Serail, having concurrent jurisdiction with the Sub-Registrar of Brahmanbaria, in the Brahmanbaria subdivision of the district.

5. At Monoharganj, having concurrent jurisdiction with the Sub-Registrar of Laksam, in the Sadar Subdivision of the district.

Babu Krishna Chandra Chatterjee, an Honorary Magistrate of the Independent Bench at Katwa, in the district of Burdwan, is authorized to sit singly for the trial of such cases as may be made over to him by the Subdivisional Officer.

Mr. P. M. Robertson, substantive pro tempore Sub-Dy. Cd. Sonthal Parganas, is allowed leave for three weeks.

The Lieutenant-Governor empowers Babu Jyotis Chandra Chatterjee, substantive pro tempore Sub-Dy. Magte, Gaya, to take down evidence in criminal cases in the English language.

Maulvi Sayad, Abul Fazail substantive pro tempore Sub-Dy. Collr. Burdwan Division, is posted to the head-quarters station of the district of Burdwan.

Babu Surendra Nath Sarkar, substantive pro tempore Sub-Dy. Collr., is allowed leave for six months.

Babu Propitila Chander Sen is appointed to act as Rural Sub-Regtr. of Nator, in the district of Rajshahi.

PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

FRIDAY'S OFFICIAL RETURNS.—There was one seizure in Ward 9 and one death in Ward 20. The total seizures up to Friday were 137, and total deaths 102. The general death-rate on that day in the city was 36 as compared with 50, the average of the preceding five years.

SATURDAY'S OFFICIAL RETURNS.—Up to 7 P.M. of Saturday three cases were reported to the Health Office. Of these three cases one was reported by the Campbell Hospital authorities. The patient was removed from 13 New Market Street. Two other cases were reported by the Medical College authorities. One is a Hindu from Jaunbazar Street and the other is a Burmese from 8 Colootola Street. The latter died in hospital.

SATURDAY'S OFFICIAL RETURNS.—On Saturday, there were five seizures; One each in Wards No. 6, 7 and 8, and two in Ward No. 13. There were four deaths: one each in Wards No. 6, 7, 8, and 9. The total number of seizures up to date was 142, and of deaths 106. The number of deaths in the city from all causes was 33.

SUNDAY'S OFFICIAL RETURNS.—On Sunday, there was one seizure in Ward No. 8. There was no death. The total number of deaths from all causes was 33.

SUNDAY'S RETURNS.—One case was reported to the Health Office on Sunday up to 7 P.M. by the Medical College authorities from Bowbazar Street.

MEDICAL COLLEGE REPORT.—Up to 6 P.M. on Sunday, there were three admissions in the Medical College Hospital: (1) Mongri, a Hindu child, aged 2; (2) Monua, an Oorya, about twenty years of age; (3) a Telegraph peon, residing close to the Government Eden Hindu Hostel.

MONDAY'S RETURNS.—Up to 7 P.M. Monday 4 cases were reported to the Health Office.—Two cases—one

from Mott's Lane—were removed to the Medical College Hospital, one to the Campbell Hospital, and one from the Suburbs to the Monicktola Hospital. There was no death.

MEDICAL COLLEGE REPORT.—Up to 6 P.M. Monday there was one admission in the Medical College Hospital, Elwari, a Mahomedan lad, aged 9. There were two deaths.

MONDAY'S OFFICIAL RETURNS.—On Monday, there were four seizures,—one in each of the Wards 2, 10, 14 and 20. There were three deaths, one in each of the wards 2, 13 and 14. The total number of seizures up to date was 147, and of deaths, 109. The number of deaths in the city from all causes was 37, against 50, the average of the past five years.

TUESDAY'S RETURNS.—Up to 7 P.M., five cases were reported to the Health Office by the Medical College authorities: (1) from 12, Armenian Street; (2) 16, Dhopapara Street; (3) 4, Medical College Street (4) 4, Peary Churna Sarcars Street; (5) 27, Satpookuria gully.

Two other cases were reported by the authorities of the Ward No. 8 Hospital at 17 Eden Hospital Street; (1) from 12, Kasi Nath Mullick's Street and (2) from 56, Colootola Street.

There was one death reported to the Health Office to have occurred, among the old cases lying in the Medical College Hospital: of Kalu Bux who had been admitted on the 20th instant.

MEDICAL COLLEGE REPORT.—Up to 6 P.M. Tuesday there were three admissions in the Medical College Hospital: (1) Laksmi Narain, a Hindu lad, aged 14; (2) Haridas, a Hindu male, aged 40; (3) Bhang, a Hindu male, aged 30. There was no death.

WEDNESDAY'S RETURNS.—No fresh case was reported to the Health Office on Wednesday up to 7 P.M. One death was reported from among the old cases.

MEDICAL COLLEGE REPORT.—There was no death at the Medical College Hospital on Wednesday up to 6 P.M. There were three admissions: (1) Ignatius, a Eurasian male, aged 29, from 3, Portuguese Church Street; (2) a Eurasian female; (3) a child.

PUBLIC ANTI-PLAGUE MEETING.—An influentially-irritated requisition is in course of signature, calling upon the Sheriff of Calcutta to convene a public meeting on an early date at the Town Hall, at which the present health of the city and its sanitation will be discussed. The requisition urges that the time has come when independent professional and unbiased opinion should be associated with the Government and Municipal Medical Officers in diagnosing and deciding the nature of what are styled suspected plague cases.—Statesman.

SIX cases of plague were reported from Hudd on the 22nd, and two on the 23rd instant.

PLAGUE in the Jullunder and Hoshiarpur districts show no fresh cases, and the reported outbreak of plague at Jhelum has been tested by the Civil Surgeon and found to be false.

PLATFORM inspection of passengers, for the present by up trains only, is to be resumed at Khanpore, and anyone found with suspicious symptoms will be detained. Suitable accommodation is being arranged for.

A BATCH of 652 coolies for the Uganda Railway arrived at Karachi from the Punjab by special train on Sunday and are quarantined at Keamari, from where after putting in for the full period they will be allowed to embark for their destination.

GENERAL satisfaction is felt throughout Ceylon at the special preparations, which Government has made for protecting the Island against plague.

The Karachi mail train arrived in Lahore over two hours late on 24th June, the delay being due to a case of plague being discovered in a third-class carriage. At Malair, the inspection station, the carriage was detached and a closer inspection of the rest of the passengers carried out.

Our Serampore correspondent writes:—The precautionary measures against plague are being taken by the Municipality which has, of late, been up and doing in the matter. In consequence of the Government order, conveyed in Mr. Risley's demi-official letter to Mr. Savage, which has been circulated among the Mofussil Municipalities, the Observation Committee will not be set in motion prematurely.

The Chief Commissioner of Assam has issued regulations for the prevention of the importation of plague into that province.

ON Tuesday in Karachi, for the first time during the past three months, since the commencement of the recrudescence, only one death from plague has been recorded, the number of fresh attacks being three.

SHAIK ABDUL was sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment at Rangoon on Tuesday for telling people on several occasions that inoculation against plague would be enforced by the aid of the police. For the prosecution it was stated that the accused and others had gone about advising the local people to prepare to resist the police.

IN Bombay there were 39 attacks from plague reported on Tuesday including 30 old cases, which have been under enquiry, and eight deaths. The total mortality from all causes was 77, as against 64 on the corresponding date last year and 94 the year before. The mortality returns of Bombay for the past week are unsatisfactory. The deaths from all causes have increased from 448 in the previous week to 500; while the mortality from plague has risen from 15 to 53.

Two persons, Brij Lal and Misri Lal, were sentenced by the Sessions Judge of Moradabad to transportation for life for the murder of one Shadi Lal. The prisoners appealed to the High Court of Allahabad; and their Lordships the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Burkill, have acquitted and released them. The Court relied on the dictum of Mathew Hale as to the danger of convicting a man of murder unless there was an actual proof that the body had been found, and came to the decision, noted above, as, in their opinion, there was no satisfactory evidence that the remains found in the jungle were the remains of Shadi Lal.

Telegrams.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

SIMLA, JUNE 27.—Advices from the frontier state that the unrest among the Orakzais is calming down.

It is believed here to be likely that the Report of the Famine Commission will contain suggestions for agrarian legislation and establishment of agricultural banks.

SIMLA, JUNE 28.—Colonel Hutchinson's lecture on the "Tirah Expedition" this evening was very largely attended, including the Viceroy, the Commander-in-Chief and the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab. The principal points that evoked discussion were Colonel Hutchinson's praise of the Afridis as good marksmen, and his complaint about the official drill book as unworkable across the frontier.

Later Sir James Westland and Mr. Thornburn made two vigorous speeches about the effect of the Tirah expedition upon Indian finances; and, indirectly, they both said that the Tirah expedition was mere waste of money.

It has been pretty well decided that Europeans employed in the ministerial staff, will not get the Exchange Compensation Allowance.

The Defence Committee are just now a very busy in planning the frontier defence.

LONDON, JUNE 24.—The Pall Mall Gazette states that it is rumoured that the Khalifa has abandoned Khartoum and fled southwards.

LONDON, JUNE 25.—The Queen to-day at Windsor invested a number of officers for services in the Tirah Campaign with the Distinguished Service Order and also decorated Lieutenant Watson and Private Lawson with the Victoria Cross.

The American official account of the fighting near Santiago, in which the Americans were drawn into an ambush, says that 22 men were killed and 70 to 80 wounded.

LONDON, JUNE 27.—A train conveying troops to the front from Cheyenne has collided with another at Tupelo on the Mississippi. Five men were killed outright and sixteen injured.

LONDON, JUNE 25.—A force of one thousand dismounted American Cavalry attacked two thousand Spaniards in the bush, five miles from Santiago, and drove the Spaniards into the city. The American loss was thirteen killed; and fifty wounded, including six officers. Ten were mortally wounded.

The American troops are constantly advancing, though greatly fatigued by heat and forced marches.

LONDON, JUNE 26.—Replying to a protest by Count Pavloff, Russian Consul and Acting Minister at Peking, against the loan from the Hongkong Bank for the extension of the Pekin-Kinchow Railway, the Tsung-li-yamen has declared that according to the terms of the Port Arthur lease, Russia has relinquished her right to interfere, and China has informed the St. Petersburg Government of her decision to borrow from the Bank in accordance with the lease.

LONDON, JUNE 27.—The Times correspondent at Yokohama telegraphs that Marquis Ito's Cabinet has resigned. The Premier has advised the Emperor to accept the principle of party Government.

LONDON, JUNE 27.—The German election results show that the new Reichstag will differ little from its predecessor. The Clericals are stronger than ever, and the Socialists gain ten seats, but are severely defeated at Berlin and other strong holds.

LONDON, JUNE 27.—Admiral Camara has been ordered to proceed to Suez. It is reported that arrangements have been made for colliers to meet the squadron in the Red Sea and elsewhere.

LONDON, JUNE 27.—Commodore Watson has been appointed to the command of the American squadron which is going to Spain. The squadron consists of three ironclads and four cruisers with three colliers accompanying.

LONDON, JUNE 27.—The Americans are now landing the last batches of troops and supplies at Juragua, but more are coming from America. The magnitude of the task is beginning to be understood, for the defences of Santiago are so strong and elaborately placed, that it is believed more artillery will be required. Hitherto the fighting had been mere outpost skirmishes. The Spaniards are probably retreating by order.

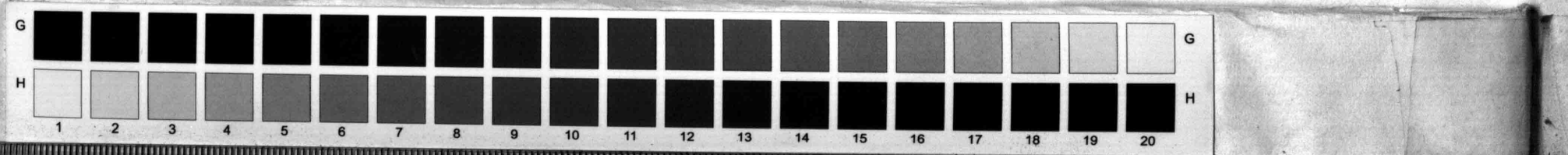
LONDON, JUNE 27.—The Indian Loan Bill has been read a third time in the Commons.

LONDON, JUNE 28.—Mr. Curzon, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that the Government will insist upon the Chinese Government revising the regulations for inland navigation to a satisfactory sense.

LONDON, JUNE 28.—Nine thousand more troops have sailed for Santiago, while others are to follow, raising General Shafter's army in Cuba to a total strength of 30,000. It is reported at New York that the Americans have cut the water mains through which Santiago is supplied.

LONDON, JUNE 29.—General Merritt, Commander-in-Chief of the American forces in the Philippines, sails from San Francisco to-day, and hurries to Manila without waiting for the arrival of transports. He will issue a proclamation immediately on arriving in Manila announcing the establishment of a Provisional Government, and declaring that America has come to liberate and not to oppress the inhabitants, granting them the fullest liberty compatible with law and order.

LONDON, JUNE 29.—President McKinley has proclaimed the extension of the blockade to the whole southern coast of Cuba, also to San Juan and Puerto Rico.



India and England.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, JUNE 3.

THE hostile comments of the press on the proposed lumping-together, by Lord George Hamilton, of the Indian Loan Bill, and the Indian Budget, in a single night's debate, has borne fruit during the holidays: and when he met the House in Tuesday last, he contented himself with moving a Resolution, authorising the Secretary of State and the Council of India to raise in the United Kingdom a sum not exceeding ten millions sterling, for the services of India, secured on the revenues of India. He took the opportunity, however, to make his Financial Statement for the year; but the debate upon it is practically postponed, and the usual opportunity for its full discussion will come later in the session. Lord George had a somewhat difficult task in presenting a very optimistic Financial Statement to the House, and to do him justice, he did it with remarkable skill and tact. The Financial Statement has, of course, been in your hands already for some time; and I need not take up space in reciting Lord George's pleasing and hopeful treatment of them. He failed, however, to remove from the minds of members, who understand Indian finance, that a nasty time is in store for some future Secretary of State at no very distant time, when all these optimistic and rose-colored views come to realization. The loan, asked for, is not required, for any new purpose, not in any way connected with the currency, but just in the ordinary business course of Indian finance, to redeem certain maturing obligations, to provide funds for Railway extension and a modest reserve fund for any possible exceptional disturbance of the finances. The actual amount to be added to the debt of India by the issue of this loan, will be £2,615,000. If this really be the final and worst outcome of the lamentable condition of India for the last three years, we have much to be thankful for, and India's Finance Minister has just reason for pride in such a happy issue from all his troubles.

EULOGY OF LORD ELGIN.

Lord George Hamilton made an eloquent eulogy of the present Viceroy, truthfully declaring that the last three years of his rule in India had been associated with more serious difficulties than any period since the Mutiny. He had gone out to India, an unknown and untried man. Of all the eminent men who had occupied this post, the most responsible that can be held by any subject of the Crown—no one had more unostentatiously or more effectively carried out its important duties. I think, this eulogy might have been kept back for a more fitting occasion; for, although no one can doubt the honesty and single heartedness of Lord Elgin or his sincere desire to do what he believes to be his duty, too many of those, listening to Lord George Hamilton were unable to forget that the success with which the famine operations have been carried out, on which, with justice, Lord George mainly based his eulogy, is completely overshadowed by the mad policy of Frontier extension, and that reactionary and repressive legislation which has put back Indian freedom and self-government for twenty years or more. The abandonment of the Khyber with all that followed, the *lettre-decachet* which imprisoned the Natus, and the series of Deccan press prosecutions must always be the most conspicuous pages in the history of the Elgin Administration. There may be good reasons for eulogy to the Conservative and reactionary mind of the present Secretary of State for India; but they do not commend themselves to the Liberal and progressive. Even Mr. Maclean protested against the unmitigated praise of Lord George Hamilton, denouncing the Frontier policy and its fatuous and egregious administration, demanding, in stentorian tones, why no official "had been cashiered and no general shot for the misconduct of affairs in the frontier," and declaring that had we done so we would have succeeded better in India.

Sir Henry Fowler, as in duty bound, re-echoed the praises of Lord Elgin, appointed, by the Cabinet, of which he was a member; but even Sir Henry had to qualify it by adding that nevertheless "he had reason to differ from Lord Elgin in grave matters of administration." Sir Henry threw cold water on Lord George's fervid optimism, declaring his conviction that there had been a practical addition of something like eleven millions to the permanent debt of India during the last three years.

OTHER SPEECHES IN THE HOUSE.

Mr. Samuel Smith, while joining in praise of Lord Elgin's famine administration, strongly condemned the enormous increase of military expenditure in India, which had absorbed the money required for industrial and agricultural improvements.

Mr. Vicary Gibbs denounced the composition of the Currency Committee, declaring, as member for the City of London, that the noble Lord had utterly failed to satisfy his constituency with regard to the composition of the Committee.

Sir William Wedderburn made a very earnest and sympathetic appeal to the Government of India to turn its attention to the discovery of methods by which the calamity of famine could be prevented in future. He called for a thorough enquiry into the condition of the Indian ryots. He deprecated further expenditure on minor railways in India, declaring that the 38 years, during which the policy of railway extension had been carried out, there had been a total net loss of Rs. 55,000,000. Irrigation works were a much wiser expenditure, and the money spent all went to the people of the country. He also urged that everything should be done to give the natives of India a larger share of public appointments.

The great Showaggee made a rather siffler speech than usual, and was fitly rebuked in a clever speech by Mr. Harwood, the member for Bolton, who was present at all the sittings of the 1896 Calcutta Congress; and then the resolution was agreed to. The debate was somewhat desultory and impractical, owing to the postponement of the actual Budget debate; and the ventilation of grievance which accompanies it. I hope that Lord George Hamilton will lay to heart at any rate the appeal made to him by Sir Henry Fowler, who declared very sensibly that the best thing the Secretary of State could undertake in the interest of India,

would be to order a rigid enquiry into all the circumstances which caused the specific outbreak at the Khyber pass, and also an inquiry which would at once set at rest so many of those anonymous stories which are floating about and which ought to be properly and officially answered as to many of the details of that campaign.

"INDIA" ON SIR H. FOWLER.

I have heard strong expressions of condemnation, indeed, amounting, in some cases, to anger, from leading and influential members of the Liberal party with regard to the attack made upon Sir Henry Fowler in last week's "India," following, as it does, upon many others of a similar character, though not quite so bitter. Under the column "The Week in Parliament," the Editor, after referring in well-merited praise to Sir William Harcourt as leader of the Opposition, says—"But he is embarrassed by having men for his colleagues, who are Liberals only in name, notably Sir Henry Fowler. No friend of India wants to see him at the India Office again—and no friend of Liberalism wants to see him in another Cabinet." I think, this attitude of the organ of the British Committee towards Sir Henry Fowler is very unjust. Sir Henry does not pretend to be a very ardent friend of the Congress movement; and it is well-known that in the recent action of the Indian Government for the suppression of sedition, he has sympathised with the policy which has been its outcome. I am very sorry that it is so; and I have not been slow to express that regret, in my letters to you, in plain language. No organ of the Congress movement can be blamed for fair and stern criticism of the Indian policy of any statesman in and out of office, and Sir Henry Fowler would himself be the last man to complain of it. But it is one thing, to say that "no friend of India wants to see him at the India Office," and quite a different thing to speak of a man who has rendered such life-long service to the Liberal cause in this country as "notably a Liberal only in name" whom "no friend of Liberalism wants to see in another Cabinet." Even the most ardent and prejudiced Congressman may find himself able, without much inconsistency, to recognise the soundness of Sir Henry Fowler on the Indian Frontier question, on the injustice of saddling India with Imperial expenditure, and on Indian finance generally, while condemning as roundly as he pleases Sir Henry's sad shortcomings with regard to the Poona policy of the Indian Government.

If Sir Henry Fowler is alive and well when the next Liberal Cabinet is formed, he is absolutely certain to be one of its principal Secretaries of State: I myself hope not for India but for Home affairs, for no man has been a better or wiser Home Secretary in our day and generation. It appears to me, therefore, very bad policy, to put it on the lowest grounds, for the Congress Journal to be everlastingly girding at Sir Henry Fowler as recreant Liberal because he appears to be unsound on one point,—a very important one no doubt,—of Congress policy. The Congress movement, though strong in principle and increasing in influence throughout India, is not yet strong or influential enough to indulge in the costly luxury of making fresh enemies, especially on that Liberal Front Bench from whence alone the reforms it advocates can ever find power for realization. I am constantly at touch with many members of the Front Opposition Bench; and I find, they resent very strongly the attacks that are being made upon one of the most powerful of their colleagues. The Editor of "India" should have sense enough to know that it is quite possible that in the course of the next two years Sir Henry Fowler may be back at the India Office; and I do not see myself how it is going to be useful to the British Committee to turn him in the meantime into an enemy by making these continual personal attacks upon him, which may easily land the Committee in the serious position of being refused all recognition by a Liberal Secretary of State for India. The Editor of "India" might also sometimes remember that there are members of the Committee, whose servant he is, and of the Parliamentary Committee who have been members of an Administration in which they have had Sir Henry Fowler as a colleague, and that in the early future there are others who may perhaps find themselves in a similar position. If it is the Editor's policy to clear the British Committee of Liberal M. P.'s and to reduce the Indian Parliamentary Committee to a mere rump, he is going just the right way about it. In common with all its readers, I admire the skill and ability with which "India" on the whole is edited and compiled; but it would be greatly to the advantage of the Congress movement in this country if the Editor would throw away the pen which he keeps in gall, and stick to good, honest writing ink,—a much safer and, in the long run, more efficient medium for the organ of a political movement on its promotion.

MR. WINGATE and Mr. Doig have resigned their seats on the Bombay Legislative Council. Mr. J. K. Spence is appointed to the first vacancy. The second vacancy has not yet been filled.

ALL telegraphic lines were interrupted between Dehli and Agra on the morning of 24th June owing to a thunderstorm. Telegrams from Simla to the North-West Provinces and further down country had for a time to be sent *via* Lahore.

BARON TOLL, the well-known Arctic explorer, has submitted to the Imperial Russian Geographical Society a scheme for an expedition to explore Sannikoff Land, about which very little is known, and the very existence of which is denied by some explorers, including Dr. Nansen who declares that he failed to find traces of any land north of the New Siberian Islands. Baron Toll, however, is convinced that Sannikoff Land will be found in the place, where it is indicated on the maps, and purposes to go thither with dogs and sledge and a portable house, and spend a year in exploration.

UNDER orders from the Government, Gunesb Shankar Dravid has this day been released from the House of Correction, in consideration of the assistance he rendered the police in connection with the Poona tragedy. It is understood that this man and his brother Nilkant are to receive Rs. 10,000 out of the reward of Rs. 20,000 offered by the Government in the Ganesbkhind murder case. Gunesb is the man who was sentenced to two years' imprisonment for being concerned in the forgery of Colonel Humphrey's pay bill.

THE OBSCENE LITERATURE CASE.

AN ARGUMENT.

THIS afternoon, (25th June) at the Esplanade Police Court, Mr. Sanders-Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, gave judgment in the case in which Mr. F. W. Gamer, Manager of Messrs. Thacker and Co., Ltd., stood charged with possessing and further with selling obscene literature. After disposing of the morning cases, the accused, Mr. Smetham, his solicitor, and Superintendent Brewin being present, the Magistrate delivered judgment.

THE MAGISTRATE'S DECISION.

The Magistrate said: "Since the hearing of this case, which has really been an admission by the accused that these seven books were in his possession for the purpose of sale, I have had the opportunity of forming an opinion as to the character of the books complained of. It appears to me that Alcephon and Longus are simply reproductions of classical works with an English translation. These contain passages which are indecent and indecent, but applying the test of obscenity laid down by Chief Justice Cockburn, Reg. vs. Hickin, L. R. 3 Q. B. at 371, I cannot hold that these two books are calculated to degrade the minds of ordinary persons who may have access to them."

"ALCEPHON."

I might say with regard to one of these, "Alcephon," that there is very little in the book which is objectionable, while there is a good deal which is otherwise. Applying the test of obscenity as laid down by Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, I cannot hold that any single passage in it is of an obscene nature sufficient to condemn the book as a whole.

"CASANOVA."

This is the first volume of the book and in it there are a great many passages which are grossly indecent. On the other hand there is a great deal in the book of a different character. They are the memoirs of a man who had seen a great deal of life and in his memoirs he told the story of his life without any reservation. There are a great many passages which are undoubtedly indecent, but I cannot hold that the book can be condemned as a whole on account of certain passages. It is a book that is accepted as a standard literary production, and although there are many passages which are indecent it is entitled to a respectable position in literature.

Considering the price (Rs. 300) at which it is offered I do not think that it is likely to fall into the hands of persons who are likely to buy it simply for licentious purposes. I regard it as a work of literary importance and exclude it from the charge. I have considered and I have no doubt there are many obscene passages in the remaining volumes not before me, but for the reasons stated I hold that this book does not come within the section.

"PRIAPEIA."

The "Priapeia" seems to me to be principally a collection of various Latin verses and their translations and to be entirely a different kind of book to those I have already dealt with. Their express purpose appears to me simply to collate disgusting and obscene verses and there seems no other purpose for its coming into existence.

The Magistrate here stated a case in which a man in England was charged with collecting and printing indecent passages from various books and he was found guilty of obscenity and convicted.

Continuing, he said: "This is one of those books which are called into existence for nothing but its obscenity and come within the four corners of the section."

"POT BOUILLE."

Zola's "Pot Bouille" is a licentious novel written with no moral or decent object which I can gather and I hold it to be obscene under the section.

"SIX NOUVELLES AMOUREUSES" AND "ORIENTAL STORIES."

With regard to these I hold that they are simply collections of obscene stories with no claims to attention but their outspoken filth.

THE OTHER BOOKS.

With regard to the other books I have nothing to say. I have not seen all of them, but those I have seen sufficiently satisfy me that they are grossly indecent and I consider the possession or sale of them by a firm in the position of Messrs. Thacker and Co. to be an extremely serious offence and I am perfectly certain they were not kept in the shop or sold with the knowledge of the directors.

A CASE FOR THE HIGH COURT.

The Magistrate was about to pass sentence when Superintendent Brewin interrupted saying that before his worship passed sentence he would like to say that in regard to "Casanova" he would like a case to be stated for the High Court. It was possible that the book might fall into the hands of a youth or innocent female, and that if his worship ruled that the book was not obscene it might lead to these indecent volumes falling into the hands of the public. The volumes were for sale in the shop of other book-sellers, and he would like the matter settled one for all by a reference to the High Court.

Mr. Smetham said that judgment had already been passed, and that they could not go behind that. He was willing on behalf of the country to undertake to return the books to the firm from which they had been received on commission sale.

Mr. Brewin replied that it was not in respect of the books in the hands of Messrs. Thacker & Co. but in respect of the particular work in question that he asked a case to be stated for the High Court.

Mr. Smetham, objecting, said the Magistrate could not go behind his judgment.

The Magistrate stated that he would not be going very far wrong if he accepted the ruling laid down by Chief Justice Cockburn as to the meaning of the word obscene. There were obscene passages which were calculated to deprave and corrupt, but looking to the fact that the book was published at a prohibitive price, he did not think it was likely to be purchased for the obscenity it contained. If Mr. Brewin liked he would state a case.

Mr. Brewin replying said that he was quite prepared to accept the Magistrate's decision, but there were many book-sellers in this city and in India who sold the book and there was no guarantee, now that the book had been so much advertised by the papers in reporting this case, that they would not fall into the hands of youth and innocence. He wished it to go forth to the world that this was a book which was objectionable.

HIGH PRICED LITERATURE.

Referring to the price, Mr. Brewin pointed out that the section said nothing as to that. Holding up a little red pamphlet, "This," said he, "costs Rs. 50!"

Mr. Smetham: Mr. Brewin paid Rs. 50 for it. Mr. Brewin: Another volume cost Rs. 80. I wish your worship would state a case for the High Court as it would be more satisfactory for every one.

The Magistrate asked under what section he should state a case.

Mr. Brewin quoted section 432, but Mr. Smetham reminded the Court that the section referred to a point of law while this was a question of fact.

The Magistrate suggested that the best course under the circumstances would be for Mr. Brewin to instruct the Government Solicitor to move the High Court in the matter.

Mr. Brewin: I bow to the decision of the Court.

ACCUSED FINED Rs. 500. The Magistrate then said: I convict the accused, firstly, of the sale of obscene books and pictures and fine him Rs. 250 in respect of them, and, secondly, of having in his possession the books I have found to be obscene, for the purpose of sale, in respect of which

I also fine him Rs. 250; and I order the destruction of the obscene books and pictures in respect of which these convictions are made under section 521 C. P. C.

Mr. Brewin said that he had returned all the books seized except those before the Court, but the firm had undertaken to return him all the copies of the books that the Magistrate had ruled obscene.

—Advocate of India.

AN IMPORTANT POINT OF PLAGUE LAW.

AN appeal was preferred by the Government of Bombay against an order of acquittal passed by Mr. R. E. Kanga, First-Class Magistrate at Broach, on the 23rd December, 1897, the accused having been charged with offences punishable under Sections 188 and 511 of the Penal Code, and Section 114 of the Indian Railway Act of 1890. Mr. Manekshah appeared for the accused, and the Government pleader for the Crown.

The magistrate said it appeared that, on the 26th November, 1897, the two accused purchased at the Broach Railway station four second-class return tickets to Ankleshwar and went there. In the afternoon of the same day, a little before the arrival of the evening train from Bombay, both the accused went to the station at Ankleshwar and showed four return tickets to Bhanushanker, a plague inspector. On the latter asking for four names, the accused gave their own and the names of Sherinbai Byramjee and Kustomjee Nowrojee. Accused No. 1 told the inspector that the two persons were in the waiting room, but not finding them there, the inspector reported the matter to the station master. The latter made enquiries and told the accused that they were trying to evade quarantine at Broach for some persons. The accused, according to the station master's evidence, looked frightened.

The two extra names were scored out of the tickets. On the arrival of the train from Bombay at Ankleshwar, a female and a male were found in a third class carriage with third class tickets from Sanjana to Broach. The accused also travelled by the same train to Broach. In the meantime, the plague inspector telegraphed to Bawamiya, plague doctor at Broach, to watch the accused. On the arrival of the train the two Sanjana passengers were detained in quarantine, and the two accused gave up their four return halves. Nothing was done at the Broach station either by the two passengers or the accused. The magistrate said that the accused abandoned their intention as soon as they were warned by the station-master at Ankleshwar, of aiding others in evading the quarantine; and that, therefore, what they did, was not an attempt to commit an offence. No attempt was made to actually part with the accused's half tickets. No attempt was made to actually transfer the tickets, and the principal ingredient of the offence was wanting, namely, to enable other persons to travel with the accused's tickets. The complaint was about an attempt to part only. The magistrate acquitted the accused of both offences.

Government, in their petition of appeal, stated that the procedure of a summary trial adopted by the court below, and the erroneous views entertained by it of the law bearing on the subject, had resulted in a serious miscarriage of justice. Mr. Justice Parsons, in giving the court's decision, said:—The accused are found to have purchased at Broach two extra 2nd class return tickets for Ankleshwar with the object of giving them at Ankleshwar to two passengers in the train from Sanjana in order that the latter might avoid being quarantined when they arrived at Broach. They were charged with an attempt to disobey a quarantine rule, but the magistrate acquitted them holding that no criminal liability had been incurred since no attempt had been made to transfer the tickets, their possession of the tickets having been discovered immediately they arrived at Ankleshwar. The Local Government has appealed against the order, and the public prosecutor has argued that the charge should have been abetment of the offence of disobeying quarantine rule, and that the abetment was completed as soon as the two extra tickets were purchased and the accused proceeded to Ankleshwar. We think that the order of acquittal is right. In the first place it does not appear to us that any rule has been issued imposing quarantine in such a way as to make it an offence to try and evade quarantine. What is relied on as the rule is a notification published at Government Gazette, 1897, page 1897, which says that certain persons coming to Broach from certain stations are liable to be detained for observations in a camp appointed for the purpose for a period which may extend to ten days. This seems to us to be merely a notice informing persons of what they are liable to have to undergo. It makes their detention legal, so that they could not escape detention if called upon to undergo it, but it does not compel them to take the first step and offer themselves for detention; in other words, it does not order the detention of any persons, or say that if they do not offer themselves for detention they shall be punished. In the next place, supposing that it is an offence for persons liable to be quarantined to try and evade quarantine, we think that the accused cannot be said to have abetted even an attempt at evasion of quarantine on the part of those persons until the latter had attempted to evade quarantine and the former had assisted them in so doing. This could not be until they had given or attempted to give them the tickets they had purchased. Here the parties never met each other, and the idea of giving the tickets to those persons was abandoned, fell through in fact in consequence of discovery, before the persons for whom the tickets were intended ever came to Ankleshwar. We think the magistrate is right in the view he has taken of this part of the case. We therefore dismiss the appeal.

At a meeting of the Bombay Municipal Corporation on Friday the resolution of the Standing Committee regarding the raising of a temporary loan for plague expenditure was adopted, with a further addition to the effect that the Government might be informed that in the event of the Government and the Port Trust paying their respective contributions to the plague expenditure, the amounts so recovered would be deducted from the total amount of the loan for which sanction is sought.

MR. ALFRED WEBB ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

MR. ALFRED WEBB writes in the current number of the *British Friend*—

All who are connected with the Society of Friends, and are proud of its record, must be jealous for the maintenance and carrying forward of its liberal and philanthropic traditions. It is idle to believe that Friends can effectually influence spiritually peoples abroad if they do not also concern themselves with their political and material interests. A proper understanding of the case of the peoples from their own standpoint is essential for the government of the world by reason rather than by force.

There is some danger that Friends may occupy a less independent attitude than formerly, in that they are now more than formerly connected with Government and office. There is a greater call for vigilance, especially with regard to India. In intellect, honesty, and intention the Indian Civil Service is pre-eminent. It is through its influence we chiefly judge of Indian affairs. That service is, however, not to be depended upon for unbiased judgment where its own interests are concerned. And its monetary interests are not always in accord with the interests of educated Indians. Like all services, it is too much inclined to believe the system of its administrators is perfect. Its judgment on moral questions cannot always be relied on. The number of British Indian Civil Servants who do not approve of the opium traffic and the Cantonment Acts is infinitesimally small. What I am here concerned to urge is that Friends should keep their minds open and informed about India. The publication in London of a weekly journal "India," treating of Indian questions from the standpoint of educated Indians and their British sympathisers, leaves no excuse for sole reliance on Anglo-Indian inspiration.

Permit me to refer to some recent events as emphasising the necessity for vigilance and enquiry. There have been at least two cases within the last few months of Natives being shot dead by British soldiers in districts as peaceful as Devonshire; upon these soldiers no punishment has been inflicted. I am not aware that a European has ever been brought to execution for the killing of a Native in India. The brothers Nattu, two gentlemen of education and position, were arrested over six months ago, and their property seized by Government. They have since been held in separate imprisonment without any charge being brought against them or any prospect of release. All that is clearly known is that they severely criticised the plague regulations at Poona.

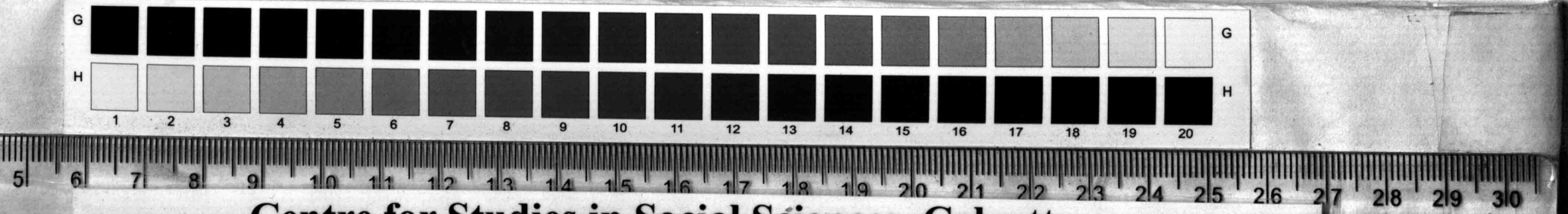
The Honourable B. G. Tilak, a man of the highest character, a member of a Government Council, has lately been condemned to a year's imprisonment, carrying with it too a Brahmin degradation of which we can form no conception, for language which in Ireland would pass without comment. There were six Anglo-Indians and three Natives on the jury. Neither the judge nor the six Anglo-Indians are known to have had such a knowledge of Maharati as would enable them to decide between the various readings of the incriminatory writings. He was brought in guilty but by a majority of six of the jurors.

We would presume that the plagues and famines that have devastated India should have called for the greatest consideration, yet rather a reversal of liberal developments of twenty years ago has been entered upon. There is every indication of extreme dissatisfaction amongst Natives, and indeed unofficial Anglo-Indian, feeling, concerning the new Sedition Bill. According to the associated Calcutta Bar, an eminently nonpolitical body, the effect will be to make it penal amongst other things—(1) Effectively to criticise the policy of the Government with reference, for example, to the present war beyond the frontier; (2) Effectively to oppose and to give true utterance to the feelings of the people, or a section of the people, against a proposed law that may be considered oppressive; (3) To present a petition for the redress of serious grievances hitherto unredressed, and to leave it in the discretion of the Executive Government to prosecute or not. The taxation of India, more especially for warlike purposes, has enormously increased. The drain upon the country for millions spent outside its borders is greater every year. Millions within the past year have gone for a war, arising from a policy declared mistaken by some of the greatest Indian statesmen. Thousands of Native lives have been sacrificed; thousands of homes destroyed; a country devastated; hundreds of British lives have been lost. (We turn with sickening from the pages of our illustrated papers.) Already the Indian people are overburdened with taxation of the necessities of life. We in these islands, upon an average pay taxes of 5-12 per cent. on our incomes; in India they pay 61-2 per cent. It is needless to observe how much lighter presses a tax of 48 shillings on £400 average income, than one of 23-3d. on 48 shillings, their average income. We spend per head on intoxicants alone more than twice as much as the average Indian income. When on February 22 Samuel Smith, M. P., urged that a portion of the costs of the frontier war should be borne by this country, the Indian Secretary replied that the Indian Government is "fully confident that a substantial surplus can be forecasted for the next ensuing year, that no additional taxation will be imposed." Yet we know that the land taxes are being screwed up year by year, and late papers inform us that heavier stamp duties are being imposed amongst others an annual stamp on every acknowledgment of debt of 20 rupees (25s.) and upwards; and we hear that "the present state of the finances of India cannot entertain a scheme involving so large an expenditure" as £40,000 for acknowledged deficiencies in the Presidency College at Calcutta. Some of the Anglo-Indian papers, oppose British grants in aid of India openly, from fear of their leading to greater interference by the British people in the affairs of India. There are indeed dangers that did not exist under the old regime of the East India Company. Parliament was jealous of that company, and was ever ready to stand between it and the people of India. Indian officialism in India and in London are now practically one. Parliament without British interest behind it has neither the time nor the strength to counteract the steady untrifling influence of that officialism.

The past should warn us that Indian official statements are not always to be relied on. The Indian Government had positively denied the existence of the state of affairs in the cantonments revealed by the enquiries of Mrs. Andrews and Dr. Kate Bushnell. The probability of famine two years ago was also denied. The Secretary of State for India lately declared in the House of Commons that in case of the receipt of "rumours of serious unrest amongst Mahomedans of Bombay they are untrue." We all know what has since occurred there. We cannot divest ourselves of responsibility in the government of 300,000,000 of our fellow-subjects in India. We are bound to interest and inform ourselves. I, therefore, implore (if such a strong expression may be permitted) that the attention of Friends generally to Indian political affairs.

THE date on which the Famine Commission will be broke up, has not yet been fixed; but it will probably be before the end of July.

NEWS have reached from England that the promoters of the Simla-Kulka Railway have at last signed their contract with the India Office, and are confident of raising the capital required, which is between sixty and seventy lakhs.



INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Tuesday, June 7.

THE INDIAN CURRENCY.—Mr. Souttar asked the Secretary of State for India whether it would be open to the committee now inquiring into the proposed measures regarding the Indian currency, under the clause of their instruction which directed them to consider the probable effects of any proposed changes upon the internal trade and taxation of the country, to investigate and take account of the effects on the internal trade and industrial resources of the people that had been and were being caused by the annual obligatory remittances by which payments were made through the India Office here, estimated at £1,000,000 sterling in the current financial statement; whether a statement could be placed before the Committee showing the amounts of the home charges drawn for yearly since 1873, and the sums added to the sterling debt of India in the same period; and whether the Committee would be free to suggest means of permanently relieving India of some substantial portion of these charges.

Mr. H. Roberts asked a similar question. Lord G. Hamilton: I have already explained, in answer to a question, that the Committee are empowered to inquire into any matter which they may think relevant to the subject which has been referred to them; they have also been requested to confine their inquiry strictly to such matters as they may think relevant. It is for them to decide whether the subjects mentioned in the hon. member's question are relevant, and, if so, whether they will inquire into them. It is for them also to call for such statements as they require. Any such request of theirs will be at once complied with, provided, of course, that the information asked for is available.

GINDIAN NATIVE INFANTRY AND THE MAURITIUS GARRISON.—Mr. Arthur O'Connor asked the Secretary of State for India, whether a regiment of native infantry from India will permanently reinforce the Mauritius garrison; from what fund the pay and maintenance of the Indian portion of that garrison will be defrayed, and whether the pension and recruiting charges, and other contingent expenses, will be defrayed from the same funds. Lord G. Hamilton said: The period during which the native infantry regiment lately sent from India will stay in Mauritius is not yet settled, but it is not intended that it should form part of the permanent garrison. All charges for the regiment, ordinary and extraordinary, will be borne by Imperial revenues.

THE DEATH OF DR. SIRCAR.—Mr. Leuty asked the Secretary of State for India what were the circumstances attending the death at Barrackpore, on April 30, of Dr. Sircar, an eminent native medical practitioner. Lord G. Hamilton: I have little to add to the answer which I gave on this subject on May 12. There can be no doubt that the death of Dr. Sircar was caused by violence, and the local magistrates have inquired into the matter, and committed three men for trial on the charge of culpable homicide in connection with this outrage.

THE EMPLOYMENT OF INDIAN FORCES IN AFRICA.—Mr. Arthur O'Connor asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he proposes to lay upon the table of the House the correspondence with the Indian Government relating to the employment of Indian forces in Africa and elsewhere beyond the external frontiers of India, and, if so, when.

Lord G. Hamilton: I do not know whether the question of the hon. member has reference to any particular occasion on which the Indian forces were employed in Africa or elsewhere beyond the Indian frontier. So far as I am aware, in each case when the Indian forces have been thus employed of late, all the correspondence that could properly be published has been laid before Parliament. The general principle governing the expenditure connected with the employment of Indian troops beyond the external frontiers of India was laid down in the despatch of the Secretary of State of June 30, 1896 which formed part of a Parliamentary Blue Book.

Thursday June 9.

FORTS ON THE INDIAN FRONTIER.—Mr. Herbert Roberts asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he will state what is the estimated cost of the reconstruction of the forts in the Khyber Pass, and what is the probable cost of the proposed construction of fortified posts in the proposed construction of the forts in the Khyber Pass, and what is the probable cost of the proposed construction of the forts in the Khyber Pass, and what is the probable cost of the proposed construction of the forts in the Khyber Pass.

Lord G. Hamilton: Nothing has yet been settled as to the reconstruction of the fortified posts in the Khyber Pass or the post at Kila Rosh. Any necessary outlay on these posts would not be inconsistent with the policy laid down in my despatch of Jan. 28 last.

THE BRITISH RESIDENT AT THE COURT OF THE NIZAM.—Mr. Herbert Roberts asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he will state for what length of time the present British Resident at the Court of His Highness the Nizam, Mr. Howden, has held that post; at what date will his term of office terminate; whether last year's relations between the Residency and the Nizam were strained; whether any of the recent orders relating thereto, presented by the Government of India, will be presented to Parliament; and whether a copy of the resolution recently presented by the Council of the Nizam, appointed by the Nizam in October 1897, relating to the report by the Local Comptroller-General on the finances of the Hyderabad States, will be shortly laid before Parliament.

Lord G. Hamilton: The present Resident at the Court of the Nizam was appointed to his post in March 1892, and, subject to the pleasure of the Governor-General, may continue to hold it until, under the rules, he retires from the service. In the interest of the public service I do not think it advisable to make any statement as to the relations between British Residents and the native princes with whom they have to deal, nor do I propose to present any papers on the affairs of Hyderabad.

THE EAST INDIA LOAN.—The report on the resolution as to the East India Loan was agreed to, and a Bill founded thereon was introduced by Lord G. Hamilton and read a first time.

INDIA OFFICE (STORE DEPARTMENT).—The report on the resolution relating to the India Office (Store Depot) expenses was brought up and agreed to.

CAPTAIN C. GOUGH, Remount Department, is at present buying mules for transport requirements in Lahore and adjoining districts.

MR. HARRY BREWIN, Superintendent of the Bombay Police, has been appointed to the post of personal assistant to the Inspector-General of Police. This promotion has been given for the valuable service rendered by him during the Poona tragedy.

MR. A. MACKIE, C. S., District Judge, Mozafferpur, retires from the service.

CHAMBERLAIN'S Pain Balm has no equal at 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, Ferdinand, Fla., write: "Everyone who buys a little of Chamberlain's Remedies, comes back and says it is the best medicine he has ever used."

CENTRAL ASIAN NOTICES.

RUSSIAN REVERSE IN FERGHANA.

A Reuter telegram from St. Petersburg, dated June 2, says: News of a serious attack by natives on Russian troops in Central Asia has reached here from the province of Ferghana, east of the Khanate of Bokhara. Two companies of Russian troops, numbering about 300 men, were encamped at the town of Andijan, a place in the north-east of the province, situated about 1,500 feet above the sea, when they were unexpectedly attacked by a force of natives about 1,000 strong. The soldiers were taken completely by surprise, and 20 were killed, while 18 were wounded.

It is many years since such a reverse to Russian arms has occurred in Central Asia, and the news, which has not yet been made public, has created a painful impression in the small official sphere to which the intelligence has as yet penetrated. The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Times telegraphed on June 4: The startling news of a sudden Mahomedan revolt against the Russians in Central Asia comes as a complete surprise in St. Petersburg. As the railway from Samarcand had only just been finished to Andijan the attack upon the Russian military camp at that place, made at dawn on May 30, suggests that the cause of this far-reaching rising of natives may have been the invasion of the locomotive. A large body of rebels, led by Ishu Mahomed Ali Khalif from Mughlian declared a holy war, cut the telegraph wires, and surprised the 20th battalion of the Turkestan troops, killing twenty-two and wounding sixteen. The rebels were finally repulsed, leaving eleven killed and eight wounded. Some were dispersed in different directions and the rest retreated in order under their leader, who, however, was captured on June 1, together with his immediate attendants, by fifty mounted men sent in pursuit from Namangan. The military governor of Ferghana, for permitting such a surprise in a time of profound peace, has been dismissed by order of the Czar. The unfortunate incident is regarded as an isolated outbreak of fanaticism. The rest of the population remain quiet.

In a further telegram the correspondent adds: It is stated that the rising of native Mahomedans in Ferghana against the Russians was brought about, amid the general discontent, by the capital punishment recently inflicted upon one of the local khans, Dura Bek, one of two brothers whose mother was celebrated among the Khokandians when General Skoleff conquered the country. Djura Bek, it seems, was hanged by the Russians for smuggling contraband into the province and for killing one or more Russian custom-house officers or frontier guards. Some of the natives have fled into Afghan Turkestan and may still cause trouble. It is pretty certain that the Mahomedan clergy in this part of Russian Central Asia have never ceased to be hostile since the power of Khudayar, the last Khan of Khokand, was finally crushed by Skoleff. The military governor and other officers have been summarily relieved of their duties, and General Dukholskoi, the Governor-General of Turkestan, now in St. Petersburg, leaves at once for his post. The severest measures are being enforced to suppress any further movement among the natives.

RUSSIA AND BOKHARA.

In connection with the presentation of a portrait of the Czar set in brilliant to the Ameer of Bokhara, the Czar has issued a rescript in which he sets forth that the Ameer has been steadfastly devoted to Russia, and has moreover promoted the interests of the neighbouring Russo-Bokharan territory. The rescript concludes by expressing the hope that these good relations may endure.

A Reuter telegram from Teheran says that Amin-ed Dowleh, the Grand Vizier, has tendered his resignation, which has been accepted. A new Cabinet is being formed under the presidency of Mushir-ed Dowleh.

FOUR out of the five leading successful men in the last Cooper's Hill Examination hail from India and Ceylon.

ON the Beluchistan frontier a tribal fight has taken place between Dburkanis and Maris in which several are reported to have been killed.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL T. A. COOKE and General Morton, Adjutant-General, are promoted Major-Generals in the British Army.

MAJOR J. CURRIE has been appointed to officiate as Commandant of the 20th Madras Infantry, now in the Toghli Valley.

PRINCE RANJITSINGH has been on a shooting excursion with H. H. the Maharaja of Patiala at Pinjore.

MAJOR YELLING, Chief Commissariat Officer of the Khyber Force, has handed over charge to Major Rideout and proceeded on furlough. Brigadier General Egerton arrived at Landi Kotal on Thursday, and has assumed the command of the Khyber Brigade.

THE total number of Bhils killed in the recent fighting on the borders of the Ahmednager District is sixteen, and the same number were wounded and several were made prisoners. The Nizam's police tackled the gang without military aid and have completely broken it up.

SOME passengers who arrived at Gurgaon from Delhi, one with Rs. 2,000, were attacked by dacoits whilst driving to their destination near the village of Daulatabad. Two armed constables happened, however, to be with the party, and the robbers were repulsed. The gang afterwards assaulted some pedestrians and succeeded in securing a quantity of jewellery.

MR. WALLET BETT, Secretary to the British Consulate, San Juan, has been expelled from Puerto Rico on suspicion of having furnished Americans information as to the mining of the harbour. It is reported that Mr. Bett was confined in a dungeon for 56 hours and grossly maltreated.

A RIFLE was stolen from the 21st Punjab Infantry at Khar on the night of the 12th instant, and two, with a hundred rounds of ammunition, were taken from a guard tent of the Buffs, on the night of the 13th. Two revolvers have been stolen at Landi Kotal. One Niaz Mir, Khukli Khel, arrested at the Peshawar Railway station last April, was found in possession of eight packets of cartridges and 245 ammunition caps, which he was attempting to convey across the border. It could not be ascertained whence he had obtained this ammunition. He has just been sentenced by the Magistrate to one year's imprisonment and Rs. 20 fine.

DURING the summer of 1897, 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 certain Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea 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 at

THE GUJARATI AND THE PIONEER.

We do not know why some of our Anglo-Indian contemporaries should take so much delight in discovering sedition everywhere. We confess we do not understand this morbid frame of mind. The Englishman picked up a few extracts here and there from the writings of the Patrika and tried to manufacture a case of sedition against our contemporary. The attempt miserably failed, as it deserved to do. The Pioneer, not to be left behind in this exciting game of ferreting out sedition, has, we find, extended its kindly attentions to our vernacular columns. The Hindu and the Madras Standard have shrewdly enough already anticipated our explanation of the passages that the Allahabad paper has noticed. The former, in noticing the Pioneer's attack, has paid us a generous compliment for which we are grateful to our contemporary. "We read the English columns of the Gujarati," observes the Hindu, "and, in our opinion, judging from the English columns, a more stable and thoughtful journal there is not among Indian newspapers. It is impossible for us to believe that such a paper in its Gujarati columns would print such matter as the Pioneer professes to have discovered in them." The Standard correctly points out that "in the first place if any one took it into his head to single out isolated sentences here and there from the columns of the Pioneer and to put them before the public, detached altogether from their context, it would not be hard to have it convicted every other day for some offence or another under the code, including fact that the real meaning of the original passage may have been twisted in the translation given by the Pioneer." The series of articles referred to by the Allahabad paper are a translation, more or less free, of the six masterly articles on the true aims and objects of the National Congress movement which that prince of Indian journalists, the late Mr. Robert Knight, wrote in the Standard a few years ago. They were reproduced last year in a column, and circulated in January last as a supplement to the Kaiser-Hind and the Champion. They were read by thousands at the time but do not seem to have attracted the notice of sedition-hunters. It would not be very difficult for us to spot out the persons who have supplied detached and distorted sentences to the Pioneer from our vernacular columns. We must, however, treat with absolute contempt such men as find delicious pleasure in the ignoble and cowardly game of stabbing people in the dark from a safe distance. But it is not very creditable even to the Pioneer to indicate a contemporary on the strength of isolated and mistranslated passages. Mr. Robert Knight was a writer with a philosophical insight, well read in ancient and modern history and conversant with the various systems of administration in the world in their theoretical and practical aspects. He was a publicist of righteous convictions and dauntless in expressing his views. From the rhetorical standpoint he condemned absolutely the Indian system of administration, introduced unconsciously and by force of circumstances, but straightway proceeds to lay his tribute of respect to "the high character of the English People generally, and their innate love of fair play that has so matterially tempered the despotism of our rule, as early to entitle it to be called beneficent." In the vernacular it is said "so satisfactorily that it is not felt to be tyrannical." The Pioneer gives a wholly different complexion to the sentence by a clever omission of the words "this system is tyrannical, yet it is worked in a way that does not make it appear tyrannical." Mr. Robert Knight has drawn largely upon the history of the American colonies to illustrate and strengthen his main proposition that no system of administration can be wise and healthful which excludes the people themselves from all share in its labours and responsibilities. But the Pioneer interprets these historical allusions also in a wholly distorted light. It would be sheer waste of our time and space to notice criticism based upon such misleading materials and inspired by such unworthy spirit of unfairness. There is not an educated man who does not know that the future salvation of India depends upon the continued existence of British Government in this country in spite of its numerous and serious defects, and we have on several occasions made this position perfectly clear in these columns. Mr. Robert Knight himself has done ample justice to our rulers in the very articles under notice, but the Pioneer thinks it necessary to pick out isolated sentences and base a serious indictment upon them. It is a pity that some of the Anglo-Indian papers should take up such an unworthy attitude of avowed hostility toward the Indian press and educated natives, and contribute by their misrepresentations so much to the creation and dissemination of that discontent and dissatisfaction of which they afterwards find it so supremely delightful to complain. This attitude must strike every intelligent person as the more strange, since in their own columns are to be found views and sentiments stronger than those for which they come down upon native papers. This is what the Hindu observed a few months ago:—

We call the attention of the Hon'ble Mr. Chamberlain to a letter "on the financial policy of the Government of India" signed "A" which is printed in the Pioneer of the 6th instant, with a view to knowing whether the tone of it is not or is in keeping with the new law of sedition. This is all the more important, as Lord Elgin declared that he made no distinction between different sections of the press. In the first sentence of that letter the writer says he quoted passages from John Stuart Mill "in which he denounced such financial policy as the Government of India are now oppressing us with as robbery." It is said of the Secretary of State that "he has grossly and shamefully abused his powers of legislation."

This was what the Englishman wrote a few weeks ago:— "The strange cult of Shivaji, which recently sprang among the Maharattas, has not commanded all the attention it deserves. Shivaji was the very prince of swash-bucklers. His was the hand that struck the Mogul Empire its first mortal blow. By a life of black treachery and assassination he gained for himself the practical supremacy of Western India and gorged his people with the wealth of the Peninsula. Of his blood were Peshwas and their descendants, whose record is stained with the blackest crimes known to history. But this is the man whose life is being held up even in Government-aided schools as a pattern to the young, and regarding whom a vast mass of pious legends are already springing up. It is no exaggeration to say that almost throughout Western India, owing to the persistence of the Brahmins, Shivaji is now regarded as a saint and his crimes looked at with admiration. The noteworthy point is that this Shivaji worship is of very recent date and the conclusion cannot be avoided that the cult was started and is being sedulously maintained by interested persons."

Has the amended Penal Code to say nothing to this kind of journalism?—Gujarati.

ONCE TRIED, ALWAYS USED

If we sell one bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, we seldom fail to sell the same person more, when it is again needed. Indeed, it has become the family medicine of this town, for coughs and colds, and we recommend it because of its established merits.—JOS. E. HARRIS, Prop. Oakland Pharmacy, Oakland, Md. Sold by

RUSSIA'S POLICY IN CHINA.

ACTIVE EMISSARIES IN CHINA PROPER.

RUSSIAN policy in China at the moment may be said to be aimed in two entirely opposite directions, says a recent issue of the Daily Chronicle. The one affects Manchuria, which is rapidly becoming, if it has not already become a Russian province; the other concerns the future rather than the present, and consists in an attempt to pave the way towards a future accession to Muscovite influence in the Celestial Empire. The recent march of events in the Liaoning peninsula, unexpected though it was by people in this country, was, nevertheless, the outcome of a carefully conceived series of plans ranging over a long series of years. The steps which led up to so vitally important, and from a British standpoint, so disastrous a development, are now being repeated seriatim in the provinces of Chi-li, Shansi, and Hupeh.

While Russian military officials are engaged in strengthening the defences of Port Arthur and Talienswan, in informally occupying Kirin, Mukden, and other important centres of trade, and in framing regulations for the expulsion of the natives and the handicapping of the foreigner, Russian diplomats are busily stirring up Chinese feeling against possible rivals, and paving the way for another of those coups d'etat which have played so prominent a part in the growth of the Russian Empire in the East.

In her aims for the discomfiture of British interests in China, our rival has a fertile soil on which to work. The sequestration of the likin dues to the Imperial Maritime Customs Board has brought the Mandarin class into line with the Russian agents at present to be found in every province, and those who know the country have no hesitation in placing the recent risings at Sha-szi and at Wuchang, as well as the threatened trouble in the Canton district, to the credit of these mischievous emissaries. Nor is the mischief limited to the mere efforts of the Czar's representatives. It is an open secret that the success of the scheming now in progress for the discomfiture of this country would nowhere cause greater satisfaction than at Peking, where the Hoopoo Board even more than the Tsung-li-Yamen have been brought to believe that more is to be got by friendship with the ruler of the neighbouring Siberia than by a continuation of amicable relations with this country.

The latest venture which has been backed by Russian influence is the projected trunk railway between Peking and Hankow. This line, suggested by English engineers some years ago, was shelved by means of the repeated objections urged by Chinese officials, and when it was finally authorised two years ago, the concession was handicapped by the restriction that the railway should be built with Chinese capital and that only native labour should be employed. A representation from the Russian emissaries at Peking has changed all this. It is agreed that the line shall be constructed under Russian supervision and with capital provided by the Russo-Chinese Bank, an establishment existing only to serve as a nominee or cat's-paw of the Russian Government. It will be remembered that it was this same Russo-Chinese Bank which figured so prominently in the secret treaty between Russia and China for the authorisation of the Manchurian Railway, in which it was laid down that only Chinese and Russian born subjects should be eligible as shareholders. It is something more than possible that the same tactics will be employed in the negotiations now proceeding for the trunk line of Central China, and unless our Government corrects the impression left in Chinese minds by its recent inaction, we shall be badly left, and shall find too late that our main trade high way in the Far East has been snatched by our rivals to the exclusion of ourselves.

Hankow, the objective of the coming railway, is the future commercial capital of China. Situated at the confluence of the River Han with the Yangtze, it commands a series of waterways unequalled throughout the world, and is the port of transhipment, not only for the valuable produce of Hunan, Hupeh, and Szechuen, but also of much of the tea, silk, and drugs which come by canal from the inner provinces. It is in this centre of our influence that Russian influence is being brought to bear, and the effort is from a purely diplomatic and strategic standpoint one of exceeding brilliance. This railway once completed, it will be possible to pour Muscovite troops into the Yangtze Valley, 500 miles from the sea, at a point where our battalions can find its way, and where our only hope will be based on such troops as we may succeed in either marching across three provinces peopled by unrefined people, or conveying up the river in small steamers and junks. The question then arises, what steps are the Government taking to ensure a sufficient representation of British interests at the negotiations in progress? What is the Foreign Office prepared to do to protect our trade and to secure to this country that freedom of action in the Valley of the Yangtze which has been claimed as the sphere of British influence.

FLYING ARTILLERY FOR MANCHURIA.

The officers who are to undertake the formation and training of the new Brigades of Flying Artillery, as Russians term them, which are to be organised for service in Manchuria and in the Amur Frontier country, sailed from Odessa last week for Port Arthur and Vladivostok, says an article in the "Morning Post" received by the last mail. "One-half of the staff will be landed at Port Arthur and remain there, while the other will proceed by way of Vladivostok to the seat of command in the Amur Government under General Grodekof. Hitherto the Russians have had no mobile or Light Artillery, and the speaking of in the Russo-Manchurian Frontier region, that branch of the Service being represented only by a few field batteries, imperfectly equipped, and of limited utility. This is now to be entirely changed; and, in accordance with a Circular issued by the War Office, an establishment of both Light and Mountain Artillery is to be organised adequate to all possible requirements in the Far East. Two Brigades are to be formed and maintained at their full field strength. They are to be known by the official designation of the 1st and 2nd Brigades of the East Siberian Flying Artillery. The 1st Brigade is to consist of four complete "parks," as they are termed, each park being absolutely an independent whole, having its special battery of guns, with gunners and drivers, its own ammunition train and supply wagons, so as to be enabled to act as an independent unit. The 2nd Brigade will comprise three similar parks of Light or Field Artillery and one of mountain guns, with the requisite animals and supplies. Each park will be under the command of a senior and junior Captain, with two Lieutenants and fifteen sub-officers, and will consist of three hundred and twelve gunners, fifteen artificers, and thirty-two men of the military train, two hundred and ninety-four horses, and two hundred and fifty four ammunition and supply carts, with the necessary draught animals. The Mountain Artillery will be organised in one special park of twenty-four guns, commanded by five officers, having under them two hundred and thirty-two men, with one hundred and ninety-one horses, one hundred and fifty-one mules, and two hundred and fifty specially constructed coffers, which the animals are to carry, slung on each side. Altogether, the two Brigades, as they are to be organised, will form the not inconsiderable Artillery force of something like three thousand gunners, with as many horses, seven thousand light field guns, and one park of two thousand carts and wagons for the supply and ammunition trains. Each Brigade will be

under a colonel or lieutenant-colonel, assisted by a staff of twenty-five persons, including the adjutant. Two additional companies of Mining and Torpedo Engineers, bringing the total up to twelve, are also to be organised for the Amur and Manchurian districts. One is to be permanently stationed at Novo Kievsk, not far from the Russian Harbour near the Korean Frontier, the other, it is stated now, is to be located at Port Arthur and not, as originally intended at Blagoveshensk on the Amur of Vladivostok.

LIEUTENANT BEAUMONT, Commander of the R. I. M. S. Comet, stationed at Baghdad, has died very suddenly from heat stroke. He had only been stationed there for about nine months.

DECISION was given on the 25th instant in the case in which Mr. Gymer, Manager of Messrs. Thacker & Company, was charged with selling objectionable literature at Bombay. The Magistrate held several of the works to be obscene, and fined the accused Rs. 500.

PROFESSOR RAMSEY communicated to the French Academy of Sciences the discovery of another new gas, which he calls Crypton. It belongs to the Helium family, and its density is somewhat greater than oxygen.

THE post of Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Police, Bombay, lately vacated by Mr. Beatty, has been given to Superintendent Harry Brewin. Mr. Brewin joins his new appointment at once.

TWO brass memorial tablets to the memory of the late Mr. Rand and Lieutenant Ayerst have been erected in St. Mary's Church, the former by the members of his service, and the latter by the Commissariat Department.

THE Pioneer says:—The suggestion that the sentries at frontier station and Punjab cantonments, where rifle thefts take place, should be armed with double-barrelled guns instead of Lee-Metfords or Martins, seems likely to be carried out. The experiment may possibly be tried at selected stations.

A GERMAN medical man has discovered a material, capable of converting sea water into drinking water. An apparatus for a large ship costs only £50, while the price of the material is remarkably cheap. The Hamburg Nautical Society reports favorably of the invention.

THE programme of the tour of the Lieutenant-Governor of N. W. P. during July is now settled. His Honour will leave Naini Tal on Tuesday, the 5th July, and visit Lucknow from the 6th to 9th, Benares from the 10th to 13th, Chunar on the 14th, Allahabad from the 15th to 19th, Agra on the 20th and 21st, Aligarh from the 22nd to 24th, and Bareilly on the 25th and 26th; returning to Naini Tal on the 27th.

THERE was a collision on Monday before last at Gilwala Railway Station, some twenty-five miles from Mooltan Cantonment on the Karachi line, between a goods train and a shunting engine, resulting in the death of two coolies, engaged in pushing the truck and slight injuries to the drivers of both the waiting and incoming trains. Police and Railway enquiries are being made to determine through whose negligence the collision occurred.

TWO sailing ships, which since arrived at Muscat port having experienced a cyclone on 2nd June when about 200 miles distant from Socotra. They both were in great danger of foundering. Both were obliged to jettison some of their cargo. The Leader, a one-time famous old clipper now owned by Said Yusuf of Muscat, bound from Calcutta to this port with rice, was compelled to throw overboard 1,000 bags of rice.

A CURIOUS discovery, says the National Review, has been made by a Chicago newspaper, and is worthy of attention. In Kansas City an officer of the jail has reported that nine out of ten coloured persons committed to that institution can read and write, while only eight or ten white people are able to do so. There is no good reason why the proportion of illiteracy should be different in Kansas City than in any other northern city, and we are, therefore, confronted with the remarkable spectacle of the black race being better educated in the rudiments than the white, and if this exists among the criminal classes, it should hold good in circles where the officer of the law is not a terror. Reports from Chicago and elsewhere show that it is easier to keep coloured boys in the public school than it is white, who lose no opportunity to play truant. The efforts made by the coloured people to secure a good education for their children, and the readiness with which they acquired knowledge, are striking indications of the future of the race if intelligently directed. The Indian, who is always a savage, has been petted and sentimentalized, and an effort made to gloss him over with the veneer of civilization which scratches off. The coloured man has been left pretty well to shift for himself, and has worked out his own salvation.—I. D. News.

THE district of Meerut is to be congratulated upon being freed of the gang of thirty desperate dacoits who were sentenced to transportation for life on the 17th by Justices Blair and Burditt of the High Court. This reckless gang, growing from two unarmed men to a band of nearly fifty desperadoes armed with guns, pistols, daggers and lathis, had been dacoiting from 1895 up to the present time in the district of Meerut and the adjoining portions of Delhi, Muzaffarnagar and Bijnour Districts, also committing serious dacoities at Bharbaral, Bhaljan, Umri, Faridnagar, Ganaor and the surrounding neighbourhood, under a skilful leader an old Bengal Sapper, named Umar Ali—a native of Roorki—who appears to be a man of considerable abilities; evidently a born leader, a skilful organiser; and absolutely without scruple, the sufficient proof to which fact is the story of his injuring one of the band and then ordering his murder in cold blood. The police are stated to have been virtually if not overtly in their pay, and "false charges," says the Pioneer, "were easily trumped up against them," were easily hoped to secure immunity for the real culprits." However, as a result of the untiring efforts of Mr. Sands, the Police Officer, the majority of the gang were captured and Meerut was saved from these most dangerous pests. The evidence of the case was very voluminous, the record overing 148 printed pages.

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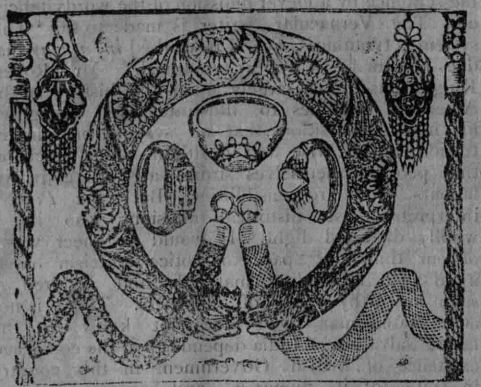
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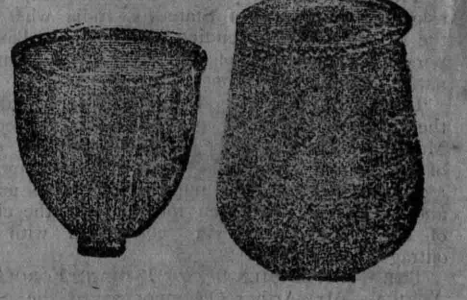
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