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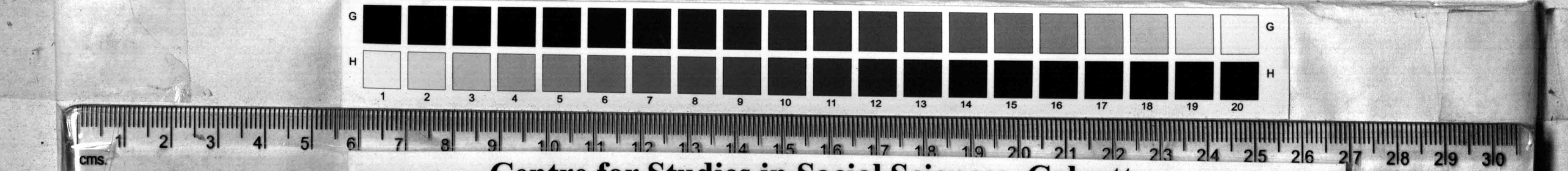
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THE CRISIS IN THE FAR EAST. RUSSIA AND CHINA. ODESSA, July 15 (Daily News).—Through official channels there comes from St. Petersburg a rumour of some impending further Russian expansion in China. There is nothing of a definite shape of form in the report, and yet it appears to find acceptance in official circles, as shadowing a coming event. It may be, of course, that this rumour has been created by the threat of the Russian Government to seize the Kuldja. In many well-informed quarters, however, it is believed that Russia is meditating another territorial coup de main in China, independent of the contention with regard to the northern extension railway. PEKIN, July 18 (Reuter).—M. Pavloff, the Russian Charge d'Affaires, has assented to the loan arranged with the Hong-Kong and Shanghai Bank for the extension of the Tien-tsin-Shan-hai-kwan Railway upon the following conditions:—The Chinese Government shall promise—(1) To give no mortgage upon the road-bed of the line. (2) Never to alienate the rail-road to any foreign Power; and (3) That Hu, the Director of Railways, shall receive the permanent appointment of Director-General. PEKIN, July 19 (Reuter).—Russian action here lately, whether authorised from St. Petersburg or due to M. Pavloff's desire to obtain the credit of negotiating every difficulty before the arrival of the new Russian Minister, M. de Giers, is beginning to irritate the Chinese considerably. The last Russian demand for the appointment of Russian instructors for the Chinese Navy goes beyond the bounds of Chinese complaisance, even as shown in the matter of Port Arthur. The Chinese are thoroughly aware that Russia's designs are unfriendly. Japan has been encouraging China with hopes of an offensive and defensive alliance, but she has insisted, as a preliminary, on China's possessing a navy. The Chinese officials generally regard the establishment of a naval force as the first step towards realising the hope of safeguarding the integrity of the Chinese empire, and are willing and anxious to entrust the training of the navy to British officers, recognising that Great Britain is not desirous of breaking up the empire. Now, however, M. Pavloff's demand again destroys their hopes and induces a feeling of despair. The personal brusqueness of M. Pavloff is much commented upon. The other day, while discussing a small matter he suddenly rose in the midst of the conversation and threatened to leave Pekin immediately unless the point in question were conceded. PARIS, July 18 (Reuter).—The Temps, in an article on the situation in China, says that Great Britain should not be surprised at the vigilance with which the Quai d'Orsay watches the progress of affairs in Kwang-si or protest against the measures of precaution which French diplomacy considers itself bound to advise at Pekin, or which the Governor-General of Indo China has to take at the gates of Tonquin. "We note with regret," continues the article, "a certain susceptibility which tends to become apparent across the Channel. It must be admitted, in all justice, that there is something natural and legitimate in the dissatisfaction with which British public opinion sees the unrolling of the first phase of the disintegration of China. In spite of the optimism of Lord Salisbury, and the sympathies inspired by his policy, it would be puerile and dishonest to pretend that success has hitherto crowned the efforts of the Chatelain of Hatfield." THE REVOLT IN CHINA. A Reuter telegram from Hong-Kong, dated July 14, says:—The defeat of the Imperial troops by the Chinese rebels is confirmed. One thousand bodies have been taken from the river and buried at Wu-chau. It is probable that the Imperial losses are greater than at first stated. It is reported at Canton that Dr. Sunyat Sen, whose detention at the Chinese Legation in London attracted much attention some time ago, is one of the prominent leaders of the rebellion. The rebels are said to have decided not to advance further than Shushing above Shamshui owing to the probability of foreign complications should Canton be attacked. This latter report is, however, regarded with suspicion in Canton, as there is much sympathy with the rebels there. HONG-KONG, July 16 (Reuter).—A despatch from Canton states that leading members of the New China Party are assembling from all parts of the world with the object of aiding the rebellion in the Kwang provinces. It is reported that a new Government, consisting of Chinese, imbued with Western ideas, is to be constituted for which the support of Great Britain and Japan is alleged to have been obtained. ST. PETERSBURG, July 17 (Reuter).—Intelligence has been received here that a fresh insurrection has broken out among the Salar Dungan inhabitants of the Chinese province of Kansu, especially in the district of Si-ning-fu, owing to the dissatisfaction caused by recent taxes. JAPAN AND COREA. YOKOHAMA, July 11 (Reuter).—Another plot against the Government has been discovered at Seoul. Several prominent officials have been arrested, and a number of others, including a former Minister of War, have fled. YOKOHAMA, July 14 (Reuter).—The Marquis Ito intends to visit China. He will meet Li Hung Chang. Affairs are still unsettled in Seoul. A memorial has been presented to the King, requesting him to abdicate. YOKOHAMA, July 18 (Reuter).—The immoderate language of the memorials addressed to the Emperor of Corea, urging him to resign, and of the public speeches by members of the Political Club of Seoul, have greatly angered his Majesty. Arrests continue to be effected. Changes are still being made in the Cabinet. Baron Sonoda, Chief of the Tokio police, has been dismissed on account of a speech which he made to his inferior officers, inciting them to engage in politics with a view to the formation of an Opposition Party. YOKOHAMA, July 19 (Reuter).—It is reported from Seoul that the American Minister to Corea has concluded an agreement with the Korean Ministry for the engagement of American experts to survey the country with a view to building roads, bridges, and other works. The Japanese Government has notified the Powers that the new codes have come into operation as follows:—the Commercial Code on July 1, and the Civil Code on July 16.

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THE Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, AUGUST 11, 1898.

WHY L. G. WAS PESTERED FOR MONEY.

DURING his recent tour Sir John Woodburn was warmly welcomed everywhere; but, at the same time, people wanted some pecuniary help from his Government for various works of public utility.

It has become a part and parcel of the policy of the Government to throw almost all its burdens upon the Road Cess Fund, which is in the hands of the District Boards.

The above pledge was coupled with another by the Secretary of State in 1871. It was clearly laid down in the Duke's Despatch that only village roads, village tanks, village wells and such other works of public utility as were of palpable, direct and immediate benefit to the villagers were properly the objects of the Road-cess.

All ambiguity about the matter was, however, removed by the Proclamation of Sir George Campbell. Amongst other things the last document solemnly proposed that (1) every pice of the cess money would be spent in the district in which it is raised;

The above makes it quite clear that the Government has no right to devote the proceeds of the Cess Fund to the feeding of the famished or the construction and maintenance of other than village roads and local paths, or the meeting of the charges, connected with earthquake and plague.

In the Proclamation of Sir George Campbell, it is further provided that the cess money would be distributed and spent by local men, trusted by the inhabitants, who would be selected or elected for the purpose.

Unfortunately the Government has not only taken the sole possession of the fund, but is utilising it for diverse imperial purposes, to its uttermost capacity.

We have been protesting, till our voice has become hoarse, against these encroachments upon a fund which belongs to the people; both morally and legally.

Cess Fund for the purposes of imperial roads, famine, plague and so forth, on moral grounds. And when there is a conflict between legal and moral claims, we think, the Government, which is based upon moral principles and ought to be above all reproach, should give up the former and stick to the latter.

Viewed from the above point of view, the Cess Fund should be relieved of its illegitimate burdens and set free, to do the works for which it was created.

The rumour is strong in the town that Sir A. Mackenzie actually pesters Sir J. Woodburn every week, urging the latter to hurry through the Municipal Bill.

You will thus see that I predicted the outbreak of plague in Calcutta. I said in one of my speeches that people would appreciate the excellence of my Municipal measure when the town was visited by plague.

The correspondent does not state how he got hold of such a letter which, if it is real, must be a private one. From internal evidence it would seem, however, that the alleged letter is a hoax.

Our readers know that we had something to say in regard to the attitude of the Morning Post towards the Barrackpore murder case; and the following is our contemporary's elegant reply.

The difficulty we are confronted with in conducting a controversy with the native press, is the absolute indifference to truth and doubly-distilled mendacity with which we have to deal.

The Swede, or Austrian then made a bold bid to escape by plunging into the river. But his pursuers were remorseless. They also entered the water with sticks, stones and bricks, and they pelted their victim till he sank, whilst the crew of a native-manned launch, that might have easily effected a rescue, looked on complacently grinning.

The Post now advertises for a "Dog Story," but what of the "Babu Story"? We would be glad to be assured that the idea has been given up.

deceased Dr. Suresh Chandra has left behind him, have the first claim upon those, from whom Capital would raise the subscription.

We take the following paragraph from the Behar Herald:

It was stated in the Behar Herald of July 16 last, that Mr. Braidwood, Manager of Lachimpore Estate, had applied to the Commissioner of Bhagalpore to take the Estate under the Court of Wards, alleging that the Kumar was interfering with his management and that the Rani was utterly neglecting the Kumar's education.

The big estates in Behar supplied the educated people of the country with some appointments, and thus neutralized, to some extent, the injustice, caused by the ostracism of the natives of the soil from all responsible and lucrative Government posts.

HONORARY MAGISTRATES are resigning in shoals and the Government is accepting their resignations, as a matter of course. Do you know who these Honorary Magistrates are? They are all independent men, belonging to the legal profession.

These are two classes of Honorary Magistrates,—independent and ap-ke-waste. These ap-ke-wastes are objects of dread to the public; for, their only occupation is to carry belshes, and, as a rule, convict people.

The brutality, committed at Barrackpore, was almost eclipsed at Meerut by Whelan, who bayoneted an innocent punkha coolie to death. It has been proved in a law-court that Whelan was insane at the time he committed the murder.

The Morning Post has no right to be so emphatic; for, there are two Britishers at least, who consider that the sentence was a merciful one, viz., the Chief Justice and the Pioneer. The military officer, alluded to above, has, in a private letter, given us his fullest permission to give his name; but we have no desire to take advantage of his generous permission.

The police must now take up the case so that there may be a strict magisterial enquiry into the truth of this story. The military authorities must also ascertain why Private Knight, who was simply proceeding from the Depot to rejoin his regiment, was in possession of two packets of ball ammunition; and, further, how it was that two rounds were deficient, as discovered, on examination at Avadi, by Sergeant Marks, when only one had been fired off. The ver-

dict of the jury at the inquest is, no doubt, a fair one on the evidence adduced, but the inquest is only preliminary to a much more serious investigation.

That the native Indian press has no prejudice in reference to such cases is evident from the fact that the Madras Standard, when it first noticed the incident accepted the theory of accident without reserve.

When we last wrote on this unfortunate incident, we were prepared to believe that the death of the boy Chinnamasi was quite accidental; but since, perusing the whole of the evidence adduced at the inquest, we are sorry to say that, to our mind, the facts elicited present a more serious aspect.

The meagre report, given by the Pioneer in regard to the Whelan case, leads inevitably to the suspicion that there has been a failure of justice in the case. There must be some favourable points, justifying the verdict of acquittal, which are as yet unknown to the public.

We were mistaken; the Morning Post has given its Babu stories. We shall utilize them, if possible. Here is another elegant paragraph from the same paper:

The Amrita Bazar Patrika publishes a letter which, it alleges, is written by an English military officer, approving the verdict in the Barrackpore case, and declaring that in any other part of the world but India the three Artillerymen would have been hanged.

The Morning Post has no right to be so emphatic; for, there are two Britishers at least, who consider that the sentence was a merciful one, viz., the Chief Justice and the Pioneer. The military officer, alluded to above, has, in a private letter, given us his fullest permission to give his name; but we have no desire to take advantage of his generous permission.

Sir,—Under the heading "Name," the Morning Post, of the 20th ultimo, requests you to give the name of the old soldier who approved of the verdict in the Barrackpore case; otherwise the writer of the letter in question may be considered an imagination of your own brain.

SOMETIME ago Babu Profulla Chander Bannerjee was appointed to officiate as Deputy Post Master General of Dacca. He was, however, relieved after a few months and sent back to his substantive post of Postal Superintendent. He has been again appointed Deputy Post Master General of the Behar Circle; but, this time, for one-and-half month only.

turn of mind, and need not go further than substantiate my assertion by corroborative evidence. Some years ago when I was stationed in Ceylon, two men of the 2nd Battalion, of the 25th Regiment, named Gribble and Conner, were each sentenced to ten years' imprisonment for an assault upon a French ship's officer under similar circumstances to those which occurred at Barrackpore.

Perhaps according to some, there is one weak point in the letter of our correspondent. It is one thing to commit a murderous assault upon a Frenchman and another thing to do it on a native of India.

"How many times will you slay the same fowl?" is the favourite expression of one of our leading Zemindars, whose purse is supposed to be long and is the object of invasion of many, official and non-official. The District Boards have been slain over and over again, and they cannot be slain over again.

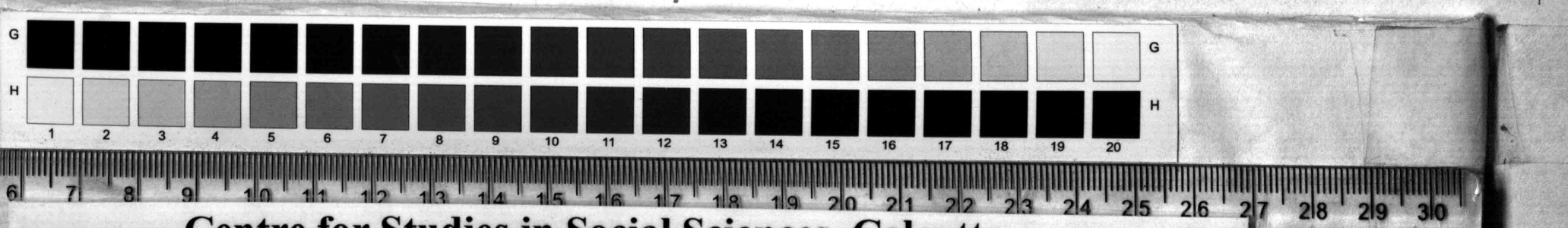
Of course, when the District Magistrate opens a subscription list, a Zemindar has no option but to contribute to it; but he does it, as a rule, by adding to his standing debt. We hope to publish some cases to show how Zemindars have suffered by refusing to pay subscriptions to Magistrates.

The good Zemindars do not often get even bare justice at the hands of the local officials. Rai Joteendra Nath made such noble sacrifices for his ryots; but Mr. Westmacott had not even a word of thanks for him in his report!

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rities have clean forgotten the fact that, the high, higher and the highest appointments in the Post Office were reserved exclusively for the pure natives of the soil.

A CONFERENCE was held last Saturday for the purpose of organizing an Association, to be called "Gauranga Samaj," for the spread of Vaisnavism and a feeling of brotherhood among men.

THE Paridarsak of Sylhet has brought to light some startling facts regarding the present condition of the Manipur Raj family, who are now living as State prisoners there.

THE Raja of Jhind, who has been staying at Simla with his tutor, Captain Bradshaw, has applied to the Government of India for permission to visit England next spring.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing to the Sanjibani from Habiganj, says that a case is pending against the Cachar-Goalundo Steamer Company for having severely assaulted a passenger named Babu Rajani Kant Dey.

AN enterprising old soldier, named White, came to Rangoon and opened a large shop in Fytche Square as T. Richard and Co., Civil and Military Tailors, etc.

A MISSIONARY case has cropped up at Negapatam, in which the wife of the Revd. A. A. Thomas, of the local Wesleyan Mission, stands charged with kidnaping a Hindu woman of respectability.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

LORD GAURANGA,

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SNAKES, SNAKE-BITES

AND Their Treatments. PRICE—12 ANNAS. To be had at the "Patrika" Office, Calcutta.

BAROMETRIC DEPRESSION.—A small depression formed off Saugor on Sunday morning, and a cautionary signal was hoisted at all river ports.

VACATION JUDGES.—It is very likely that Mr. Justice Ameer Ali and Mr. Justice Pratt will be the Vacation Judges this year.

THE FINANCIAL PORTFOLIO.—It is rumoured in Simla that Mr. Babington Smith, the Viceroy's Private Secretary, will succeed Sir James Westland as Financial Member.

SHIKAR.—[By telegram.] A big leopard, which was committing a general havoc on cattle and poultry for some time past, and was the terror to the people of Naggaon, very close to Bogra town, has at last been killed by Nowab Syed Abdus Sobhan Choudhury Saheb of Bogra.

SIR JAMES WESTLAND.—The following official Press Note has been issued: Sir James Westland's tenure of the Finance Membership would, in the ordinary course, terminate in November, but at the request of the Secretary of State, he will remain in his present post until the end of March next.

THE PEACOCK IN SANTIAGO.—In Santiago the peacock is regarded with religious awe and veneration. When his sharp, discordant cry is heard evil and danger are expected; when his tail is spread glittering in the sunshine good fortune is anticipated. The Santiago swain pays court to his innamorata with a peacock's feather in his hand, while she veils her blushes behind a peacock fan.

CROP AND WEATHER.—There was general rain during the week ending 8th August, though not in all cases sufficient. More rain is still required in the following districts for the transplantation of the winter rice seedlings: Bankura, Midnapore, Hooghly, Howrah, Diamond Harbour, Jalpaiguri, Mysnensing, Shahabad, Saran, Champaran, Bhagalpore, Purnea, Santhal Pergunnahs, Cuttack, Balasore, Angul, and Hazaribagh.

"EDIBLE BIRD'S NEST."—One of the leading articles of commerce, in addition to burlars, forgers, murder-merchants, etc., which is to be met with in that flourishing penal settlement known as the Andaman Islands, is the "edible bird's nest." The epithet, we believe, refers to the word nest, and not to the bird, for we do not wish to aver that there is anything particularly novel about an edible bird, whether he has a nest, or whether he merely roosts on a tree or a rail. It is apparently, a most lucrative industry, and is carried on by a staff of Andamanese of the type familiar to those who occasionally are brought up by Mr. Portman, whose fame in the islands is as great as ever was that of Pharaoh or Neuchadrezzar, in their own particular parts of the world. There are degrees in "edible bird's nests" just as there are in eggs—new-laid, fresh and just simple eggs—and they divide them into 1st-class nests, value Rs. 120 per viss—a measurement equivalent to about 3 lbs. 2oz.; 2nd-class nests, value Rs. 85 per viss; and "refuse" value Rs. 6 per viss. It is apparently a very tangible source of income, for the officer in charge of the department in making his report for the season, says:—"There has been nothing special to report regarding it. The first and second collections were small and dry—but the general loss, which would have occurred on these, was balanced by the exceptional excellence of the third collection. The birds have been allowed plenty of time to breed and get away before the south-west monsoon breaks, and conduct of the collections has been, on the whole, satisfactory, though, I have been informed, that a certain amount of theft and smuggling still goes on. The police have been warned regarding this, and the details communicated to them."—Indian Daily News.

HIGH COURT VACATION.—The long vacation of the High Court commences from 10th September and continues till 20th November, both days inclusive.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.—The next Criminal Sessions of the High Court will be held on the 17th of this month and will be presided over by Mr. Justice Jenkins. Up to yesterday there were three cases on the calendar, one of murder and two petty cases.

ATTORNEYS' EXAMINATION.—The next examination of candidates for admission as attorneys of the High Court will be held on Monday next and the following days. There are seven candidates for the final examination and eight candidates for the intermediate examination.

GHATAL PLAGUE RIOT CASE.—The trial of the Ghatal plague hospital riot case, has been going on for several days past, in the Court of Mr. A. C. Mackerrich, Senior Deputy Magistrate of Midnapore, to whose file it has been specially transferred from that of the Sub-divisional Magistrate of Ghatal, on the motion of the accused. The defence is conducted by Mr. Barrow, of the Calcutta bar, with Mr. Manuel, of the Police Court, Calcutta. The prosecution has Mr. K. B. Dutt, barrister-at-law, with Baboo Jogendra Nath Halder, additional Government Pleader, the Senior Government Pleader, Baboo Bhuvan Chandra Banerjee, being engaged in the sessions.

PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

OFFICIAL REPORT. No seizures or deaths were reported on Friday, the 5th instant. There were five suspected cases on Saturday—two in Ward No. 7, one in each of the Wards 8 and 10, and the address of the remaining one is unknown. There were three deaths—two in Ward No. 7 and one in Ward No. 10. The total number of deaths in the city from all causes was 48.

THE CASE OF PUNTI.

The Indian Daily News publishes the letter over the signature of Dr. Hem Ch. Roy Chowdhury, Secretary, Vigilance Committee, Ward No. 11. In your to-day's issue you have reported a case of plague in St. James's Square. The history is as follows:—In 27 and 28 St. James's Square, a woman named Punt, aged 20, had been suffering from fever since Sunday last. The case was kept secret and no medical attendance was called. On Tuesday morning she became worse and was removed to the Medical College Hospital according to the desire of the sick. That very evening she died. Except high fever she had no other symptom. Can the hospital authorities inform the clinical differential diagnosis which led them to conclude that this was a case of plague, and to what variety does it belong? I am not prepared to admit any argumentum ad hominem. I have seen many cases of the so-called plague in Calcutta. In one, the District Medical Officer predicted the death of the sick within a short time, pronouncing that to be a puca case of plague. Change of treatment saved the man. Rapid death is not the symptom of plague.

ON Saturday there were one case and one death.

THERE was again an increase in the number of plague cases in Bombay on Saturday, the attacks numbering 31 and the deaths 16. There were five attacks and eight deaths on Sunday.

THE Gwalior Durbar is understood to have invited the Viceroy to pay a farewell visit.

MR. N. N. WADIA, C. L. E., who acted as a Trustee of the Port of Bombay during the absence of the late Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy from Bombay, will, it is said, be appointed to succeed the deceased Baronet in that office.

ANOTHER shooting case, hails from Karachi. Here are the particulars, as reported in an Anglo-Indian paper. Two young men, named Desmier, a son of a former Jai of Hyderabad, Sind, and Phillips, were out shooting. While they were getting into a hired dog-cart, Desmier's gun, which was loaded, went off, hitting the driver in the leg. The man was immediately removed to the Civil Hospital, and his leg amputated; but he succumbed shortly after under the operation. Desmier has been charged before Mr. Hoonahar, first-class Magistrate, with causing death by negligence. The hearing of the case was to have come off on Saturday.

MR. W. ATKINSON, manager of the Kalia-Chat Indigo concern, in Malda, was put on his trial on Wednesday before the District Magistrate, Mr. M. Yusuf, in a case under made under section 140, C. P. C. by Babu Ram Narain Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate, directing him to remove an obstruction from a public road. The accused, as a European, claimed to be tried by a jury, and a jury was empanelled, consisting of two European and one Indian gentleman. Mr. Atkinson was found guilty by the unanimous verdict of the jury. The Magistrate, agreeing in the verdict, sentenced the accused to a fine of Rs. 100. An appeal is shortly going to be preferred before the Sessions Judge of Rajshahi.

MR. CADDY sends up to Simla a number of exhibits. Among his pictures of Buddhist sites one claims more than passing attention. While he was in the Swat Valley, he excavated the site of an ancient stupa from which a large number of sculptures of the so-called Graeco-Sythian type were recovered, and which at the present moment Dr. Bloch is still arranging in the Imperial Museum. Among the statues was a heroic one of Buddha bearing the following inscription on its base: "The year 118 [396 A. D.] on the 27th day of Pothovadassa [August-September] of Buddhagoshia the gift." Mr. Caddy's painting represents this stupa in the Lorian tangi of the Swat Valley (the ancient Udiana) as it might have appeared on the occasion of the inauguration of this gift.

HIGH COURT, N. W. P.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

THE SAHARANPUR RAILWAY ASSAULT CASES.

IN the High Court on Thursday before Mr. Justice Blair and a jury, James Walter Davies was charged with attempted rape and assault upon Mrs. Victoria Grant on or about May 4th, in a train travelling between the stations of Najibabad and Nagina, on the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway. Mr. A. E. Ryves, Government Advocate, appeared to prosecute, and Mr. B. R. Bomonji defended the accused. Mr. Ryves, in opening the case, said the charges against the accused were attempted rape and what might be called indecent assault. The accused could not be found guilty of both offences, as the greater comprehended the less. The meaning of the section was that if they found the accused intended to commit the offence of rape in spite of the lady's resistance and did any act towards the commission of that offence, he was guilty of the major offence. The facts were very simple. The accused was a gunner at Roorkee, where his family resided. The lady in question also used to live at Roorkee and was on visiting terms with the accused's family. On May 4th last she was married to Mr. Grant, an Assistant Engineer in the Public Works Department. The accused was not present at the wedding, but his relations were and apparently the accused knew about it. The newly-married couple left for their honeymoon the same night by the down mail, which left Roorkee about 12-30, and it happened that Mr. Grant and her husband got into a first-class compartment reserved for ladies. The accused broke barracks that evening and went down to the station in time to catch the train. According to his own account he intended to travel to Lakhisar, his object being to walk along the foot-board to the carriage where Mr. and Mrs. Grant were to hear and see what they were saying and doing. He asserted that he stood outside the carriage with this object. At Lakhisar the guard informed Mr. Grant he must leave his wife's compartment, but he was allowed to continue in the carriage until the train reached Najibabad, more than an hour later, as there were no coolies at Lakhisar to remove the luggage. The accused apparently heard all this, for instead of returning to Roorkee from Lakhisar he continued in the train. After the train left Najibabad Mrs. Grant was alone in her carriage, and when the train was going at full speed the accused got out of his carriage, walked along the footboard to Mrs. Grant's carriage and got in there. The lady was asleep. She was awakened by a heavy hand on her mouth. She shrieked and the accused tried to gag her and assaulted her in a way which could only suggest his intention to commit the offence with which he was now charged, and Mrs. Grant's shrieks aroused a lady in the next carriage who leaned out and looked round into Mrs. Grant's carriage. The accused had taken off his coat and tied it round his head, having cut a slit for his eyes, with the obvious intention of preventing identification. The lady in the next carriage reached over and tried to pull the covering from the face of the accused, and the latter seeing farther attempts were useless, and to avoid the risk of immediate identification, rushed to the far side of the carriage and got out. Mrs. Grant was greatly terrified, and with the assistance of the lady in the next compartment she scrambled through the window into the other carriage. At Nagina a complaint was made and the train searched, but the accused was not found. It was abundantly evident that the accused knew a good deal about railway matters. He knew there would be a train waiting at Nagina, and he evidently got into that and returned to Roorkee. Mrs. Grant asserted that she recognised the accused by his figure and voice in the carriage, but she did not see his face. She did not at once mention the man's name to her husband, but later on did so. Mrs. Victoria Grant gave evidence supporting the Government Advocate's opening. After her cross-examination, Mr. Ryves did not call any more witnesses. He put in the statements made by the accused in the lower courts. In these accused said that on May 4th he travelled without a ticket in the same train as Mr. and Mrs. Grant from Roorkee. He travelled on the footboard of the compartment in which Mr. and Mrs. Grant were, and he heard the guard tell Mr. Grant he must leave that carriage. Subsequently he got into the carriage where Mrs. Grant was alone, and got hold of her hand. She started to scream and a lady in the next compartment came to her assistance, and he left the carriage. He was young in years, and did not know any better. In reply to the Court the accused said he knew Mrs. Grant before her marriage and the very often played tricks upon her, and on the night in question he thought he would go and play the same trick on her again. He had no intention to do anything except to frighten her. He had his head covered by his coat, and the first thing he touched was the lady's hand and he caught hold of it. The accused then made a further statement in which he said he did not attend Mrs. Grant's wedding though he was invited. He saw Mr. and Mrs. Grant in a first class carriage at Roorkee but did not speak to them because he was travelling without a ticket. He was going to meet a friend at Lakhisar, but did not meet him and as he had no money he continued on the train intending to take the up mail which waited for the down at Nagina Station. He had often frightened ladies by knocking at their bedroom and drawing-room doors at night. He had often done it to Miss Biggie, now Mrs. Grant, and to Miss Kitchen and Mrs. Curzon. He had frightened his mother and sisters in the same way. In entering Mrs. Grant's carriage he intended to do nothing except to frighten her. The accused proceeded to say that his statements came out through a conversation he had with a guard, who, professing to be his friend, asked him about this matter and promised to stand by him. Subsequently he found out that this guard had placed witnesses outside the door to hear what he said, and after he had made the statement the guard telegraphed to the police to come and arrest him. Mr. Bomonji said his case was that the prisoner was addicted to tricks of the most virulent character—tricks which were most cowardly and unworthy of a soldier, but which were nevertheless only tricks. His contention

was that it was only one of these tricks which he intended to play on Mrs. Grant.

Miss Florence Kitchen and Miss Millie Davies, sister of the accused, gave evidence that the accused were known to play tricks by knocking at ladies' door. Colonel Owen said that the accused bore a high moral character. Mr. Bomonji for the defence claimed a verdict of not guilty with the utmost confidence. In the commission of any crime he said there must be the three stages—intention, preparation and attempt. Even if the intention and the preparation of a crime could be proved that was not sufficient unless there was an actual attempt to carry it out. It could not be suggested that when the accused started on this journey he had made up his mind to commit this heinous offence. The facility with which he had travelled without a ticket previously tempted him to do so this evening in order to meet his friend at Lakhisar, and not meeting him, he was tempted to travel further in order to catch the return mail train. Hearing the conversation at Lakhisar he thought he would like to frighten this girl friend of his, and he got into her carriage where she was asleep and took hold of her hand and covered her mouth with his hand. The youth's story, and the facts he admitted were entirely consistent with an attempt to frighten the young lady, but he contended they would not support the more serious charge now brought against him. He had borne a good character, right up to the time of his arrest, and it was only as the result of a story (entirely consistent with what he had now said in court,) told as the youth believed in confidence to a friend that any evidence whatever was found against him. Had they any right to go beyond that story and assume this mere boy had any other intention than to frighten an acquaintance—a cowardly form of practical joke to which it had been proved he was much addicted. Mr. Bomonji urged the jury to regard the case from a merciful point of view; his client was but a youth, and if found guilty of the graver offence and sentenced to a long term of imprisonment he would inevitably be ruined.

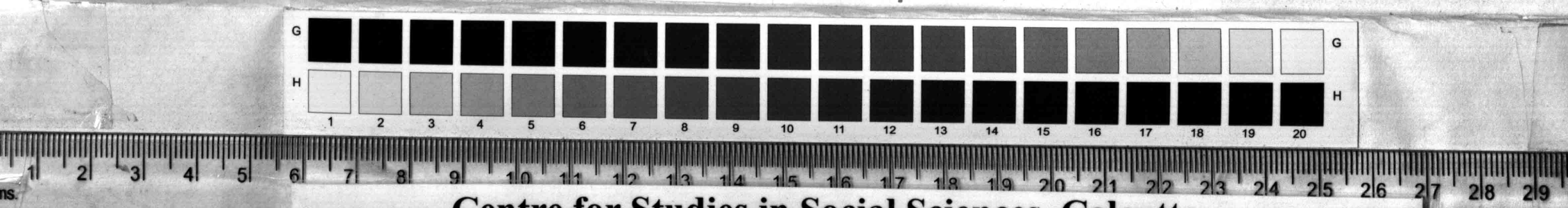
Mr. Ryves having briefly replied, Mr. Justice Blair summed up. He said all the jury had to consider was whether Mrs. Grant's story was to be believed. He recapitulated that story, and asked what possible object other than the commission of the offence with which he was charged could the accused have had in acting as he did? If they believed the lady's story there was direct evidence of the commission of an offence which came under the Sections 507 and 376. Mrs. Grant had shown some of that courage which men were always glad to find women possessed in defence of their honour. She undertook the perilous task of getting through the window into the next carriage. A very slight slip might have cost her life, and they must consider that the accused in entering her carriage recognised the possibility of such an occurrence and was prepared to take all risks in order to accomplish his object.

The jury after a short deliberation returned a verdict of guilty of attempted rape.

Mr. Ryves asked his lordship in the public interest to pass a sentence which would act as a deterrent to others. Mr. Justice Blair addressing the accused said James Walter Davies, you are a young man on the threshold of life, you have commenced with the advantages of a respectable family of a decent education and of an honourable profession, and you stand now convicted of one of the most dastardly offences of which any human being can be guilty. You went out like a ravening beast to prey upon these decent, these chaste, these unprotected women. Little recked you of your own life when you travelled on moving trains upon the footboard, and little cared you whether the lives of your victims were sacrificed or not so long as you thought there was a chance that you might consummate the satisfaction of your passions. I have not the faintest doubt that you left your home to follow these young people knowing it was at least possible Mr. Grant might be compelled to leave his wife alone. You had seen this girl, you had been attracted by her good looks, and you had conceived for her an unholy passion which you resolved to gratify on this the last opportunity you would have. I do not believe that in the case of which you were convicted yesterday your intentions were one particle less evil, but they were fortunately for you and still more fortunately for that young lady frustrated by her courage and promptitude. Now I have to punish you and I feel most deeply the duty that lies upon me of rendering the travailing of unprotected females in this country safe from cowardly ruffians, like you. If it were not for your age I could not do less than inflict upon you the heaviest penalty which the law allows. You are but 19 years of age, and for that reason I shall take something from the severity of the sentence which I should have passed had you been a man of mature years. My sentence is that you be sent into penal servitude for seven years; that sentence to take effect after the conclusion of the sentence you are now serving.—Pioneer.

THE Rangoon correspondent of the T. D. News telegraphs under date 9th instant. It is reported in well-informed circles in China that France is making extensive territorial claims in Szechuen, presumably in connection with the recent outrages on French Missions taken in conjunction with the recent activity of various French scientific, commercial and political Missions at the headwaters of the Yangtze. This news is curious. Evidently the French idea is to thwart British projects of the backroad to India by getting between Burma and the interior of China.

REGARDING the Hooley Floation case, the Pioneer's London correspondent wires:—A journeyman bootmaker, a shareholder in the London Universal Bank, has sued Messrs. Cochrane, the promoters, for fraud and misrepresentation. The directors qualified by the defendants were the Marquis of Exeter (who received £200 to join the board), General Sir John Campbell, and Lords George Loftus and Brownlow Cecil. The defendant accepted judgment for £2,700. The Chief Justice regretted that the filled directors were not before the court. Earl De La Warr admits receiving from Mr. Hooley £23,000 as a voluntary gift for services rendered. He now offers to refund the money.



THE AFFAIR IN JUBALAND.

(Pioneer.)

The following further particulars of the recent affair in Jubaland are interesting. Major Quinton had issued the strictest orders to the troops, when reconnoitring that they should always march with fixed bayonets, while each man also carried two cartridges in his hand, so as to be able to load his rifle on the shortest notice. His directions for fighting, when the enemy were sighted, were also admirably adapted for local jungle conditions. The men were directed always to watch both flanks, the files facing to the right and left respectively so as to guard against sudden attacks from either side. Jemadar Radha Sing, who commanded the reconnoitring party on June 22nd, seems to have neglected to follow out these orders. The result was that the enemy caught his party quite unprepared. Many sepoy were speared before they could fire a shot or fix bayonets. They were nearly all Sikhs, and after the first surprise, the survivors rallied in small knots, and their fire at once checked the Ogadens; but over twenty men had then been killed. The affair took place in the early morning, only some two miles from the Halised post. Captain Tanner heard the firing and sent out 25 men under a native officer, who met four sepoy retreating, who told the tale of the ambush. Then fifty more men were hurried out, Surgeon-Captain Kilkelly accompanying them. On arrival at the spot where the fighting had taken place, 26 bodies were found, but the enemy had then cleared off. From the story told by the survivors, it would seem that the Ogadens so cunningly contrived their ambush that they cut off the advance and rearguard from the main body, on which they directed their principal attack. They are said to have numbered 400, but there were several hundred more near at hand in the jungle. The sepoy who most distinguished himself was Private Bhooto Singh. Though wounded in two places, he rallied three men about him, and coolly retired facing the enemy and checking them by rapid fire. He also brought away a wounded comrade, though the latter asked to be left to his fate. For his gallant Captain Tanner promoted Bhooto Singh to be naik on the spot, and intends recommending him for the order of Merit. Out of 31 men killed and wounded 28 were Sikhs, two Rajputs, and one a bugler enlisted in the Bombay Presidency. Jemadar Radha Sing was a Sikh, and had shown himself a good native officer, but he lacked experience in jungle fighting. The Halised camp, we may add, is 36 miles from Kisimayu, the coast port from which communication is kept up by sea with Mombassa. Major Quentin has 100 Soudanese with him in addition to the wing of the 4th Bombay Rifles, and 128 men of the 27th Baluchis. We may have to wait another fortnight or so before further news is received. No anxiety is felt regarding the troops in Jubaland, as the stockaded camps which they hold are well placed for defensive purposes, and can be easily held by their garrisons. The Ogadens are mostly armed with spears, and rely mostly upon ambuscading small parties in dense jungle.

In a recent encounter in the Nasick district of Bombay the police shot down eighteen armed dacoits, and themselves lost three killed and several wounded.

The Civil and Military Gazette published some statements in regard to the Bangala riot case, to which Col. Rennick, Deputy Commissioner of Jullundur district, took exception; and he wrote a letter to the Gazette, contradicting them. In reply, the Gazette says that it drew its information from the report of Mr. Silcock, Commissioner of the Jullundur Division. So we are presented here with the unique spectacle of the statements of two high officials, contradicting one another. In the letter of Mr. Rennick, there is a statement worthy of note, showing conclusively what a miracle a "point" of conciliation and kindness can effect. "In the course of the day the District Superintendent of Police had informed me that large numbers had assembled from the neighbouring villages to oppose my visit to the village in the evening; but as I knew the feelings of the people better, I would not have any police force to accompany me, knowing that trust and friendliness would go further with these men than armed force." All those identified by officers and constables, were made to fall in by me, and I made them over to the District Superintendent of Police to march them in to Nawanshahar to be chaced. Thus Mr. Rennick managed to command the confidence of the people, and his presence had a magical effect upon the mob. Everything went on smoothly without the least resistance.

A CORRESPONDENT writes from Kushtia, under date the 6th: From the telegram published in your issue of the 3rd instant, you could ascertain something about the enquiries made by the District Judge on Monday last, the 1st instant. The pleaders established most of the charges against both the Munsifs, whose conduct towards the bar and to the public was condemned by the Judge before all gentlemen present. Everybody had access within the court rooms where the enquiries were held. Among other things, the Judge passed some orders. Heretofore the practice was (at the instance of the two present Munsifs) not to allow a single individual within the court rooms except the parties called and the pleaders engaged. To this, the Judge's order runs as follows: "So long as there shall be space within the court rooms, both the public and the pleaders shall have free access." The Munsifs fixed fifteen minutes for filing petitions. The Judge fixed nearly half an hour for the same. Potty faults, such as chewing betels and dozing a little in the chairs, on the part of pleaders, used to be taken serious notice of by the Munsifs. The Judge instructed the Munsifs to overlook them. As a general instruction the Judge advised both the Munsifs to treat the pleaders and the public with politeness and courtesy. The Munsifs were forbidden to use any abusive language to anybody. If the conduct of anybody merited censure he should be reported against—this was the Judge's advice. The First Munsif was particularly asked to drop the six proceedings against six of the pleaders under the Legal Practitioners Act.

Law Intelligence.

HIGH COURT: CRIMINAL BENCH.

—AUGUST 10. (Before Justices O'Keefe and Henderson).

THE SEWAN CASE.

JUDGMENT.

The following is the full text of the judgment of the High Court in the case of Empress vs. Jeobadnan Kurmi and Sesharan Kurmi, the servants of Babus Ratneswari Pershad and Brijnandan Pershad, who appealed from the decision of the Sessions Judge of Saran. This is an appeal from a decision of the Sessions Judge of Saran, who, disagreeing with the assessors, has convicted the appellants of rioting and causing grievous hurt to one Saijiwan Lal while they were members of an unlawful assembly, and sentencing each of them to five years' rigorous imprisonment. It appears that on the 9th December last, Saijiwan Lal and Hira Lal his son were in the Khaliwan. In one of the small houses in the Khaliwan was the Mohant Ram Pertap Das. Apparently he was a creditor of Saijiwan Lal, and he had gone there to get corn for the amount which Saijiwan owed him. There is no doubt that about 9 or 10 o'clock that night, a number of persons attacked Saijiwan Lal in the Khaliwan and caused grievous hurt to him; they also took away his paddy, and the question we have to decide on this record is, it is proved that the appellants belonged to that party. Hira Lal, was hardly beaten at all. He stood up to fight and then ran away. The brother of Saijiwan Lal is said to have been there that night, and he gives details in regard to the occurrence. He does not, however, account for his having remained there that night, and the Mohant did not see him till the next morning. Huloo, the servant of the Mohant, who is said to have gone to the Khaliwan, states that he heard the names of the persons that night. So that we find that the case depends upon the statement of Hira Lal and what was stated by Saijiwan Lal to different persons on that night and the next morning, and the statement made by him on the 14th, that is, five days after the event. The Mohant, who was there the whole night, and who went and saw Saijiwan, makes no mention whatever of any conversation that he had with Saijiwan, nor that he heard any person named. On the following day Kali Churn went to the police, and, owing to certain circumstances which it is not necessary to refer to now, his complaint apparently was not taken. The next morning Saijiwan was taken to the Magistrate, and on that day a petition was made in Court purporting to give a detailed account of what had happened on that night. That petition contains a statement very general in its form, gives no details of what was afterwards proved or attempted to be proved, and gives no list of names; it thus left the complaint in the widest form possible. We have asked why it was that the Mohant who was there during the whole night, and who obviously, if any conversation took place or if any person spoke, must have known it, was not examined on this point. The answer given is that it seems to be a mistake just as there was a mistake in drawing up the first information. If we had thought so, we should send down to the Lower Court to have the Mohant examined. But we notice that in every particular point regarding the conversation the other witnesses are examined in detail and the prosecution knew that it was a material part of the case. We are disposed to think that the case as first brought, gradually developed and enlarged, and that the evidence for the prosecution as to what happened that night and the conversation which took place is not worthy of credit. We agree with the assessors and disagree with the Sessions Judge in the view taken by him. We, therefore, set aside the conviction and sentence entered up by the Judge, and direct that the appellants be released.

A DISPUTE WITH FACTORY PEOPLE.

MR. JACKSON with Babu Joy Gopal Ghose moved on behalf of Bhup Narain Sing and two others who were convicted by the Deputy Magistrate of Bhagulpore under sections 143 and 379 I. P. C., and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment and fine. The conviction was affirmed on appeal by the Sessions Judge. The facts of the case were shortly these: The accused are servants of the Amapore zemindars, and the complainant is a servant of the Colgong factory which had taken a lease of the contiguous zemindari Budhu Chuk. Both the places are subject to the action of the river Ganges. The dispute in the case was in connection with some churlands. The case for the prosecution was that the accused with a mob of about five hundred men armed with various sorts of weapons and with an elephant came and looted away the crops grown and cut by the factory servants and the tenants of the factory. It was also said that the accused demolished a cutchery house and removed all signs of it. The information of the occurrence was given to the police who investigated the matter and found the case to be false. Thereupon complainant lodged a complaint before the Deputy Magistrate who ordered the police to enquire and report. The police after an investigation sent up a C. Form report, stating the case to be false. Thereupon the complainant requested the Deputy Magistrate to hold a local inquiry himself. Accordingly the Court held such local enquiry and ordered the police to send up an A. Form against the petitioners. The Magistrate during the local enquiry made some notes and kept them in the record. The Magistrate relied principally upon those notes in his judgment, and the conviction was based mainly upon that as also upon other inadmissible evidence. Their Lordships after hearing counsel granted a rule, and ordered the petitioners to be released on bail.

The Government of India have created a new post of Inspector of Explosives, to which Captain Muspratt Williams, Superintendent of the Ishapore Gunpowder Factory, will be appointed.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

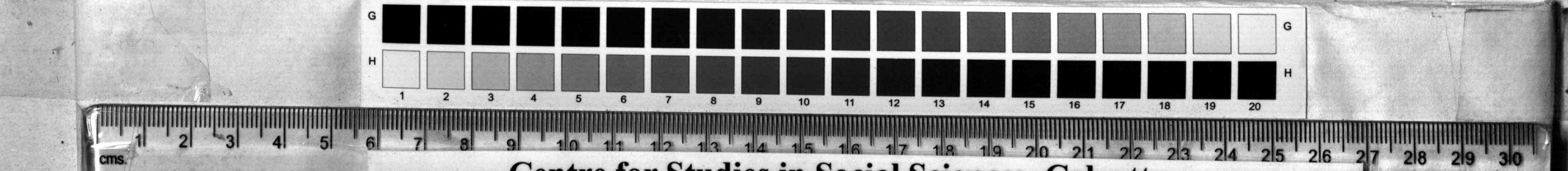
Mr. C. Fisher, Offg. Magte and Collr, Burdwan, is allowed leave for three months. Mr. H. Walmsley, Offg. Jt-Magte and Dy Collr, Raniganj, Burdwan, acting for him. Mr. W. B. Heycock, Offg. Jt-Magte and Dy Collr, Burdwan, is appointed to have charge of the Raniganj sub-division. Babu Rajkishore Das, substantive pro tempore Dy Magte and Dy Collr, is posted to the head-quarters station of the district of Cuttack, on being relieved of his present appointment as Asst Settlement Officer, Orissa. Maulvi Syed Ali Ashruf Offg. Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Shahabad is transferred temporarily to the Sasaram sub-division of that district. Iskunder Kudr Syud Naseer Ali Mirza, Probationary Dy Collr, Murshidabad, is allowed leave for six weeks. Maulvi Abul Mahmud, substantive pro tempore Dy Magte and Dy Collr, is transferred to Pabna. Babu Charu Chandra Kumar Offg. Dy Magte and Dy Collr, is posted to Hooghly. The order of the 16th June, 1898, granting privilege leave for one month and fifteen days to Babu Atal Behary Bose, Offg. Dy Magte and Dy Collr, employed on excise work, Cuttack is cancelled. Babu Nikhil Nath Roy, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, on leave, is posted to the head-quarters station of the district of Lohardaga. Babu Probodh Chandra Chatterjee, Offg. Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Malda is allowed leave for two months. Babu Narendran Chunder Sen, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, is posted to Malda. Mr. H. F. Howard, Asst Magte and Collr, Monghyr, is transferred to Dacca. Babu Monmtho Coomar Bose, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, on leave, is posted to Dacca. Babu Keshitish Chunder Sarkar, Offg. Dy Magte and Dy Collr, under orders of transfer to Midnapore, is posted to Cuttack. Babu Brij Bansi Saki, substantive pro tempore Dy Magte and Dy Collr, is posted to the head-quarters station of the dist of Darbhanga. Mr. D. B. Allen, Magte and Collr, is allowed furlough on medical certificate for six months. Mr. W. D. Blyth, substantive pro tempore Opium Agent, Bihar, is allowed leave for one month and twenty-seven days. Mr. D. J. Macpherson, C. I. E., acting for him. Mr. J. M. Coates, Asst. Supdt. of Police, is allowed furlough on medical certificate for one year. Mr. A. R. G. Hampton, Offg. Dt. Supdt. of Police, Faridpur, is appointed to act as Dist. Supdt. of Police, Dacca. Babu Madhu Shudan Chaudhuri, Asst. Supdt. of Police, 24 Parganas, is appointed to have charge of the district police of Faridpur. Mr. J. G. Bell, Supdt. Calcutta Police, is allowed leave for three months; Rai Jogendra Chandra Mitra Bahadur, Supdt. Calcutta Police, on Rs. 300 per mensem, is appointed to act as Supdt. on Rs. 350 per mensem; and Mr. A. Forsyth, Inspector Calcutta Police, is appointed to act as Supdt. on Rs. 300 per mensem. Babu Fakir Chander Chatterjee, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, on leave, is appointed to be Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Registration, Bengal. Babu Harish Chandra Datta, Professor, Ravenshaw College Cuttack, is allowed leave for three weeks. Babu Hari Charan Misra, acting for him. Babu Balmukund Kanningo, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collr, is posted to the Orissa Division. Babu Bhopendra Nath Roy, Sub-Deputy Collr, is allowed leave for six months. Maulvi Syud Izahar Hossain, substantive pro tempore Sub-Dy Collr, Sasaram, Shahabad, is allowed leave for three months. Babu Dwarika Nath Bose, Sub-Dy Collr, Munshiganj, Dacca, is allowed leave for one month and six days. Maulvi Mohammad Faizullah Khan, Sub-Deputy Collr, Sandip, Noakhali, is transferred to the Dacca Division. Babu Khetro Bhuvan Prosad, Substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collr, Midnapore, is transferred to the Tamaluck sub-division of that district. Mr. Nagendra Chandra Mitra, B.A. (Cantab) Barrister-at-Law, who has been appointed as Deputy Inspector of Schools, Cuttack, is appointed substantively pro tempore to class IV of the Subordinate Educational Service. Babu Mohendra Nath Mitter, Sub-Judge of Chittagong, on deputation, as an Additional Sub-Judge of Pabna and Bogra, is allowed leave for two months. Babu Surendra Nath Ghose, Munsiff of Krishnagar, in the district of Nadia, is allowed leave for two weeks. Babu Nagendra Chandra Sen, Dy. Collr, is appointed Deputy Collector of Income-tax, in the district of Lohardaga. Babu Jyotish Chandra Sen, Dy. Collr, is appointed Deputy Collector of Income-tax in the district of Tippera. Babu Durga Das Mukherjee, Dy Collr, is appointed Deputy Collector of Income-tax, in the district of Mymensingh. Babu Raj Kishore Das, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate of Cuttack, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first-class. THE quinquennial report on education in India will shortly be issued. It will be written by Mr. J. S. Cotton, a well-known educational authority in England. THE latest news received from China says that Paklan City, which fell into the hands of the rebels, has been recaptured by the Commandant of the garrisons at Kuchow and defeated the rebels, who fled westwards, hundreds having been slaughtered in recapturing the city, only a few Imperial soldiers being killed and wounded. The rebels were reported to have been poorly armed, and made no stand. Advices from Shanghai to the 23rd ultimo report a serious anti-foreign outbreak at Changshu, in Kiangsi, sixty miles south of Nanchang. A large mob has been attacking the China Island mission house, looting and completely destroying it. The missionaries escaped earlier in the month. Chinese soldiers wrecked the Roman Catholic mission house at Paoiting in North China, and beat a French priest and made him prisoner, but he has since been released, and the occurrence was reported to the French Minister at Peking.

Telegrams.

(INDIAN TELEGRAMS.) KUSHTIA, AUG. 6. The attitude of the Munsifs seems to be unchanged. The Second Munsiff is daily striking off cases, thus clearing the file and sits idle from 2-30 to 5. The public are suffering. An early transfer is desired. SIMLA, AUG. 7. The Exchange Compensation question was before the last two sittings of the Viceroy's Executive Council; but no decision could be arrived at. The Hon'ble members differ on the subject—the Viceroy and Sir James Westland holding one view, and the rest another. SIMLA, AUG. 8. The Viceroy wired to Lord George Hamilton that he should like to be relieved, in November. Lord George replied that it was not possible to arrange it. Mr. Carnduff, Deputy Secretary to the Legislative Department, takes leave for three months next cold weather. SIMLA, AUG. 9. The Government of India, it is believed, has sanctioned the criminal prosecution of Sirdar Gurdial Singh of the Punjab Commission for bribery and corruption and the order has been communicated to the Punjab Government. SIMLA, AUG. 10. At next Friday's meeting of the Viceroy's Legislative Council, the Hon'ble Mr. Fuller will be added to the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Central Provinces Tenancy and Land Revenue Acts. The Bill for the better provision for the regulation of the importation of live stock will be passed. It is decided that the office of the Commissary-General will move to Calcutta. [FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.] LONDON, AUG. 5. Replying to a question in the House of Commons, Mr. Curzon said that rumours had reached the Government that a foreign Power was seeking to acquire a port in the Persian Gulf, but he was unable to say if the report was authentic. The magnitude of British responsibilities there, he added, undoubtedly gave Great Britain a special interest in the Gulf. LONDON, AUG. 5. In reply to a question regarding a report published in the Times, that Russia had forbidden Persia to conclude a loan with British banks, Mr. Curzon said the loan negotiations had failed because Persia's demands were considered excessive. The Government, he further stated, had not been informed that Persia required support analogous to that promised to China, or that any threats had been made necessitating such support. LONDON, AUG. 6. The papers regard the relations between Great Britain and Russia on the China question as being critical, and complications are apprehended. The London stock market is weak. LONDON, AUG. 6. The American forces under General Miles have taken possession of the eastern portion of the island of Puerto Rico. LONDON, AUG. 6. The Novoe Vremya announces that Russia has acquired Sultanate over Raheita, in the Red Sea, as a naval base. LONDON, AUG. 6. In the House of Commons last night, when the vote for the Diplomatic Service was brought forward, Sir Charles Dilke, who was supported by Sir William Harcourt, moved to reduce the salary of Sir A. H. Hardinge, Consul-General, Zanzibar, on the ground that the British officials at Zanzibar and the coast strip had contravened the law regarding fugitive slaves. The motion was rejected by 119 against 55 votes, after Mr. Curzon had refuted the charges against the Zanzibar officials. LONDON, AUG. 7. The Queen Regent has approved of Spain's reply to America: accepting the conditions of peace which will reach the White House at Washington by Tuesday at the latest, whereafter Spain expects hostilities to cease forthwith. LONDON, AUG. 7. The Tsung-li-Yamen has ordered the Chinese Commissioner to co-operate with the Russian authorities in arranging the expropriation of land for the Russian Railway in Manchuria, which the inhabitants of the country hitherto refused to sell. This action of the Tsung-li-Yamen gives Russia the desired pretext for local intervention in Manchuria. ADEN, AUG. 7. The P. and O. Company's steamer Caledonia, with the mails of the 29th ultimo, left here for Bombay at 5-0 P. M. to-day. LONDON, AUG. 7. General Sir Redvers Buller succeeds the Duke of Connaught in the Aldershot command. LONDON, AUG. 8. Advices received from Puerto Rico state that a general advance of the American troops on San Juan began yesterday, the troops moving in four columns. LONDON, AUG. 8. The Anglo-Russian relations in China are being followed with keen interest in America. The New York Times and Sun advocate prompt and joint action by the United States and Great Britain. LONDON, AUG. 8. Sir Thomas Lipton has presented the Princess of Wales with ten thousand pounds for a scheme to provide cheap restaurants in London for workmen, and, if necessary, will give another hundred thousand pounds for the same purpose. LONDON, AUG. 8. The 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards, has arrived at Albara. LONDON, AUG. 8. In the cricket match, Surrey vs. Yorkshire the latter has been defeated by an innings and 272 runs.

LONDON, AUG.

MUG-MUG TO JUBALAND. The Spanish reply to the conditions of peace imposed by America reached Washington this afternoon, but the deciphering of the lengthy despatch will require time. LONDON, AUG. 8. In consequence of friendly negotiations having failed, France has energetically instructed M. Cambon, her ambassador at Washington, to secure the release of the French steamer Rodriguez which was seized by the Americans nine miles off Puerto Rico, on the ground that she was running the blockade. LONDON, AUG. 8. The Transvaal High Court at Pretoria has decided that the Indians trading in the towns of the Transvaal Republic must live in locations outside the townships, which will be assigned by Government. The judgment of the court has created considerable excitement amongst the Indians now residing in the Transvaal. LONDON, AUG. 8. The House of Lords has agreed to the reinsertion of the Conscience Clause in the Vaccination Bill, which has now been passed. LONDON, AUG. 9. In the last despatch from the Philippines it is stated that, on the night of the 31st ultimo three thousand Spaniards furiously attacked the American Camp outside Manila, but were repulsed with great loss. During this engagement the rebels remained neutral. LONDON, AUG. 9. It is now believed that Spain's reply is not an unqualified acceptance of the American terms, but only renders possible the cessation of hostilities with a view to the initiation of regular negotiations. LONDON, AUG. 9. It has transpired that Spain's reply to America accepts the conditions of peace, but raises a number of points in connection with executing the conditions. It is impossible to say if the points raised are important till the text of the despatch reaches President McKinley to-night. LONDON, AUG. 9. In the attack made by the Spaniards on the American camp at Manila on the 31st of July, the Americans lost nine killed and forty-seven wounded. LONDON, AUG. 9. The rumours that Mr. Curzon will succeed Lord Elgin as Viceroy of India, are persistently reiterated in the House of Commons. LONDON, AUG. 9. To-day, Mr. Curzon, replying to a number of questions relating to China, said that China has expressed her gratitude for the support promised by Great Britain, adding that no aggression has been threatened. He further stated that on the 8th of February last Sir Claude Macdonald cabled that the German Minister at Peking had opposed the concession of the trunk-line to Chinkiang on the ground that no railway ought to be constructed in the province of Shantung without arrangement with Germany. Great Britain protested against this opposition both at Peking and Berlin, and Germany replied that the facts had been misrepresented; she had only demanded that if China requires assistance in Shantung she shall first offer the work to Germans; Germany had not claimed any exclusive privileges from China, and had not attempted to exclude other nations from free competition in Shantung; Mr. Curzon admitted that the concession for the railway to Chinkiang had not been given. Continuing his replies, Mr. Curzon stated that instructions to resist preferential treatment to foreign subjects in relation to trade had been sent to Sir Claude Macdonald in March, and renewed particular instructions with reference to railway concessions were forwarded on the 13th of July. LONDON, AUG. 10. A meeting of the United States Cabinet was held yesterday evening, at which Spain's reply to the American terms of peace was considered. It is believed that the reply was not deemed wholly satisfactory, this necessitating a further exchange of notes. LONDON, AUG. 10. Reuter's special correspondent at Manila telegraphs that the city is in desperate extremities. The Natives are eating rats and mice, and dysentery is raging amongst the whole community. It is reported that the Spanish losses in engagement of the 31st ultimo were three hundred killed and one thousand wounded. LONDON, AUG. 10. CHOLERA is officially reported to have assumed an epidemic form in Madras. ACCORDING to the contract for the new Simla-Kalka Railway, which has been executed by the Secretary of State, the line is to be finished by the 30th June, 1902. The proposed Ghazibabad-Moradabad line will be commenced this year. THE date of the Railway Conference has been fixed for Monday, the 15th August, 1898, at 11 A.M. Its composition will be: His Excellency the Viceroy, President; Members, Sir James Westland, Sir Arthur Trevor, Mr. F. R. Upton and Mr. A. R. Becher; an officer from the Military Department, Captain W. J. McElhinny being Secretary. THE weakness in the London market caused by the tension between England and Russia over the China question, was reflected in Calcutta on Monday when Government paper fell from Rs. 95.7 (the closing price on Saturday) to Rs. 94.14. Exchange rose slightly, the rate for telegraphic transfers and demand-bills being 1s. 3-29-32. Pioneer. THE Bajour embroglio has assumed a new complexion. The Khan of Nawagai has withdrawn part of his force from the southern end of the Jhandol Valley, because his own territory is threatened by the Khan of Pashat, an old enemy. Pashat lies due west of Nawagai. At the same time the Nawab of Dir has also counter-marched a portion of his lashkar, having taken alarm at the rumour that the mad fakir intends attacking Dir. There seems no just cause for this feeling of apprehension on his part. The remainder of the tribal gatherings have not come to blows, but there is still no news of an agreement having been patched up. Pioneer.



Correspondence.

UMBRELLAPHOBIA AT DUM-DUM.

SIR,—I regret to say that Captain H., belonging at present to the Dum-Dum Cantonment, gets very much annoyed at the sight of an umbrella spread out in the street. I shall supply you with some specific cases. One day Captain H. while on bicycle, found a gentleman, Babu Suresh Chunder Mitter, before him with his umbrella spread out; immediately Captain H. veered round and began to enthusiastically strike the ugly thing with his stick. On the 22nd of July last at 4-45 A. M., when Babu Monmohan De, a clerk of the local Factory, was entering the main gate with his umbrella open to protect his head from the heat of the sun, Captain H.—who was on inspection duty that day, at once fell upon striking the umbrella with his whip and it was actually shattered; and the Babu, without very much appreciating the prank, entered the Factory with a heavy heart. I have seen the shattered umbrella with my own eyes and I tell you it is broken down and simply past repair. The same day Babu Sitanath Goswami met with the same fate though he was fortunate to be only whisked. Hoping this letter will attract the immediate attention of the military authorities.

LALIT MOHAN GHOSAL, Cossipore.

CHINA.

RUSSIAN AGGRESSION IN CHINA.

The aggressive action of M. Pavloff is reported to have convinced the Chinese that Russia's designs are unfriendly. His latest demand for the appointment of Russian naval instructors to the exclusion of British is regarded with indignation in Peking. Reuter's Peking correspondent says:— Japan has been encouraging China with hopes of an offensive and defensive alliance, but she has insisted, as a preliminary, on China's possessing a navy. The Chinese officials generally regard the establishment of a naval force as the first step towards realizing the hope of safeguarding the integrity of the Chinese Empire, and are willing and anxious to entrust the training of the navy to British officers, recognizing that Great Britain is not desirous of breaking up the Empire. Now, however, M. Pavloff's demand again destroys their hopes and induces a feeling of despair. The personal drusqueness of M. Pavloff is much commented upon. The other day while discussing a small matter he suddenly rose in the midst of the conversation and threatened to leave Peking immediately unless the point in question were conceded.

Mr. Pavloff has assented to the loan arranged with the Hong-kong and Shanghai Bank for the extension of the Tientsin-Shan-hai-kwan Railway upon the following conditions:—

- (1) To give no mortgage upon the road-bed of the line.
(2) Never to alienate the railroad to any foreign Power; and
(3) That Hu, the Director of Railways, shall receive the permanent appointment of Director-General.

Chinamen in favour of reforms on Western lines are stated to be reinforcing the ranks of the rebels in the south; and there is a report of another insurrection in the north-west of China.

It is reported at Canton that Dr. Sun Yat Sen, whose detention at the Chinese Legation in London attracted much attention some time ago, is one of the prominent leaders of the rebellion.

Serious rioting in Shanghai has been caused by a dispute between the local French authorities and the natives concerning a burial ground of which the former compelled the sale. A party was landed from a French cruiser and the mob of rioters was fired on, a number of natives being killed and wounded.

As the result of a conference on Monday between Consul Bezaure and the Ning-po Guild, a provisional agreement was made whereby the guild remains three months in occupation of the burying ground, and undertakes to remove the coffins. The conditions of the sale of the land to the French municipality have been left for subsequent arrangement.

Shipping and general business at Shanghai continues partially at a standstill owing to the intimidation by the Ning-po Guild of workmen in both settlements. The Provincial Treasurer Nieh, is actively negotiating. It is expected that a solution will be reached by which a considerable extension of the concession area will be made.

The Pekin Syndicate (Limited) held a meeting on Monday at which Mr. George Cawston explained the nature of the concession they had from the Chinese Government (the first ever made to an English company), and attributed their success in obtaining it largely to the efforts of the British and Italian Ministers in Peking. Their coal and iron rights extended over a district of 21,000 square miles, and they would work petroleum over an even larger area. Labour was extremely cheap, and they were arranging for distribution facilities as quickly as they could. Speeches were made also by the Marquis of Lorne and Lord Mao, and a proposal to increase the capital of the company was agreed to.

It is reported from Seoul that the American Minister to Korea has concluded an agreement with the Korean Ministry for the engagement of American experts to survey the country with a view to building roads, bridges, and other works.

FEVER is reported to be raging in Kabul. A MEETING of the Parsis of Poona and various places in the Deccan was held on Sunday evening to appoint Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy fourth Baronet and head of the Parsis of the Presidency. The Parsi high priest took the chair. It was proposed, seconded and carried by acclamation that Sir Jamsetjee be nominated head of the Parsis. Many telegrams were read approving the object of the meeting from all parts of the Presidency.

"MONSTERS IN OLDEN TIMES."

This recent issue of the Anna Library Series, contains a short sketch of the history of the Earth from the time when it was supposed to consist of a mass of vapour. By degrees the vapour was condensed into a central sun which threw off portions of itself, constituting planets. Slowly, the planets cooled down, and were divided into sea and land. Gradually they were occupied by plants and animals, which varied according to their conditions. Some of the animals on the earth's surface were noted for their size and curious structure. The picture represents some which existed during the Quaternary or Fourth Period.

The large animal in the centre of the picture is the Mammoth, tossing, by means of its tusks, the sabre-toothed tiger. Below it is a rhinoceros. To the right is the gigantic Irish stag; to the left a hippopotamus attacked by tigers, and, still farther to the left, a musk ox.

The following description is given of the Mammoth. The name of this animal is said to come from a Tartar word, meaning earth, because its remains were found embedded in the earth, in which it was supposed to burrow like the mole.

The Mammoth, called also the Primeval Elephant, surpassed in size the largest elephants now existing. It is said to have been from 13 to 16 feet in height, while its enormous tusks were about 12 feet in length. Curving almost into a circle. It was covered with coarse reddish brown wool, about 7 inches long, interspersed with strong coarse black hair, more than a foot in length. Long stiff black hairs, formed a kind of mane along its back. This shows that it was fitted to live in a cold country.

The grinding teeth of the Mammoth were formed by degrees as required. They contain ridges for grinding the food. These are largely worn away in the fore part of the teeth, but gusian fisherman in 1799 was, visited by Mr. Adam, a professor at Moscow, who had heard of the remarkable event. He found it still in the same place, but altogether mutilated. The natives of the neighbourhood had cut off the flesh to feed their dogs and wild beasts had also fed upon it. The skeleton, however, remained intact with the exception of one foreleg. The head was covered with a dry skin. One of the ears, well preserved, was furnished with a tuft of hair. According to the statement of its discoverer, the animal was so fat that its belly hung down below the joints of the knees. The skeleton is now at St. Petersburg. The body of the Mammoth was preserved from putrefaction by the cold.

The rude drawing of a mammoth, scratched on a piece of bone by one of the early inhabitants of Europe, shows the animal continued till the earth had human inhabitants.

The Cave Bear.—This animal exceeded in dimensions the largest of modern bears. Its remains, as its name implies, have been found mainly in cavern deposits. Enormous numbers of this large and ferocious species must have lived in Europe after the Ice Age. That they survived into the human period is clearly shown by the common association of their bones with the implements of man. The cave Lion and Cave Hyena are other animals of this period. Such animals, with elephants, &c., once lived in England.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

TERRESTRIAL CORONIUM.

PROFESSOR NASINI, of Padua, who has been working in conjunction with Signori Anderlini and Salvadori, communicates the following note to the French Academy:—

We have for a considerable time been occupied with an extensive study of the gases emanating from the earth in various parts of Italy with the object of detecting the presence of argon and helium, and possibly of other elements they may contain.

The first part of this work has already been published (Gas delle terme di Abano Gazzetta Chimica Italiana). We are now completing the study of the gases of the Solfatara di Pozzuoli, Grotta del Cane, Grotta ammoniacale, and of Vesuvius. In the spectrum of those of Solfatara di Pozzuoli, which contain argon, we have found a sufficiently bright line with the wavelength 531.5, corresponding to that of corona 1174 K, attributed to coronium, an element not yet discovered, and which should be lighter than hydrogen. This line has never before been observed in earthly products. Besides, we have noted the following lines:—633.5, 595.5, 536.2.

In the spectrum of the gases gathered from the fumarole of Vesuvius we have observed the lines 769.3, 631.8, 527.5, 536.5, and again 595.4. These lines do not all belong to the spectrum of argon or helium; they show a coincidence or proximity only with some unimportant lines of various elements, such as iron, potassium, and titanium. Considering the conditions of our experiments the presence of these elements in the gases we have studied is not probable. The line 572.5 is near to one of nitrogen, but being the only visible line of the spectrum of this gas it cannot be attributed to it. Besides coronium we have thus probably other new elements in these gases.

We are therefore pursuing their investigation. This, says the "Times," is an announcement of the highest interest from a scientific point of view, as at once confirming the results of spectroscopic examination of the sun and adding another proof of the substantial identity of materials in the sun and the earth. Hitherto nothing has been known of the substance which produces the coronal line 1174 K.

The French Academy has been asked by the Government to give its opinion on the Bill passed by the Chamber and pending in the Senate for adopting Greenwich time. The Board of Longitude had previously protested against the measure, and M. Jansen, at a private sitting of the Academy, took the same side but suggested that railway companies should have the option of using Greenwich time, as, indeed, they already practically do, for their clocks are kept five minutes behind Paris time. The Astronomy section, with the exception of M. Callandreau, agreed with M. Jansen, but M. Bertrand and M. Berthelot disagreed, and the Academy decided on declining to express any opinion on a matter which was merely administrative and involved no technical question.

The total numbers in receipt of famine relief are 707 in Madras and 19,500 in Bombay, the latter number is 2,350 less than last week.

The total earnings of the Guaranteed State Railways for the week ending July 23rd, were nearly one lakh better than during the corresponding week last year, the East Indian and the Rajputana lines exhibiting the best returns.

India and England.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, July 22.

SIR W. WEDDERBURN.

I AM very sorry to say that Sir William Wedderburn is not well. It is not happily anything very serious; but he is tired and over-wrought. He has gone for a short yachting trip to Norway, but will be back in time, and I hope, in thoroughly restored health and strength, to take part in the Budget debate, which will take place, as usual, on the last day of the session, with the usual thin and scanty attendance of members.

A FORTHCOMING RESOLUTION.

The most important discussion on that occasion will be by Mr. J. Herbert Roberts on his resolution, censuring the new sedition and press laws. He is having the help of both Mr. Dutt, C. I. E., and Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee in the preparation of his speech; and, I think, it will be a valuable and important pronouncement on the whole question. It will be interesting to see what, if anything, Sir Henry Fowler may have to say on this burning question of Indian policy. The debate on Mr. Roberts' resolution will, I understand, be the chief, if not the only, subject into which the British Committee of the Congress will throw its weight and debating strength, though both will be inevitably depleted by the hot-weather exodus of Members of Parliament which has already set in. It is not creditable to the Secretary of State for India that he should have steadily used his Parliamentary powers and opportunities to prevent any public discussion on the new Law of Sedition in India until after he had declined to disallow them. When Mr. Roberts raised the question early in the session in the debate on the Address Lord George deprecated discussion with fair reason on his side, on the ground that the two Bills were still before the Viceroy's Council, and his promise that the papers relating to the measures would be published in a Blue-book, affording material and better opportunity for effective debate. This was accepted by the House as reasonable ground for delay and as equivalent to a pledge that a day would be given by the Government for a full debate. But when the Blue-book appeared, it contained the despatches in which Lord George's sanction was given to the measure, and no day was granted for their full discussion. Mr. Roberts then informed Lord George of his intention to move the adjournment of the House on some day that would cause least inconvenience to the Government; and Lord George's practical reply to Mr. Roberts' courteous warning, was a blocking motion, put down by Mr. Packer, Smith, a gentleman who acts as a sort of "maid of all work" to the Front Bench, which rendered a motion for adjournment impossible. However, not even Lord George Hamilton's dodging ingenuity can escape a debate on the Budget night, though he has succeeded in driving it into the least important occasion possible. I hope and believe, an interesting debate will result; and I understand, Sir William Harcourt and possibly Mr. Asquith will take part. One of the results of the debate will be to bring out the large share which the Secretary of State has had in the responsibility for this shameful and reactionary legislation; for, it is now well known that their provisions were largely due to his suggestions and advice, and that he has used his utmost endeavours to hasten their enactment and burke discussion in Parliament, until they were irrevocably placed on the Indian Code of laws.

THE CURRENCY COMMITTEE.

The Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, which is probably the best-constituted and most important Chamber in the country, has passed the following resolution on the Indian Currency question:—

- (1) That evidence be presented on behalf of this Chamber against the proposals of the Government of India, as set forth in its despatch of March last;
(2) such evidence should show that the closing of the Mints has been detrimental to the trade of and with India and with the Far East;
(3) that, in the opinion of this Chamber, it is inexpedient, if indeed it be possible, to establish a gold standard with or without a gold currency in India having regard to its financial and economic relations and conditions;
(4) that in the view of this Chamber, the interests of India require the Mints to be re-opened to the coinage of silver, and that it would be well if this principle were adopted, the time and conditions of its application to be afterwards determined.

Many of your readers will remember that Lord George Hamilton made desperate efforts to have the Indian Finance Commission conducted with closed doors, efforts eventually broken down by a resolution of the Commission itself, moved and carried by Mr. W. S. Caine, admitting the press to its proceedings, to the great advantage of the enquiry. He has now tried the same game with the Indian Currency Committee, and succeeded, though it is most unjust for Departmental Committees to sit in private. Mystification is always mischievous. As at present arranged, the evidence will be published when nobody will care to wade through weekly or monthly, or the press admitted to the proceedings, everyone interested in this deeply important Indian subject would be able to follow the evidence in all the way, and be ready to grasp and appreciate the final report when it appeared. Among the earlier witnesses are such men as Sir James Mackay, Mr. Finlay, the Finance Secretary to the Government of India, Mr. O'Connor, Director-General of Statistics, and Mr. Allan Arthur, Chairman of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. There is no possible reason, in the public interest, why the public should not hear or read the evidence given by these important financial authorities, or why the Committee itself should not have the advantage of the press criticism which would accompany the publication of such evidence as they will give, and have given. But I have long since given up all attempts to understand Lord George Hamilton.

DEATH OF DR. W. A. HUNTER.

An old and tried Parliamentary friend of the Indian people died this week Dr. W. A. Hunter, sometime member for North Aberdeen, was, during the whole period of his Parliamentary career, a staunch advocate of the rights of the Indian people to a larger share in the law-making and administration of their own country. In the columns of the old Examiner, and afterwards as Editor of the great Radical

paper, the Weekly Despatch, he rendered great service to the Congress movement. He was a man of strong brain, acute mind, and genuine democratic convictions. About five years ago, however, the contracted blood-poisoning which eventually wore him down and weakened his brain power, compelling his retirement into private life. He enjoyed a civil-list pension, granted by a Conservative Government in recognition of his brilliant service to literature. Every law-student from India has gone through his manual on "Roman law" which has driven every other manual off the field. It is seldom that any man shows such an even and consistent record of distinguished ability as that of Dr. Hunter, stricken down in the prime of life by a fall and mysterious disease. He sprung from the ranks, and was an entirely self-made man. At school, college, university, as professor, author, journalist and politician, he was equally distinguished and successful; and had he lived, he would certainly have been given a distinguished post in the next Liberal Administration. His death is release from suffering and pain, and from a broken, disappointed life, which he accepted with rare courage and resignation.

A SPEECH ON FRONTIER POLICY.

Sir M. Grant Duff has been making a speech at Elgin this week, his old Parliamentary constituency. I extract the following sentences from his speech, referring to the Frontier policy, which are worth careful thought:—

The Afghan War (he said) lost some twenty millions, effected nothing worth effecting at all, and has left a legacy of mischief which we are far from having seen the end. All that we have done since we departed from the wise policy of Lord Lawrence on the North-West frontier, has been a mistake. Some of the slips on the downward road have been inevitable as by previous slips. That I do not deny; but the whole policy from the first has been radically unsound. One of its many bad effects has been the recent war, which has certainly not redounded to the credit of our statesmen, although it has brought deserved honour to many officers and privates, not least to our native auxiliaries. The meaning of the whole series of disastrous blunders which have been made since twenty years ago, in defiance of all the best opinions we advanced to Quetta, is simply this that the soldiers at Simla captured the civilians and made more than one Viceroy the prey of their bow and of their spear. I cannot blame the soldiers; they looked at the matter from a purely professional point of view. But I do blame the Viceroys who had no such excuse.

The Governor of Madras has arranged a tour in Trichinopoly and Tanjore districts from the 10th to the 20th inst.

JAPAN is in future to have consular jurisdiction in Siam, and all matters in dispute between both countries are to be settled by arbitration.

Two murders have just been committed in the Punjab which must be regarded as most significant to say the least. The murdered men were among the principal witnesses for the prosecution in the recent inquiry into the charge of bribery and corruption against Sardar Gardial Singh. One man was killed in Muzaffargarh, and another in Montgomery, places which are 125 miles apart.

The cultivation of India-Rubber trees in the Charduar plantation, Assam, is progressing satisfactorily, and it is considered that the time has now come for tapping them. It seems that there are 12,512 trees available, and that these might be tapped once in five years, or 2,500 trees annually. According to the Indian Forester each tapping of a tree might be expected to yield four chittacks, so that the annual output would be 15½ maunds. Taking the value per maund at Rs. 105, the total yearly income would be Rs. 1,62,718, though as the trees grow larger, this amount would probably increase. The demand for India-rubber is enormous and the supply is not always sufficient to meet it.

We learn with much satisfaction that the Government of India are not in the same haste over the City Improvement Bill, that was such an unfortunate characteristic of the local Government in dealing with this serious matter. We are given to understand that there have been a multitude of references going backwards and forwards between Bombay and Simla, mostly about the precious bludgeon clause, which caused so much discussion at the time the Bill was being rushed through our local Council. Evidently, the Government of India are apprehensive about the city's unlimited liability for the expenditure of the new Trust—a clause which the promoters believed to be essential to the success of the Board's operations and certainly to the interests of the taxpayers—and apparently have not that profound conviction as to its necessity which filled the majority of the Council. There is yet room for hope that some modification will be found desirable in this direction. Another matter on which the Viceroy and his advisers do not seemingly see eye to eye with the Bombay Council is with regard to the Kennedy See Face fund. It will be remembered that the Hon. Mr. P. Mehta strenuously objected to the boundaries of this fund, being included in the amendment schedule on the ground that the proposed Board could at any time close the fund. Sir Charles Ollivant fenced a little over the question and he ultimately agreed to allow the inclusion of the words "save in respect to the area now used as a ride and foot-path, so long as it continues to be a ride and foot-path." Although Mr. Mehta objected to the last part of the sentence, this was the best he could get. Other matters are exercising the careful attention of Simla in connection with the Bill, and at the moment we believe it is doubtful whether the Bill will be returned here for modification or eventually sanctioned.

However, Simla is not fired with the undesirable energy over the matter which a large part of Bombay so rightly objected to. Advocate of India

M. R. A. C. Wolfe, of Dundee, Mo., who travels for Mansur & Tibbetts, Implement Co., of St. Louis, gives travelling men and travellers in general, some good advice. "Being a Knight of the Grip," he says, "I have for the past three years, made it a rule to keep myself supplied with Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, not only on numerous occasions to test its merits, but truly say that I never, in a single instance, have remedies travellers can carry and could relate sceptics, much to their surprise and relief. I hope every travelling man in the U. S. will carry a bottle of this remedy in his grip." For sale by

THE END OF THE AMERICAN-SPANISH WAR.

(Communicated.)

FROM the beginning, any one possessing a superficial knowledge of the respective powers and resources of America and Spain, could hardly have any doubt as to the result of the war which they have been carrying on against each other. War is not a game of chance. Victory is, as goes the saying, always on the side of big battalions. Lacking the senews of war, Spain, with a navy, consisting mostly of wooden war-ships of the old type, ill-manned and ill-munitioned, and an army brave no doubt, but ill-provisioned, and led on by officers having no thought-out plan of action to go by, was no doubt ill-advised, nay, foolhardy enough to rush to a trial of strength with America, highly resourceful and possessed not only of all the modern first-class materials and appliances of war, but possessed, too, of a well-disciplined army, fired to a man with stirring zeal in the cause of suffering humanity. It is fortunate for Spain that she has now seen the futility of further protracting the war, and has decided upon accepting terms of peace. It is also fortunate for her that she has to settle with a noble enemy, that in the midst of the excitement of triumph is loth to press hard and ruinous terms on a beaten foe. Had it been the wish of America to see Spain completely undone, she would demand from her, among other terms, a crushing indemnity. This she hates to do, and would appear to be satisfied only with securing the independence of the Cubans, long sick of a death-dealing rule, and the cession of a port here and a station there. Compare these terms with those demanded by Germany from France in 1870. Had Germany then been actuated towards France by the same magnanimity that America now shows to her fallen foe, there would have been no necessity whatever for Germany, ever since the conclusion of the Sedan treaty, for continually increasing her army at enormous outlays of money, wrung from her people by a system of grinding taxation, and thus remaining up to this day virtually armed to the teeth for fear of a war of retaliation. On the contrary, she could have made a permanent friend of France and gone on, arm in arm, with her advancing the cause of peace and diffusing the blessings of civilisation, without creating a repugnant anaachronism in the world, viz. the union of a republic wedded to liberty and equality with a despotism that delights in forging the chains of slavery and religious bigotry and gives carte blanche to its Police to tear away little innocent children from the arms of their crying parents for conversion to the State Church.

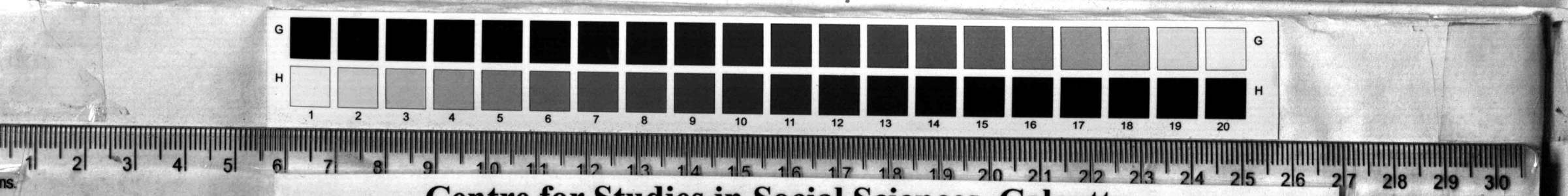
It is a great pity that the Washington Cabinet does not intend to take possession of the Philippine Islands. Should they adhere to this decision, the war which has cost such a heavy expenditure of blood and treasure would appear to be barren of any good results. War is no doubt an evil, and is justifiable only when it aims at ameliorating the condition of a people. It goes without saying that the inhabitants of the islands in question are in a very bad way under the Spanish Government and that their condition would change materially for the better under the enlightened rule of the republic. That the contemplated Spanish American Committee will succeed in effecting any substantial reform in the Government of the islands, we do not believe. On the contrary, we are afraid that to the existing misrule will be superadded the misery which is always the concomitant of dissensions and insurrections. If America, after all, decide upon abandoning the islands, they could do nothing better than to make them over to England. This course, while it would secure to the Philippians the blessings of another liberal Government, would do duty for an enduring cement of the alliance with each other, which both England and America are at present so solicitous of accomplishing—an alliance that calculated to give a final good-bye to the ambitious projects of the great military European Powers in the Far East, but grant to the world at large an efficient guarantee of peace for ever more.

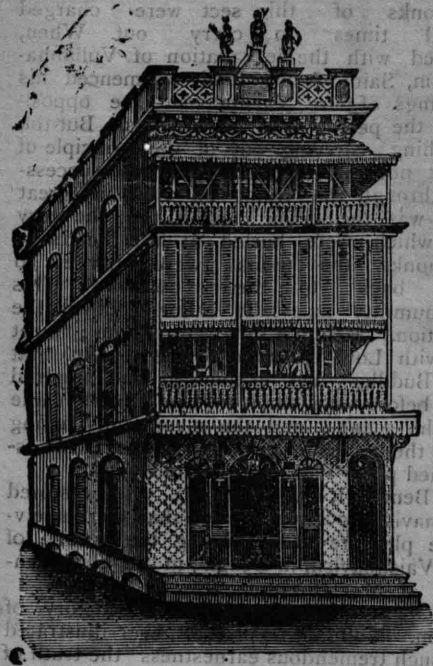
IN the annals of municipal elections in Madras, the contest between rival candidates was never keener than it was the other day, between Mr. E. Norton and Mr. Govindaswami. Mr. Norton has come out victorious, having secured 570 votes, while his rival did not obtain more than 142.

The London correspondent of the Pioneer writes, under date the 5th inst., that the Lords the day before on a clause inserted in the Vaccination Bill exempting conscientious objectors from the operation of the compulsory clauses of the Act. The Times and the press generally condemn the Government's action.

THE latest development of the Madras shooting case is, that the accused Private blue Knight, has been handed over to the civil authorities. The accused will be tried this week before the Cantonment Magistrate, Mr. Thomas Mount. He will be charged with two counts, viz. murder and for culpable homicide not amounting to murder. According to the deceased lady's statement, recorded in his hand, said to the boy, "You will die, once you will die, I am going to shoot you, I am going to shoot you," Knight pointed the gun at him. The lad tried to hold it and was shot.

It may not be generally known that in non-Regulation Provinces an accused has not the right to be defended by Counsel unless he obtains it on special application to the trying official. The unfairness of this arrangement is plain, even to a child. Here is a case in point. Certain persons are awaiting trial before Mr. Browns, Assistant Commissioner of Kangamati, in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, on a charge of obstructing a public servant in the discharge of his public duty. The accused wanted made an application accordingly. But the Assistant Commissioner rejected the application. The accused then appeared to the Commissioner who refused to interfere. In distress, they sought the intervention of the Bengal Government, but with no better result. So the accused will be tried without having facilities to prove their innocence.





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